



Parish of the Blessed Sacrament
Sunday, February 9, 2014
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



PASTOR:

Father Jeff Grant
Deacon David Erdmann
Deacon Tom Burns

PARISH OFFICE:

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SCHOOL OFFICE:

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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

Plant Superintendent:

Mike Hickey
MHickey@bsps.org

Development Director:

Kim Hoffmann

Bulletin Submissions:

Margaret Antenan
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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 10

- ✘ Confessions before Mass
- ✘ **8:00 AM** Gene Costa

Tuesday, February 11

- ✘ Confessions before Mass
- ✘ **8:20 AM** Georgiann Kutilek

Wednesday, February 12

- ✘ Confessions before Mass
- ✘ **8:00 AM** Rita Bramlet
- 5:30PM** Prayer Service

Thursday, February 13

- Confessions before Mass
- ✘ **8:00 AM** Zeke Dennison
Greg Burton

Friday, February 14

- Confessions before Mass
- ✘ **8:20 AM** Harry Sola

Saturday, February 15

- ✘ Confessions before Mass
- ✘ **8:00 AM** Penny Swigert
(Latin Mass)
- Confessions 3:00--4:00pm**
- ✘ **4:30 PM** Al Cusick

Sunday, Feb. 16-- 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- ✘ **7:00 AM** Vincent Thull
- ✘ **8:30 AM** Mary Bernardi
- ✘ **10:30 AM** Intentions of our Parishioners

Blessed Sacrament Prayer Line

Call the Parish Office 528-7521

Please pray for the intention of : Anna Eleyidath, Josette, Danielle Loftus, Ruth Pohlman, Charles Klaphake, Annie, Bernadine, Barb, Tony, Kurt C, Rosemary Sugent Fox, Tom VonBerg, Jim Hickey, Ellen White, Barbara, Jan Jones, Sharon Olsson, Judy, Austin Shields, Brenda Price, Cindi, Dave, Sandy, Charles McGrath, Jean Quigley, Sandy H, Jim C., Jason Baird, Dorothy Willenborg, Tyra Redpath, Miles Fifer, Maureen, Julie

Dear Parishioners,

A Sobering Problem. The number of Christians killed for their faith rose significantly in 2013. Open Doors, a Dutch non-denominational organization, documented 2,123 "martyrs" compared to 1,201 in 2012. The group reports this is a "very minimal account" based on what they could confirm. Others estimate the number may be as high as 8,000 killed for the faith last year. Syria accounted for over half of these deaths alone (1,213). Where only 10% of the population is Christian, many were seen and targeted as supporters of President Bashar Assad. After Syria, the highest number of killings took place in Nigeria (612), then Pakistan (88) and Egypt (83). Even with these high death totals, none of these were considered the most dangerous country for Christians. That title belongs to North Korea where 50 to 70 thousand people live in political prison camps. In that country rulers are worshipped as 'god-like' and there is no toleration of other religions. The other top five nations for violence against Christians include Syria, Somalia, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Radical Muslims are the worst persecutor of the world-wide church. In 36 countries they were seen as the main source of persecution. When we look at our own denomination, last year 19 priests, one religious sister, and 2 church laypersons were murdered. Most of these (15) took place in Latin America. Three were killed in Africa, three in Asia, and one in Italy.

Christians are the largest and most diffuse population in the world. They are estimated to number 2.2 billion or 32% of the total population. It is also estimated that 100 million Christians faced some form of persecution last year. Where killing is the most extreme, Christians face attacks on churches and schools, discrimination, threats, sexual assaults, and expulsions from the country. In 111 nations around the globe, they suffered restrictions and hostilities. (Moslems also face harassment and limitations in 90 countries.)

I could go on, but I think you get the picture. Persecution for living one's faith is still a real and even growing problem today. So how should we address it? First we must recognize there is a problem. Knee-jerk reactions are not helpful, but we need to educate ourselves on the facts and history of religious discrimination. Secondly, we need to make the problem known and we need to make clear that the teaching of the church is that religious discrimination is not right or acceptable. We must be careful not to use the methods of our persecutors as means of retaliation. Two wrongs do not make a right. Finally, we must pray that God will give the church strength and clear minds to deal with the issues. In a recent address, Pope Francis spoke of the great number of Christians facing martyrdom today—even greater than in the early church. He reminded the faithful that violence is overcome by love (not by more violence) and death is overcome by life. "Jesus turns the death of those who love him into the dawn of new life." If we truly believe God is in charge of our world, pray we don't let our human nature get in the way.

