

BLESSED SACRAMENT *Parish*

December 13, 2009
3rd Sunday of Advent

2116 HOLLISTER AVENUE • MADISON, WI 53726-3958

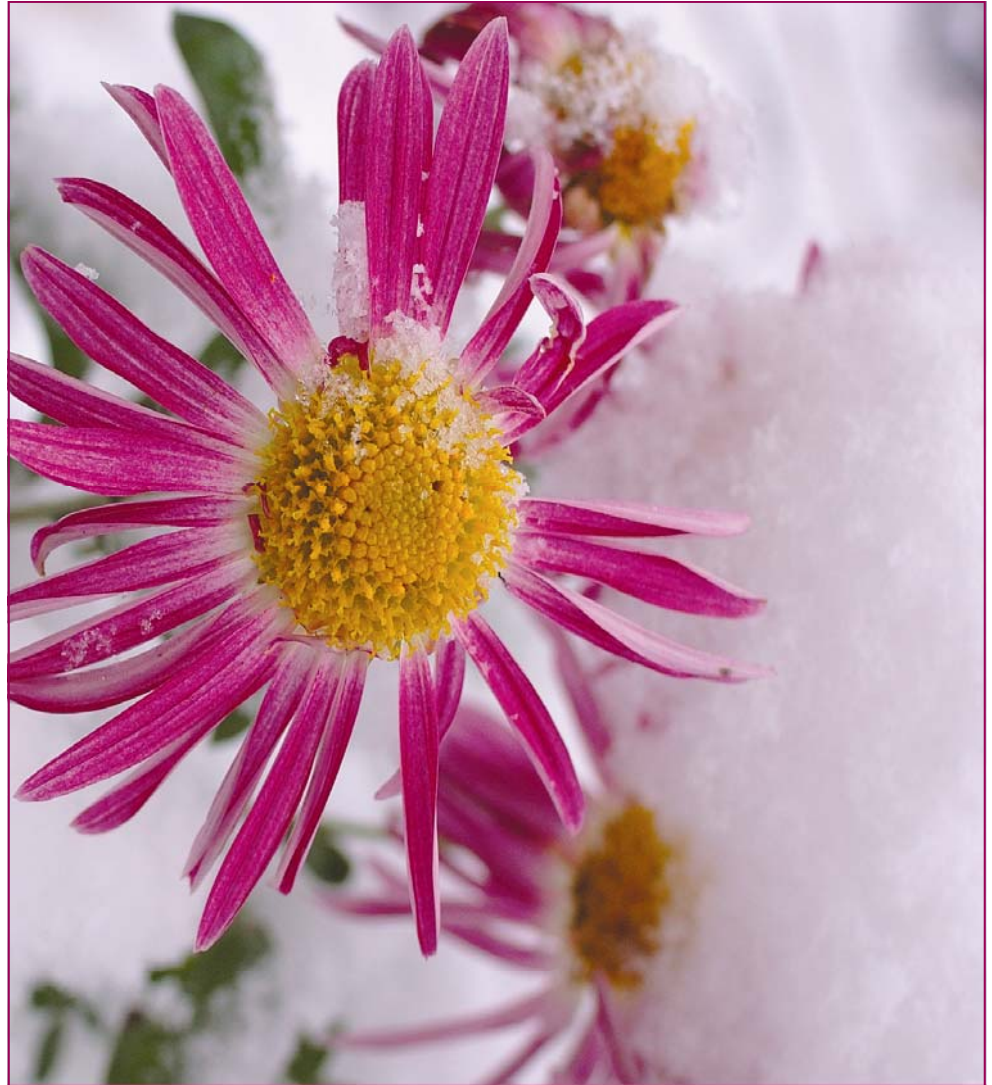
MISSION STATEMENT

Mission Statement: Blessed Sacrament Catholic Parish communicates the Word of God and its message of salvation through preaching, education and the promotion of peace and justice. This mission of evangelization, which entails forming ourselves in belief, sharing that belief and transforming the world around us, is achieved in the context of the Dominican tradition and its emphasis on the four pillars of celebrating God's presence through prayer, building up the Body of Christ through community life, serving God's people through ministry, and forming ourselves in Catholic Christian tradition through life-long study.



