

Parish of the Blessed Sacrament

Third Sunday of Lent

March 3, 2024



THIRD SUNDAY OF Lent

©LPi

Stations of the Cross will be held on the Fridays of Lent at 5:30 pm.
Little Black Books with Lenten meditations are available in the vestibule. Please take one home with you.
Rice Bowls are available in the vestibule. Please take one home and return it on Palm Sunday
Pick Up Your Cross is ongoing throughout Lent. Pick up a cross in the vestibule and complete the task on the cross. Go to www.bsps.org/mission-partnership for more information.

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

Sign up for e-newsletters: text
BLESSED1725 to 84576

Sacramental Information

Baptisms: The next class is on a **Wednesday, March 6** 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

PASTOR:
Father Jeffery Grant

PAROCHIAL VICAR:
Father Callistus Osiaga

DEACONS:
Deacon Tom Burns
Deacon David Erdmann

PARISH OFFICE:
Phone: (217) 528-7521
Fax: (217) 528-3137
Website: www.bsps.org

SCHOOL OFFICE:
748 West Laurel
Phone: (217) 522-7534
Fax: (217) 522-7542
www.bssbruins.org

Office Manager:
McKinzie Oshesky

Finance Manager:
Janet Vespa

Director of Communications:
Lisa Sarnowski

Principal:
Nicole Kuhlman

School Administrative Asst:
Laura Horton

School Secretary:
Michele Hinds-Greenwood

Music Director:
Jane Hartman Irwin

Parish School of Religion:
Call the Parish Office to register

Development Director:
Jenna Davlin
Kim Hoffmann

Maintenance Manager:
John Langdon

Bulletin Submissions:
Lisa Sarnowski
Email: bulletins@bsps.org
Deadline: Monday at noon

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 4

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Mary Eleanor Maloy
Eileen Dennison

Tuesday, March 5

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: Bob Evans
John Patrick Kelly

Wednesday, March 6

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: J.R. Weakly
Joe and Betty McCue

Thursday, March 7

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Larry and Mary Kay Evans

Friday, March 8

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: William Dalsin
Poor Souls Shrine

Saturday, March 9

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Vern Eyre
3pm - 4pm Confessions
4:30pm Mass: Robert Giesing
Charles and Mary Ebel

Sunday, March 10

Fourth Sunday of Lent

7:00am Mass: Richard Schafer
8:30am Mass: Intentions of our Parishioners
10:30am Mass: Bill and Barb Lehman

Confessional in the Adoration Chapel

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



A LETTER FROM FATHER JEFF



Fr. Jeff Grant

I was a stranger, and you welcomed me.

"God tells me that I cannot love him and accept him unless I love and accept the people he loves. And God loves a lot of people I may think he shouldn't love. He loves sinners. He loves losers. I would like to love God without accepting his family. Part of his family I could live with, but the other part I don't want and God tells me I can't have it that way. Unless I love and care about even the very least, I do not love and care about him. In the Gospels, people tried to separate Jesus from his friends and followers, and tried to make friends with him without accepting those around him. Jesus would never let them do it. The apostles were always his men. They embarrassed him. They said foolish things. They were sometimes sloppy and rude, but Jesus never stepped back from them. He never crossed a line saying that those were not really his men.

Jesus was criticized more for the people he hung around with than for himself. He was criticized for all the sinners who surrounded him. Yet he never turned to the Pharisees and apologized for those people, saying that he really didn't have much time to put a good group together and that's why he came up with such second-rate associates. He simply said that these are my people. And if you can't accept them, you can't accept me."

This reflection was published in the **Little Black Book** back in 2020. It makes me uncomfortable because I think of all the strangers I do not welcome. Did Jesus mean refugees fleeing for safety from a land they called home? I remember when I realized Jesus was a refugee. He and his parents fled to Egypt for protection from King Herod. Did Jesus mean the illegal immigrants who cross our southern border? Why don't they just go home...we can't take care of all of them and ourselves as well. Why don't they go home? Maybe we should think about that question or pray about what we can do. Indifference is certainly not what Jesus proclaimed. Did Jesus mean the new family on the block? Do I take time from my busy schedule to welcome them? I was a stranger and you welcomed me. That line makes me uncomfortable. It is not the way that even many of my "Christian" friends live. Lord, give me the grace to welcome you...and your friends into my life and into my heart.

