

## The Community of Blessed Sacrament

# Community Connections

Volume 3, Issue 3

Pentecost 2013

### Upcoming Special Events

- May 19: Feast of Pentecost
- Daily Masses during Summer Break: Tuesday—Friday, 8:00 am
- Individual Confessions: Every Saturday: 3:30–4:00 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays: 7:30 am
- May 25-26: Activities for Corpus Christi Celebration
- May 27: Memorial Day
- May 28: Presentation & discussion of Fr. Robert Barron's video "Eucharist"; Parish Center, Blessed Sacrament 3-5pm & 6:30-8:30pm
- May 30: Installation of Archbishop Jackels, Dubuque
- June 1/2: Feast of Corpus Christi: - 4:30 & 8:30 Mass: video "Communion Reflection" - 10:30 Mass: Eucharistic Procession - 12:30: Men's Group Free Cookout Meal
- June 10-13: Vacation Bible School, Parish Center, Blessed Sacrament: 9am-Noon
- June 16: Father's Day
- June 17-28: Summer RE Class 1, 9am-Noon, St. Edward's
- June 17-21: Summer CORE Class 1, Columbus High School
- June 24-28: Summer CORE Class 2, Columbus High School
- June 25-29: Summer RE Class 2, 9 am—Noon, St. Edward's
- October 5-8: Parish Mission, Blessed Sacrament

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### SCRIP News

Please buy and use SCRIP.

Spring is late this year, and so, the new life within the stems and buds burst upon us with an urgency we don't always see.

The descriptions of Pentecost in the Scriptures indicate something similar. The winter of Jesus' departure from them, and his command to "wait for the Holy Spirit" have the apostles and Mary in that upper room. The Spirit comes upon them and, "enabled to proclaim," they go forth into the streets! Suddenly the **Church** is publicly visible! There is a new kind of springtime going on! The Body of Christ ascended to the Father is now enspirited in the world, and something people can see, hear, experience, and join!

This Year of Faith is particularly about the Church's Pentecost-enabled purpose: She exists to be visible, breaking into people's awareness, offering the Good News of Christ being with us to each person in their "language." We as baptized disciples are no more supposed to stay in our rooms, than were the first apostles! We too have the Spirit within and the Good News of Jesus risen to offer! For what else am **I** waiting?

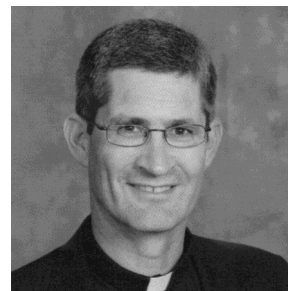
Our faith in Jesus is summed up in the Eucharist. It is where we celebrate Jesus' faithfulness

to us, how the Holy Spirit unites us, and where we recommit to be the Body of Christ bringing a new

springtime of hope, peace, and renewal to the world. The Eucharist will, if we let it, fuel our going forth to make visible anew the Church!

Keeping the Feast of the Body & Blood of Christ proclaims to people far and near that our life together is a flesh and blood interaction between God and God's people. Blessed Sacrament Community claims it as our feast-day. In 2013 it falls on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

During this Year of Faith, we will **after the 10:30 Mass on June 2<sup>nd</sup>** have a procession of the Eucharist to the north, south, east and west boundaries of the Blessed Sacrament campus. At each of those to the boundaries, we will offer a brief prayer of recommitment to bringing Christ to the world. Afterward, we will renew the Body of Christ here with a meal and fellowship. Plan to be there, and help Blessed Sacrament make the Body of Christ visible!



Fr. Tom McDermott  
Pastor

Fr. Tom

## Feast of Corpus Christi

Deacon Bob Stirm

The Feast of Corpus Christi is the commemoration of the Sacrament of Eucharist, the Sacred Body and Blood of our Lord. The Eucharist



was instituted on Holy Thursday at the Last Supper and serves as the beginning of the Holy Triduum. The solemn and somber nature of the

passion and death of our Lord keeps us from celebrating the most important treasure of our faith. Corpus Christi is celebrated as the Sunday after Trinity Sunday, which closes the Easter Season.

