

BLESSED SACRAMENT *Parish*

November 29, 2009
1st 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.



“Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.” — Lk 21:36

Pastor's Letter

This weekend we begin the first Sunday of Advent. In a recent homily that I preached, in talking about the truth, I mentioned that as a society we see truth in what we say whereas from a Christian perspective we more likely find truth in how we listen. This ability to listen is at the heart of Christian discipleship because it is essential to authentic obedience. Advent is our season to take time to listen well. Amidst all of the cacophony that distorts the sound of truth, we must commit ourselves to be critical thinkers and profound listeners. For instance, the *New York Times* reported recently how pharmaceutical companies have been raising prices nearly 9% this year (even though the CPI has been negative). The pharmaceutical companies have claimed this is in order to maintain their ability to do research. However, these same companies spend more on advertising than on research. Moreover, the real reason for the outlandish increases in drug prices is the pharmaceutical companies in negotiation with the government agreed to cut costs to the government by \$80 billion dollars over ten years or \$8 billion per year as part of "bending the cost curve" for health care. However, by raising drug prices by 9 % this past year, companies not only will offset the \$8 billion for the first year but will set up a new price baseline that will ensure that there will be no downward "bending of the cost curve" thereby eliminating any anticipated cost savings. What the companies are giving with one hand, they are more than taking back with the other. We must learn to listen well in terms of social issues.

However, we must also listen well in our personal lives. Advent becomes for us a

time to slow down and listen to where Christ is directing us. We must be open to the challenges that our Advent readings and preaching present to us. We must also be open to the affirmations that come our way that remind us where our talents exist (part of our denial of truth can be our inability to accept praise). This openness to the truth is the foundation of authentic humility that recognizes our own gifts and limitations as well as the gifts and limitations in others. As we move towards the holiday season, when we are tempted to be irritated by the behavior of certain family members, could we try to see the person in light of this mix between gift and liability just as we are a similar mix? Could we then be a little more patient with the person because we start to understand the limitation in the context of the gifts of the person?

Advent as a season of reflection provides us the inspiration to take the time and assess where we are in our lives and where we are going. In today's bulletin, there is an insert with the activities going on in the parish. As you know, we try to limit somewhat the number of activities so that we do have the time to listen. Nevertheless, maybe you would like to make a commitment to come to an extra daily Mass each week during the season of Advent in order to listen to the word of God. Or perhaps you could carve out a time with a loved one or friend (a prayer partner if you will) to spend some time in prayer each week for 15 minutes. Perhaps hold hands, perhaps light a candle and together pray for not only important people in your lives but for the world around you. May the Lord bless you this Advent season!

Fr. Pat



ABC School News

We are now accepting preregistrations for our 2010-2011 four year old program and Kindergarten. If you have a child who will be attending one of these programs, go to our school's website for a preregistration form and return it to the school office with the \$15 preregistration fee. We will do final registration during Catholic School Schools week in February.

Children's Liturgy is looking for two more adult leaders for the Children's Liturgy at the 9:00 AM Mass. Anyone interested in this volunteer opportunity needs to have the Virtus training. Please contact Pat Filbrandt at patfilbrandt@filbrandtco.com.

Sacraments of Initiation

BAPTISM PREPARATION – The next opportunity for new or expecting parents to prepare for a first Baptism is this Tuesday evening, December 1, at 7:00 pm. If you are looking forward to a first Baptism in the next six months or so, call Ed at the parish center 238-3471, extension 119 or ed@blsacrament.org to arrange the details.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 28

5:00 PM Dave Olig

Sunday, November 29

7:30 AM Our Parish Family

9:00 AM Mary Krueger

11:00 AM Helen Van Oosbree & Family

Monday, November 30 - St. Andrew

8:30 AM Gladys & John Moran

Tuesday, December 1 - St. Florence

7:00 AM Joe Gower

8:30 AM Alice Riggert

Wednesday, December 2 - St. Bibiana

7:00 AM Special Intention

8:30 AM The Wendt Family

Thursday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier

7:00 AM James Zirkel

8:30 AM Michael Hughes

Friday, December 4 - St. John Damascus

8:30 AM David C. Brown

Saturday, December 5

8:30 AM

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

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

Fr. Pat and Fr. Ron will be away at the Dominican Provincial Council Meeting in Chicago from Thursday, December 3rd to Saturday morning December 5th.

