

November

30

2025



# PARISH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

## WELCOME!

### SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: The next class is on **Wednesday, January 21** 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.

### OUR CLERGY

Father Michael Friedel, Pastor  
[mfriedel@dio.org](mailto:mfriedel@dio.org)

Father Jeffery Grant, Pastor Emeritus  
Father Ryan Kehoe, Parochial Vicar  
[rkehoe@dio.org](mailto:rkehoe@dio.org)

Father Zachary Samples,  
In Residence  
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:

Email: [bulletins@bsps.org](mailto:bulletins@bsps.org)  
Due Monday by noon

### SCHOOL STAFF

Elizabeth Shade, Principal  
Esther Edgren,  
School Administrative Assistant  
**Michele Hinds-Greenwood**,  
School Secretary  
Jenna Davlin,  
Development Director



Let us  
*rejoice*  
in the  
house  
of the  
Lord.

PSALM 122

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

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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 our electronic newsletters: text BLESSED1725 to 84576

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)

Follow us on Facebook: [bspspi](https://www.facebook.com/bspspi)

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### Monday, December 1

Confessions before Mass  
8:00am Mass: Pat Kienzler

### Tuesday, December 2

Confessions before Mass  
8:00am Mass: Jim Belz  
J.R. Weakley

### Wednesday, December 3

Confessions before Mass  
8:00am Mass: Philip L. Graham, Jr.

### Thursday, December 4

Confessions before Mass  
Rosary at 7:45am  
8:15am Mass: Sue Senger

### Friday, December 5

Confessions before Mass  
8:00am Mass: Mary Ann Bart

### Saturday, December 6

8:00am Mass: Mary Mack  
3pm - 4pm Confessions  
4:30pm Mass: Adams, Shoup &  
Gillen Families

### Sunday, December 7

7:00am Mass: For Our Parishioners  
8:30am Mass: Patricia Tadlock  
10:05am Rosary: Arts &  
Environment Volunteers  
10:30am Mass: Tom Chrans

Confessions in the Adoration  
Chapel on Saturdays

Morning Confession in  
Confessionals

Rosary is prayed before the  
10:30am Sunday Mass beginning at  
10:05am AND after regular  
weekday Masses at 8:00am.

All are welcome!

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### New Year's Resolutions

This Sunday, we as a Church begin a "new year!" So Happy Catholic New Year! Every Advent, we begin a new liturgical cycle and relive the mysteries of our salvation 'from the top,' starting with this season of postured anticipation of our Savior, who will be born among us again at Christmas. We move from studying Luke on most Sundays to Matthew. In all of our liturgical books, we make what we as seminarians used to call the "big flip," moving all the ribbons from the very back of the books to the front.

I'm not sure it's ever necessarily been the practice to make "spiritual resolutions" at the beginning of a new liturgical year, but I think this 'new beginning' does present us with a perfect opportunity: to examine our spiritual lives with fresh eyes; to ask the Lord to illumine those ways in which He is calling us to grow deeper in the mystery and in the practice of our faith; and to resolve to adhere to some simple and achievable practices in this coming year.

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Come to confession, *especially* if it's been a long time. Experience a fresh start!
- If you don't already, pray with your family before meals or kneel by your bedside every night and thank God for the beauty of another day.
- Commit to reading the Scriptures every day, at least for Advent. Read a single chapter of one of the Gospels or start with the Book of Psalms. If you want something systematic, look up the *Bible in a Year* program; it only takes about 20-30 minutes/day.
- Spend a weekly or monthly hour in adoration. Start coming to our parish's adoration chapel, or take a nighttime hour for Advent or the coming year!
- Pray the Rosary daily or weekly or spend your commute offering a Divine Mercy Chaplet.
- Invite a friend or relative back to Mass! Be gentle and welcoming, witnessing to them the reason why you love your faith.
- Ever tried going to a daily Mass? Try going one extra day a week. If Sunday Mass is difficult, commit to every Sunday, no exceptions.
- Pick a different thing to fast from every week (coffee, snacking, salt, dessert, social media/internet, etc.). Offer the little suffering for someone you know who is sick or in need of your prayers.
- Explore the world of Catholic podcasts or apps. There's so much out there!
- Follow our parish and the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois on Facebook or Instagram. Share a post every once in a while. Be "that" person that shares their faith on social media!
- Consider your contributions to our parish and school or to a favorite local charity. Commit to living discipleship more in your financial life.
- Pick up a book for spiritual reading. Learn about the saints. Dive in deeper with some theology or spiritual classics. If you need suggestions, call me!

