



**Blessed Sacrament Parish**  
Office: 782.2953 | Fax: 785.1064

Email: [office@bsplacrosse.org](mailto:office@bsplacrosse.org)

Web: [bsplacrosse.org](http://bsplacrosse.org)

Address: 130 Losey Blvd.,  
La Crosse, WI 54601

**Blessed Sacrament School**  
Principal Kay Berra  
Office: 782.5564 | Fax: 782.7765

**Aquinas Catholic Schools**  
Office: 784.8585

## Third Sunday of Advent December 15, 2019

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 4:30 pm  
Sunday Morning 8:00 & 10:00 am  
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 7:30 am  
Wed 9:00 am

### CONFESSION

Saturday 3:30-4:00 pm  
Other times by appointment

### EVENING PRAYER

Daily 5:15 pm in Adoration Chapel

### BENEDICTION

First Friday 8:00 am

Call the Parish Office to make arrangements:

- To join the parish
- For a wedding (6 months in advance)
- For Baptism class information
- For Anointing of the Sick: Those who are seriously sick or have been ill for a long period of time should receive the Sacrament of the Sick and Holy Communion.
- If you are home-bound because of illness and would like to be visited, please call.

### MINISTRY LEADERS

Masters of Ceremonies:

*Mike Vanderploeg*  
*William Arnold*  
*Gabe Trussoni*

Weekend Servers

(Middle and High Schoolers):  
*Holly Gorman*

Readers: *Mary Jo Reinders*

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharistic: *Carolyn Steingraeber*

Petition Readers: *Barb Clements*

Ushers: *Tom Kratt*

Offering Families: *Call the office to volunteer*

Rosary Leader Schedule:  
*Kathy Nicks*

Weekday Servers (Grade Schoolers):  
*Stephanie Gauger*

Weekday Readers: *Caryl Doberstein*

Weekday Eucharistic Ministers:  
*Carolyn Steingraeber*

### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Office Ass't Dir: *Elizabeth Skemp*

Finances: *Steve McGovern,*  
*Eenie Francksen*

Building Maintenance:  
*Carl Francksen*

Scrip Coordinators: 782.2953 xt6  
*Paul Poehling, Pat Hammes*

Website: *Jennifer Kulzer*

Music Director: 782.2953 xt3  
*Pauline Connell*

Religious Education: *Pauline Connell*

RCIA & Confirmation Preparation:  
*Jennifer Kulzer*

First Communion & Reconciliation  
Preparation: *Pauline Connell*

Funeral Lunch Coordinator:  
*Bernice Lansing*

Bulletin Editor: *Pauline Connell*

Sacristan: *Jean Kachel*

Women's Club: *Helen Roop*

Men's Club: *Ken Hanson*

Widow & Widowers Group:  
*Barb Schmitz, Loretta Clarkin*

December 15, 2019

Dec 16 - 22, 2019

CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT

\*Saturdays, 3:30-4:00

\*Sundays, 7:00-7:45 am

\*Wednesday, December 18, here at BSP

6:00 for Religious Ed students, grades 3-5

6:20-7:00 for parents & parishioners

7:00-8:00 for Religious Ed students, grades 9 & 10

\*Monday, December 23, all day at Cathedral

Pray for our Diocese's seminarians

- Sun Phillip Grygleski
Mon David Nowicki
Tues John Duranso
Wed Brian Ward
Thurs Joseph Culligan
Fri Joseph Glatczak
Sat Daniel Buchal
Dec 22 David Dachel
Dec 23 Isaac Wolfe
Dec 24 John Regnier

From the Office of Catechesis & Evangelization, Dec 10, 2019

Families are encouraged to set up the Christmas crib at home together so that children learn the facts of the mystery of God's love that was revealed in the poverty and simplicity of the Bethlehem Grotto. The Nativity Scene can help us understand the true meaning of Christmas because it expresses the humility and merciful goodness of Jesus Christ, who, though He was rich, He made Himself poor for us (2 Cor 8:9). Christmas brings joy, peace, and hope to those who, like the shepherds in Bethlehem, accept the angel's words: "Be not afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:10-12). This is still the true meaning of Christmas. We need a Savior; the Son of God came to us as a tiny infant in the poorest of circumstances. Jesus is the Savior, because in Him and through Him is the grace necessary for us to overcome all of the dysfunction, sinfulness, shame and guilt which separates us from God and one another. In Him is the grace to overcome all obstacles to friendship with God. In Bethlehem "A Savior has been born for you who is Christ the Lord."

