

Advent Christmas Fair 2019

Dear Friends,

Each year I write a letter inviting you to participate in the annual celebration of our Advent Christmas Fair with a vision to experience fun and faith for the entire parish family. This year I have been pondering the life of Saint Francis, the secondary patron of our Diocese and his friend Saint Clare. I share with you this story in their lives. It was Christmas Eve. Saint Clare was sick, bed ridden and not able to participate in the Midnight Mass with her community of Poor Clares. As she pondered and prayed her desires to be with Our Lord on this Holy Night were answered by a vision of the Holy Mass being offered by Saint Francis and his brothers in their chapel. What joy she experienced! What a gift from God her Savior.

What does this have to do with our annual Advent Christmas Fair? Community and finding God's presence in Community their Franciscan families were central in the life of Saint Francis and Saint Clare. And it is important to our Parish family. It is always a joy to see parishioners of all ages working together! To be with our loved ones, a meal, a walk, going to Mass together, doing the dishes, cleaning the garage, these are ordinary moments but also "sacred time", family time. Please consider sharing some of your time with your parish family. Not able to be physically present? Your prayers and support are needed. Your monetary donation is welcome to help defray some initial expenses.

On the back side of this letter is a list of the "chairs" who so joyfully give their time and talents to make this a celebration for all. Below is a form to fill out as to how you will be able to participate before, during and/or after the Fair. For those new and wondering when and where to volunteer, we have prepared an informational booklet. Each of our "chairs" have indicated their needs before, during and after the Fair. You will find this booklet in the Parish and School offices, posted on our Parish web site and displayed in the narthex of the Church. Volunteer forms will be included in the bulletin and posted on parish and school web sites.

Saturday, we will start the day with 7am Mass asking God's blessings and to nourish our souls for the needs of the day. The fair begins at 8am. God Bless you and we look forward to your participation in this year's Advent Christmas Fair,

Gratefully, Barb Swieciak and "Chairs of Advent Christmas Fair"

And FYI, because of her Christmas Eve vision, Saint Clare is the patron saint of television!



Please return this form with your donation in the attached envelope

Yes, I will help this year's Advent Christmas Fair with

\_\_\_\_\_my prayers \_\_\_\_\_my time \_\_\_\_\_my check

Before \_\_\_\_\_Wednesday \_\_\_\_\_Thursday\_\_\_\_\_Friday\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday during\_\_\_\_\_ after\_\_\_\_\_

My Donation of \_\_\_\_\_ (Please make check payable to Blessed Sacrament Women's Club)

Please come to my home to pick up my donation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

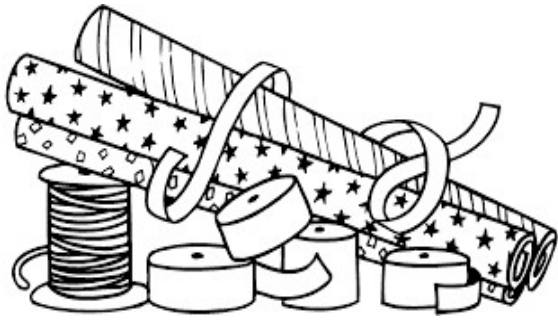


Blessed Sacrament Parish  
Advent Christmas Fair  
From Our Heart and Home to Yours  
November 16, 2019 from 8am—2pm

- \*Saint Nicholas Greeters ~ Barb Swieczak
- \*Cashiers ~ Deb Gilkes
- \*Personalized Ornaments ~ Julie Hancock
- \*Library ~ Donna Lee
- \*Raffle ~ Marie Allen & Stephanie Gauger
- \* Grandma's Pantry ~ Joan Gazeley & Christie Smith
- \*Catholic Family Room ~ Barb Clements
- \*Attic Treasures ~ Patti Sans Crainte & Becky Sans Crainte
- \*Giving Tree ~ Delina Leon & Kristin Leon
- \*Cache of Jewelry ~ Barb Mc Govern
- \*Luncheon ~ Rita Herlitzka & Paulette Drozdowicz
- \*Dining Room Hostess ~ Fran Ortmeier
- \*Parlor ~ Joan Mueller & Family
- \*Music Room ~ Barb Swieczak
- \*Saint Lucy Volunteers /Morning Cinnamon Rolls ~ Chris Lepack
- \*Secret Store ~ Maggie & Orlando Leon



Please return the attached envelope to  
Barb's Home 149 South 24th Street, La Crosse, WI 54601  
Blessed Sacrament Parish Office  
Barb's Mailbox in Blessed Sacrament School Office