The options are endless; just be sure to pick something you can accomplish. *Don't try and do everything*; but as a spiritual director once told me, "Don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good." Resolve to do something good, even if we're never going to implement it perfectly. One thing I know is that our Lord can never be outdone in generosity—if we commit to growing with the Lord, even a small effort can be met with great reward!

Keep spreading joy!

Fr. Friedel



**Congratulations to our Recently Baptized**  
Charlotte Mae Bridges, Lillian Jude Bridges,  
Hunter Thompson Bridges and Reece Caleb  
Bridges, children of Mark and Shelby Bridges

Lucas Graham Jackson, son of Brett and Lexie  
Jackson

**Pray for Our Recently Departed**  
Edward Schofield  
Rev Joseph Ring

**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.



Feast of the Immaculate Conception is next Monday, December 8th. **It is a holy day of obligation.** You have the same obligation to attend Mass as on Sunday. Masses are at 8:15 am and 5:30 PM on **Monday, December 8.**

Save the Date: **Sunday, December 14**, at 2:00pm, we will host the Advent Penance Service for Blessed Sacrament, St. Agnes and Christ the King.



**CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
DECK THE HALLS: MINI TREES, WREATHS AND FESTIVE FINDS  
**DEC 6TH 10AM-6PM**  
**BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL**  
**SHOP VENDORS**  
**EXPLORE THE HOLIDAY MINI TREE & WREATH FESTIVAL**

**HOLIDAY MINI TREE & WREATH FESTIVAL**

**DECORATE A MINI TREE (4 FEET) OR A WREATH FOR OUR HOLIDAY FESTIVAL!**

TREES AND WREATHS WILL BE UP FOR AUCTION TO HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR THE SCHOOL AT OUR CHRISTMAS MARKET ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>.

**CONTACT JENNA DAVLIN AT [DAVLIN@BSSBRUINS.ORG](mailto:DAVLIN@BSSBRUINS.ORG)**  
PICKUP A TREE AT THE SCHOOL WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

The **Angel Giving Tree** Blessed Sacrament is providing Angel Giving Trees, sponsored by Catholic Charities. Please take a tag off the tree and purchase a gift(s) for a child or two children listed on the tag. Then bring the unwrapped gifts back to the church or church office by December 12th. Donations of wrapping paper will be appreciated Thank you for your acts of love and caring.



**Angel Tree Idea** Why not contribute to Blessed Sacrament School at the SAME TIME as you donate to Catholic Charities? If your Angel Tree wish list includes gift cards, purchase them in the school office during regular school hours and ask them to put it in the Angel Tree envelope. Save yourself a trip to the store and ensure that your gift card is delivered safely!

The **Teacher Salary Support Fund** is specially designated to offset our teachers' salaries by giving them a well-deserved bonus at Christmas each year. The monies donated through the green parish envelopes throughout the year are combined with donations from school families, the PSA and the Men's Club. All donations are allocated to the teachers and staff once a year - at Christmas! Please consider a donation during this school year by submitting the Parish Teacher Salary Support Fund envelope or an envelope on which you designate "Teacher Christmas Bonus Fund" or scanning the QR code by Monday, December 19th. Thank you in advance for your support of our hard-working teachers and staff.



### Security Updates

We are reaching out to our church families to ask for support in completing an important safety improvement for our students during school Masses. Following the tragic school Mass shooting in Minneapolis earlier this year, we have been working to install panic-door hardware that will allow us to lock the church doors while remaining fully compliant with fire and emergency-exit regulations. After receiving bids, the total cost of this project is approximately \$30,000. We know this request comes at a busy time of year and that our families already give so much, but ensuring the safety and well-being of our students and staff is a responsibility we take very seriously. If you feel called and are able to contribute toward this essential upgrade, we would be deeply grateful for your support.



**Advent Book Study** Join the Women's Advent Book Study as we read "Holy Moments" by Matthew Kelly. We'll meet on Wednesday evenings from 7-8 pm in the Rectory basement beginning December 3. Call or text Brittani Newton (217.415.8223) or Carolyn Oldenburg (21.473.5088) for more information.

