

The 40 Days OF LENT

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) 447-7554
(616) 447-7629
Fax: (616) 447-7548
E-Mail: church@bsacrament.net
www.bsacrament.net
ASA telephone: 616-447-2997

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass:
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30am
Wednesday: 10:30am
Weekend Mass:
Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 9:00am & 11:00am

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.

FINANCE COUNCIL

Jim Wila, Chair.
Jim Frey, Vice Chair.
Tim Callery
Tammy Chartier
Bob Dean
Barb Lawrence
Deb Schmalzel
Terry Staskey
Steve Stoddard

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Scott Ware, Chair.
Liz Connell
Jim Fochtman
Kelly Garbacik
Doug Graves
Jeremy Reed
Kathy Schwartz
Mark Steiner
Donna Wrona

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.

The 5th Sunday of Lent



Masses for the Week

Sat, Mar 28	VIGIL: 5th SUNDAY OF LENT **No Mass**
Sun, Mar 29	4th SUNDAY OF LENT **No Mass** **No Mass**
Mon, Mar 30	LENTEN WEEKDAY **No Mass**
Tues, Mar 31	LENTEN WEEKDAY **No Mass**
Wed, Apr 1	LENTEN WEEKDAY **No Mass**
Thurs, Apr 2	LENTEN WEEKDAY **No Mass**
Fri, Apr 3	LENTEN WEEKDAY **No Mass**
Sat, Apr 4	VIGIL: PALM SUNDAY **No Mass**
Sun, Apr 5	PALM SUNDAY **No Mass** **No Mass**

SACRED SCRIPTURE

Readings for the Week of March 29, 2020

Sunday	5th Sunday of Lent Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-28, 33b-45
Monday	Dn 13:1-0, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday	Nm 21:4-0; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; (Ps) Dan 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday	Gn 17:3-0; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59
Friday	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday	Ez 37:21-28; (Ps) Jer 31:10-13; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday	Palm Sunday Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54

STEWARDSHIP - Week of March 21 & 22

Week 39/53	
Adult Envelopes (39 used)	\$4,195.00
Automatic Envelopes (31 used)	1,276.00
Youth	0.00
Loose Stewardship	0.00
Total Stewardship this week	\$5,471.00
YTD	\$527,582.66
Budget YTD	\$549,750.00
Last YTD	\$547,779.79
5% Tithe this week	\$273.55
YTD Tithe	\$26,379.13

PASTORAL TEAM

Father George E. Darling, Pastor.....	father@bsacrament.net
Darrell Beckwith, Business Managerdbeckwith@bsacrament.net
Lori Borek, Parish Secretary.....	church@bsacrament.net
Jody DeGraw, Dir of Religious Educationjdegrow@bsacrament.net
Vicki Glynn, Religious Ed. Asst.....	vglynn@bsacrament.net
Marie LeMire, Ministry to the Sick & Elderlymlemire@bsacrament.net
Michael Debri, Principal ASA.....	mdebri@asagr.org

BY GEORGE....

Given the Governor's executive order of March 23, which continues through April 13, the Bishop has extended the cancellation of public Masses through that date, meaning that now we will not be gathering together for Mass on Easter Sunday, given that that is April 12. This year we get reminded that each year the season of Easter continues after Easter Sunday for an additional seven weeks until we come to the feast of Pentecost. Even though we won't be able to gather together on Easter Sunday we might well be able to still gather together to celebrate the Resurrection, maybe just later in the Easter Season than we usually do. (Remember that each Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection which is why we gather on the first day of the week - the day of the Resurrection - and not on Saturday the sabbath i.e., the seventh day).

Previously the cancellation of public Masses had included Palm Sunday. The question arose as to how you would get your palms if we didn't gather on Palm Sunday. The answer to that question is that you will just get them a little later this year than in the past. Don't worry about not getting them as we will have the same number of palms as we have had in previous years. You may not be aware that in the past we always left some newly blessed palms in the narthex for a few weeks after Palm Sunday especially for our snow birds who would be coming back north from their winter escape in the south. This year we will all get to pretend to be snow birds in getting our palms a little later than we have in the past but don't worry you will be able to get them then.

