

Parish of the Blessed Sacrament

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 19, 2023



THANKSGIVING

THANKS BE TO GOD



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Father Jeffery Grant

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DEACONS:
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School Secretary:
Michele Hinds-Greenwood

Music Director:
Jane Hartman Irwin

Parish School of Religion:
Call the Parish Office to
register

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Deadline: Monday at noon

1725 S. Walnut St.
Springfield, IL 62704
217/528-7521

Office hours: 8:00am to 4:00pm

www.bsps.org

Blessed Sacrament Parish
welcomes new residents
and visitors. It is wonderful to
celebrate the Eucharist with you. If you are
new to the parish, please call the office to
register or register online at [www.bsps.org/
parishioner-census-1](http://www.bsps.org/parishioner-census-1)

Sign up for e-newsletters: text
BLESSED1725 to 84576

Sacramental Information

Baptisms: The next class is
Wednesday, January 10 at
6pm. Please call the office to
register.

Weddings: Contact the parish
at least six months in advance.

Sacrament of the Sick: please
call the parish office anytime.

Funerals: Contact the
parish office

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, November 20

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Thomas "Mick" O'Connor
Poor Souls Shrine

Tuesday, November 21

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: Helen O'Connor
Mary Kay and Larry Evans

Wednesday, November 22

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Bill and Barb Lehman
Eichinger and Maurer Families

Thursday, November 23

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Von Behren Family
Ruth Pohlman

Friday, November 24

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: William and Bess Flynn Family
Jane and Jerry MacMurdo

Saturday, November 25

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Harry Buck, Jr.
3pm - 4pm Confessions
4:30pm Mass: Mary and Bob Headley

Sunday, November 26

Feast of Christ the King

7:00am Mass: Intentions of our Parishioners
8:30am Mass: Emily Electa-Maslowski
10:30am Mass: Jane and Jerry MacMurdo

Confessional in the Adoration Chapel

Rosary beginning at 10:05am is prayed
before the 10:30am Sunday Mass

A LETTER FROM FATHER JEFF

A reason to give thanks...



Fr. Jeff Grant

Each year, when we come to the end of November, our nation takes a day to celebrate Thanksgiving. It is a national holiday set aside to reflect and give thanks to God for the blessings we have been given. Its origins can be traced to the Pilgrims who landed at Plymouth rock in what is now the state of Massachusetts, in 1620. It was late in the year and there was little time to obtain the food they needed for the winter. Many died; but with the help of the Wampanoag, a tribe of native people who lived in the area, the Pilgrims quickly learned to adjust to their new surroundings. By the following fall, they had food to last them through the winter. These men and women realized that it was God's providence that had kept them alive and so, in the fall of 1621, they held a feast in thanksgiving. Many years later, President George Washington reminded a new nation that it was our duty to thank God for his blessing. God's mercy had prevailed and we owed the freedom of our new nation to the goodness of God. In gratitude, he declared a national day of thanksgiving.

But it would be another eighty years and another national crisis before Thanksgiving would become an annual event. It was in 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln, looking for a way to heal a divided nation, asked that all Americans set aside the last Thursday of November as a national day of Thanksgiving. It was a difficult time and yet, our nation was urged to acknowledge God's blessing. From that time on, our nation has continued the tradition of Thanksgiving Day.

It seems a bit ironic to me, that it was in the midst of hardships and trials that people discovered or rediscovered the blessing of God. In the struggle of the Pilgrims to survive, in the uncertainty of a new nation founded on untried principles, and even in the tragedy of a civil war, the need to give thanks was there. That need is no different today. With wars in Israel and Ukraine, with political hostility in our own nation, with violence, intolerance, and social unrest, we too have a need to give thanks. We must remember, thanksgiving is not just about counting up our fortunes; but rather, acknowledging that we live at the mercy of God and He has not abandoned us. That is enough for one to give thanks.

Join us for Thanksgiving Day Mass this Thursday, November 23, at 8:00am.

Fr. Jeff Grant

Baptism

Congratulations to our Recently Baptized
Seth Charles Kreiling, son of Jeffrey and Kayla Kreiling

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION (for those excused from Mass) WILL TAKE PLACE SUNDAY OUTSIDE OF MASS FROM 9:45-10:00AM

Mass will continue to be live-streamed and can be found by going to the parish website at www.bsps.org And click on WATCH MASS HERE.

Confessions are heard Monday-Saturday mornings from 7:30-7:45am and on Saturday afternoon 3-4pm

The PBJ volunteers continue to make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches each week to help feed the homeless in Springfield. With your help from previous donations we were able to make over 6,000 sandwiches! The sandwiches are distributed to four different organizations in the city. We are currently in need of more supplies and if you would like to help, please leave your donations in the bins in the back of the church. Thank you so much for your support! Items needed are: smooth peanut butter, jelly or jam, sandwich size Ziploc baggies, and loaves of bread.

The school's **Barnes and Noble fundraiser** will take place tomorrow **Monday, November 20**. Stop by and shop anytime that day and a percentage of your purchases will support Blessed Sacrament School. Purchases from the café count as well! You can also shop online at bn.com/bookfairs anytime between 11/20/23 and 11/25/23 (that includes Black Friday purchases!) Just enter Bookfair ID 12676128 at checkout.