The celebration of Corpus Christi began early in the fourteenth century by carrying the Blessed Sacrament in a solemn liturgical procession. This public celebration was recognized and approved by the Council of Trent (1545-1563). The consecrated host is contained in a

monstrance and was carried from town to town. This public display of the Blessed Sacrament gave everyone a chance to profess their belief in the Eucharist as the true Body of Christ. The procession was accompanied by religious figures, civil leaders, military honor guards, craftsmen from the trades, musicians and other dignitaries. These processions became lavish community celebrations of faith in the true presence of the Eucharist. Today the processions are usually made to four points on Parish grounds. These four points symbolize “carrying the Eucharist to the four corners of the world.” The procession begins in the church after communion at the celebration of Mass and culminates back in church with benediction and reposition of the Eucharist in the tabernacle.

The processions are accompanied by ringing of church bells, brass bands, and in some communities firing of salutes. The faithful kneel in adoration at designated stops at churches,

grottos, cemeteries and other places of reverence.

These celebrations in honor of the Feast of Corpus Christi are still widely held throughout Europe, North and South



America.

Pope John Paul II encouraged the celebration of these public processions in his Apostolic Letters (2004-2005, Year of the Eucharist). It is a public profession of the very core of our faith; the Eucharist as true Body and Blood of our Lord.

This year we will celebrate Corpus Christi as our namesake, Blessed Sacrament.

Julie Niemeyer

## School News

The end of the school year is always a bittersweet time. Everyone is eager for summer vacation's rest, relaxation...and adventures!

Yet it's also a time to say farewell to the strong school community that has grown in these past months. We have learned much together, prayed and worshipped together, played together, and celebrated together.

Now the 5th graders will be moving on to middle school. Other students will move to a new teacher.

A new group of children will join us for kindergarten.

Yes, things will look different when school starts again in August. However, for now we can celebrate that at Blessed Sacrament School we truly did live up to our 2012-2013 theme. We *did* “build a community through loving service”. I am grateful for all the students, staff, families, and parishioners who contributed to a wonderful school

year.

We were blessed again this year with a great communion class. Welcome to the Table of the Lord. May you return often.



Community of Blessed Sacrament  
First Communion 2013



Our Daily Disciples for this issue are Matt and Amy Tracy. Matt and Amy are both teachers; Matt teaches

English at East High School and has been a teacher for 11 years, while Amy is a 3rd grade teacher here at Blessed Sacrament. Matt and Amy have two sons, Dylan, a freshman at Columbus, and Andrew in the 3rd Grade at Blessed Sacrament.

Matt and Amy have served the community of Blessed

## Daily Disciple: Matt and Amy Tracy Harland Robinson

Sacrament as a Sponsor Couple, MOMS facilitator, Sacristans and as members of the Parish Council. Dylan was a server for Mass and sang in the Children's Choir and Andrew currently sings in the Children's Choir.

Matt and Amy have been "blessed with a loving, supporting family that has helped us through our difficult times and has modeled for us what it means to be a family of faithful Catholics. We feel blessed that we have found Blessed Sacrament and were welcomed into the community. Each boy has received the

Citizenship Award in their class and Dylan also received the Claude Underwood Award last year."

Matt and Amy love being involved as teachers and working with young people in our community as it enables them to "show our faith by our example."

The Tracy's also display their "faith by example" by regularly attending the Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent. As Deacon Bob Stirm says, "This speaks volumes about their faith and family life".

## Summertime is Sprouting with Faith Fun!

Barb Duggan, Dir. of FF



**Vacation Bible School!** The excitement is mounting for our God's Backyard Bible Camp! Four days of Backyard Bible Camp, Clothesline Creations, Backyard Food & Fun, Backyard Bash, Community Corner that will be 9am-noon on Monday-Thursday, June 10-13, 2013 in the Blessed Sacrament Parish Center. Kids ages 5-10 are invited to attend. The tunes will be cranked up and bodies will be movin' and groovin' as we learn about Jesus' love for us and how we are called to serve our families, friends, neighbors and community. Registration forms are in the gathering space in church. Fees are \$20/child or \$40/family. Contact Lori Zabler or Barb Duggan to learn more, 235-9430. Registration deadline is May 31, 2013.

