

Parish of the Blessed Sacrament

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 26, 2017



LENT



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Call the Parish Office to register

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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.

CELEBRATING THE DAYS

Monday, February 27

Confessions before Mass

8:00AM Charles Besjak
Roland & Winifred Thompson

Tuesday, February 28

Confessions before Mass

8:20AM Catherine Link

Wednesday, March 1-Ash Wednesday

Confessions before Mass

8:20AM Jim Coady
5:30PM In Thanksgiving

Thursday, March 2

Confessions before Mass

8:00AM Charles McGrath

Friday, March 3

Confessions before Mass

8:20AM Bob Evans
Truman Flatt
5:30pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 4

Confessions before Mass

8:00AM Poor Souls' Shrine (Latin)
3:00-4:00pm- Confessions
4:30PM Raymond Schmidt & Arlene Schmidt
Ryan

Sunday, March 5-First Sunday of Lent

7:00AM Jack Brown
8:30AM Intentions of our Parishioners
10:30AM Marcella Pipkin

Rosary beginning at 10:05 is prayed before 10:30 AM Mass Sundays.

Dear Parishioners,

Lent is the premiere season for spiritual renewal—a great opportunity for substantial growth in our faith.

Therefore, in order to glean as much as we can from this fruitful season, it's a good idea to get the "lay of the land" of Lent in order to see what the Church's liturgy teaches us and how it encourages us to make positive changes so that we grow in our love of God and one another.

One way to get an overview of Lent is to see how the weekday and Sunday Scripture readings for Mass progress over the next few weeks. These readings are selected for us by the Church in a well-designed manner—a manner that reflects the teachings of Christ himself.

Now, as we look at them carefully, we see that they divide our Lenten journey into two related principal parts. Today, we'll look at the first part; next week, the second part.

The first part starts with Ash Wednesday and runs to the end of the third full week of Lent. During these three and a half weeks, the Gospel readings are taken from Matthew, Mark, and Luke and are paired with thematically-related Old Testament readings.

The topics of these daily Scripture readings center on the themes of renewing one's life; on fasting, prayer, and almsgiving; on repentance and conversion, forgiving one another, living holy lives, on the primacy of love over-and-above ritual, and on loving our enemies.

In fact, the purpose of the first part of Lent is to help re-sensitize us to the ethical and moral standards of what it means to truly follow Jesus.

By repeatedly being made aware of these high moral standards—these expectations for Christian living—, we come to see that they are, more often than not, quite beyond us. We come to humbly understand, in a deeper way, how inadequate we are to achieve them on our own.

This is exactly what the Scripture readings in this first part of Lent are intended to do. In essence, they help us to gently, but honestly, confront any illusions we may have about ourselves.

A good example of helping us face any illusions about ourselves occurs right at the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. When we receive the ashes, we hear the words, "Remember, you are dust, and to dust you will return"—which is the stark reality of our human condition as a result of sin, but it's something we often don't pause to ponder while we're living our busy lives.

And so, the initial part of our Lenten journey is not meant to affirm us in our sense of living virtuous lives. Rather, it's meant to bring home the message of our need for salvation, to soften our hearts for repentance and a desire for conversion, and to re-sensitize us to the fact that we need divine help. We desperately need God's mercy... which brings us to the second part of Lent—to the message of great hope—the hope we have in Jesus and his merciful love. More on that in next week's bulletin.

Fr. Scott

OUR PARISH FAMILY

SCHOOL NEWS

Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 25 & 26-Science & History Fair Open House after all Masses.

School Registration –Monday, February 27-8:30am
Preschool/PreK registration for new families begins—must register in person!

Tuesday, February 28, 8:30am-Kindergarten registration for new families begins—must register in person.

All current families who have Preschool, PreK, and Kindergarten students for next year have been given letters of intent indicating their preferences for these grades which have already been returned to the school office.

Ash Wednesday, March 1-8:20 All School Mass. Registration packets for current families go home.

Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday, March 1. Masses will be at 8:20am & 5:30pm. Ashes will be distributed at both Masses.

Stations of the Cross: 5:30pm on Fridays of Lent.

Lenten Little Black Books-are available in the back of Church. These books contain short meditations for each day of Lent.

Fr. Jeff update: Fr. Jeff leaves Kakuma on March 8 to begin his journey back to us. He will stay in Nairobi for a few days for a time of retreat, and arrive back in Springfield late on March 15. Keep Fr. Jeff in your prayers. He'll be back with us soon!

St. John Paul II and His Five Loves: Fr. Scott is offering a six-week discussion series of the book that was given out at Christmas, "St. John Paul the Great: His Five Loves." The last gathering is this Tuesday, February 28, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Rectory basement. We'll discuss the last chapter, "The Cross."