Father Jeff



Please Pray for our Recently Departed
Mary Ann Bart

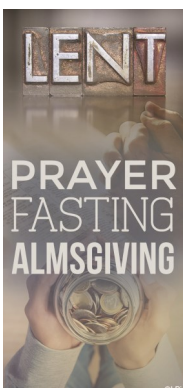
RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION (for those excused from Mass) WILL TAKE PLACE SUNDAY OUTSIDE OF MASS FROM 9:45-10:00AM

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

If you or a family member would like our priests to know that you have been admitted to St. John's or Memorial Hospital please call the Parish Office (217-528-7521) and let us know.

Scrip Scene Traveling over Easter? We've got scrip cards for hotels (Airbnb, Best Western, Doubletree, Embassy Suites, Hilton, Marriott hotel brands and Hotels.com) Southwest airlines and lots of gas stations (Circle K, Exxon, Marathon, Shell). Hotel and airline cards need to be special ordered but they result in great profits for Blessed Sacrament School. Download a scrip order form at www.bsps.org/scrip-fundraising-program or email scrip@bssbruins.org for more information



Blessed Sacrament's H.O.P.E. program uses donations to help parishioners and other needy people in our communities who are in extreme dire circumstances. All loose change in the weekly collection baskets are given to the H.O.P.E. program. Please help support our parish's work for the most vulnerable in our community by sharing your loose change each week or by making special donation to the H.O.P.E. program.

SAVE THE DATE and **DON'T MISS** a special presentation of "Mass Confusion" at St. Agnes Parish on (Thursday, April 18, 2024, 6:30pm. Nationally-known Catholic presenters, Doug Brummel and Dave Wilson, will bring the Mass alive through rich sketches, quirky characterizations, and Holy-Spirit-filled music. Spread the word!

PB&J Volunteers A group of volunteers are making PBJ sandwiches once a week to help feed the homeless and others in need in Springfield. We are looking for your help with donations of supplies to help alleviate the cost. Perhaps this could be your act of charity during this Lenten season. Please place any of the items below in the bins located in the back of the church. Items needed are: Smooth peanut butter, Jelly or Jam, sandwich size Ziplock baggies. Thank you for generous support!

SICILY

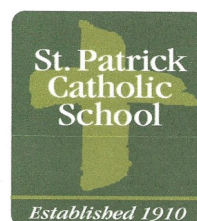


In the city of San Biagio Platani, people build Archi di Pasqua or Easter Arches. These are large, building-like structures people can walk under made entirely of bread and other foods.

Fish Fries Please join us at the BSS cafeteria all Fridays during Lent for the BSS Men's Club Fish Fry from 5pm-7pm. We will be serving fried walleye, fried catfish, blackened catfish, fried shrimp and cheese pizza. Sides include french fries or baked potato and coleslaw. Adult dinners are \$10 and children dinners are \$5.

Mark your calendars! Springfield Right to Life and Two Hearts- Springfield is planning its Spring Fundraiser Brunch for **March 16th, 2024** and we would love to have you attend! You can be a **Table Host** and form a group of 8 people at your own table... or join a table with a host. Please call the SRTL office at 217-523-2700 to get more details or check out our website at springfieldrtl.org. **Jesse & Monique Sullivan** will be the keynote speakers and you won't want to miss it!

Let's paint the town **green!!!** St. Patrick Catholic School is hosting the Blarney Bash party and live auction on Friday, March 15, 2024. The "best pre-party for St. Patrick's Day in town" will be held at the LRS Hangar at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport from 5:30-8:00. Tickets are \$40/person, \$60/couple and \$400 for a reserved table of 8. Reservations can be made online at www.st-patrick.org or by calling (217) 523-7670.