VISION STATEMENT

As a vibrant faith community, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Parish shall seek to involve all parishioners in the mission of evangelization.



John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." — Lk 3:16

Pastor's Letter

On this third Sunday of Advent we celebrate *Gaudete Sunday* which is derived from the Latin verb "to rejoice." We rejoice on this Sunday because half way through the Advent season we are transitioning from the theme of Christ's second coming to the theme of commemorating his first coming at Christmas. Hence we wear the rose colored vestments instead of the usual violet of Advent. The Church encourages us to rejoice, to be optimistic about our lives in Christ. Yet so much of what we hear these days is negative. The political arena and talk news is dominated by contrariness. There seems to be so much strife in the world and in our own personal lives. Yet, the Church calls us to rejoice. Is the Church simply out of touch with the real world?

Lest we think we are unique as a society, over 2000 years ago, when Jesus was born, times were tough as well. War was common. Where seeming peace reigned—it was accompanied by oppression and a lack of justice. Political camps abounded. There was even infighting among the Lord's disciples because of these different political affiliations. Daily living was harsh and tenuous, disease was rampant and by and large untreatable. Yet on that Christmas night, the angels encouraged people to rejoice because a Savior was born. We might say—there was cause for rejoicing because there was an expectation that the Savior would transform the hardships of that day—establishing a new political Kingdom, etc. However, early in his ministry,

Jesus made it clear that he was not a political messiah. He would not cure everyone and guarantee people a middle class existence. Rather, he promised people salvation. He promised them the hope of eternal life. He showed them the way to holiness. How could one not rejoice over that? And if all people followed his message of love, much of the harshness of daily living could be overcome.

Thus, the Church by inviting us to rejoice is not being unrealistic or insensitive to the plight of so many in distress these days. The Church recognizes the realities that might cause us to despair and invites us still to hope following in the pattern of Jesus Christ. The Church asks us to hope in the same reality that Jesus did. Our hope is not that all of a sudden Congress will act in a bi-partisan way to produce a health care bill that promotes well being for all while providing universal health care coverage at a reasonable cost. Rather we rejoice in the fact that we have been given the hope of eternal life. Jesus as our way, our truth and our life, has given us an example of holiness to follow in our own lives. Regardless of the actions of others, we can still conform ourselves in our personal behavior to that of Jesus. If virtue is its own reward—then how can we not but rejoice in following in the way of Jesus! Today's invitation to rejoice does not eliminate or ignore the hardships in our lives but provides a renewed context in which to interpret them.

Fr. Pat

Young Adult Ministry

Emmaus: Connect. Grow. Serve. A ministry for graduates, young professionals, engaged and newly married couples, young parents, and those who are 18-35yrs old. To contact Brad: brad@blsacrament.org, 238-3471, x 124.



Drop in First & Third Thursdays

Dine. Discuss. Dialogue. Join us in the Parish Center on Hollister for one or two or all three! **Dine** 5:45-6:45 PM (\$4 per adult, \$10 for families) email or call Brad by 11 AM Thursday. **Discuss** the upcoming Sunday readings -we'll make small groups on the spot. **Dialogue** Join our young adult ministry coordinator Brad Klingele for an impromptu exploration of all things theological- you provide the questions. *Children welcome to hang with us. Childcare provided!!*

Emmaus Social Events - Join us each Sunday for coffee & doughnuts after the 9 & 11 AM Mass! Social Ambassadors wanted.

Mass Intentions

- Saturday, December 12** - Our Lady of Guadalupe
5:00 PM Dave Olig & Bob Rentmeester
- Sunday, December 13**
7:30 AM Irene McDermott
9:00 AM Al Krueger
11:00 AM Our Parish Family
5:00 PM The Youth of Our Parish
- Monday, December 14** - St. John of the Cross
8:30 AM Kevin Wilson
- Tuesday, December 15** - St. Christiana
7:00 AM J. Norman Egeland
8:30 AM For All Marriages
- Wednesday, December 16** - St. Adelaide
7:00 AM Gladys and John Moran
8:30 AM Tom & Marcella Claridge
- Thursday, December 17** - Our Lady of St. Olympias
7:00 AM Mason McLeod
8:30 AM Melinda Mazanet
- Friday, December 18** - St. Gatian
8:30 AM Irene & John McDermott
- Saturday, December 19**
8:30 AM Shannon Kleinmaier
5:00 PM Jerry & Madonna Scullion (40th Wedding Anniversary)
- Sunday, December 20** - 4th Sunday of Advent
7:30 AM Our Parish Family
9:00 AM Bonnie & Tom Butler
11:00 AM Deceased Members of the Meyer/Junco Families

Soldiers Prayer List

- Jason Nichols & Joshua Nichols** - Family friends of the John McDermott family, serving in Iraq
- Cory Wendt** - Nephew of Mindy Wendt, serving in Iraq for a second time
- Micah Lillegard** - Family friend of the Slater family, serving in Iraq
- Kyle Cumbier** - Family friend of the Rita Harrington family, serving in Iraq for a second time

Please keep them and all people affected by war in your prayers.

Administration

Week Ending December 6, 2009

Envelopes	\$29,237
Offertory	\$425
Totals	\$29,662

Fiscal Year July 1, 2009-December 6, 2009

Envelopes	\$333,840
Offertory	\$8,046
Totals	\$341,886



Parish Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 13- 3rd Sunday of Advent

- After Mass Coffee & Donuts (After 9 & 11) FR
- 7:30 AM Angel Tree Packaging CB
- 10:15 AM Welcome Meeting FR
- 10:15 AM K-8 Religious Education SCH&PC
- 1:00 PM Young Adult Group PC
- 2:30 PM Wisconsin Children's Concert CH
- 3:30 PM Troop #16 Committee Meeting PC
- 5:00 PM Teen Mass CH
- 6:00 PM Youth Social FR
- 6:30 PM High School Religious Ed. FR
- 7:00 PM Youth Ministry Open Gym GYM
- 7:00 PM Advent Book Club CB

Monday, December 14

- 9:15 AM Bible Study Gospel of Matthew PC
- 1:00 PM Contemplative Prayer Group PC
- 2:15 PM Faculty Meeting SL
- 3:30 PM YoungLife Program PC
- 6:30 PM Finance Council Meeting PC
- 7:00 PM Bell Choir BR
- 7:00 PM Bible Study Gospel of Matthew FR

Tuesday, December 15

- 1:00 PM Bible Study Gospel of Matthew PC
- 3:30 PM Wolf Cubs FR
- 6:30 PM Troop #16 Boy Scouts CB
- 6:30 PM JustFaith PC
- 7:30 PM Spiritual Life Meeting PC
- 7:30 PM Adult Faith Formation PC

Wednesday, December 16

- 12:00 PM Senior Meal PC
- 3:30 PM Brownies Meeting FR
- 6:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Meeting PC
- 6:30 PM Salvation Army PC
- 7:00 PM Penance Service CH
- 7:30 PM Little Rock Bible Study PC

Thursday, December 17

- 8:30 PM All School Liturgy CH
- 9:00 AM Rosary CH
- 2:30 PM Scrip Pick-up PC
- 6:45 PM Young Adult Group PC
- 7:00 PM Choir Practice MR
- 7:00 PM Prayer Group SL
- 7:30 PM Pack #16 Leaders Meeting PC
- 8:00 PM Teen/Adult Contemporary Choir CH

Friday, December 18

- 8:55 AM Chaplet/Divine Mercy CH

Saturday, December 19

- 9:00 AM Reconciliation/Holy Hour/Adoration CH
- 3:15 PM Children's Choir Practice MR

Sunday, December 20- 4th Sunday of Advent

- After Mass Coffee & Donuts (After 9 & 11) FR
- 1:00 PM Young Adult Group PC

Church Basement-CB • Church-CH • School-SCH
 Parish Center-PC • Friary-FR • Music Room-MR
 School Library-SL • Parking Lots-PL

Eucharist

- Monday & Friday..... 8:30 AM
- Tuesday-Thursday..... 7:00 & 8:30 AM
- Saturday 8:30 AM (Vigil 5:00 PM)
- Sunday..... 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Youth Ministry

Teen Mass...Mark Your Calendar.... The next teen mass and dinner is scheduled for Sunday, January 17, 2010. Save the date!



J-Walking - Do you have a passion for justice? Do you like to express your passion in concrete acts of social ministry? Do you want to expand the work of social ministry in teen faith communities? Join J-Walking! J-Walking is short for Justice Walking. We will do direct service, discuss issues with local service agencies, speak with those afflicted by urban poverty and continue their exploration of social justice issues through critical reflection. We will be serving at the following sites this Winter/Spring...

MONTHLY SERVICE SITES

- Port St. Vincent (dinner/games with residents)-- Last Tuesday of the Month -- 4:45 to 7:15 PM.
- Salvation Army (playing with kids) — Wednesday nights – 6:30 to 8:30 PM.
- St. Vincent Food Pantry (stocking shelves/hosting) -- 1st/3rd Thursday afternoons
- Multicultural Center (babysitting) – Thursday nights – 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

****TEENS & ADULTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR ALL SERVICE PROJECTS****
 For more details or to sign-up for any of the service sites, contact Melanie at 238-3471 x-116.

Napoleon Dynamite Meets The Wii: Dance Revolution Meets Ian's Pizza...

WHAT?!?!? - High School Teens -- Save the date: Saturday, January 2nd at 8:00 PM – so unbelievable you will have to be there to experience it for yourself!

PROJECT GIRL - PROJECT GIRL, started by parishioners Kelly Parks-Snyder and Jane Bartell, is a ground-breaking girl-led, arts-based initiative created to enable girls to become better informed critical consumers of mass media advertising and entertainment. In other words, to become more media literate.

If you are a teen in 6th-8th grade, this program is for you! Sessions are once a month at Blessed Sacrament on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We will be holding our next session on Wednesday, January 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Center! **IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN-UP...CALL MELANIE TODAY!**

School News

We wish to recognize and thank the following individuals and families from the parish who contributed to the Blessed Sacrament School Endowment Fund since September. Donations to the Endowment Fund benefit our school and students and will for years to come as the interest earned on the endowment is used for tuition scholarships and school needs. Gold-colored envelopes specially marked for the Endowment Fund appear in parish members' envelope packets on a quarterly basis (December, March, June and September).



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|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Arnold, Dave/Mary Beth | Heinrichs, Jean/Jerry | Patterson, Mariko/Thomas |
| Bertagnoli, Joe | Hogan, Janet | Reinartz, Elizabeth |
| Brost, Jean/Kenneth | Huber, Carol/ | Reale, Richard/Mary Ann |
| Bersch, Andrew/Lyschel | Tuten, Michael | Sharp, Daniel/Debbie |
| Buckalew, Paul | Jaeckle, Torrey | Stransky, Adrian |
| Devine, James/Shirley | Kleinmaier, Bryan | Sullivan, Cheryl/Kevin |
| Dirienzo, Vincent | Kolb, Edward | Tatarsky, Stephen |
| First, Douglas and Elizabeth | McClimon, Patricia | Vandenbrook, Marie/William |
| Gibert, George | Martin, Curtis/Patricia | VanGemert, Jim/Mary Alice |
| Hackworthy, Pat | McDermott, Cornelia | Yellen-Shiring, Gail/Gene |
| Harrington, Rita | Myers, Kerry/Wayne | |
| Hegeman, Robert/Kari | Mueller, Stephen | |
| | Paalani, J. Maile | |

Angel Tree



TODAY IS THE DAY all Angel Tree gifts are due. You will be contacted if your gift has not been returned.

Now we begin the third phase of our program - the delivery of gifts. Please pray that all the gifts to be mailed will arrive on time. Also include in your prayers those who will be making the personal deliveries. Pray for their safety and that they will be able to share the Good News of God's love with the children and families.

The Christmas cards for the prisoners will also be sent out this week. Please pray that their hearts will be touched by our greetings and that they will know how deeply God loves them and their families and that they may place their hope in God as they heal.

Religious Education - Elementary Level



There are Religious Education Classes for Kindergarten- Grade 6 on Sunday, December 13th from 10:15-11:30 AM in the school and in the Parish Center.

Parish News & Events

Come visit us during UW Men's Basketball Games! Stretch your legs and purchase game-time snacks from familiar faces during UW Men's Basketball Games. Concession stand #208 is being sponsored by Catholic Heart Work Camp & Next Step families. All funds will benefit the 2010 mission trips to St. Louis, Missouri and Crown Point, New Mexico!



"All God's Children" provides a place of safety, confidentiality, and support for Catholic parents (and family and friends) of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender children. We choose to follow Jesus' example of inclusiveness in our love. The group will hold a holiday social in the gathering space of Our Lady Queen of Peace Church on December 27th at 2:00 PM. For further information, contact Jane and Tim Geier at 270-6316 or jkgeier256@yahoo.com.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION **CATHOLIC HERALD**

The annual subscription cost is \$22.00. A separate check should be made payable to Blessed Sacrament Parish with the notation "Catholic Herald" on the memo line of your check. If you do not receive this Diocesan newspaper and would like to, your subscription will start upon receipt of your payment of \$22.00. Please use a plain envelope for your check, and mark it "Catholic Herald." You may deposit them in the collection basket or mail them to the Parish Office. All subscriptions not paid by the end of December will not be renewed. Thank you.

FUNERAL LUNCH SERVERS NEED HELP

Most of the people who prepare, serve and clean up after funeral lunches are over 80 years old and could use some younger help! We have split the work so shifts are usually less than 3 hours each. Both men and women are welcome! For more information please call Joan Emmerich at 831-5291, or e-mail joanemm@TDS.net.

PARISHIONER NEEDS RIDE AT CHRISTMAS - Ride wanted to Wisconsin Rapids for Christmas eve morning, leaving Madison on Thursday December 24 and returning to Madison on December 26. Will share expenses. Please call Sharon 251-6928.

BLESSED SACRAMENT



Early Bulletin Deadlines - Due to early publication deadlines for the Holidays: **ARTICLES FOR THE December 19/20 BULLETIN** were due Thursday, December 10th. **ARTICLES FOR THE December 26/27 BULLETIN** are due by 10:00 AM Wednesday, December 16th. **ARTICLES FOR THE January 2/3 BULLETIN** are due by 10:00 AM Wednesday, December 23rd. Articles submitted after these deadlines will be included in the following bulletin, if applicable.

Eucharistic Adoration- Benediction

Saturday Holy Hour 9:00-10:00 AM

Rosary

Thursdays after 8:30 AM Mass

Reconciliation

Saturdays following 8:30 AM Mass or by request and thru scheduled appointment with priests. Seasonal communal rites

Infant Baptism

Expectant parents are encouraged to contact Ed Emmenegger at 238-3471, ext. 119.

Marriage

Initiate preparation program at least six months in advance.

Bulletin Deadline

Monday 1:00 pm. Please submit by e-mail, fax or copy.

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Process for adults interested in preparing for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Please contact Ed Emmenegger at 238-3471, ext. 119.

Homebound

Call Ed Emmenegger at 238-3471, ext. 119 to arrange for Communion or Anointing of the Sick.

Parish Membership

Please contact the parish office for information on becoming a member.

Parish Staff

- Fr. Patrick Norris, O.P.ext. 117
Pastor
- Fr. Ron Kreul, O.P.ext. 127
Parochial Vicar
- Ed Emmeneggerext. 119
Pastoral Associate
- Maryann Slaterext. 115
School Principal
- Kitty Maasext. 138
Director of Music and Liturgy
- Sr. Therese Rekowski, SSNDext. 118
Director of Religious Education
- Melanie Ahernext. 116
Coordinator of Youth Formation
- Andy Robertsonext. 145
Maintenance Director
- Mindy Wendtext. 110
Pastoral Administrative Assistant
- Brad Klingeleext. 124
Young Adult Minister
- Diane Jonesext. 120
Bookkeeper
- Sue Nolanext. 143
Liturgy/Religious Ed/YM Assistant

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 19 at 5:00 PM

Lectors Tom Steidl & Nick Reiland
 Gifts Becky Hoffman
 Sound Board Colin Schmidt
 Servers Patrick & John O'Connell
 EMs Jane Steidl, Kathleen Sass, Tom Puchner, Lori Meicher & Monica Oboagwina

Sunday, December 20 at 7:30 AM

Lectors Scott Lindstrom & Lorrie Hylkema
 Gifts Barb Maly
 Servers Max Bechtoldt & Grace Cooper-Herndon
 EMs Mary Warfield, Paul Buckalew, Eric & Mebbie Landsness & Mickey Chitwood