EUCCHARIST: Florence Koenig READER: Dr. Steve Pavela

- MON 12/16 Advent Weekday 7:30 +Mary & Harold Mashak Servers: Don Flynn, Mike Vanderploeg
TUES 12/17 Late Advent Weekday 7:30 +Larry Fundell Server: Andy Nordeen
WED 12/18 Late Advent Weekday 9:00 +Ron Drout
THU 12/19 Late Advent Weekday 7:30 +Douglas Imgrund Servers: Eva Willenbring, Kyara Cayasso
FRI 12/20 Late Advent Weekday 7:30 +Theodore Alber Servers: Ryann Klar, Isaac Capelli
SAT 12/21 Late Advent Weekday; Peter Canisius 1:30 Nuptials Mary Dolan & Patrick Campbell

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- SAT 12/21 4:30 +David Oswalt Celebrant: Fr. Peter Raj MC: Gabe Trussoni Servers: Thomas Gorman, Greg Kusmitch, Craig Readers: Gene Kolaczowski, Christine Nelson Petitions: Eucharist: Kay Nix, Loretta Clarkin, Susan Fukuda Ushers: Dave Nelson, Allan Fukuda, Dave Sweeney, Tony Flottmeyer Offering family: Tami & Chris Thilgis Rosary Leaders: Caryl & Scott Doberstein
SUN 12/22 8:00 +Marilyn Dunham Celebrant: Fr. Peter Raj MC: Mike Vanderploeg Servers: Skemps, Peyton Strittmater Readers: Paul Rinzel, Bob Kelemen Petitions: Eucharist: Erin Strittmater, Joe Clements, Jean Kachel, Mary Therese Rinzel, Bob Kachel Ushers: Mark Chamberlain, Tom Roob, David Schreier, Tad Strittmater Offering Family: Elrita & David Herlitzke Rosary Leaders: Barb & Joe Clements
10:00 For the People of the Parish Celebrant: Fr. Peter Raj MC: William Arnold Servers: Gaugers Readers: Ann Lankford, Theresa Kivi Petitions: Eucharist: Mike Hartley, Larry & Donna Lee, Barb Lee Ushers: Terry Felt, John Sullivan, Tom Franke, Tom Dolan Offering Family: Natalie & Joe Bennett and family Rosary Leaders: Kathy & Nick Nicks

## AROUND THE PARISH

### FORMED.ORG

This week on Formed.org we offer a presentation by Dr. Scott Hahn, "How We Can Prepare the Way of the King." In this talk he reveals what scholars know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning as you discover new insights about the people who were there witnessing a miracle. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to humankind – Jesus Christ. There are also great Advent resources for kids, including "Brother Francis: The Days of Advent." Use our code:K2768J.

### Join our parish family for a bit of Advent festivity

**After weekend Masses during this holy season, treats and beverages will be served in the Narthex. Take a few minutes to join with others in our Parish family for some conversation and sharing and perhaps getting to know someone new. Thanks to the gals and guys who are hosting this lovely parish community event.**

### \$CRIP NEWS

Phone orders: 782-2953, ext. 6.  
Email orders: SC RIP@  
bsplacrosse.org  
You can upload \$crip cards on your smartphone. Go to:  
MyScripWallet.com. You will need to email the \$crip office here at the parish [scrip@bsplacrosse.org](mailto:scrip@bsplacrosse.org) and request our enrollment code.

### POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you would like to remember a loved one or honor someone with a beautiful poinsettia in our church sanctuary at Christmas time, call the office to place your order.  
6 1/2 inch pots: \$14.50  
8 inch pots: \$26.99

### LIGHTHOUSE MEDIA SALE

Check out the great topics for meditation and conversation. On sale now: \$4/\$10. Happy Advent.

### GIFTS FROM THE PARISH TO HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

We need about 20 families to deliver gifts the weekend of Dec 21 & 22.

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. You may deliver one or several. The gifts will be in the hallway along Losey.

### REST IN PEACE

Stan Batker

### HAVE YOU MOVED?

Please contact the office if you have moved or changed your email address or phone number so our records can remain accurate.

The calendar for Mass intentions for 2020 is now open. Stop in at the Parish Office to schedule your Mass intentions.

## PARISH SUPPORT

### BUDGET

July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020

Needed Weekly \$13,000  
Received Dec 8 10,769

*The first 30 years of childhood  
are always the hardest.*

### SUPPORT FOR AGED RELIGIOUS

Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also ensures younger members can continue the good work of their elders. Please be generous. Envelopes may be returned to church office during the coming week, or you may drop them in the collection next weekend.

## COMING UP

Dec 16-22 Our week for Mobile Meals

Dec 18 Confessions at BSP, evening

Dec 19 Blessed Sacrament School  
Christmas Concert, 6 pm

Dec 23 Confessions all day at  
Cathedral

Christmas Masses: **Dec 24** Masses at  
4:00 pm in church and 4:15 in Parish  
Center; **Dec 25** Mass at 10:00 am

Jan 6-Feb 6 Fr. Raj in India

Jan 7 Widows & Widowers, Culvers on  
Mormon Coulee Rd, 11:30

Jan 11 Morning of Reflection for BSP  
Women's Club, 10 am

Jan 15 Rosary Support Group, 1 am

### ELECTRONIC GIVING AVAILABLE

It's so easy to set up automatic giving to our parish. You can designate an amount and the timing of the donation (every week, once a month, etc.) Check out the form on the Parish Website and consider this time-saving opportunity.

