

April
19
2026



PARISH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

WELCOME!

LORD,
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PSALM 16



SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: The next class is on **Wednesday, April 29** 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

Father Jeffery Grant, Pastor Emeritus
Father Ryan Kehoe, Parochial Vicar
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
Due Monday by noon

SCHOOL STAFF

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

PARISH OFFICE:
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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

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Follow us on Instagram: [bsps1725](https://www.instagram.com/bsps1725)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, April 20

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Daniel Stockwell

Tuesday, April 21

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: J.R. Weakley

Wednesday, April 22

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Poor Souls' Shrine

Thursday, April 23

Confessions before Mass

8:15am Mass: James Meredith

Friday, April 24

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Fr. James O'Shea

Saturday, April 25

8:00am Mass: Philip Graham Family

3pm - 4pm Confessions

4:30pm Mass: Deceased members
of Stannard &
Johnson families

Sunday, April 26

4th Sunday of Easter

7:00am Mass: Martha Dalsin-Mathies

8:30am Mass: Molly Smith

10:05am Rosary: Blessed Sacrament
Finance Council

10:30am Mass: For Our Parishioners

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

The Feast of St. Mark

On April 25, we celebrate the feast of St. Mark the Evangelist, so named because he is one of the writers of the four Gospels (the shortest of the four, but also believed to be the oldest). Through that written account of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, St. Mark's contribution to the building up of the Church and the salvation of the world is, in essence, incalculable. But who is St. Mark?

If you've given it much thought, you probably realize that Mark was not one of the twelve Apostles. In fact, we're not even sure that Mark ever had the chance to meet Jesus in the flesh during his lifetime (although some hold that the "young man" referred to in Mark 14:51-52 is the evangelist himself, as it's a detail that is recorded only in Mark's Gospel).

Rather, Mark is usually identified with the man from Acts 12 (see especially vv. 12 and 25), reported to us as "John, whose other name was Mark." Most of what we know of St. Mark, then, is testified to us directly through the early writings of the Church (especially the Acts of the Apostles). Acts tells us that it was to the house of John-Mark's mother that Peter escaped after his miraculous release from prison, and subsequently, Paul and Barnabas take this John-called-Mark with them on an apostolic mission [from Paul's Letter to the Colossians, we subsequently learn that Mark and Barnabas are cousins]. Paul and Mark apparently had a bit of a falling out during one of these missions, the details of which are a little unclear—but importantly, Colossians also hints at a later reconciliation that isn't reported in Acts. [Proof that these apostolic men didn't always get along perfectly...so there's hope for us yet!]

So if Mark didn't ever meet Jesus, how did he end up writing a Gospel, which is supposed to be a *first-hand* account of Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection? That came about through Mark's special relationship to St. Peter. As we've already heard, Peter and Mark knew one another from at least the time of Peter's sojourn in Mark's mother's house—but the reason Peter stayed in that house (as opposed to another) likely indicates that there was some priorly existing relationship between Peter and the members of that Christian household. From that, we can plausibly conclude that Mark and his family were probably early followers of Jesus, even we don't have proof that they "met" Jesus.

From that friendship with Peter, however, sprung a profound knowledge of Jesus' life. In the context of their apostolic missions, we can imagine Mark sitting at the feet of Peter (and Paul), learning all the knowledge that the Apostles possessed of Jesus' earthly life. The closeness of Peter's relationship in particular to Mark is demonstrated to us in Peter's first letter (1 Peter 5:13), wherein he calls Mark "my son" [not meant literally, but as a term of affection]. So Mark was clearly a close disciple of Peter, and you can imagine that in the wake of St. Peter's death (in AD 64), Mark would have found himself face to face with a conundrum: if we are to continue passing on the first-hand stories of the life of Jesus, if we are to keep the record of the witness of these Apostles, then we have to begin writing down these words! And so it was—Mark began to write what the Church has long considered "Peter's Gospel," written from the eyewitness testimony of the Prince of the Apostles himself.

