

Parish of the Blessed Sacrament

Second Sunday of Lent

March 16, 2025



Blessed Sacrament Outreach Fair

Learn about our Outreach Opportunities

Midwest Mission: Get involved in our Lenten Service food packaging event taking place on Saturday, April 12. Volunteers of all ages are needed.

Breadline: helpers are needed to prep food at home or serve food at St. John's Breadline. Also looking for clean up help. Volunteer once a year or more often as you desire.

Homebound Ministry: Join a team of volunteers bringing the Eucharist to those who can't come to church.

Mission Partnership: Learn about our past projects and how you can continue to be involved!

HSBS Mission Outreach, The James Project, St. Martin des Porres and MORE!

FRI 3/14 @ FISH FRY and SUN 3/16 AFTER 8:30/10:30

OUR CLERGY

Father Michael Friedel, Pastor
mfriedel@dio.org

Father Jeffery Grant, Pastor Emeritus
Father Tomy Philip, SAC,
Parochial Vicar
David Erdmann, Deacon

PASTORAL STAFF

McKinzie Oshesky, Office Manager
Janet Vespa, Finance Manager
Lisa Sarnowski,
Director of Communications
Jane Hartman, Music Director
John Langdon, Maintenance Manager

Bulletin Submissions:

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

SCHOOL STAFF

Nicole Kuhlman, Principal
Laura Horton,
School Administrative Asst
Michele Hinds-Greenwood,
School Secretary
Jenna Davlin,
Development Director

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

CONTACT US

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

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

1725 S. Walnut St.
Springfield, IL 62704

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

Sign up for e-newsletters: text
BLESSED1725 to 84576

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: The next class is on
Wednesday, April 9 at 6pm.
Please call the office to register.

Weddings: Contact the parish nine
to twelve months in advance.

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

Funerals: Contact the
parish office

Parish School of Religion: call
the Parish Office to register.

Blessed Sacrament Centennial



**Celebrating
100 Years
1924-2024**

MASS INTENTIONS
FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 17

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Mary Lynn &

Margaret Sullivan Kelly

Kathleen Davlin

Tuesday, March 18

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: Zoe Bartolo

Julietta Lenore Salvo

Wednesday, March 19

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Joseph Muller

Ruth Pohlman

Thursday, March 20

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Vincent Johnson

Ann E. Welch

Friday, March 21

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: Pat Kienzler

Saturday, March 22

8:00am Mass: Father James O'Shea

3pm - 4pm Confessions

4:30pm Mass: Tammy Holland

Lucille Gadbois

Sunday, March 23

3rd Sunday of Lent

7:00am Mass: Bill Dalsin

8:30am Mass: Patrick Frasco

10:30am Mass: For Our Parishioners

Confessions in the Adoration
Chapel on Saturdays

Morning Confession in
Confessionals

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



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Spending Time in the Desert

I was probably about fifteen years old when I first took a trip to the desert. We spent about three weeks of the summer in the southwestern corner of Arizona camping, hiking, and birdwatching (a hobby my family enjoyed very much when I was growing up—and the only reason we were in Arizona in the hottest part of the year!). It was a wonderful trip filled with many memories, but I remember several things distinctly about my first foray into desert life.

First: the tarantula, rattlesnake, and several scorpions we saw. They were all too close for my personal liking. But that's not the point of this bulletin article, so we'll push past those.

Second: how incredibly *dark* the desert was at night. I remember one night especially when we had been hiking in a canyon up until sunset. As darkness descended around us, we slowly made our way out of the canyon—but before we got back to our campground, my dad shut off the car and told me and my brother to notice how dark it was, without any street lamps or nearby light pollution to light up the sky. There must have been no moon, because I remember vividly putting my hand directly in front of my face and realizing that I couldn't see anything, even when it was inches from my face! I remember nights looking up at the stars and realizing just how vivid they were there. One night, we even got to watch (a bit frightfully, to be honest) a lightning storm cross the desert toward us.

Third: how, when you really paid attention, the desert was much fuller of life than it appeared at a cursory glance. The longer you are in the desert, the more you begin to notice how vibrant some of its life really is. When it would rain, the ocotillo would seemingly instantaneously sprout green leaves and beautiful flowers (ocotillo is a pole-like shrub that looked relatively uninteresting otherwise). The desert was living, but you had to slow down enough to notice it.

I think of that as we move deeper into this season of Lent—a time that could be described as forty days “in the desert” with the Lord. We heard last week in our Gospel how Jesus, *filled with the Holy Spirit*, was driven out in the desert. In Hebrew, the word for desert is the same as the word for wilderness—probably because, in Israel, those words are roughly coterminous. Jesus often returned to the wilderness—isolated Himself—when He most desired to commune with the Father. Have you ever asked yourself *why*?