**Summer RE.** Summertime may be a good fit for your family to take advantage of faith formation offerings.

Many households struggle with busyness and lots of activities get piled up on Wednesday nights through the year when school is in session. The Waterloo Catholic parishes collaborate to offer a religious education program from 9am-noon on Monday-Friday, the last two weeks of June for kids attending public schools. The sessions will be held, June 17-28 at St. Edward parish. Experienced catechists will guide the youth through the curriculum used in the 9 month model.

If you have a second grade student, it is important for you to know that you will need to participate in your parish First Reconciliation & First Communion program when it is offered during the school year.

If you have a student who is in third grade, or older, who has not celebrated sacraments, he/she will need to participate in a sacramental preparation program during Winter 2014.

Families participating in the summer program are encouraged to attend weekend masses, participate in any of our school-year offerings, such as FIRE nights or prayer services and those with students in 2nd grade will need to attend the Sacrament

preparation meetings.

The sessions will be fun and engaging. Contact Lori Zabler or Barb Duggan to learn more, 235-9430 and to obtain registration information. Registration fees are \$80/child. Registration deadline is May 31, 2013.

**Summer CORE.** High school teens who are busy with many extracurricular activities have a summer time opportunity to attend the prerequisite religious education classes. Our Archdiocese sacramental guidelines state that two years of high school theology are necessary to begin the immediate phase of the Confirmation preparation. One week of classes from 9 am-3pm Monday-Friday, June 17-21 OR June 24-28 is equivalent to CORE classes held during the educational year. There will be faith learning experiences in and out of the classroom during this session. If you have a son or daughter who is desiring to be confirmed and needs CORE, consider enrolling them today. Registration fees are \$80/teen. Registration deadline is May 31, 2013. Call Barb Duggan for more information.

## THE COMMUNITY OF BLESSED SACRAMENT

650 Stephan Avenue  
Waterloo, Iowa 50701

Rectory Phone 319-233-6179  
FAX 319-233-6051  
School Phone 319-233-7863  
Day Care Phone 319-236-6131

Reconciliation: 3:30 PM Saturday or see bulletin  
Masses 4:30 PM Saturday  
8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Sunday  
8:00 AM Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
9:00 AM Wednesday during school

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ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Permit No. 1870  
Waterloo, Iowa

**We're on the Web!**

**[blessedsacramentwaterloo.org](http://blessedsacramentwaterloo.org)**

## Hospitalization

Please call the rectory if you or a loved one is going to the hospital or is hospitalized and would like a visit from Fr. Tom and/or Sr. Madonna. Leave your **name, hospital and room number** with the parish secretary. We are not always able to obtain this information from the hospitals due to privacy laws. We also cannot publish names in the bulletin's sick list without your permission. Many of you are being missed by us now without this information.

Also, upon admission at a hospital or Emergency Room, it is good to know that two questions are very important to be answered by yourself or a family member:

- 1) Do you have a religious preference?** (Catholic or \_\_\_)
- 2) Do you have a faith community?** (Church name)

If these are not asked, **it is your right as a patient to ask for a Chaplain at the hospital to call the rectory 233-6179 and give the following information:**

- \*First & Last Name
- \*Hospital
- \*Room #.

Neither Fr. Tom nor Sr. Madonna want to miss visiting you when you are in the hospital; praying for you that the Lord's healing touch will bring you comfort, strength and peace.

**Fr. Tom & Sr. Madonna**

**Harland Robinson**

## Newsletter Editor

We are pleased to announce that Harland Robinson has assumed the



reins as editor of our newsletter from Deacon Bob Stirm.

Harland has been a member of Blessed Sacrament Parish since 2009 and came to us

after serving our country as a U.S. Marine for 26 years; after retiring, he worked as a hospice executive director in Arizona for eight years.

A native of Waterloo, Harland attended Sacred Heart Elementary School and served the parish as a Server and Lector.

Harland and his wife, Karla, have been married 33 years and have two sons, David, of Springdale, AR and Dale, of Prattville, AL, and four

grandchildren.

Harland is a graduate of the University of Northern Iowa and shares his stewardship of time and talent as a member of Blessed Sacrament not only as newsletter editor, but also as a Eucharistic Minister and Lector/Commentator.

Harland enjoys spending time with home improvement projects, fishing and traveling to visit family and friends.