Tradition holds that around the year AD 49, Mark journeyed to Alexandria, Egypt to found the Church of Alexandria, becoming its first bishop. [Subsequently, Alexandria would become one of the five major episcopal sees of the Church, ruled by a "patriarch," as well as a prominent hub for early Christian theology.] Mark likely wrote his Gospel from Rome in the years after Peter's (and Paul's) death, and you can still visit the Basilica of St. Mark where tradition holds it may have been written (it's right off the Piazza Venezia, where the giant "wedding cake" is). In Alexandria, on Easter day in AD 68, St. Mark was arrested, condemned to death for his faith in Jesus Christ, and was martyred for the faith, having been dragged through the streets of Alexandria by a rope tied around his neck. Buried in the city where he founded the Church, in 828, his relics were smuggled to Italy by Venetian merchants; to this day, the Evangelist's earthly remains can be venerated in the Basilica that bears his name and stands prominently in Venice's most famous piazza.

St. Mark, pray for us...and give us a share in your zeal for living and preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Keep spreading joy!

Fr. Friedel



OUR PARISH FAMILY

Congratulations to Our Recently Baptized

Eleanor Grace Hazelrigg, daughter of Andrew and Maggie Hazelrigg

Please Pray for Our Recently Departed

Walter "Wally" Hodde
 Larry Kienzler
 Reverend Philip Kraft
 Eugene "Gene" Walsh

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.

Women's Day of Recollection

A Women's Day of Recollection will be held this coming **Thursday, April 23**, at **Sacred Heart Church** (730 S. 12th St., Springfield), from 12:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. There will be a meditation given by a priest, time for silent prayer and reflection, a doctrinal talk, and Benediction. Confession and spiritual direction with the priest will be available. All women throughout the diocese are invited to attend. The spiritual guidance at the Recollection is entrusted to a priest of the Prelature *Opus Dei*.



Blessed Sacrament School

Monday, April 27 8am to 12pm

Donor Bus 748 W Laurel

If we collect 20 donations, we will earn a grant for our school.
 Please help us meet our goal!

To book an appointment, scan the QR code, contact Jenna Davlin at davlin@bssbruins.org, or call ImpactLife at 800-747-5401.



Last date to donate elsewhere and be eligible for our drive: 3/2/2026

Successful donors will receive their choice of an e-gift card, bonus points to the Reward Store, or a donation to a nonprofit.

Can't make it to the Blood Drive?
 Stop by the Springfield Donor Center
 (1999 Wabash Ave) anytime between
 April 19-May 2 & credit
 Blessed Sacrament School



Bring Photo ID and please eat/hydrate before donating

The Blessed Sacrament School blood drive will take place on Monday, April 27, 2026, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the donor bus located between the church and school.

All successful donors will receive their choice of a gift card (minimum \$20 value), bonus points, or a charitable donation, with the school becoming eligible for a LifeSavings grant if at least 20 donations are collected. Donors are encouraged to self-schedule their appointments online to help reach this goal.

Show Your Teacher Some Love! Teacher Appreciation Day is May 7, 2019. Pick up some gift priced Scrip cards— we've got Amazon (\$10), Barnes & Noble (\$5 or \$10), Panera (\$5 or \$10), Starbucks (\$5 or \$10) and Target (\$10). Scrip gift cards are available over-the-counter at the school office.



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End of the World

Question:

What do Catholics believe about the end of the world?

Answer:

We hear the phrase “the end of the world” casually today. Often in film or media, it means the end of civil society or the threat of human annihilation by natural disasters. For the Christian, our perspective is distinctly Christ-centered. Numerous times through the Gospel, Jesus notes that he will come again, even after he has ascended into heaven. The Church typically refers to this as the Second Coming of Jesus or the Latin “Parousia,” meaning “presence” or “arrival.”

We believe that Christ will come again, and at his Second Coming, temporal time will end. Human history will end, at least as we know it. However, it doesn't mean that creation will be destroyed. The book of Revelation speaks of a renewal, indeed a “new heaven and a new earth” (Rev 21:1). Christ will come again in glory. Our souls will be reunited with our bodies. While our lives were judged individually at our deaths, which we call the particular judgment, something new will happen here. Theologians call it the general judgment or the last judgment, in which our deeds and the effects — for good or ill — will be known to all. For the early Christians, this second coming was hoped for! They knew it was the completion of God's work of redemption for the human race. We, too, should pray with them, “Come Lord Jesus!”