I have to think that it's because it's only in the quiet that we begin to notice the even quieter voice of God. In the darkness, the stars show up brighter. In the desert, deprived of everything else, you start to notice more the *little* signs of life around you, and there's an invitation to savor what you find—to take it less for granted than we do in our normal everyday (Midwestern) existence.

All of this is a great analogy for Lent, at least to my mind. The deprivations we undergo in these forty days—what we call our penances—are not meant to impose a huge burden on us, as if God wanted us to be burdened for some reason. Rather, they put us in a sort of metaphorical desert of our senses, that without the things (even good things!) that usually distract us, we would be encouraged to encounter in a deeper, albeit less obvious way, the life and blessings we find around us. In the desert, far from the noise of the city, we are afforded the opportunity to hear God's voice a little more strongly. Indeed, if that was the *only* purpose of Lent, it would certainly be worth it!

Keep spreading joy!

Fr. Friedel



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 in the confessionals and on Saturday afternoon 3-4pm in the Adoration Chapel.



Stations of the Cross: 5:30pm on Fridays of Lent in the church.

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.

Men's Club Fish Fries began last Friday from **5:00 to 7:00pm** in the Blessed Sacrament School cafeteria. Dinners are \$12 for adults and \$5 for children. Includes all you can eat walleye only. Walleye, fried and blackened catfish, shrimp, cheese pizza, mac and cheese. Sides of coleslaw, French fries, or baked potato.



IF YOU ONLY READ THREE THINGS THIS WEEK:

- Sign up for a shift at the Blessing Bag Pack—in person on March 16 in the school cafeteria or online at bsps.org/mission-partnership
- Please pray for our OCIA participants! Pictures and bios in the bulletin and in the vestibule.
- Check out the Springfield Right to Life fundraiser on March 29

Congratulations to our 55th Annual Auction Raffle Winners!

Golden Ticket Raffle
Louis Graham

Parish Raffle Winners

\$1000 Jason Gerwig

\$600 Eric Rollins

\$400 Katie Keim

Our **Lenten Service Project** will be a family participation event in conjunction with Midwest Mission. All ages (children grades 3 and up) are invited to join us on **Saturday, April 12** in the school cafeteria as we prepare "blessing bags" with rice, soy, and vitamins to be sent to a third world country. This is an easy job that can accommodate all ages. Please prayerfully consider joining us on April 12—shifts are available from 9 AM to 2 PM. **Sign up in the school cafeteria after 8:30 and 10:30 AM Masses THIS WEEKEND or online at bsps.org/mission-partnership.** Questions? Contact Lsarnowski@bsps.org.



Blessing Bag Pack

Our goal is to feed **12,300** people
so we will be packing **2,050** bags.

Date: Saturday, April 12

Time: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (two shifts)

Location: Blessed Sacrament School Cafeteria

How to sign up: bsps.org/mission-partnership

Come for a time of great fellowship and great impact!
Children 3rd grade and up and all abilities are welcome. You will be notified when and where the Blessing Bags are sent.

1 Blessing Bag costs \$2 and feeds 6 people



Come join the SHG Music Department in the Merry Old Land of Oz! Featuring the talent of SHG students (as well as some local grade school talent rounding out our cast of munchkins!) in revisiting this timeless classic. Join Dorothy on her journey over the rainbow, where she will meet all of your favorites...Glinda the Good, the Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, and everyone's favorite villain...The Wicked Witch of the West! Featuring all of the nostalgia of the 1939 MGM film and some fun updates for the stage, we can't wait for you to join us for this magical production.

Show Dates and Times

Friday, March 21 @ 7:30pm	Friday, March 29 @ 7:30pm
Saturday, March 22 @ 7:30pm	Saturday, March 29 @ 7:30pm
Sunday, March 23 @ 2pm	Sunday, March 30 @ 2pm

Tickets are on sale now. Get them at weareshg.org/WizardofOzTickets or scan the QR code. →



Lenten Book Study – *Saints and Social Justice*

Blessed Sacrament's Lenten book study began last Sunday from 4-5 pm to discuss the *Saints and Social Justice – A Guide to Changing the World* by Brandon Vogt. This book provides short, easy to read biographies of 14 saints whose lives and faith provide guidance and encouragement for us today. You may join for as many weeks as you like in the rectory basement. All are welcome! Please contact Carolyn Oldenburg for more information: 217.473.5088. Sign up at www.bsps.org/all-things-lent!

