

BLESSED SACRAMENT *Parish*

December 6, 2009
2nd 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 went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

— Lk 3:3

Pastor's Letter

As we celebrate the second Sunday of Advent, we also look forward to next Saturday when our children will make their first reconciliation. This week I always visit the religious education students as well as the school children to answer any questions that they might have about the experience of confession. I always remind them that what they tell me or any of the other priests is under the seal of the confessional and no priest should ever violate the seal. I tell the children that even if someone threatened to throw me into a volcano if I didn't break the seal—I would have to be thrown into the volcano! Perhaps more importantly, I remind the children that because they confess their sins to me, I do not have a different opinion about them or think that somehow I am better than they are because now I know their sins. Whether it is the grace of office or simply that after hearing thousands of confessions, I don't remember them, I can with absolute honesty say that I have never looked at a penitent differently or judged them because of what he/she has confessed. I know that one of the obstacles for people in coming to confession is that one is embarrassed to admit one's sins to another person. But again, I need to emphasize, as priests, we have our own faults and in no way do we judge people self-righteously. The priest is there to represent Jesus and offer his healing words and saving sacramental grace. Moreover, from a psychological perspective as well as spiritual viewpoint, admitting one's sins to another—placing them in the light of day (in a confidential manner, of course) seems to be an integral aspect of changing behavior and achieving genuine reconciliation. So I ask that as our children receive reconciliation for the first time this week, that you keep them in prayer. I also invite the rest of the parish to consider coming to our parish reconciliation service which will be next week on Wednesday night, December 16th at 7 PM in the Church.

Remember that our discussion of our Advent book will be on Sunday night, December 13th at 7 PM in the Friary. Discussion questions are in the pamphlet racks in the back of Church. As always, I design the questions so that even if you haven't finished the book or didn't even purchase it, you can still use the questions as a source of spiritual reflection for the Advent season.

That Sunday night will be a busy night in the parish as we will have our monthly teen Mass that evening at 5 PM followed by supper. If you haven't experienced one of our teen Masses—please join us. We have a great music group/choir as well as the opportunity to hear one of our teenagers who was confirmed last year reflect on the readings after communion. This has been a wonderful experience. We have had exceptional preaching from our youth that I am exceedingly proud of and I am looking forward to hearing Charlotte Martin's reflection this month.

Finally, next weekend (Dec. 12th-13th), we will have our usual collection for St. Vincent de Paul. As a result, we will postpone the Diocesan collection for the retired priests of the Diocese of Madison until the following weekend. Monies from this collection are used to provide direct support for retired priests to help them with the rising cost of healthcare and other living costs. Many of you who have attended parishes that were staffed by Diocesan priests have benefitted from the wonderful ministry of these priests in the Diocese. Frequently, they even help us here at Blessed Sacrament with our penance services. Several years ago, because our parish has always been staffed by Dominican priests, Bishop Morlino agreed that half of our collection could help provide for the retirement fund of the Dominicans of the Central Province because of our longstanding and generous service to the Diocese of Madison. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Fr. Pat

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 5

5:00 PM Nancy Hogan

Sunday, December 6

7:30 AM Our Parish Family

9:00 AM William P. Huth

11:00 AM Walter & Ester Summers & Family

Monday, December 7 - St. Ambrose

8:30 AM Charles Claridge

Tuesday, December 8 - The Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 AM Lillian Pieroni

8:30 AM Raphael Wagner

7:00 PM Julie Pitot

Wednesday, December 9 - St. Juan Diego

7:00 AM Karl Whitemarsh

8:30 AM Mary Jane Lingle

Thursday, December 10 - St. Gregory III

7:00 AM John & Gladys Moran

8:30 AM Rita Pickett

Friday, December 11 - St. Damasus

8:30 AM Clarence Kennedy

Saturday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:30 AM Pablo Mejia

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

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.

Readings for the Week

Sunday, December 6

Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Monday, December 7

Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 8

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 9

Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, December 10

Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15

Friday, December 11

Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, December 12

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/
Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

Next Sunday, December 13

Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

BLESSED SACRAMENT



Early Bulletin Deadlines - Due to early publication deadlines for the Holidays:

ARTICLES FOR THE December 19/20 BULLETIN are due by 10:00 AM Thursday, December 10th.

ARTICLES FOR THE December 26/27 BULLETIN are due by 10:00 AM Wednesday, December 16th. Articles submitted after these deadlines will be included in the following bulletin, if applicable.