Angel Tree

Advent is approaching and Blessed Sacrament will again provide Angel Trees, sponsored by Catholic Charities, starting next weekend, **November 25 and 26**. Please take a tag off the tree and purchase a gift (or gifts) for a child or two children listed on the tag. Then bring the unwrapped gifts back to the church or church office by **December 11th**. Donations of wrapping paper will be appreciated. Thank you for your acts of love and caring.

It's time for our
ANGEL TREE!



Women's Club

Ladies of the parish are invited to a gingerbread house workshop hosted by the parish Women's Club. Build and decorate an edible house that you can take home for your Christmas decor. This workshop will take place on **Thursday, November 30th** at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Reservations and payment of \$10 must be made in advance in the school or parish office. Space is limited to 50 participants.



Get a Head Start on Christmas Shopping! Are you buying gift cards this year? Don't shop at the grocery store for gift cards when you can get them at Blessed Sacrament! Every gift card you purchase here results in funds for Catholic education. A list of participating gift cards and a Christmas shopping planner are included in today's bulletin. Make copies and pass them around the table at Thanksgiving to get gift ideas! Drop the completed form off at the school or rectory offices (or put in the collection basket!) and pick up your gift cards one week later. Contact scrip@bssbruins.org if you have questions.



Christmas MARKET

2ND DEC 2023 | **FREE ADMISSION**
1PM-7PM

PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR YOUR FAMILY!

FREE KIDS CRAFTS & HOT CHOCOLATE
AND VISIT WITH SANTA AFTER 4:30 MASS!

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL CAFETERIA

BREADLESS SUNDAY to support St. John's Breadline. To offset the loss of this fundraiser you may put an envelope in the collection marked St John's Breadline and we will see to it that the Breadline gets your donation. The Breadline continues to serve hundreds of hungry men, women and children everyday. Please consider a donation to the Breadline to able them to continue serving these meals

Deepen Your Faith Each Tuesday, beginning **November 21**, the Blessed Sacrament Study/Prayer Group will meet from 9—11 am in the Rectory basement meeting room (just follow the signs). We view presentations from excellent teacher to learn more and the many and varied aspects of our rich faith. There will be an opportunity to discuss with the group—all voluntary, no requirements. As Advent is approaching, we will begin with Dr. Pitre's video on "Advent". A video preview can be found at bsps.org/tuesday-morning-study-group. You are welcome to come (bring a friend) and see if this will enhance your spiritual life—at no cost! For further information, call Deacon Dave or Barbara Erdmann at 217-522-4683... or just come on down and give it a try.

Watch the talks from the Eucharistic Congress speakers – Everyone loved the speakers at the diocesan Eucharistic Congress Oct. 28 in Springfield! Now you can not watch their inspiring, funny, thought provoking, and uplifting talks. Go to dio.org/catholictimes and click on videos. While you're there, you can check out a recap video of the historic day and watch the Mass. Note, Dr. Scott Hahn's talk is not able to be published due to contract stipulations. Go to our website at www.bsps.org/eucharistic-congress to link directly.

EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS - OCT 28, 2023



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 20 — NOVEMBER 24

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:00am and 8:20am

Saturday, November 25

Lector: Joseph Stannard

Servers: Grant Keller, Charlotte Stewart, Lexi Kotner

Eucharistic Ministers: McKinzie Oshesky, Noreen Luhr, Kathleen Harth, Colleen VonDeBur

Sunday, November 26, 7:00AM

Lector: Ann Walker

Servers: Jude O'Brien

Eucharistic Ministers: Michael and Carrie O'Brien, Mary Beth Roland, Mary Tuttle

Sunday, November 26, 8:30AM

Lector: George Rudis

Servers: Liam Bryant, Max Portz, Lucy Wallner

Eucharistic Ministers: Clara Ushman, Becky Leonard, Laurie Mann, Sheri Dhabalt

Sunday, November 26, 10:30AM

Lector: Donald Graham

Servers: Olivia Redpath, Devontae and Deon Wilks

Eucharistic Ministers: Suzanne Baase, Patricia Graham, Lori Criscione, Rose Amon, Andrea Judd





Anointing of the Sick

Question:

If it isn't only for people who are dying, when should someone receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

Answer:

One of the unfortunate realities in the Church today is that so few people understand the meaning and value of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, largely because so many people still mistakenly think of this sacrament as "Last Rites" or "Extreme Unction."

In his life and ministry, Jesus healed the sick. In this sacrament, the Church continues the healing mission of Jesus and, in hope, prays that God will grant healing to the person who is suffering. But even if there is no physical healing, the sacrament offers spiritual healing through the Holy Spirit's gifts of peace and courage. And so, anyone

Weekly Parish Finance Report November 4 to November 10

	AMOUNT RECEIVED	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
Loose Collections	\$1178.00	
Envelope Collections	\$17,330.00	345
Online Giving Collections	\$5,806.38	131
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$24,314.38	476
Target Amount	\$23,500.00	

who is living with serious illness (including emotional or psychological illness) and the elderly are encouraged to celebrate this sacrament when it is needed.

The ritual for Anointing of the Sick does also include special prayers and blessings for those who are facing death, including viaticum (communion given to the dying, trusting that the Lord Jesus will be their companion along the way, as they make their final journey).

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IF YOU ONLY READ THREE THINGS THIS WEEK:

- Pastor's Appreciation Party is THIS Sunday, November 19
- Angel Trees will be available next weekend
- Plan on attending the Christmas Market on December 2