



**Parish of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**Sunday, February 22, 2015**  
**First Sunday of Lent**



**PASTOR:**

Father Jeff Grant  
Deacon David Erdmann  
Deacon Tom Burns

**PARISH OFFICE:**

Phone: (217) 528-7521  
Fax: (217) 528-3137  
Website: [www.bsps.org](http://www.bsps.org)

**SCHOOL OFFICE:**

748 West Laurel  
Phone: (217) 522-7534  
Fax: (217) 522-7542  
[www.bssbruins.org](http://www.bssbruins.org)

**Office Manager:**

Margaret Antenan

**Accounts Manager:**

Sharon Schraeder

**Principal:**

Kathy Wear

**School Administrative Asst:**

Nancy Evans

**School Secretary:**

Michele Hinds-Greenwood

**Music Director:**

Jody Kienzler

**Parish School of Religion:**

Call the Parish Office to register

**Development Director:**

Kim Hoffmann

**Maintenance Manager:**

Ron Sommer

**Bulletin Submissions:**

Margaret Antenan  
Email: [mantenan@bsps.org](mailto:mantenan@bsps.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

Blessed Sacrament Parish welcomes new residents and visitors. It is wonderful to celebrate the Eucharist with you. If you are new to the parish, please call the office to register.

## First Sunday of Lent

### CELEBRATING THE DAYS

#### Monday, February 23

- ✕ Confessions before Mass
- ✕ **8:00 AM** Joan Reardon-Mahoney

#### Tuesday, February 24

- ✕ Confessions before Mass
- ✕ **8:20 AM** John Giachetto

#### Wednesday, February 25

- Confessions before Mass
- ✕ **8:00 AM** Winifred Thompson
- 5:30PM** Prayer Service

#### Thursday, February 26

- Confessions before Mass
- 8:00AM** Andrew Madonia

#### Friday, February 27

- Confessions before Mass
- 8:20AM** Bob Bramlet
- 5:30PM** Stations of the Cross

#### Saturday, February 28

- 8:00 AM** Members of the Poor Souls Shrine  
(Latin Mass )
- Confessions 3:00-4:00PM**
- 4:30 PM** Cour & Dineen Families

#### Sunday, March 1--Second Sunday of Lent

- ✕ **7:00 AM** Truman Flatt
- ✕ **8:30 AM** Charles McGrath
- ✕ **10:30 AM** Intentions of our Parishioners

*Rosary is prayed before 10:30 AM Mass Sundays.*

### Dear Parishioners,

**Prepare to Welcome.** We often think of the season of Lent as a time to personally prepare ourselves for the commemoration of the death and resurrection of Jesus. We focus on prayer, penance and ways to improve our behavior, attitude or fidelity to Christ. Yet, there is another part of Lent that has very deep roots in this time before Easter. The early Christian church baptized their new members (catechumens) on Holy Saturday night. Thus, the weeks prior to this were set aside for the catechumens to prepare for their initiation. The instructional period was over. Lent was a time of fasting and prayer so that the initiation might be a deep spiritual experience.

On Holy Saturday night, the catechumens would gather along with the entire congregation and listen to a series of scriptural readings that talked about the promise and goodness of God. Following the readings, the catechumens would be fully immersed in the waters of baptism. As they came out of the water, the whole community would remember that baptism was death to an old life and resurrection to a new one.

For many centuries, that was the focus of Lent. The church anticipated the reception of these catechumens and focused on the importance of the sacrament of baptism. As the newly baptized became part of the church, both they and the congregation would be prepared.

Over the years, the focus moved away from catechumens to the renewal of our own baptisms. The rituals surrounding baptism (including Holy Saturday) were not emphasized and usually not well attended. In the 1950's, Pius XII reformed Holy Week liturgies. This, followed by Vatican II, led to a rediscovery of the process by which a person is initiated into the church. The result was the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). The process was patterned after the ancient rites of the church and the importance of Lent as a time to spiritually prepare our catechumens was once again emphasized.