Readings for the Week

Sunday, November 29

Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12---4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday, November 30

Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday, December 1

Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday, December 2

Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday, December 3

Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday, December 4

Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday, December 5

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35---10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday, December 6

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

Parish Calendar of Events

Sunday, November 29 - 1st Sunday of Advent

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

Monday, November 30

9:15 AM Bible Study Gospel of Matthew PC
3:30 PM YoungLife Program PC
7:00 PM Bell Choir BR
7:00 PM Bible Study Gospel of Matthew FR

Tuesday, December 1

8:00 AM APT Meeting PC
1:00 PM Bible Study Gospel of Matthew PC
3:30 PM Wolf Cub Meeting FR
6:30 PM Troop #16 Boy Scouts CB
7:00 PM Baptism Preparation PC

Wednesday, December 2

12:00 PM Senior Meal PC
6:30 PM Salvation Army PC
7:30 PM Little Rock Bible Study PC
7:30 PM Pastoral Council Meeting PC

Thursday, December 3

7:00 AM St. Vincent de Paul Meeting PC
8:30 AM 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

Friday, December 4

8:55 AM Chaplet/Divine Mercy CH

Saturday, December 5

9:00 AM Reconciliation/Holy Hour/Adoration CH

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

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

Early Bulletin Deadlines -

Due to early publication deadlines for the Thanksgiving Holiday: **ARTICLES FOR THE November 28/29 BULLETIN** were due Tuesday, November 17th. Articles submitted after this deadline will be included in the following bulletin, if applicable.

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.

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.
- Port St. Vincent (dinner with residents) — Tuesday, November 24th – 4:45 to 7:30 PM.

SPECIAL SERVICE SITES

- Babysitting for Parents During Christmas Season at BSP – Saturday, December 5th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Friday, December 11th from 6:00 to 11:00 PM.
- Advent Mini CHWC – Sunday, December 6th – 1:00 to 3:00 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 from 10:15-11:30 AM in the School and Parish Center.

On Saturday, December 12th, the Second Graders (School and Religious Education) will CELEBRATE the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Church.

We ask the families to be in Church by 9:45 AM. After the Reconciliation Service, there will be a reception in the Church Basement.

Parish News & Events

Welcoming returning Catholics

If there is someone sitting around your Thanksgiving or Christmas table this year who may have been “away from” the Church, but is now hungry for a renewed relationship with the Body of Christ, this announcement is for you. In January, we will be hosting two Wednesday evening sessions for people to come and talk, and possibly to discover a way back to their spiritual home. This opportunity on January 6 and 13 is being sponsored by our cluster of parishes, which also includes Our Lady Queen of Peace and St. Maria Goretti Parishes. Contact Ed Emmenegger, 238-3471, ext.119, ed@blsacrament.org for a flyer and more information. Help get the invitation out - maybe a holiday moment can be the chance to suggest a renewed relationship between Christ and someone else you love.

U. S. Bishops Statement -

The U.S. Bishops released an updated statement encouraging us to contact our Senators to ensure that Senate legislation will protect rights of conscience, ensure affordable and universal healthcare coverage, provide care for immigrants and follow the House's lead in removing abortion funding. To read the Bishops' statement, go to www.usccb.org/healthcare/UPDATED-bulletin-insert.pdf.

Do You Need Help with the Holidays? Youth Ministry Teens and Families to the Rescue!

Youth Ministry will be sponsoring another mini Catholic Heart Work Camp for parishioners on **Sunday, December 6th from 1:00 to 3:30 PM**. We will have teen and adult volunteers to help you set up your Christmas tree, hang stockings over the fireplace, put up holiday lights, set-up your Nativity scene on the mantle, shovel snow, and more! The event will also include cookies, hot chocolate, and holiday carols! If you need help or you just want to hang out with us, no matter your age, call Melanie (238-3471 x-116) by Tuesday, December 1st!

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!

Children's Reconciliation - We will be celebrating first reconciliation for our children on Saturday morning, December 12th at 10:00 AM. Because of this, we will not have a holy hour or confessions that Saturday only.

Youth Ministry is giving the parish an early Christmas gift...HOLIDAY BABYSITTING!!

- Need someone to watch the kids while you do your holiday shopping? Looking for a few free hours to consult Santa? Trying to figure out when you can wrap presents? Teens from BSP Youth Ministry will be available to watch your children while you prepare for the holidays. We will have movies, video games, crafts, and more to entertain kids of all ages in The Friary. Teens will be available:

- Saturday, December 5th-10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Friday, December 11th - 6:00 to 11:00 PM

Please let Melanie know by Wednesday, December 2nd if you would like to be a part of this program!

Are you getting rid of...????? - ... gently used toys, puzzles, and books? Teens are collecting these items for the Multi-Cultural Center. We hope to replenish their shelves before November 30th. Bring a smile to child! All donations can be left in marked boxes at the back of Church or in the Youth Room in the Parish Center. Thank you for all of your help!

"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 rdbright@wisc.edu or 274-0915 to join group of parishioners. We will carpool as parking is limited.

Advent Book Club - Our discussion of our Advent book, Praying Our Experiences, will be on Sunday night, December 13th at 7:00 PM in the Church Basement.

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

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

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.