The Bible in One Year Interested in Fr. Tomy's "Bible In One Year" reading plan? Scan the QR code or go to <https://www.bsps.org/bible-in-one-year> to download.



New to the parish! Interested in joining or getting more involved? We'll have a Welcome table at the Ministry Outreach Fair THIS SUNDAY from 9:30 am to 12 pm. Coffee and donuts for all who attend! Can't make it? Go to <https://www.bsps.org/welcome-to-blessed-sacrament> to complete a registration form and learn more.



The Solemnity of St. Joseph

On March 19th, we celebrate the holiness in the midst of unpredictable fatherhood. We first meet Joseph when he discovers his betrothed is pregnant...and not by him! St. Joseph does not know who the father is (yet), but he knows the punishment for adultery is death. He decides to divorce Mary quietly, and thus save her life. When an angel appears to reveal that Mary is pregnant by the Holy Spirit, St. Joseph trusts his dream and marries her. As a new foster father, Joseph must help his wife give birth in a stable. Later, he needs to escape the threats to his son's life by immigrating with his family to a foreign land. We know that St. Joseph is faithful, brave, and willing to sacrifice for those he loves. On the solemnity of St. Joseph, we don't merely celebrate a carpenter. We celebrate a hero!



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MARCH 17 — 24

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:00 AND 8:20 am

Jane Lambert and Teddy Mizeur

Saturday, March 22, 4:30PM

Lector: McKinzie Oshesky

Servers: Cason Ganey, Sophia Wygant, Kaitlynn Leonard

Eucharistic Ministers: Vince Toolen, Richard Campbell, Rae Marie Davlin, Noreen Luhr

Sunday, March 23, 7:00AM

Lector: P.J. Oubre

Servers: Nicholas Frevert

Eucharistic Ministers Michael O'Brien, Ann Walker, Carolyn Graham, Christy Geving, Jill Loveall

Sunday, March 23, 8:30AM

Lector: Jim McDermott

Servers: Natalie Jacobs, Liam and Sammy Bryant

Eucharistic Ministers: Molly Smith, Sheri Dhabalt, George Rudis, Michael Delvo

Sunday, March 23, 10:30AM

Lector: Tim Moore

Servers: Thomas, Matthew and John Christie

Eucharistic Ministers: Andrea Judd, Rosalie Lowery, Lauren Coombe, Donald and Patricia Graham

To obtain a full schedule for ALL Mass volunteers or to **VOLUNTEER FOR AN EMPTY SLOT**, go to www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/blessedsacrament_spi

Two Hearts and &
Springfield Right to Life

2025 ANNUAL BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

We are thrilled to invite you to our biggest event of the year, our Annual Fundraiser Breakfast, which serves as the primary fundraiser supporting our vital programs and services.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Annette and Jim McDermott

Get inspired by their family story of living the pro-life message.

FREE TO ATTEND

The event is free to attend funded by our generous sponsors. As a result, 100% of your generous contributions help fund our efforts to provide compassionate care, essential resources, and life-affirming support to women and families in need throughout the year.

HOST A TABLE

Tables of 10 are available to host. Invite your pro-life friends and family excited to support our organization.

CATHOLIC MASS ON - SITE

Mass will be celebrated on-site for those who would like to attend. Mass begins at 8:00 am

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES AN IMPACT

Enjoy an inspiring evening filled with engaging speakers, uplifting stories, and exciting opportunities to make a meaningful impact. Together, we can continue empowering lives and offering hope to those facing unplanned pregnancies.



Contact Us
217-523-2700



More Information
springfieldrtl@gmail.com



Keynote speakers
Jim & Annette McDermott

8:30 AM
29
MARCH

**ERIN'S
PAVILLION**
@ SOUTHWIND PARK
4965 S 2ND STREET,
SPRINGFIELD

*Check-in starts at 7:45 am

Weekly Parish Finance Report March 1 to March 7

	AMOUNT RECEIVED	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
Loose Collections	\$1,277.00	
Envelope Collections	\$18,005.00	214
Online Giving Collections	\$1,671.66	101
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$22,379.50	295
Target Amount	\$25,000.00	

HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR...

Doris Drago	Judy Shea	Pope Francis
Ed Schofield	George Curry	Sharon Troy
	Cynthia Plouche'	Michaela Hermes

Please call the Parish Office to submit a name to the prayer list. Names will automatically be removed after six weeks unless notified.

Project Rachel can help women and men heal from the pain of abortion. For assistance call 217-698-4456

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation at