

Parish of the Blessed Sacrament

Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024



HOSANNA



“Hosanna to the Son of
David / blessed is he
who comes in the name
of the Lord.”

MATTHEW 21:9

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Father Jeffery Grant

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Parish School of Religion:
Call the Parish Office to
register

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1725 S. Walnut St.
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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 on a
Wednesday, April 24 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, March 25

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Marian McDermott

Tuesday, March 26

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: Bob Evans

Wednesday, March 27

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Carole Castor

Diane and Dean Galli

Thursday, March 28

Holy Thursday

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Morning Prayer

7:00pm Mass: Betty King

James "Mac" Graham

Friday, March 29

Good Friday

8:20am Morning Prayer

11am - 1pm Confessions

3:00pm Good Friday Service

Saturday, March 30

Holy Saturday

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Morning Prayer

3pm - 4pm Confessions

8:00pm Mass: Ann Welch

Sunday, March 24

Easter Sunday

7:00am Mass: Intentions of our Parishioners

8:30am Mass: Judy Flynn

Carolyn Fisherkeller

10:30am Mass: Mary Maurer

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

Holy Week 2024. This week our church recalls the last days of Jesus as he approaches the cross. On Thursday evening we begin the **Easter Triduum**; that is the time from Jesus' Last Supper, through his passion, death, and burial, to the resurrection. These three days are what we have been preparing for during Lent. They are the most important days in the church's calendar and we commemorate them with special liturgies.

Holy Thursday. The Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. (No other Mass is allowed on this day.) Scripture tells us that on the night before he died, Jesus ate the Passover with his disciples. Passover goes back to the time of Moses. However, when Jesus gathered his disciples, no longer would it just recall how God saved the Israelites from slavery in Egypt; now, it would celebrate how God saved all people from the slavery of sin and death. It was also at this meal that Jesus washed the feet of his disciples emphasizing the importance of serving others. Mass will begin at 7 pm, followed by adoration until 11 pm.

Good Friday. This is the only 24-hour period when Mass is not celebrated. The day is marked by fasting. The official service focuses on the passion of Jesus as told in the Gospel of John, and the veneration of the cross. Where we do not celebrate Mass, communion is offered to the faithful during this service. Our service begins at 3 pm. Confessions will be heard from 11:00 am to 1 pm in the Adoration Chapel.

Holy Saturday. This service concludes the Easter Triduum. It begins at dark (8pm) with the blessing of a new fire on the steps in front of the church. The Easter Candle, symbolizing the light of Christ, is lit and carried into the dark church. Scriptures are read, leading up to the Gospel of Jesus' resurrection. We then baptize and receive into the church those who have been preparing for initiation. This Easter Mass is often called the most powerful liturgy in the church. I strongly recommend parishioners to attend. (It does fulfill your Sunday obligation.)

On **Easter Sunday**, Masses will be held at the regular times of 7 am, 8:30 am, & 10:30 am.

A few reminders: **There will be no 4:30 pm Mass on Saturday and no Saturday afternoon confessions.** On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, morning prayer will be held in the church at 8 am. The **Chrism Mass** (Blessing of the new oil) will be held at the Cathedral on Tuesday evening beginning at 6:30 pm.

Our 7th Grade Class will re-enact the **Stations of the Cross** on Wednesday at 5:30 pm. (please note the change in time from previous years, and also the time change for Good Friday Services.)

Every Christian should make the effort to celebrate these solemn days of the church. These three days are about Jesus' gift of salvation to you and me. It reminds us how he suffered death and overcame it in the glory of the resurrection. It is the greatest gift of love ever given. Please make plans to join us in our celebrations. You will be glad you did.

Father Jeff

The National Eucharistic Congress is COMING SOON!



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.

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.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are heard Monday-Saturday mornings from 7:30-7:45am and on Saturday afternoon 3-4pm. **On Good Friday, there will also be confessions from 11am—1pm.**

Taking A Scrip-cation? If you're headed out of town for Easter, take some Scrip gift cards with you. We've got **Circle K, Exxon/Mobil, Marathon, Moto Mart and Shell** gas cards. No matter where you're driving, there's bound to be a **Subway** on the way for a healthy lunch stop. If you're staying with family or friends, pick up a **Homegoods** card for a hostess gift.

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 our community by sharing your loose change each week or by making special donation to the H.O.P.E. program.

IF YOU ONLY READ THREE THINGS THIS WEEK:

- Confessions will be heard on Good Friday from 11am—1pm
- Plan ahead for Holy Week; the Triduum schedule is published [here](#).
- Please return your Lenten crosses—baskets in vestibule and by grotto.

PB & J Volunteers A group of volunteers are making PB&J 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. 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 Ziploc bags.