Second Collection-This weekend, February 25-26, to aid a project in the refugee camp that Fr. Jeff has been ministering in these past 6 months. This gift will be in gratitude for Fr. Jeff's service to the refugee camp. Please join in welcoming Fr. Jeff home by your generosity to this project.

Save the dates: Our Fish Fries this year are on the following dates: March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31, and April 7.

It's Girl Scout Cookie Time!! The Girl Scout troops of Blessed Sacrament School are selling cookies after all the Masses this weekend February 25-26. Cookies are \$4 and \$5 a box. Please support our Girl Scouts!!

Parish Art Showcase: Mark you calendars for Friday, March 3 from 5:30-7:30pm for the 2nd Annual Blessed Sacrament Art Showcase. The exhibit, which kicks off the Annual CultureFest for BSS students, will feature works by parishioners and BSS alumni. New exhibitors this year include James (Mac) Graham and Grace Gietl. Admission is free for this wine & cheese reception, but donations are accepted to benefit the BSS Annual Fund. Please join the fun. See you there!!

March Corporal Work of Mercy is Feed the Hungry. In honor of St. Patrick's Day (March 17) we'll be collecting boxes of instant potatoes for Catholic Charities to distribute. Look for a collection box in the main vestibule.

Lenten Regulations and Spiritual Renewal: Spiritual renewal during Lent traditionally involves the practices of prayer, fasting, and penance.

By prayer, we deepen our love for God and make our relationship with Christ personal. There are many ways to pray. Formal prayers, meditations on Scripture, Stations of the Cross, and the Rosary are some of these ways.

Fasting also helps us deepen our relationship with Christ. Sometimes when our stomachs (like our lives) are full, we tend to forget to take time for God. Fasting is a way to remember how dependent we really are on God. The Church requires every member over the age of 18 and not yet 60 (who is in good health) to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days of fasting and abstinence, one full meatless meal is allowed and two smaller meatless meals (which, combined, are still less than one full meal) may be taken to maintain strength, according to each person's needs. Only liquids, including milk and fruit juice, may be taken between meals.

The third important element of Lenten preparation is penance. It flows from recognizing our personal sins. We know Jesus died for us, but often we get to Holy Week and are unaware of how our sins have added to the necessity of his Passion. That is the role of penance. Every Catholic over the age of 14 is required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. Other meaningful acts of charity and denial are also encouraged. Receiving the Sacrament of Penance is a prime way of using this season wisely.

The Easter Triduum is the most solemn celebration of our Faith. The time and effort we take during Lent to prepare for it will deepen our faith and renew us spiritually. Because it's such a core part of our spiritual lives, to go the other way and completely disregard the Church's Lenten regulations on fasting and abstinence is considered a serious sin.

Our sincere hope is that everyone may use this time wisely and have a faith-renewing, fruitful, holy Lent.

ADORATION HOURS

Featured Vacancy: 11:00am WEDNESDAY! - This month we observe another anniversary of the Roe v Wade court decision legalizing abortion in our nation. Our 8th Graders attended the 2017 March for Life in Washington D.C. Please pray that this is a life-long memorable experience for them. Please 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.

12:00 A.M. SUNDAY	4:00 A.M. TUESDAY
1:00 A.M. SUNDAY	11:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY
2:00 A.M. SUNDAY	8:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY
2:00 P.M. SUNDAY	2:00 A.M. FRIDAY
3:00 P.M. SUNDAY	3:00 A.M. FRIDAY
1:00 A.M. MONDAY	10:00 A.M. FRIDAY
2:00 A.M. MONDAY	2:00 P.M. FRIDAY
3:00 A.M. MONDAY	3:00 P.M. FRIDAY
6:00 A.M. MONDAY	8:00 P.M. FRIDAY
1:00 A.M. TUESDAY	2:00 A.M. SATURDAY
2:00 A.M. TUESDAY	6:00 P.M. SATURDAY
3:00 A.M. TUESDAY	8:00 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.

St. Patrick Catholic School's 4th Annual Blarney Bash is being held Friday, March 10th from 5:30-8:30pm in the LRS Hangar of Abraham Lincoln Airport. Tickets are \$30 per person, \$55 per couple or \$350 for a table of ten. Food and drinks included in the ticket price. Lots of silent and live auction items to bid on. Come join in the fun while supporting a great cause.

40 Days for Life-March 1st –April 9th, you are invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life-40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You are also invited to stand and peacefully pray during the 40-day vigil on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood, 601 N. Bruns Lane.