Like the early church, parishes discovered they must prepare their parishioners to welcome these new believers. They must see them as a blessing from God and be ready to walk with them in their spiritual journey. Blessed Sacrament is very fortunate in having 13 members preparing for this initiation. Some will be baptized on Holy Saturday and some, who are already baptized in other Christian denominations, will be received into full communion with our church. They will enrich our parish and our church with their talents and experience. They will make our light a little brighter as we call others to the Lord. I ask you to use this time of Lent, not just for your own spiritual improvement, but as a time to remember those preparing for initiation. Help us to welcome them, encourage them, and walk with them on the journey of faith.

**Fr. Jeff**

## OUR PARISH FAMILY

**Please pray for our Recently Departed:  
Donald Smith**

### **School News:**

**Tuesday, Feb. 24**-7-8pm-5th & 6th grade boys Father/Son Evening in the cafeteria

**Friday, Feb. 27**-Men's Club Fish Fry

**Friday, March 6**— PSA Spirit Day

**Fine Arts Evening**-will showcase our students talents. Tryouts-Friday, March 6, 3:00pm in the art room.

**Registration for 2015-2016**-Registration for Blessed Sacrament School begins on Monday, March 2 with registration packets being sent home with current students. Call-in registration for pre-school parents is Monday, March 2, beginning at 9am. Call-in registration for kindergarten parents calling in Tuesday, March 3 beginning at 9am.

**Priest, Prophet, & King**— Jesus is the Anointed One—the ultimate priest, prophet, and king foreshadowed throughout the Hebrew Scriptures. In Fr. Robert Baron's new DVD series, "Priest, Prophet, & King", we will explore the biblical archetypes of priest, prophet, and king and see how Jesus is the fulfillment of each one. Throughout this experience you will better understand who Jesus really is and also realize your own priestly, prophetic, and kingly mission. This program will be presented and discussed in the rectory basement at 6:30pm, Tuesdays, February 24 (priest), March 3 (prophet) and March 10 (king). For more information please contact Bob or Connie Vincent 523-4335. This program is made possible by a Harvest of Thanks, Springtime of Hope grant and the people of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

**40 Days for Life**-from February 18 through March 29, you are invited to join other Christians for --40 Days for Life—40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. 40 Days for Life has a proven track record of success! The heart of this effort is peaceful prayer vigils to be held on the sidewalk outside of Planned Parenthood, 1000 E. Washington. You can also help by spreading the word about this important community outreach. If you would like more information-or if you would like to volunteer for a prayer vigil time, please visit the website [www.40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/springfield/](http://www.40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/springfield/) or call Springfield Right to Life at 523-2700 or [srtl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:srtl@sbcglobal.net)

**Men's Club Fish Fries** continue this Friday, February 27th from 5-7:30pm in the School Cafeteria. Come join us for good food and good company.

**Please Pray for Our RCIA**- Please remember our candidates and catechumens in your prayers during Lent. They have been meeting since September and are now in the final time of discernment and prayer. Their pictures are on a board in the vestibule so you can see them and better understand for whom you are praying. While not everyone can serve as a sponsor or RCIA team member everyone can pray.

**Girl Scout Sunday**-The Girl Scout Troops from Blessed Sacrament would like to invite parishioners to help celebrate Girl Scout Sunday, March 8 at the 8:30am Mass. Donuts, coffee, milk and juice will be provided after the Mass and all are invited.

**Catholic School Principal:** Holy Family Catholic School, a PK3 to 8th in Decatur, IL. is currently accepting applications for the position of Principal for the 2015-16 school year. The successful candidate will be a spiritually motivated practicing Roman Catholic, with excellent communications skills, a strategic academic vision, knowledge of current educational methods and best practices, proven leadership and administrative skills, and the positive energy to manage a dynamic elementary & middle school environment. Must have a Master's Degree in school administration and have state certification in both teaching and administration. Applications must be received by March 6th. Send resume to : Search Committee, 2400 Franklin St., Decatur, IL 62521. or to [holyfamilychurch1@comcast.net](mailto:holyfamilychurch1@comcast.net).