Parish Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 6- 2nd Sunday of Advent
 After Mass Coffee & Donuts (After 9 & 11) FR
 10:15 AM K-8 Religious Education SCH&PC
 1:00 PM Young Adult Group PC
 6:30 PM High School Religious Ed. FR

Monday, December 7
 9:15 AM Bible Study Gospel of Matthew PC
 1:00 PM Contemplative Prayer Group PC
 2:15 PM Den Meeting FR
 3:30 PM YoungLife Program PC
 7:00 PM Bell Choir BR
 7:00 PM RCIA PC
 7:00 PM Bible Study Gospel of Matthew FR

Tuesday, December 8
Immaculate Conception
 8:30 AM All School Liturgy CH
 1:00 PM Bible Study Gospel of Matthew PC
 3:00 PM 1st Grade Girl Scouts FR
 6:30 PM Troop #16 Boy Scouts CB

Wednesday, December 9
 12:00 PM Senior Meal PC
 5:30 PM Project Girl PC
 6:30 PM Salvation Army PC
 7:00 PM Choir Practice MR
 7:30 PM Little Rock Bible Study PC

Thursday, December 10
 9:00 AM Rosary CH
 1:30 PM School Christmas Program CH
 2:30 PM Scrip Pick-up PC
 6:30 PM School Christmas Program CH
 7:00 PM Prayer Group SL
 8:00 PM Teen/Adult Contemporary Choir MR

Friday, December 11
 8:55 AM Chaplet/Divine Mercy CH
 5:00 PM YM Babysitting Project FR

Saturday, December 12
 7:00 AM Men's Group PC
 8:00 AM Web Team Meeting PC
 10:00 AM 1st Reconciliation Celebration CH
 3:15 PM Children's Choir Practice MR

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 Youth 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

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

YA GOTTA LOVE THE TEEN MASS!! WHOOHOO!!! - The next teen mass is scheduled for Sunday, December 13th at 5:00 PM. Charlotte Martin, senior at Edgewood High School, will give a reflection about the readings and how they relate to her life/ the lives of teens after communion. Back for their last gig of the semester is the amazing teen/adult contemporary choir. Don't forget to stay after mass for food!!! **JOIN US!**



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 Fall...

MONTHLY SERVICE SITES

- Salvation Army (playing with kids) — Wednesday nights – 6:30 to 8:30 PM.
- 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 Ahern at 238-3471 x-116.

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

WHAT?!?!? - High School Teens -- Save the date: **Saturday, December 19th at 8:00 PM** – so unbelievable you will have to be there to experience it for yourself.

PROJECT GIRL, started by parishioners Kelly Parks-Snider 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 second session on Wednesday, December 9th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Center! **IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN-UP...CALL MELANIE TODAY!**

If You Are in 6th, 7th, or 8th Grade, Keep Reading... - On Friday, December 11th from 7:00 to 9:30 PM, join teens from local youth ministries in for a night of fun at the Bishop O'Conner Conference Center. Youth Ministries will provide to teens a safe environment for swimming, karaoke, video games, basketball, and more. Teens must pre-register for the event. We will also need 4-5 adults to help chaperone the event. Sign-up with Melanie by Monday, December 7th.

Religious Education - Elementary Level



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

We will be preparing lunches for the children who come to the Multi-Cultural Center on Sunday, December 13th so please bring the items that were assigned to you.

1st Reconciliation Celebration for Grade 2 families (school and religious Education) is Saturday, December 12th and we ask the families to be in Church by 9:45 AM. Babysitting is provided.

Because of the 1st reconciliation service on Saturday morning, December 12th, we will not have confessions or our holy hour with Benediction after the 8:30 AM Mass. The schedule returns to normal the following week.

Parish News & Events

Help us welcome returning

Catholics - Help get the invitation out - maybe a holiday moment can be the chance to suggest a renewed relationship between someone important in your life and something important to you - this faith community.

But, most likely, our target group is not reading this bulletin article. On January 6 and 13, 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 for a flyer and more information about this program. sponsored by our parish cluster, which includes Our Lady Queen of Peace and St. Maria Goretti Parishes.

The Road Home (Interfaith Hospitality Network)

- We need your help! December 13th - 20th is Blessed Sacrament's turn to provide food and companionship to the homeless families in The Road Home program (formerly known as Interfaith Hospitality Network). The families will be housed at Temple Beth El and we need volunteers to drop off part of a meal (you will be assigned what to bring); eat with the families from 5-7 PM one evening; play with the kids from 7-9 PM on the night of your choice; or spend the night from 9 PM - 7 AM. We also need help with set-up and take-down and volunteers to drop off groceries. Please contact Mary Johnson at mojo431@charter.net or 270-9585 or Sharon Brolin at 233-2358 or sbrolin@mailbag.com with questions or to volunteer.

Children's Choir - The choir for the Children's Christmas Mass at 4 PM on Christmas Eve will continue practices this coming Saturday and next - December 12 and December 19 from 3:15 to 4:45 PM in room 107 of the school. This group is open to kids in grades 3 to 8, and is a great way to celebrate the Christmas mass: by giving the gift of song! Contact Kitty Maas at 238-3471 or kitty@blsacrament.org with any questions and to sign up if you haven't already done so. With only two more rehearsals we will not be able to add any more children after this week, unless there are special circumstances. Thank you for adding your voice!

Communal Reconciliation - We will have our communal reconciliation service on Wednesday night, December 16th at 7 PM in the Church. Multiple confessors will be available to hear confessions.