While supplies last....pick up a 4 ft Christmas tree in the office, decorate it with your family or business, bring it back by Dec 2nd, and it will be entered into a silent auction at our **Christmas Market** on **Dec. 6, 2025**. We will also have a **silent auction for the Famous Christmas Pews** at **4:30pm Christmas Eve Mass**.

The **Diocesan Campaign for Justice & Hope** will be taken up this weekend. All funds raised by this collection will be used to help the poor within our diocese. As disciples of Jesus Christ, let us offer families living in poverty our prayer, action and financial support. Scan the QR code to give directly; choose Campaign for Justice & Hope.



Consider donating stock as a way to continue supporting Blessed Sacrament. Stock giving allows you to save your cash, avoid capital gains, and maximize your impact. You may also receive a tax deduction for the full value of the gift. Visit our secure stock giving site at [dio.org/stock](http://dio.org/stock) which makes stock giving easy and secure by providing the correct transfer form, helping you fill out the necessary fields, and providing clear instructions for submitting the form to your brokerage. Your financial advisor may also complete the form on your behalf to access necessary account information. For specific questions about how stock giving may impact your personal situation, consult a financial or tax advisor.

Ring in the Holiday season with the resplendent music of Bach & Handel! Please join the singers of the Choral Society in the gorgeous surroundings of Blessed Sacrament Church on **Saturday, December 6** for this beloved annual tradition. And be sure to bring along a warmed-up voice for the obligatory sing-along encore of the Hallelujah Chorus!



Tickets: \$20, available either online or at the door. Concert is expected to sell out, so advance booking is recommended. Purchase tickets at our parish website [www.bsps.org](http://www.bsps.org).

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 1 — 5

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:00 am

Layla Nicolas and Marin Oldenburg

**Saturday, December 6, 4:30PM**

**Lector:** Youth Mass

**Servers:** Jude Hartwick, Lucia Thompson, Henry Barry

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rae Marie Davlin, Noreen Luhr, Richard Campbell, Joseph Stannard

**Sunday, December 7, 7:00AM**

**Lector:** P.J. Oubre

**Servers:** Teddy Mizeur

**Eucharistic Ministers** Abigale Kane, Jill Loveall, Kathy Gietl, Carolyn Graham

**Sunday, December 7, 8:30AM**

**Lector:** Janet Vespa

**Servers:** George Boesdorfer, Josetta Kren, Colin MacDonald

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Dave and Lisa Sarnowski, Bradley Frost, Becky Leonard

**Sunday, December 7, 10:30AM**

**Lector:** Donna Moore

**Servers:** Davontae Wilks, Wade and Peyton Naylor

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Mary Tuttle, Rodney and Patti Naylor, Lynn Frasco, Brittani Newton

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

# Advent CALENDAR

- Advent Begins  
Sunday, November 30
- Christmas Market  
Saturday, December 6 10 am—6 pm in B.S.S. Cafeteria
- Youth Mass  
Saturday, December 6 at 4:30 PM
- Rejoice! Springfield Choral Society Concert  
Saturday, December 6 at 7 pm in church
- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception  
Monday, December 8 Masses at 8:15 am and 5:30 pm
- Advent Reconciliation Service  
Sunday, December 14 at 2 PM in church
- Christmas Eve Masses  
Wednesday, December 24 at 4:30 pm and 8:00 pm
- Christmas Day Masses  
Thursday, December 25 at Midnight, 8:30 am and 10:30 am

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 217-321-1155

## Weekly Parish Finance Report November 15 to November 21

	AMOUNT RECEIVED	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
Loose Collections	\$1,106.00	
Envelope Collections	\$12,930.33	202
Online Giving Collections	\$5,456.92	117
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$19,493.25</b>	319
Target Amount	\$25,000.00	


**Make Dinner for Our Priests** We need dinner for our three priests on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Please sign up on our website at [bsps.org/dinner-for-priests](https://bsps.org/dinner-for-priests) for a specific date. You may drop off the meal at the rectory any time before 5:00 PM. Our priests are VERY appreciative!

**IF YOU ONLY READ THREE THINGS THIS WEEK:**

- Get your tickets to the Springfield Choral Society concert on December 6
- Plan ahead for Christmas—Mass times are posted
- Advent Reconciliation Service on Sunday, December 14.

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**Mike O'Brien**  
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 Fax: 217-528-5771  
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**2026**

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