**K of C Springfield Council 364** will be holding a membership drive after all the Masses the weekend of February 28-March 1. If you are a man interested in helping those in need, serving your parish, growing in your faith or having access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. Representatives of Council 364 will be available to answer questions and sign up those interested in joining.

**Woman's Club Paint Night** will be held tomorrow, Monday, February 23 at 6:30pm in the school cafeteria. Registered participants should bring an apron or smock to protect clothing. Women who did not pre-register are welcome to come, observe, and socialize. If additional spots are available, you may pay at the door to paint. All attendees are asked to Bring Your Own Beverage and an optional snack to share.

**St. Agnes Parish Auction** is March 14th. Tickets are still available for this fun event. Ticket are \$25 and includes open bar and buffet. Call the rectory for tickets 793-1330.



**ADORATION HOURS**

**ULTIMATE BULLYING:** Bullying occurs when the strong attack the weak. Abortion occurs when adults attack and kill a defenseless, pre-born child. Join 40 Days for Life in prayer during Lent, to end the killing of pre-born children in Springfield. More information is on the church bulletin boards. Contact Merle King at 528-6088 or Tom Karaianis at 415-3281, if you want more information about scheduled adoration, or if you have any questions.

1:00 A.M. SUNDAY  
 2:00 A.M. SUNDAY  
 3:00 A.M. SUNDAY  
 3:00 P.M. SUNDAY  
 1:00 A.M. MONDAY  
 12:00 A.M. TUESDAY  
 1:00 A.M. TUESDAY  
 2:00 P.M. TUESDAY  
 2:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY  
 6:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY

8:00 A.M. THURSDAY  
 1:00 A.M. FRIDAY  
 2:00 A.M. FRIDAY  
 10:00 A.M. FRIDAY  
 9:00 P.M. FRIDAY  
 2:00 A.M. SATURDAY  
 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY  
 9:00 A.M. SATURDAY  
 1:00 P.M. SATURDAY

**Are you a visitor to Blessed Sacrament?** If you're visiting us today we're glad you're here. If you are considering Blessed Sacrament as your new spiritual home, or if you just want to know more about us, we have a packet of information we would like you to take home with you. Just ask any usher for a visitor's packet. You don't have to give us any information about yourself. Just ask an usher. No strings attached. Thank you for visiting Blessed Sacrament.

**Bishop's Questionnaire on the Family**— Bishop Paprocki has announced the launch of a questionnaire for use at the October 2015 Ordinary Synod of Bishops on the theme "The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and Contemporary World." All of the Catholic faithful are invited to respond to the questionnaire. The responses will help inform Pope Francis and the Synod Bishops about the challenges faced by today's families and enable them to discuss & develop appropriate pastoral solutions. **The questionnaire will be available online through Sunday, March 1. The link on the diocesan website is [www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org).** The response from the Springfield Diocese will be shared with the USSB and then incorporated into a document that will be forwarded to the Vatican for use at the Synod.

**St. Patrick Catholic School** 2nd Annual Blarney Bash fundraiser is Friday, March 13th from 5:30-8:30 at the LRS Hangar at Capitol Airport. Tickets are \$30/person, \$50/couple, \$200/table of 10. Purchase your tickets online at [www.st-patrick.org](http://www.st-patrick.org) or call 523-7670. Green attire encouraged.

**Diocesan Youth Conference**— will be held on March 6th & 7th at Lake Williamson Christian Conference Center in Carlinville. Details are posted on the diocesan website [www.do.org/youthministry/dyc](http://www.do.org/youthministry/dyc)

**56th SHG Mostaccioli Dinner**—will be held, Sunday, March 1 at SHG's West Campus from 11am-7pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and are available for purchase at the door. Carry outs available. In addition to dinner will feature a cash raffle with a top prize of \$10,000.