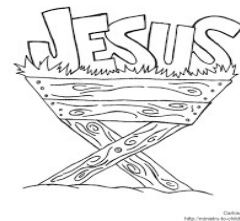
# Children's Secret Store

Located in the Parish Conference Room  
Volunteers are needed to help the young shoppers with  
their purchases and wrapping their purchases

Blessed Sacrament Parish November 16th 2019  
8:00 am - 2:00 pm

## Needs:

- New or gently used items
- Playing cards
- Pens
- Girls hair accessories (must be new)
- Stationery or note paper
- Perfume or lotion (unopened)
- Small games or puzzles (new)
- Children's Books
- Coloring books (new)
- Stuffed animals (new)
- Candles (new)
- Table linens
- Jewelry
- Rosaries
- Socks (new)
- Figurines
- Ornaments
- Christmas decorations
- Neckties (new)
- Small Christmas decorations (should not be too fragile)
- Picture frames
- Key rings
- Golf tees
- Gifts for dad (Small Tools, flash lights, car air-fresheners, etc)
- Consider "re-gifting"



WRAPPING PAPER, GIFT BAGS, BOWS, RIBBON GIFT TAGS

**Things we avoid:** glass / breakable items

Interested in helping? Contact Chairperson Maggie Leon or [maggiegomez\\_leon@yahoo.com](mailto:maggiegomez_leon@yahoo.com)

Or Elizabeth Skemp in the Parish Office (608)782-2953 [bsplacrosse.org](http://bsplacrosse.org)

**Grandma's Pantry** needs any and all of the treats from your kitchens! Cookies of all kinds, frosted or unfrosted sugar cookies, breads, bars, cakes, specialty items, canned goods, jams and jellies,  
Contact Joan Gazeley or Christie Smith

## St Nicholas

This year we invite the boys of any age to help greet our guests as St. Nicholas. Wearing your own costume, you will stand near the check-out tables located in the Losey Blvd side hallway.

Your responsibility will be to greet the guests with a smile, a shopping checkout form, and on their way out a St. Nicholas prayer card/ candy cane.

We would like you to take an hour turn of service between 8am and 2pm.

Needed are 2 boys per hour - one for each check out table.

Contact person is Barb Swieczak 784-6974 or scwjoy@gmail.com



Boy's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Saint Lucy Cinnamon Rolls



There is a tradition on December 13th the feast of Saint Lucy where the oldest girl in the family serves breakfast cinnamon rolls.

We invite the girls to sign up to serve the shoppers cinnamon rolls from 8:15-10:15 am. In remembrance of Saint Lucy's life of purity and martyrdom they are to wear a white dress or skirt and blouse with a red ribbon belt. These would be provided if needed.

Half hour to hour serving times. Contact person is Chris Lepek 787-5545

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

## Music Corner Advent Christmas Fair Fun!

During the day at the fair we invite both individuals and groups/families to share vocal and instrumental musical talents with our visitors/shoppers. The Music Corner will be in the Parish Center near the grand piano/fireplace. If interested in participating fill in this part of the form and return to my Blessed Sacrament School mailbox in Office, Parish Office or Barb's house 149 S 24<sup>th</sup> Street mail slot in front door.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Time 8-8:20 \_\_\_\_\_ 8:40-9:00 \_\_\_\_\_ 9:20-9:40 \_\_\_\_\_ 10-10:20 \_\_\_\_\_ 10:40-11 \_\_\_\_\_ 11:20-11:40 \_\_\_\_\_

12 noon - 12:20 \_\_\_\_\_ 12:40-1pm \_\_\_\_\_ 1:20-1:40 \_\_\_\_\_

Singing Individual \_\_\_\_\_ Group \_\_\_\_\_ Musical instrument(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Questions ... call Barb Swieczak 784-6974 email scwjoy@gmail.com

**Set Up** Wednesday November 13<sup>th</sup> after school & after evening Religious ed. Thursday anytime November 14<sup>th</sup> Friday November 15<sup>th</sup> any time

**Day of the Fair** Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup> Cashier/ checker, St Nicholas greeter, Secret Store Helper, Saint Lucy serving cinnamon rolls & beverage, Personalized Ornaments, Library, Raffle helper, Catholic Family Room, Parlor, Jewelry, Attic Treasurers, Kitchen helper, Lunch/Dining room Hostess, Dishes & clean-up, Garage helper

**Clean up** Return items to Parish garage, shelves, tables, boxes, etc. Vacuum carpet, re-set Center/ tables & chairs, Conference Room, Take out trash,

For more information contact Barb Swieczak 784-6974, scwjoy@gmail.com

Remember ...many hands light work! See you soon!