Fr. Jeff

OUR PARISH FAMILY

**Congratulations to our Newly Baptized:
Leah Rose Myers, daughter of Brandon & Jessica
Marsaglia**

School Notes:

Tuesday, Feb. 11— 8:20am—All School Mass
Mid-quarter reports

Wednesday, Feb. 12 1:30pm—Early dismissal for
Faculty Meeting

Friday, Feb. 14-Happy Valentine's Day
Valentine Day parties in the afternoon

Saturday & Sunday Feb. 15 & 16 –Science & History
Fair in the Cafeteria-open after all the weekend
Masses

Monday, Feb. 17-No School-President's Day

Tuesday, Feb. 18-6:30-8:00pm— Open House for
prospective families

School Registration: Once again, the Catholic grade schools in Springfield are holding a common registration period for the 2014-2015 school year for preschool through eighth grade students. Registration period begins on Monday, March 3, with registration packets being sent home with current students. We will have call-in registration for Pre K and Kindergarten once again. Different this year will be that parents of our current preschool students will have the opportunity to indicate their preferences for kindergarten or preschool the week before registration begins. Closer to the date, more specific details will be published in the parish bulletin.

Mardi Gras Party to benefit the Annual Fund will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2014 from 7-10pm. Music will be provided by the local band, Black Magic Johnson, and Cajun food, along with assorted beverages will be served. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for this event please call Kim Hoffmann at 522-7534, ext. 206.

Matthew: The King and His Kingdom Bible Study.

This in-depth study of Matthew's Gospel shows how Jesus builds on the foundation laid in the Old Testament to inaugurate the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Countless references tie the reader back into the story and show Jesus to be the fulfillment of all that the Hebrew Scriptures points. The Spring session of this study begins on Tuesday, March 4th at 6PM in the Rectory Basement. To register or for more information please contact Bob or Connie Vincent at 523-4335..

Save the date! A meeting on the **Ghana Mission** will be held on **Wednesday, February 19th** at **6:30pm** in the **Rectory Basement**. All who are interested in our mission project are invited to attend.

Save the date! Friday, March 21, 7:30pm here at Blessed Sacrament Church. Come celebrate Bach's Birthday with—**Go for Baroque** music of Pergolesi, Bach & Marcello. Diane Dietz, soprano, Jody Kienzler, mezzo-Soprano, Dale Thomas Rogers, Organ, Krista Steller, Oboe. There will be a free will offering. A portion of the proceeds will be given to St. Martin de Porres Center.

St. Aloysius PTO 30th Annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held, Sunday, February 16th from 12:00-6:30pm in the church basement. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Adults \$9, Seniors \$8, and Children \$6. Children 2 and under eat free (Dine-in only). Carry-outs will be available through the school parking lot entrance. Drive-thru will be available on 21st Street entering from Griffiths Ave.

Tune in to Catholic Radio on AM 1410 & 88.9 FM WIHM. Programming includes daily Mass, the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, live call-in shows, local programming and much more. For a program schedule and a free CD, please call 314-752-7000 or toll free 877-305-1234

Gospel according to Matthew presented by Rev. Richard Chiola & Madonna Jones, five Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 16, & April 2, 9, St. Francis Cabrini Parish Center. 10 Hours Catechist Formation Credit. \$15 pre-registration, \$20 onsite. To register contact Chris Malmevik, 698-8500.

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) is offering four (4) \$500 scholarships to Catholic Female High School Seniors. Application requirements are posted in the vestibule. Applications must be postmarked by March 20, 2014.

Blessed Sacrament Lending Library with video titles from Jeff Cavins, Fr. Robert Barron, Christopher West and others, is ready for your use. To see a complete list of titles available please go to the Adult Faith Formation page of the Blessed Sacrament web site at <http://bsps.org/ministries/adult-faith-formation>. To donate a video contact Bob Vincent 523-4335. To check out a video call the Parish Office 528-7521.

REMEMBER TO BUY SCHOOL SCRIPT!!

ADORATION HOURS

Time now for a PACT with Jesus: **P**etition for the blessings you want. **A**doration for Who He Is. **C**ontrition for your sins, and **T**hanksgiving for the blessings you are experiencing now. The Adoration Chapel is a great place for this prayer. A scheduled time is better! Contact Merle King at 528-6088 or Tom Karaianis at 415-3281, if you want some 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
1:00 A.M. TUESDAY
2:00 A.M. TUESDAY

3:00 A.M. TUESDAY
1:00 A.M. FRIDAY
2:00 A.M. FRIDAY
4:00 P.M. FRIDAY
2:00 A.M. SATURDAY

Diocesan Youth Conference for high school teens and their youth ministers is February 28-March 1 at Lake Williamson Christian Conference Center in Carlinville. The week end includes a keynote session with Sal Solo, a former pop star, now Catholic speaker and musician. Breakout sessions help teens learn how to seek God's kingdom in a variety of contexts. The weekend closes with Mass with Bishop Paprocki. Details are posted on the diocesan website at www.dio.org/youthministry/dyc.