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE****WEEK OF FEB. 23-27****Monday-Wednesday****8:00AM & 8:20AM**

Mary C. Mizeur-Max Wotowa

**Thurs.- Friday**

Grace Lambert-Mary K. Yockey

**Saturday, Feb. 28, 4:30PM**

Lector: Joseph Stannard

**Servers:** Grace McDonald,  
 Maddie O'Connor, Caleb  
 Rutherford

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Noreen  
 Luhr, Marty Mosley, Susan  
 Gallagher, Kathryn Gietl, Rita  
 Keys, James Keys, Jim  
 Morpheu, Rick Campbell

**Sunday, March 1, 7:00am**

Lector: Carolyn Graham

**Servers:** Francie Vespa

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Ginny  
 Schofield, Pat Sheehan, Ann  
 Walker, Michele Hinds-  
 Greenwood, Kathy Grubb

**Sunday, March 1, 8:30 AM**

Lector: Patrick Fitzgerald

**Servers:** Augie Antonacci, Taylor  
 Loftus, Rachael Loftus

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Anne  
 Capestrain, Colleen  
 VonDeBur, Tom Karaianis,  
 Mark Ushman, Kathy Harth,  
 Mary K. Sommer, Ken  
 Sommer, Sr. Francesca  
 Ezeokonkwo

**Sunday, March 1, 10:30 AM**

Lector: Shawn Rotherham

**Servers:** Rick Rotherham,  
 Maddie O'Connor, Jackie  
 Romer

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rose  
 Amon, Lynn Frasco, Sally  
 Petrone, MaryAnn Gorney,  
 James Dodge, Don Graham,  
 Pat Graham, Joe Stannard, III

**Blessed Sacrament Prayer Line**

Call the Parish Office 528-7521 Please pray for the intention of : Steve, Hannah Clark, Ashley & Jackson Copple, Steve, Peter Schofield, Phyllis Hawn, Amy Gatewood family, Rose Mann, Donna, Kari Elliott, Monica Larch, Adam Dobucki, Austin Fields, Sue Hamilton, Pam Smith, Coleen Mays, Valerie Brown, Brighid Gallagher, Annamae, Larry Theise, Gwen Bramlet, Richard Judd, John M, Louie Rago, Gwinn, John, Claire, Mary, Liz, Anna Eleyidath, Josette, Danielle Loftus, Ruth Pohlman, Charles Klaphake, Annie, Bernadine, Barb, Tony, Kurt C, Rosemary Sugent Fox, Tom VonBerg, Ellen White, Barbara, Judy, Austin Shields, Brenda Price, Cindi, Dave, Sandy H, Jim C., Jason Baird, Dorothy Willenborg, Tyra Redpath, Miles Fifer, Maureen, Julie, Marian McDermott-Plain, Brian Meredith, Diane, Katie Bronken, Virginia Stannard, Nancy Hanlon, MaryAnn, Melissa, Layne & Thatcher Gregory, Laura Black, Don Egan, Ellen Rachkus, Scott Milner & shipmates

**Project Rachel** can help women and men heal from the pain of abortion. For assistance please call 698-4456

**Lenten Devotion**– Pray the Rosary before the 10:30am Mass, beginning at 10:05am.

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation 217-321-1155

**Building on Tradition**

Cost of Project	\$5,400,000.00
Total Received	<u>\$5,231,022.83</u>
Balance Remaining	\$ 168,977.17

**STEWARDSHIP**

*(Time / Talent /Treasure)*

**Parish Collection**

Target Amount	\$23,500.00
Sunday, February 8, 2015	\$21,145.75

**ACSA (Annual Catholic Services Appeal)**

Our Parish Assessment	\$105,827.00
Pledged to the Diocese (as of 1/6)	\$57,255.73
Amount Remaining	\$48,571.27

16% of our parishioners (221 families) have contributed