All are welcome for the **Tenebrae Service** on Wednesday, March 27 at 7:00 PM at Sacred Heart Church.

The **Good Friday Way of the Cross for Peace and Justice** will be held on March 29, 2024 beginning at noon at the Supreme Court Building, 2nd & Capitol. The two hour prayerful walk remembers Jesus' passion and its connection with the sufferings of injustice experienced in God's people in our world today. Join with others in this ecumenical experience of prayer. The walk is sponsored by **Sponsored by:** Douglas Avenue United Methodist Church, First Church of the Brethren, First Presbyterian Church, Grace Lutheran Church, and Springfield Dominican Sisters. For more information, call/text 217-652-8086 or contact smkoch@spdom.org. Alternate location if raining, First Presbyterian Church.

Pick Up Your Cross If you took home a cross for our Lenten Service Project, please return them. There are baskets in the vestibule and near the grotto.

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

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School Stations of the Cross – Wednesday, March 27
5:30 PM

Holy Thursday – Thursday, March 28
7:00 PM

Good Friday – Friday, March 29
3:00 PM

Easter Vigil – Saturday, March 30
8:00 PM

Easter Sunday – Sunday, March 31
7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM

School News

During Catholic Schools week, our students raised enough money to send 4 veterans on the Honor Flight from Springfield to Washington D.C.

Congrats to our 6th grade boys basketball white team! They received 1st place in their end of the year tournament. Congratulations to our students that participated at the Regional Science Fair this weekend!

Four of our five students are advancing to State! Congratulations to Jersee J., Matthew V., Thane W., and Annaleise O.! Matthew V. received the Thermo Fisher Scientific Innovators Challenge Award naming him part of the top ten percent of all of the regional projects. Thane W. received the Office of Naval Research Naval Science Award and Greta B. received third place. We are so proud of all of our students! Thank you to Mrs. Reiser and Mrs. Christie for all of their hard work and dedication!!!



Huge thanks to our B.S.S. Men's Club for the wonderful Friday Night Fish Fries! We may be biased, but we think they're the best in town. Can't wait until next Lent.



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MARCH 25 — MARCH 29

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:00am and 8:20am

Hank Davis and Jack Majcina

Saturday, March 30, 8:00PM

Lector: Jim McDermott

Servers: Max Portz, **HELP WANTED**

Eucharistic Ministers: Rosalie Lowery, Ed Schofield, Vince Toolen, **HELP WANTED**

Sunday, March 31, 7:00AM

Lector: Ann Walker

Servers: Joseph Bonansinga, **HELP WANTED**

Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Gietl, Carolyn Graham, Michael and Carrie O'Brien

Sunday, March 31, 8:30AM

Lector: Mary Maloney

Servers: Nicholas Frevert, **HELP WANTED**

Eucharistic Ministers: Clara Ushman, Rae Marie Davlin, Cathy Scott, Sheri Dhabalt

Sunday, March 31, 10:30AM

Lector: Cynthia Lamar

Servers: John, Matthew and Thomas Christie, Colin MacDonald, Joseph Bertaina, Samaria Bakamba, Wade and Peyton Naylor

Eucharistic Ministers: Jack Lamara, Courtney Bensko, Patti Naylor Joseph Stannard, Janet Vespa

To obtain a full schedule for ALL Mass volunteers, go to www.bsps.org and scroll down to Ministry Scheduler Pro



The Triduum

Question:

I haven't attended Triduum services before. What happens that's different from a normal Sunday Mass?

Answer:

The liturgies during Holy Week are unique and rich in symbolism. The Mass for Palm Sunday follows the pattern of the day 2,000 years ago when Jesus entered Jerusalem. It includes a Gospel reading outside the church building and the entrance of the priest into the sanctuary while the congregation waves palms.

The Holy Thursday Mass also follows the rhythm of the ancient Last Supper. The presider washes the feet of members of the congregation, like Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. After Mass, all remaining hosts are taken to an altar of repose, where adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Weekly Parish Finance Report March 2 to March 8		
	AMOUNT RECEIVED	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
Loose Collections	\$886.00	
Envelope Collections	\$15,440.00	199
Online Giving Collections	\$3,929.25	115
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$20,255.25	314
Target Amount	\$23,500.00	

occurs late into the night. Parishioners can remain like the disciples in Gethsemane, asked to “watch and pray.”

On Good Friday, we celebrate another special liturgical service. Following the Liturgy of the Word, there is a communal reverencing of the cross. The intercessions are solemn and include prayers for many different groups of people, reminding us that Jesus’ passion is for the whole world. There is no Liturgy of the Eucharist. Hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday are distributed, after which the tabernacle is empty. The tabernacle remains empty through Holy Saturday — just as Jesus departed from this earthly world in death — and we wait in hope for Easter Sunday!

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