Chili Cook Off Winners

Congratulations to all the chefs who entered Blessed Sacrament's Colossal Chili Cook Off! All the chilies were so wonderful the judges had a hard time picking just three. First Prize - John Jones; Second Prize - Jack Jacoby; Third Prize - Carolyn Kucera; and Best Chili Name - Paul Higgins. Many thanks to the judges and all the chefs for making the Chili Cook Off a delicious and fun event.

"Who is Our Neighbor?"

Porchlight: Solutions to Homelessness For whom is your porch light on this winter? For people who need a second chance, a warm bed, hope, opportunity, a helping hand not a handout? Come, see and learn about what the not-for-profit ecumenical ministry of concerned people here are doing. Their primary mission is to meet the needs of homeless households by providing services designed to foster the transition into permanent housing and employment, freeing them from the fears and intimidation of living on the streets. They provide a vast array of services which you will find heartening. We meet at the back of church on second Tuesday, December 8th, after the 8:30 AM Mass before proceeding to Porchlight. Contact Bob Bright at rbright@wisc.edu or 274-0915 to join a group of parishioners. We will carpool as parking is limited.

MEAL FOR SENIORS - All seniors in the parish are invited to our "holiday meal" this week - turkey and dressing and all the fixings, - at noon on Wednesday, December 9 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 have one more meal the following Wednesday on December 16, and then resume after a break on January 6.

Meeting of Welcome - Sunday, December 13th, 10:15 AM in the Friary, we will welcome all who have expressed interest in our parish community. If you know someone who would like to join our parish, tell them about our Welcome Meeting or offer to accompany them.

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

Tuesday, December 8th, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
We will have Masses at 7:00 & 8:30 AM, as well as a Mass at 7:00 PM.
It is a Holy Day of Obligation

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 12 at 5:00 PM

Lectors Jim Cleary & Henry Pitot
 Gifts Dan Consigny
 Sound Board Mark Werner
 Servers James Brown & Brad Consigny
 EMs Katie Brietzman, Dennis Lynch, Jerry & Madonna Scullion & Lisa Sotis

Sunday, December 13 at 7:30 AM

Lectors Mary Kay Johnson & Maribeth Malnor
 Gifts Maria Welton
 Servers Jacob Graham & Mimi McMurray
 EMs Gerry Matthews, Mickey Chitwood, Barbara Cahill, Mary Murphey & Jean Bondoc

Sunday, December 13 at 9:00 AM

Lectors Bob Shannon & Jean Tretow Schmitz
 Gifts Diane Deci
 Sound Board Anh Hoang
 Servers Sammey Chisholm & Sophie Held
 EMs Sarah Wanish, Viet Quoc Hoang, Tim Chisholm, John Schmitz, Dan Wanish, Don Haasl & Brian Miller

Sunday, December 13 at 11:00 AM

Lectors Ben Weisse & Jan McNally
 Gifts Amy Greenhalgh
 Sound Board Drew Greenhalgh
 Servers Teddy Cranley & 1 Needed
 Ems Connie Weisse, Pat Cranley, Michelle & Vincent Affatati, Sean McNally, Jay Everard & Jenny Bernhardt

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.blsacrament.org
 School (608) 233-6155
 Priory..... (608) 238-3472

Administration

Week Ending November 22, 2009

Envelopes..... \$17,859
 Offertory\$378
 Totals..... \$18,237

Week Ending November 29, 2009

Envelopes..... \$7,562
 Offertory\$417
 Totals..... \$7,979

Fiscal Year July 1, 2009-November 22, 2009

Envelopes..... \$304,603
 Offertory \$7,621
 Totals..... \$312,224

Angel Tree

A prisoner writes, "Thank you for helping make my children happy at Christmas. Without your gifts, my children would not have had a happy Christmas. I thank Jesus Christ for living in your hearts."

TODAY is the last day to pick up an angel. After doing so purchase the gift wish (\$15-\$20) and return the wrapped gift no later than next weekend, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH at any one of the masses. Monetary donations are also accepted for postage and gifts for the caregivers. Please continue to pray for the prisoners and their families during the Advent and Christmas seasons. "The fervent petition of a holy person is powerful indeed" James 5:16.



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.

Parish News & Events

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.

Collections - Next weekend we will have our usual collection for St. Vincent de Paul. Because of this, we will postpone until the following weekend the collection for the retired priests of the Diocese (Bless our Priests Collection) which helps to defray the costs of retirement (especially health care costs) for priests who have generously served the people in south-central WI for decades. Please note that half of the collection will help support the retirement fund of the Dominicans who have served here faithfully since 1922. Please consider making this collection a part of your year-end giving.

Advent Book Club - Our discussion of our Advent Book (*Praying Our Experiences*) will be on Sunday night, December 13th at 7 PM in the Church Basement. Discussion questions are in the pamphlet racks in the back of Church. If you like, come to the youth Mass, stay for supper and then attend the discussion.

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!