

# Parish of the Blessed Sacrament

## Third Sunday of Lent

### March 23, 2025



#### OUR CLERGY

**Father Michael Friedel**, Pastor

[mfriedel@dio.org](mailto: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](mailto:bulletins@bsps.org)

#### 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](http://www.bsps.org)

## CONTACT US

#### PARISH OFFICE:

Phone: (217) 528-7521

Website: [www.bsps.org](http://www.bsps.org)

#### SCHOOL OFFICE:

748 West Laurel

Phone: (217) 522-7534

Fax: (217) 522-7542

[www.bssbruins.org](http://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 24

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: James Wilson, Sr.

Tuesday, March 25

Feast of the Annunciation

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: Sue Senger

Wednesday, March 26

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Thomas P. O'Connor

Thursday, March 27

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Stannard & Lyons families

Friday, March 28

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: Poor Souls Shrine

Saturday, March 29

8:00am Mass: Father James O'Shea

3pm - 4pm Confessions

4:30pm Mass: Rita Howard

Sunday, March 30

4th Sunday of Lent

7:00am Mass: For Our Parishioners

8:30am Mass: Shannon Murphy

Ann E. Welch

10:30am Mass: Roland DeSalle

Confessions in the Adoration  
Chapel on Saturdays

Morning Confession in  
Confessionals

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



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

**Lent and the Springtime of Joy**

Lent is such a beautiful time in parish life. I'm always struck by how Lent seems like a time of intentional "pruning," with all the ways that the Father slowly but attentively removes in us the branches that do not bear fruit (cf. Jn 15). As the winter temperatures have been easing their grip on us a bit this past week, I find my mind wandering a little more to spring, noticing the sun coming up earlier and staying around longer in the evening, grateful to hear the singing of birds as I wake in the morning. All of these things feel very "Lenten" to me: that our penances and fasting and prayer, all the little "deaths to self" that we take on during this season, they slowly begin to bring about new life in us and in the created world around us.

I pray that all of you are persevering in your Lenten practices and finding this time of Lent a joyful one. Someone remarked to me the other day about how they heard a lapsed Catholic talking about how "Catholics *love* to suffer." I had to laugh. Certainly, our Church has a more robust theology of suffering than most (and in the suffering, we often find redemption!). But Catholics don't just live to suffer. Our Lenten practices aren't just meant to make us suffer. We don't (or shouldn't!) just run around picking out new crosses and trying them on for size. Graciously, the Lord has entrusted us with *one* Cross—*His* Cross—and we only have to do our part to help carry it, like little Simons of Cyrene.

Lent is meant to be a joyful time, really. The penances we undergo are meant to clear the distractions, to help us see through the forest to what really matters: the life and love of our God. To understand how the great penitential season of our Church can coincide with such joy, we only have to look to the Cross. I remember once asking my spiritual director, "Boy, there are days I just struggle to put a smile on my face. Don't you ever just get weighed down by it all?" His response was to tell me to look to Jesus on the Cross. Certainly, he said, Jesus was in great anguish in that moment, even crying out His great prayer of abandonment ("My God, my God..."). But paradoxically, it must have also been a moment of profound *joy* in our Lord's heart, knowing that it was at that moment that He was accomplishing for us our salvation—that in that act of great suffering, He was bringing about the very thing for which He came: the unification of mankind and their God.

If our penances aren't somehow increasing our joy (and the joy of others around us), we're certainly focused on the wrong things. It reminds me of a phrase once uttered by the sainted doctor of the Church, Teresa of Avila: "From silly devotions and from sour-faced saints, good Lord, deliver us!" We mustn't be sour-faced in our Lenten observance...and thanks be to God, that's not what He's asking of us! So brighten up, be grateful for the gentle and loving ways of our God and for the signs of new life coming among us. It's Lent, after all, not detention!

I'll point your attention to just a couple of things happening in our parish to hopefully help make your Lent a joyful one. First, I always love seeing the uptick in Mass attendance (both daily, and on Sundays) that comes along with Lent. What a great way to enter the season wholeheartedly! Our fish fries so far have been fantastic, so I hope you'll join us for one of those, if you haven't already. Thank you to all those who are generously volunteering their time with the Men's Club to put those on! Lastly, feel free to join us for Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 5:30 or for Adoration at any time! Jesus and I would love to see you there!

Keep spreading joy!

Fr. Friedel



## OUR PARISH FAMILY

### Let Us Pray for Our Recently Baptized

Alaina Lindsay, daughter of Ryan and Kendra Reese

### Let Us Pray for Our Recently Departed

Angelito delaCruz  
Steve Pellegrini

**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](http://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.



## Please Welcome OUR NEW MEMBERS

Matt Carroll  
Pele Dina and Ivona Maarawi and Family  
Georgia and James Luckey and Family  
Serge Murer  
Rebecca and Mark Puclik  
Rebecca Sadaj and Family  
Elizabeth and Christian Secrist and Family  
Catherine Whisenand  
Sara and John Zimmerman and Family

**Traveling over Easter?** We've got scrip cards for hotels (AirBnB, Best Western, Hilton (all brands), Marriott (all brands), Hotels.com and VRBO) Southwest and Hawaiian airlines, Alama, Budget and Enterprise 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](http://www.bsps.org/scrip-fundraising-program) or email [scrip@bssbruins.org](mailto:scrip@bssbruins.org) for more information

Our **Lenten Service Project** will be a family participation event in conjunction with Midwest Mission. All are invited to join us on **Saturday, April 12** in the Blessed Sacrament School cafeteria as we prepare "blessing bags" with rice, soy, and vitamins to be sent to a third world country. Thanks to your amazing generosity, we have raised \$5,600!! That will feed 16,800 people. WOW! Except now we have to fill the bags and we need more volunteers than expected.