A Big Thank You to everyone who donated shoes for the children at St Theresa's Youth Development Center in Ghana. Nearly 800 pairs of shoes were donated! Once again, you have shown the generous spirit that is Blessed Sacrament Parish. May God bless you.

Thanks!! The parents, grandparents and parishioners of Blessed Sacrament are awesome!! Through your generosity, the read-a-thon for the Ghana Mission partnership raised \$4000. This will enable the St. Theresa Youth Center to setup WiFi, and we will be able to have live communication. Thank you so very much!!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE**WEEK OF FEB. 27- MAR.3****MONDAY-WEDNESDAY****8:00AM—8:20AM**

Nathaniel Bell-Brady Maloy

Thursday- Friday**8:00AM—8:20AM**

Arianna Antonacci-Agnes Cross

Saturday, March 4, 4:30PM**Lector:** Ed Hart**Servers:** Spencer Wood, Reid Taylor, Nathan Shafer**Eucharistic Ministers:** Ed Schofield, Rosemary DiNello, Lisa Snarowski, Dave Snarowski, Rick Campbell, Jinu John, Janine Feller, Susan Gallagher**Sunday, March 5, 7:00am****Lector:** George Rudis, Jr.**Servers:** Jayanne Roate**Eucharistic Ministers:** Kathy Grubb, Michele Hinds-Greenwood, Dave Langston, Jim Morphew, Pat Sheehan**Sunday, March 5, 8:30 AM****Lector:** Patrick Fitzgerald**Servers:** Blake White, Noah Ward, Miles Roland**Eucharistic Ministers:** Mary K. Sommer, Ken Sommer, Scott Reimers, Mike Delvo, Mark Ushman, Sherri Dhabalt, Bradley Frost, Colleen VonDeBur**Sunday, March 5, 10:30 AM****Lector:** Donna Moore**Servers:** Jeffrey Wernsing, Luke Portz, Jonah Parkes**Eucharistic Ministers:** Pat Graham, Don Graham, Rose Amon, Andrea Judd, MaryAnn Gorney, Sally Petrone, Lynn Frasco, Patti Naylor

Blessed Sacrament Prayer Line

Call the Parish Office 528-7521 Please pray for the intention of : Robert Farris, Al Rechner, Amber, Dorothy Tracy, Vernon Spiedger, Joel, Terri Burwitz, Rita, Ron, Owen Doak, Kayte, Denise S, Christopher Morgan, Della Bell, Michael VonBehren, Dave, Betty, Ed Pauley, Steve, Hannah Clark, Peter Schofield, Ginny Schofield, Amy Gatewood family, Ann Witsman, Monica Larch, Adam Dobucki, Austin Fields, Sue Hamilton, Coleen Mays, Larry Theise, Gwen Bramlet, Richard Judd, John M, Louie Rago, Gwinn, John, Claire, Mary, Liz, Anna Eleyidath, Jo-sette, Danielle Loftus, Kitty, Susan, Barbara Schuh, Ruth Pohlman, Charles Klaphake, Annie, Barb, Tony, Kurt C, Eric, Rosemary Sugent Fox, Lois Burton, Tom VonBerg, Dan O'Connor , Donna Fitts, Ellen White, Barbara, Rose, Archer Senft, Suzie Culters, Tom J., Judy, Doug, Tammie, Beth, Camden Spinner, Cindi, Dave, Sandy H, Jim C., Jason Baird, Jen, Joyln Jensen, Dorothy Willenborg, Barry McCollom Tyra Redpath, Destiny Renfro James, Clarita DeLargy, Jim Davidson, Karen, Miles Fifer, Maureen, Julie, Marian McDermott-Plain, Bill, Mary Coffey, Craig DeLargy, Brian Meredith, Diane Galli, Destiny Jane, Katie Bronken, Virginia Stannard, Cheryl, Fonda, Angie Hamilton, Kristen, Tia, Clem McDermott, Jeff K., Laura M, MaryAnn, Bob Wise, Jean & Bernie Quigley, Elizabeth Handrich, Melissa, Mary Jane Harshbarger, Layne & Thatcher Gregory, Laura Black, Don Egan, Ellen Rachkus, Scott Milner & shipmates

Building on Tradition

Cost of Project	\$5,400,000.00
Total Received	<u>\$5,345,005.24</u>
Balance Remaining	\$ 54,994.76

STEWARDSHIP

*(Time / Talent /Treasure)
In the Spirit of Giving*

Parish Collection

Target Amount	\$23,500.00
Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017	\$20,329.00

ACSA (Annual Catholic Services Appeal)

Our Parish Assessment	\$122,497.00
Pledged to the Diocese 228 families (16%)	\$ 55,618.87
Amount Parish will need to pay in June	\$ 66,878.13

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

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation
321-1155