

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—FRIDAY, 8:30AM—4:00PM

FR. GEORGE DARLING, PASTOR

2275 Diamond Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505
Telephone: (616) 361-7339
Fax: (616) 361-1327
E-Mail: church@bsacrament.net
www.bsacrament.net

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday: 8:30am

Weekend Mass:

Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 9:00am & 11:00am



PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dan Armock, Chair.
Laura Ellis
Mary Kahnoski
Jeremy Reed
Brian Schaab
Kathy Schwartz
Joe Townshend
Scott Ware
Donna Wrona

FINANCE COUNCIL

Charlie Goode, Chair.
Jim Wila, Vice Chair.
Tim Callery
Tammy Chartier
Bob Dean
Jim Frey
Beth Eliopoulos
Barb Lawrence
Terry Staskey

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays at 3:30 pm or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parish registration of six months is required.
Preparation session required. Contact the parish office for details.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Contact the parish office a minimum of six months prior to the preferred wedding date.
Marriage preparation sessions are required.

PARISHIONER MEMBERSHIP

New members are always welcome to our Parish. Parishioner status is maintained by registration in the parish, active participation in weekend liturgies and full participation in the parish stewardship program. All family members 18 years and older should be individually registered with the parish. Parish membership and participation is required of those desiring the Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation and Matrimony.



Mass Schedule



Sat, Dec 1 4:30 pm	VIGIL: 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT Parish Family
Sun, Dec 2 9:00 am 11:00 am	1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT Fr. Charles Nugent Joe & Jay Matuszak; Werner Schneider
Mon, Dec 3	ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST **No Mass**
Tues, Dec 4 8:30 am	ADVENT WEEKDAY Wedot Attala
Wed, Dec 5 10:30 am	ADVENT WEEKDAY Marian Czachorski
Thurs, Dec 6 8:30 am	ADVENT WEEKDAY John Leatherman
Fri, Dec 7	VIGIL: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY World Peace
7:00 pm Sat, Dec 8	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY People of the Parish
9:00 am 4:30 pm	VIGIL: 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT Leo Boruta
Sun, Dec 9 9:00 am 11:00 am	2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT Parish Family John Alkasses; Marc Sonefeld



SACRED SCRIPTURE

Readings for the Week of December 2, 2018

Sunday	1st Sunday of Advent Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12—4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Monday	St. Francis Xavier, Priest Is 2:1-4; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday	St. Ambrose, Bishop Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13014; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Sunday	2nd Sunday of Advent Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11, Lk 3:1-6



PASTORAL TEAM

Father George E. Darling, Pastor.....father@bsacrament.net
 Lori Borek, Parish Secretary.....church@bsacrament.net
 Amy Kelley, Parish Accountant.....akelley@bsacrament.net
 Jody DeGraw, Dir of Religious Education
jdegrow@bsacrament.net
 Vicki Glynn, Religious Ed. Asst.....vglynn@bsacrament.net
 Marie LeMire, Ministry to the Sick & Elderly
mlemire@bsacrament.net
 Michael Debri, Principal ASA.....mdebri@asagr.org

BY GEORGE....

I would like to share the following letter to you from the Bishop:

"Dear Friends in Christ,

Soon our parishes will be conducting the Retirement Fund for Religious collection. This annual appeal benefits 31,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests—women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and the Church.

During the 2018 World Day for Consecrated Life, Pope Francis remarked, "There is no growth without roots and no flowering without new buds." This analogy has certainly born out within the life of the Church in the United States. Senior religious were the roots that established Catholic schools, hospitals, and social service agencies—allowing generations of Catholics to flourish. Today, the example of older religious inspires younger members to persevere in mission and ministry.

Yet many religious communities struggle to provide for aging members. Most elder religious served for small stipends, leaving a large gap in retirement savings. Rising health-care costs and decreased income compound the struggle to provide adequate care. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious congregations implement long-range retirement strategies, even as they continue to serve the People of God.

I recognize this is but one of numerous worthy causes in need of assistance; I ask simply that you give what you can. In thanksgiving for their faithful service, please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious and in praying for God's blessing on our nation's elderly religious.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak
Bishop of Grand Rapids"

The envelope for this collection is included in this bulletin. Please make your check payable to Blessed Sacrament and return it in next week's collection.