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 5 at 5:00 PM

Lectors Karen Moncher & Tom DuBois
Gifts Mary Alderson
Sound Board Francisco Rodriguez-Beuerman
Servers Grace Cooper-Herndon & Nicholas Shellander
EMs Lori Meicher, Mary Warfield, Joan Statz, Nina Emerson & Jim Jermain

Sunday, December 6 at 7:30 AM

Lectors Sara Jimenez & Richard Nodolf
Gifts Allie & Jerry Hammond
Servers William & Emma Omohundro
EMs Gini Nodolf, Gerry Matthews, Maile Paalani, Eric & Mebbie Landsness

Sunday, December 6 at 9:00 AM

Lectors Michelle Hoke & Dave Pagliarini
Gifts Bill & Corrine Engelman
Sound Board Nicole Oliveira
Servers Reece Brown & Sean Filbrandt
EMs Susan Beyler, Annie Stroud, Sue Cranley, Michael Sullivan, Sarah Morgan, Jennifer Fenne & Keith Rabiola

Sunday, December 6 at 11:00 AM

Lectors Wendy Vardaman & Ben Weisse
Gifts Adam Schmidt
Sound Board Colin Schmidt
Servers Kevin & Alex Thomas
Ems Chris & Marie Semrow, Bill Sotis, Lianna Schmidt, Pat Frawley, Dana Maas & Frank Byrne

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)@bbsacrament.org
(add Fr to beginning of first name for Priest)
Parish Website..... www.bbsacrament.org
School..... (608) 233-6155
Priory..... (608) 238-3472

Administration

Week Ending November 15, 2009

Envelopes..... \$11,322
Offerory.....\$479
Totals..... \$11,801

Fiscal Year July 1, 2009-November 15, 2009

Envelopes..... \$279,182
Offerory..... \$6,826
Totals..... \$286,008

Angel Tree



Are you looking for more meaningful ways to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with others? PROJECT ANGEL TREE can be your answer. Project Angel Tree has taken Christ's call to help the imprisoned and has developed a program to provide gifts at Christmas for prisoner's children. Can you imagine the joy a child feels as he/she receive a beautifully wrapped present from his/her mom or dad who is far away in prison? Consider the spiritual nourishment you and your family will receive as you shop and pray for the child and their family.

After all the masses this weekend and the next weekend, December 5th/6th, you will be able to pick out your angel. You may select a child whose name is written on a large angel in the gathering area of church. Along with the name, you will be given one gift wish - clothing, game, or toy. You purchase the gift, spending \$15-\$20, wrap it, and return it by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH. Monetary donations are also accepted for postage and gifts for the caregivers. If you would like to help with the delivery of the gifts please call Jean Robertson at 274-9197.

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@bbsacrament.org, 238-3471, x 124.

Mom's Monday (all ages) - Monday mom's playgroup, rotating location near church, 9:30 - 11 AM. Mom's daytime faith sharing group will be forming as well. Contact Peggy, writermom67@gmail.com, 215-4754, or Kathryn, kmllewpea@gmail.com, 347-7641.

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.

Emmaus Service Opportunities Coming

Other News & Events

Congratulations to the Bazaar raffle winners! Thanks to all who contributed to make the raffle a huge success this year.

\$100 cash - Jeannine Desautels
American Girl Doll - Adrienne Hurley
Wii Mario System - Melanie Ahern
Original art by parishioner Jim Gower -
Chloe Schomaker
19" TV with built-in DVD player -
John McCreery
Wreath by parishioner Jerry Scullion -
Judy Hebert

Lego Star Wars set - Lynda Patterson
Teeth Whitening certificate by First
Choice Dental in Verona - Colleen Brown
Trader Joe's grocery bag of goodies and \$25
gift certificate - Bill & Corinne Engelman
Original art by parishioner Tom Murphy -
Pat Healy
Stained glass star by parishioner Jerry
Scullion - Mary Ellen Schmit

St. Ambrose Academy's third annual benefit dinner and silent auction is Friday, December 11, 2009, beginning with a 6:00 PM, Cocktail Hour/Silent Auction and followed by a 7:30 PM dinner. The cost is \$75/plate or \$400/table of six. Make reservations today by calling (608) 827-5863 or emailing Katie Haun at khaun@ambroseacademy.org. The dinner will take place at the Bishop O'Connor Catholic Pastoral Center, 702 South High Point Road, Madison. Details at www.ambroseacademy.org.

Need a quiet place to go? Christ in the Wilderness (CITW) is a hermitage retreat center in the northwest corner of Illinois. Here all are welcome to relax, reflect, and enjoy solitude in a tranquil environment. It is about a two hour drive from Madison. For more information visit www.citwretreat.com or call 815-947-2476. You can also call Nancy Schubert at 231-1645.