K of C Breakfast: All-you-can-eat breakfast buffet will be held today, Sunday, February 9th from 8am-Noon at the K of C Springfield Council 364 on Meadowbrook. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12. The proceeds will benefit Illinois Law Enforcement's Torch Run for Special Olympics. For questions, call 787-2360.

Bishop Kevin Vann will be the keynote speaker at **WDCR 88.9FM Catholic Radio's** Annual Dinner. The Dinner will be held on February 18th, 5:30pm at the Decatur Conference Center, 191 US 36 West, Decatur, Illinois. Cost is \$50per person. To make reservations or for more information please call 217-464-1099.

St. Louise de Marillac will meet, Monday, February 17th, at 6:00pm, at St. Agnes Parish Hall

Calvary Spring Cleanup: Please remove any decorations that you would like to save by March 18th. ALL decorations will be removed during the period of March 19th-31st. The crew will begin collecting decorations early morning on March 19th and then, weather-permitting, clean remaining leaves, tree debris, etc., as well as mow these areas before decorations are replaced beginning April 1st. Spring/Summer decorations may be placed beginning April 1st. The clean-up notice signs on the gates will be removed as soon as the clean-up is complete. Please do not leave decorations prior to the signage being removed as it will only take more time for the crew to remove it to access the area. If you have any questions or concerns please call 523-3726.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE**WEEK OF FEBRUARY 10-14****Monday-Wednesday****8:00AM –8:20AM**

Emmy Doll-Maya Dye

Thurs.- Friday

Brandon & Christian Gatewood

Saturday, Feb. 15, 4:30PM**Lector:** Calvin Bell**Servers:** Kyle Ingram, Dominic LoGrasso, Jesse Nicoletta**Eucharistic Ministers:** Janine Feller, Larry Newell, Noreen Luhr, Marty Mosley, Susan Gallagher, Rose Amon, Rita Keys, James Keys**Sunday, Feb. 16, 7:00am****Lector:** Carolyn Graham**Servers:** Brady Malone, Ben Portz**Eucharistic Ministers:** Dave Langston, Riley Hinds, Pat Sheehan, Michele Hinds-Greenwood, Sr. Francesca Ezeokonkwo**Sunday, Feb. 16, 8:30 AM****Lector:** Patrick Fitzgerald**Servers:** Katie Eck, Ben Eck, AJ Lust**Eucharistic Ministers:** Bradley Frost, Mike Delvo, Sally Petrone, Colleen VonDeBur, Anne Capestrain, Kathy Harth, Patricia Clarida, Mark Ushmann**Sunday, Feb. 16, 10:30 AM****Lector:** Cynthia Lamar**Servers:** Frank Hollahan, Jim Hollahan, Noah Kren**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rick Campbell, Andrea Judd, Jim Morphey, Lila Dilbaitis, Barbara Erdmann, James Dodge, MaryAnn Gorney, Mary Tuttle

Butler Funeral Home is presenting An Open Door Session on Funerals, Cremation & Advance Planning on Thursday, February 27th, at MCL Cafeteria, from 8:30-10:30am. Join them for a complimentary breakfast buffet and a brief, open discussion. For more information or to make reservations please call 544-4646.

Mystery Dinner Theater : K of C Council #364 and St. Agnes Young at Heart Club are co-sponsoring a Mystery Dinner Theater on Saturday, February 15th at 6:00pm in St. Agnes Parish Hall. The theme is *The Demise of the Bandits*. The cost is \$24 which includes a full Italian dinner, dessert, coffee, tea, wine and soda. All profits go to support the ultrasound project at a local pregnancy help center. For more information or to make a reservation please call Sue Hartl by February 5th at 787-5849

Patricia Kornfield, Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Springfield 698-8500

Building on Tradition

Cost of Project	\$5,400,000.00
Total Received	<u>\$4,975,674.76</u>
Balance Remaining	\$ 424,325.24
Amount Received Last Week	\$ 10,501.83

STEWARDSHIP

(Time / Talent /Treasure)

Parish Collection

Target Amount	\$23,500.00
Sunday, January 26, 2014	\$21,292.28

ACSA (Annual Catholic Services Appeal)

2013 ACSA Assessment	\$122,624.00
Amount Pledged (as of 1/29/2014)	\$65,174.54
Amount Remaining	\$57,449.46
17% of our parishioners have contributed to date	