### MUSIC NOTES

**REJOICE CHOIR** will sing at 10:00 Mass on Dec 15. The choir invites anyone who loves Christmas music to join them in caroling at Benedictine Manor on Christmas Day at 11:45. Meet inside the front door at 2902 East Ave S

### LECTIO: EUCHARIST

We will again offer the wonderful DVD/discussion series focusing on the Eucharist beginning in late January. Those who enjoyed attending previously gave it very high marks. It's worth attending a second time! If you are new to this format of learning and praying, put this on your radar. The 10-week series digs deep into this central mystery of our Catholic Faith with rich insights and thought. Consider bringing a friend and watch for more details to come. Besides here at BSP, the program will be offered at other parishes at different times & days.

## AROUND TOWN

### CHRISTKINDLMARKT

#### Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Dec 14 & 15, 9:30am-3:30 pm

Live Nativity, hand-crafted items, German brunch buffet and treats

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### PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE Jan 22-26, 2020

Ages 13 and older

Consider joining young folks from around the country in traveling to Washington DC for this pro-life rally.

Chaperones are needed, as well.

All info at [diolc.org/youth/youth-opportunities](http://diolc.org/youth/youth-opportunities)

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### SATURDAY MORNING EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Following 8:00 am Mass until 9:15

Cathedral

The Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed.

All are invited to participate

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### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY RAFFLE

1953 Ford pickup (valued at \$30,000)

\$25 tickets (5/\$100) Includes coupons for freebies

Available at: Habitat ReStore, Pearl Street Brewery,

The Crow, Big Al's, Howies, The Briar Patch

Drawing: April 25, 2020

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### EVENING PRAYER FOR PEACE AND BLESSING OF TIME

Tues, Dec 31, 6 pm

Maria Angelorum Chapel, St. Rose Convent

Learn more about the Order at [www.fspa.org](http://www.fspa.org).

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### JANUARY SERENITY RETREAT

Jan 3-5, St. Anthony's, Marathon

Register: [www.sarcenter.com](http://www.sarcenter.com); 715-443-2236

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**SPIRITUS** is seeking Catholics, 21-29 years of age, to join their missionary team this August.

Teams travel together to bring faith-filled experiences to the youth in parishes throughout Wisconsin.

Training is provided, and a stipend is paid.

Visit [www.spiritusministries.org](http://www.spiritusministries.org), or contact Rachel at [recruiter@spiritusministries.org](mailto:recruiter@spiritusministries.org).

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### LABYRINTH WALK: PEACE IN THE NEW YEAR

Mon, Dec 30, 4-7 pm, Franciscan Spirituality Center

The labyrinth forms a single path to walk while meditating and praying. Instruction is provided.

Freewill offering

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Did you know that St. Francis of Assisi is credited with encouraging Christians to set up the Manger Scene? At a time when few people could read the Bible, Francis felt the

Manger could teach children the true meaning of Christmas, the significance of the Magi, shepherds, and angels, and all that we read about in scripture regarding the coming of Jesus into the world.

### CHRISTMAS MUSIC SCHOOL PROGRAMS

\*St. Patrick's, Dec 17, 6:30

\*Blessed Sacrament School, Dec 19, 6:00

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### COPING WITH GRIEF DURING THE HOLIDAYS SUPPORT CIRCLE

Sundays, 4-6 pm, Franciscan Spirituality Center  
Through Jan 5; \$25

[www.FSCenter.org](http://www.FSCenter.org); 791-5295

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### SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE

Have you lost someone to suicide? A support group meets monthly. Next gathering is Wed, Dec 18, 7-9 pm, Rose Room 141 at the Franciscan Spirituality Center. Informal discussion; open to all.

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### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION OPEN AT RONCALLI NEWMAN PARISH

Full time weekday position. Send resume to Fr. Billy Dodge at Roncalli Newman Parish, 1732 State St, La Crosse or email him: [billydodge@gmail.com](mailto:billydodge@gmail.com)

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### LOOKING FOR A WAY TO VOLUNTEER NEXT YEAR?

Consider helping at the Habitat ReStore. There are new items donated daily. You'll find some "treasures" and some very enjoyable folks to work with.

Sign up at [www.habitatlacrosse.org](http://www.habitatlacrosse.org).

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### MEDITATION FOR EMOTIONAL HEALTH

This group is open to anyone experiencing anxiety or depression; it offers meditation as a coping skill.

Gatherings are the second Thursday of the month.

Next session: Jan 9, 6:30-7:30 pm

Franciscan Spirituality Center

Free will offering

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### FRANCISCAN HOSPITALITY HOUSE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Fri, March 13, 2020, 12:15- 3pm

Prepare and serve a light, simple meal for about 70 The House is a safe, warm place where those who are homeless can gather. Call the parish office if you can help. This request comes from one of our seminarians who volunteers there.

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### BIRTHRIGHT OF LA CROSSE

When someone is faced with an unexpected pregnancy or difficulties, Birthright offers a helping hand through nonjudgmental counseling, referrals to helping agencies, and a boost. Your monetary donations help that to happen. Send your gift to Birthright of La Crosse, 115 5<sup>th</sup> Ave S, Suite 406, La Crosse 54601.

If you'd like to know more about Birthright you may talk to a volunteer by calling 782-0373.

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