School News

The students have been enjoying the warmer weather and outside activities. Our 7th graders have finished up with their Science Fair projects. They had the opportunity to present their projects to Hanson Professional Services. A huge thanks to Hanson!

"Watch History Come Alive," on March 3rd, in the BSS cafeteria and gym. Our 8th grade students will present their History Fair projects from 12:00-1:30pm, and 6th grade will have a Live Wax Museum in the gym from 12:00-1:00pm. We hope to see you there!

8th grade girls volleyball will participate in Regionals this weekend. Two of our 7th graders competed in the State Chess Club last weekend. Nice job, boys! Congrats to all who participated in the school Spelling Bee this past week.



Nominate a teacher for the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award Do you know a Catholic school teacher who strives for academic excellence with a focus on the Catholic mission? Know a teacher who left a lasting impression on you or your child? Know a teacher who goes above and beyond for his or her students and who lives authentically Catholic? Nominate that teacher for the diocesan wide St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award! Nominations are due by March 10. Go to <https://dio.org/schools/eas/>

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MARCH 4 — MARCH 8

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:00am and 8:20am

Saturday, March 9, 4:30PM

Lector: Edward Hart

Servers: Grant Keller, Charlotte Stewart, Cason Ganey

Eucharistic Ministers: McKinzie Oshesky, Joseph Stannard, Noreen Luhr, Abigale Kane

Sunday, March 10, 7:00AM

Lector: Ann Walker

Servers: Teddy Mizeur

Eucharistic Ministers: Carolyn Graham, Kathy Gietl, Colleen VonDeBur, Rosalie Lowery

Sunday, March 10, 8:30AM

Lector: George Rudis

Servers: Sydney and Samantha Cathers, Lillian Boorde

Eucharistic Ministers: Laurie Mann, Molly Smith, Don Scott, Sally Petrone

Sunday, March 10, 10:30AM

Lector: Kevin Macdonald

Servers: Beatrice Hunt, Peyton and Wade Naylor

Eucharistic Ministers: Suzanne Baase, Mary Tuttle, Rose Amon, Patti and Rodney Naylor

To obtain a full schedule for ALL Mass volunteers, go to www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/blessedsacrament_spi

OR

www.bsps.org and scroll down to Ministry Scheduler Pro



Stations of the Cross

Question:

Who invented the Stations of the Cross?

Answer:

The first Stations of the Cross were walked by Jesus himself on the way to Calvary. Known as the "Via Dolorosa" ("The Way of Suffering") or the "Via Crucis" ("The Way of the Cross"), it was marked out from the earliest times and was a traditional walk for pilgrims who came to Jerusalem. The early Christians in Jerusalem would walk the same pathway that Jesus walked, pausing for reflection and prayer. Later, when Christians could not travel to the Holy Land, artistic depictions of "The Way of the Cross" were set up in churches, or outside and Christians would walk from station to station, reading the Gospel account of the Passion, or simply praying and reflecting on each event. While the content or place of each station had changed, the intention was to make a mini-pilgrimage and follow--literally--in

Weekly Parish Finance Report February 17 to February 23		
	AMOUNT RECEIVED	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
Loose Collections	\$970.00	
Envelope Collections	\$18,710.00	217
Online Giving Collections	\$6,342.63	126
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$26,022.63	343
Target Amount	\$23,500.00	

the footsteps of Jesus.

This devotion became better known in the Middle Ages, and the Franciscans are credited with its spread. Lent is a time when many people make the Stations and some churches present Passion plays or Living Stations. But anyone can pray the Stations at any time. It is a simple and personal reflection on the passion of Jesus and what it means to us.

IF YOU ONLY READ TWO THINGS THIS WEEK:

- Your loose change goes to Help Our People in Emergencies (HOPE)
- B.S.S. students enjoying the warm weather!