Sunday, December 20 at 9:00 AM

Lectors Maggie Lewis & Kathy Wall
 Gifts Craig Kettleon
 Sound Board Kaitlyn McNally
 Servers Becca Lucarelli & Jack McNally
 EMs Jan & Sean McNally, Heidi & Mark Lucarelli, Michelle & Vincent Affatati & Michael Sullivan

Sunday, December 21 at 11:00 AM

Lectors Maria Welton & Paula Devroy Everard
 Gifts Bill Drew
 Sound Board Kristen Semrow
 Servers Allie Semrow & Grace Welton
 Ems Jay Everard, Daniel & Tiffany Neely, Chris & Marie Semrow, Mickey Michuda & Jean Robertson

Readings for the Week

Sunday, December 13
 Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18
 Monday, December 14
 Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
 Tuesday, December 15
 Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32
 Wednesday, December 16
 Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23
 Thursday, December 17
 Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
 Friday, December 18
 Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
 Saturday, December 19
 Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
 Next Sunday, December 20
 Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Contacts

Parish Office..... (608) 238-3471
 Parish Office Hours
 Mon-Fri 9:00 AM-12 noon & 1:00-4:00 PM
 Parish Fax..... (608) 238-4220
 Parish E-mail (firstname)@blsacrament.org
 (add Fr to beginning of first name for Priest)
 Parish Website www.blisacrament.org
 School (608) 233-6155
 Priory..... (608) 238-3472

Parish News & Events

Communal Reconciliation - Our communal reconciliation service will be on Wednesday night, December 16th at 7:00 PM in the Church. Multiple confessors will be available. We invite you to come and hear the word of God and receive his gift of mercy in this communal celebration. This is a perfect way to prepare the way of the Lord as we welcome him into our hearts at Christmas.

Second Collection - Next week, our second collection is for the Bless our Priests collection in the Diocese. This collection provides for the needs of retired priests in the Diocese as well as retired priests in the Dominican Order which staffs Blessed Sacrament. Thank you for your generosity.

Audio Outreach CD Library - Make the most of Advent this year by enjoying these presentations from Dr. Scott Hahn and Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. They can be found in the gathering area at the back of the church. Prepare the Way of the King! Discover what scholars know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning as you prepare your heart for the birth of our Lord. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind- Jesus Christ. The True Meaning of Christmas. Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's books, homilies and television series have inspired countless souls all over the world. This presentation combines classic recordings of his timeless reflections on the meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus, mixed with Gregorian Chant and seasonal music, it is sure to become a family favorite.

Our Advent Book club discussion of *Praying our Experiences* will be this Sunday night, December 13th at 7 PM in the Church Basement. Refreshments will be provided. Reflection questions for the discussion are in the pamphlet racks at the back of Church. Even people who have not read the book, can benefit from reflecting on the questions at home.

MEAL FOR SENIORS -



All seniors in the parish are invited to our "holiday meal" DELAYED BY A SNOWSTORM until this week - turkey and dressing and all the fixings, - at noon on Wed., December 16th in the Parish Center. Come and share the good food and fine fellowship. Please call 238-3471 to have us count you in if you are not a "regular." We'll then take a break, and resume our Wednesday meals on January 6.

Help us welcome returning Catholics - Help get the invitation out - most likely our target group is not reading this bulletin article. Perhaps a holiday moment will be the chance to suggest a renewed relationship between someone important in your life and something important to you - this faith community.

On January 6 and 13, at 7:00 PM in the small room off our refurbished Assembly Hall, we will be hosting two Wednesday evening sessions for people who may have been "away from" the Church - to come and talk, and possibly to discover a way back to their spiritual home. Contact Ed Emmenegger, 238-3471, ext.119, ed@blsacrament.org more information. This is a parish cluster sponsored offering, and includes Our Lady Queen of Peace and St. Maria Goretti Parishes.



Christmas Eve Masses:

4:00 PM - with Children's Choir, 6:00 PM, & (late night carols 9:30 PM) 10:00 PM

Christmas Day Masses:

9:00 & 11:00 AM

The Parish Offices will be closed on Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th.