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Want to continue the habits you started during Lent? Why not sign up for an hour of adoration? Prayer in the Chapel in the presence of Jesus is a wonderful way to commemorate. Sign up at www.bsps.org/perpetual-adoration for one of our open spots or start with becoming a substitute adorer.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 AM	1 AM	1 AM	2 AM	Midnight	1 AM	2 AM
2 AM	2 AM	7 PM	3 AM	1 AM	2 AM	3 AM
3 AM	4 AM	11 PM	4 AM	2 AM	3 AM	4 AM
Noon	9 AM		10 PM	4 AM	4 AM	5 AM
1 PM	10 AM		11 PM	9 AM	5 AM	1 PM
5 PM				11 AM	10 AM	
11 PM				Noon	9 PM	
				3 PM		
				4 PM		
				5 PM		

SPRINGFIELD CATHOLIC CHARITIES ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

GET YOUR GROOVE ON

Date: April 25, 2026
 Time: 5:00 – 8:30 p.m.
 Location: K of C Hall 364 | 2200 Meadow Brook Rd
 Tickets: \$50 or \$350 for a table of 8
50/50 Raffle | Silent and Live Auction
70s Trivia | Costume Contest

Springfield Catholic Charities
Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Plan to attend the Catholic Charities annual fundraiser. For more information about this event on April 25 at the K of C Hall, go to cc.dio.org/events/springfield-2026-annual-fundraiser. Event is \$50/ticket or get your seven favorite people and purchase an event table of eight.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

APRIL 20 — APRIL 24

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:00 am

Tim Beyer and Caroline Schempp

Saturday, April 25, 4:30PM

Lector: Vince Toolen

Servers: Jonas Croke, Grant Keller, Owen Gerding

Eucharistic Ministers: McKinzie Oshesky, Richard Campbell, Paul Wheeler, Kathleen Harth

Sunday, April 26, 7:00AM

Lector: Michael O'Brien

Servers: Teddy Mizeur

Eucharistic Ministers: Carrie O'Brien, Mary Beth Roland, Rae Marie Davlin, Jill Loveall

Sunday, April 25, 8:30AM

Lector: Janet Vespa

Servers: J.J. Langer, Sam Hughes, Natalie Jacobs

Eucharistic Ministers: Becky Leonard, Bradley Frost, Michael Delvo, Cathy Scott

Sunday, April 25, 10:30AM

Lector: Donald Graham

Servers: Samaria Bakamba, Jayden Day, Giovanni Capranica

Eucharistic Ministers: Patricia Graham, Lauren Coombe, Sue Davsko, Andrea Judd, Chris Oldenburg

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

Join us on the evenings of **June 23 and June 24** for family fun, food and nostalgia at our 98th Annual Garden Party! Reminisce on times past when a classic carnival theme intertwined with our faith community. There will be something for everyone, including an evening of carnival rides, fair food, games, face painting and live music! Bring the whole family to celebrate our wonderful parish and school.

IF YOU ONLY READ THREE THINGS THIS WEEK:

- The Garden Party makes its triumphant return—mark your calendars for **June 23 and 24!**
- Sign up for the April 27 blood drive and support Blessed Sacrament School
- Consider serving as a substitute adorer—determine your own schedule and make your Lenten promises permanent.

This weekend is our collection for the Catholic Home Missions appeal. The Appeal primarily supports those dioceses in the United States that are unable to offer their people the basic pastoral ministries of word, worship and service without outside help. It may also give grants for particular projects and to organizations engaged in missionary work. There is a special envelope in your packet for Home Missions or you may donate online at pushpay.com/g/bspsspringfield or through the QR code.



Weekly Parish Finance Report
April 4 to April 10

	AMOUNT RECEIVED	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS
Loose Collections	\$2,847.00	
Envelope Collections	\$17,127.71	250
Online Giving Collections	\$6,373.46	120
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$26,348.17	370
Target Amount	\$25,000.00	

HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR...

Kayla Friedel Mike Blair Mary Tuttle

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 217-321-1155

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