STEWARDSHIP

Week 21 & 22/52	11/17 & 18	11/24 & 25
Adult Envelopes (305)	\$10,225.58	\$7,281.83
Automatic Envelopes (113)	\$5,597.50	\$3,576.50
Youth	\$31.50	\$48.04
Loose Stewardship	\$506.77	\$516.29
Total Stewardship this week	\$16,361.35	\$11,422.66
	YTD	\$299,138.26
	Budget YTD	\$322,130.77
	Last YTD	\$316,366.72
5% Tithe this week		\$571.13
YTD Tithe		\$14,956.91

~THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH~

Sun/Dec 2: 4:30pm **Advent by Candlelight**, MPR
Mon/Dec 3: 6:30pm **Adult Choir rehearsal**, MPR
Tues/Dec 4: 9:15am-3pm **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**, Church
 9:15am **Adult Bible Study**, MPR
 6:00pm **Zumba**, Family Center
 6:20-6:50pm **Honor Choir rehearsal**, MPR
 6:50-7:20pm **Children's Choir rehearsal**, MPR
Wed/Dec 5: 6:45pm **A Biblical Walk through Mass**, MPR
Thurs/Dec 6: 1:00pm **Prayer Blanket/Knitting group**, MPR
 6:30pm **Religious Ed Class**, Classrooms
Fri/Dec 7: 7:00pm **Holy Day of Obligation Vigil Mass**, Church
Sat/Dec 8: 9:00am **Holy Day of Obligation Mass**, Church
 5:30pm **Euchre Night/Potluck**, MPR

Holy Day of Obligation

Saturday, December 8th is the Patronal Feast Day of the United States, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day of obligation. Mass times are listed on the previous page under the Mass Schedule.

thank you

Thank you to Father George for celebrating the funeral Mass of Patricia Kubilius, and to Katie and Mary for the beautiful music they provided. Also, a special thank you to the ladies of the funeral committee for a wonderful meal.

Bill Kubilius and family

We extend our deepest appreciation for the outpouring of love and support to our family during this difficult journey. The funeral Mass was a beautiful celebration of our husband and father's life. A special thanks to Fr. George, Marie, Mary, Katie, Jean and all the ladies who provided the luncheon.

Sincerely,
The Schneider Family

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

A reconciliation service will be held at St. Alphonsus Church on Monday, December 17th beginning at 7:00pm.

REMINDER: Don't forget to join us for a potluck dinner and then a night of Euchre on Saturday, December 8th starting at 5:30pm in the Church multi-purpose room. If you do not have a partner, we will find one for you. For more information or any questions, please contact Marie LeMire, 361-7339 or mlemire@bsacrament.net.

HAVE YOU HAD A CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS?

We are beginning to update our database for next year's Parish phone/address directory. Please let us know by calling the Parish Office or you can go to our website, under the tab "About Us" and use the form there to get us that info. Thanks for helping us keep our Parish records up-to-date.



~In Our Thoughts & Prayers~

Homebound Parishioner of the Week

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers our parishioner Jan Nemmers. Cards may be sent to 418 Homer St NE, 49505. Let Jan know you are a parishioner and that you are thinking of her.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

This week's sponsor is **Fat Boy**. Please see this ad on the back of the bulletin.

These advertisers help to defray all publishing costs which the Church would otherwise incur. Please patronize the sponsors on the back of this bulletin and thank them for their kind generosity.

2233 Diamond Ave./364-9453

4 Mile Rd./363-7725

Michael Debri, Principal

www.asagr.org

ASA
All Saints Academy

CHRISTMAS BAND CONCERT

ASA students in grades 5-8 attend band class every day. You are invited to enjoy their talents and the sounds of the season at the ASA Christmas Band Concert, Tuesday, December 4, 7:00 pm at West Catholic HS.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE THE GIFT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION AND SQUEEZE IN A DONATION BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR?

Many of our parish families struggle to afford Catholic school tuition. Some decide they simply can't afford it, even though they want to provide their children with the blessings that such an education provides. All Saints Academy's Tuition Angel program makes it possible for you to donate to ASA, and direct your donation to help a youngster learn and grow in God's word. Make a real difference in the life of a child. Please call 364-9453, or go to our web page at www.asagr.org/tuition-angel-program to learn how you can make a difference today...and for years to come.

TOP TEN REASON TO CHOOSE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

In challenging economic times, why should parents choose a Catholic School education for their children? National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) President Karen Ristau asked the 60 members of NCEA's department executive committees to give their responses. Here are their top ten reasons — Catholic elementary and high schools offer:

~Catholic tradition and academic excellence in a community grounded in a common faith

~Balanced curriculum including art, music and fitness

~Emphasis on moral development, service to others and leadership skills

~A 99% graduation rate in Catholic high schools

~Strong preparation for further education

~Safe and disciplined environment

~Exceptional faculty who help students reach their highest potential

~Individual attention in a caring community

~Commitment to technology use to enhance education

~Good stewardship of resources