This is a job for all ability levels. Here's who can help:

- Children second grade and up
- Eighth graders/High school students who need service hours
- Grandparents serving with their grandchildren
- Older parishioners
- Parishioners who are new to the parish and want to meet people

Shifts are available from 10 AM to 2 PM. **Sign up online at [bsps.org/mission-partnership](http://bsps.org/mission-partnership) or call the parish office at 217-528-7521.** Questions? Contact [Lsarnowski@bsps.org](mailto:Lsarnowski@bsps.org).



Men's Club Fish Fries are up and running 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—we've got 16,800 people to feed! Sign up online at [bsps.org/mission-partnership](https://bsps.org/mission-partnership) or call the parish office
- Still looking for an almsgiving opportunity? Don't forget our own H.O.P.E. ministry! We are happy to take your loose change EVERY weekend—not just during Lent.
- Check out the Springfield Right to Life fundraiser on March 29

**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 a special donation to the H.O.P.E. program.

Mark your calendars for the **2025 Springfield Right to Life and Two Hearts PRC Annual Fundraising Breakfast** on Saturday, March 29, 2025, 8:30 a.m. Breakfast will be held at Erin's Pavilion at Southwind Park, Springfield. Check-in begins at 7:45 a.m. Catholic Mass will be celebrated at The Church of the Little Flower at 7:30 a.m. Featuring Keynote speakers Jim & Annette McDermott. **Admission is free with an opportunity to contribute financially to our mission.**



We would like to congratulate all of the participants who were chosen for the Grade School Art Showcase. Blessed Sacrament students Bailey B. and Willow G. received 1st place and Cece B. won Best of Show. Thank you to our wonderful Art teachers for inspiring our young students!

Students are busy preparing for Frozen, Jr with shows April 4–6. Tickets are available at the school office. For \$7/each Friday and Saturday night performances at 7 PM and Sunday at 2 PM.



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MARCH 24 — 28

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:00 AND 8:20 am

Dominik Geist-Stainfield and  
Davontae Wilks

Saturday, March 29, 4:30PM**Lector:** Julia Wykoff**Servers:** Henry Barry, Jack Bishop, Kaden Smith**Eucharistic Ministers:** Jill Loveall, Kathleen Harth, Abigale Kane, Edward SchofieldSunday, March 30, 7:00AM**Lector:** Ann Walker**Servers:** Kate Lambert**Eucharistic Ministers** Christy Geving, Kathy Gietl, Rae Marie Davlin, Michael and Carrie O'BrienSunday, March 30, 8:30AM**Lector:** Laurie Mann**Servers:** Annaliese and Andrew Hofner, Damien Njeuha-Njapa**Eucharistic Ministers:** George Rudis, Sheri Dhabalt, Clara Ushman, Janet VespaSunday, March 30, 10:30AM**Lector:** Patti Naylor**Servers:** Wade and Peyton Naylor, Jack Majcina**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rodney Naylor, Suzanne Baase, Lori Criscione, Andrea Judd, Richard Campbell

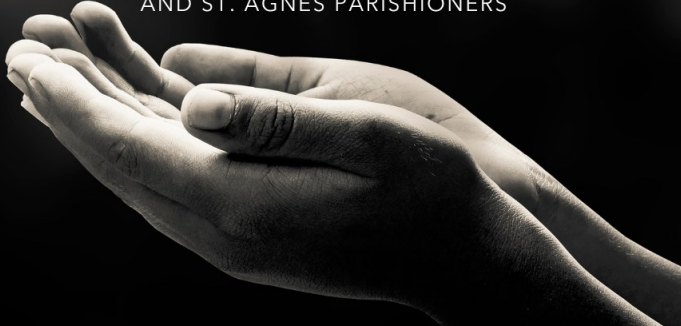
To obtain a full schedule for ALL Mass volunteers or to **VOLUNTEER FOR AN EMPTY SLOT**, go to  
[www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/blessedsacrament\\_spi](http://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/blessedsacrament_spi)

# Lenten Penance Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

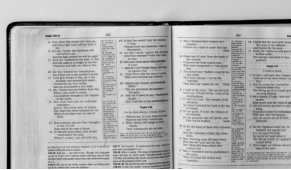
2:00 PM AT ST. AGNES

FOR BLESSED SACRAMENT, CHRIST THE KING,  
AND ST. AGNES PARISHIONERS



**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 .

**Bible Study**



## Weekly Parish Finance Report March 8 to March 14

	AMOUNT RECEIVED	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
Loose Collections	\$1,094.00	
Envelope Collections	\$16,983.00	218
Online Giving Collections	\$3,608.25	104
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$21,685.25</b>	322
Target Amount	\$25,000.00	

## HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR...

Alex Jordan      Judy Shea      Pope Francis  
Doris Drago      George Curry      Sharon Troy  
Ed Schofield      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