In the meantime during this season of Lent we get to continue to practice our discipline of our wills, since we haven't freely chosen of our own desire to have the coronavirus come and visit us, and none of us like it when we don't get to have our way. Also this week we get to begin to focus on the virtue of patience. As time goes on and this quarantine goes longer we will become more impatient with our inability to go out and do whatever it is that we want to do. For the love of ourselves and our neighbors we need to keep the virus away from one another and so we have to be patient until nature has run her course. In our vanity, with all of our technology, we think we are the masters of the planet until a tiny little virus comes along that can live on surfaces of a cruise ship outside of a host for two weeks and can be passed around by people who are infected but don't know it because they are not showing any symptoms of infection. Who is the intelligent one here?

We have had an offer from some of the younger members of the parish to assist those of us who are older and might not want to get out to get groceries as we are at a high risk to have complications from the virus, that they would be willing to run to the store or the pharmacy or wherever for us so we can try to stay safe and healthy. If you need help of this kind just call Lori and she will pass your name to Marie who will coordinate this effort for you. That would include if you are older and need help or if you are younger and would be willing to help. And through all of this enjoy the time together with those with whom share your home practicing PATIENCE.

A note of thanks to all of you who have been mailing in your Parish envelopes and CSA contributions to the Parish office. This helps us greatly!!

All Masses and Parish Activities are now cancelled until further notice.

~THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH~

- Sun Mar 29: Watch Mass on TV with your family
- Mon Mar 30: Mail your CSA card to the Parish
- Tues Mar 31: Pray with your family for the sick
- Wed Apr 1: Send someone a happy note or card
- Thurs Apr 2: Mail your Sunday donation to the Parish
- Fri Apr 3: Enjoy your macaroni and cheese
- Sat Apr 4: Rest
- Sun Apr 5: Watch Mass on TV with your family



PARISH APP

As you may remember, a few years ago we launched a Parish App. During this time of social distancing, we thought it a good time to remind you that it is there and ready to be used on your Apple or Android devices. Visit the app store and search for myparishapp, then select Blessed Sacrament, Grand Rapids, MI, from the list of available parishes. Features of the app include: messages from the parish, daily readings, a list of prayers, Mass times, access to the weekly bulletin, parish info that will help you easily connect with staff, and much more.

Some of our parishioners have stepped up and volunteered to lend a hand to those of you who are older and affected by the coronavirus. Do you need help getting your groceries or prescription drugs? Do you have other needs that we can help with?

Call the Parish Office at 616-447-7554 and we will direct you to those who can give you a helping hand during this time.



You can make your CSA donation by credit card online by visiting our parish website. On the main page there is a link to the Diocese of Grand Rapids website, gdiocese.org. Go to that link and it will tell you how to make your donation. Don't forget to reference Blessed Sacrament when filling out the form.



~In Our Thoughts & Prayers~

Homzbound Parishioner of the Week

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers our parishioners David & Helene Depres. Cards may be sent to 1924 Meadowfield Dr NE, 49505. Let Dave & Helene know you are a parishioner and that you are thinking of them.

2233 Diamond Ave./447-2997
 4 Mile Rd./363-7725
 Michael Debri, Principal
www.asagr.org

A STUDENT ATTENDING CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Attends mass 34% more frequently than a student not attending Catholic elementary school.

For high school students attending Catholic school that number rises to 39%.

Catholic school students are 4x more likely to attend church.

Catholic school students are 3x more likely to be confirmed.

Catholic school students are 2x more likely to get married in the church.

ASA CLOSED UNTIL APRIL 13

Our school buildings will now remain closed through April 13, but online learning continues. Stay safe and healthy during this unique time. All of our parishioners and school families continue to be in our prayers.



AUTOMATIC GIVING

We encourage parishioners who normally bring their contributions to Mass to sign up for automatic giving. There is a form on our website that you can print, fill out and mail to the parish office, or you can email us the information. If you have any questions call Lori or Darrell in the Parish office, 616-447-7554.



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

This week's sponsor is **Kent County Credit Union.**

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.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Roman Catholic Christian community of Blessed Sacrament, nourished by and united in the Eucharist, empowered by the Holy Spirit, dedicate ourselves to being the Body of Christ, and actively living the gospel. As faithful stewards we will continue to develop and build the body of Christ by prayer and service.