



Blessed Sacrament Parish

Pastor
Rev. Peter Raj

Deacon
David Allen

ADVENT

Hope | Joy | Love

Blessed Sacrament Parish
Office: 782.2953 | Fax: 785.1064

Email: office@bsplacrosse.org

Web: bsplacrosse.org

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

Blessed Sacrament School

Principal Kate Moll
Office: 782.5564

Aquinas Catholic Schools

Office: 784.8585

December 19, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Advent

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 4:30 pm
Sunday Morning 8:00 & 10:00 am
Monday - Friday 7:15 am

CONFESSION

Saturday 3:30-4:15 pm
Other times by appointment

BENEDICTION

First Friday 7:45 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

MCs: *Gabe Trussoni*
Mike Vanderploeg
William Arnold

Weekend Servers
(Middle and High Schoolers):
Gabe Trussoni

Readers: *Mary Jo Reinders*

Extraordinary Ministers of the
Eucharistic: *Carolyn Steingraeber*

Petition Readers: *Barb Clements*

Ushers: *Tom Kratt*
tomkratt@charter.net

Offering Families: *Call the office to volunteer*

Rosary Leader Schedule: *Mary Schuttenhelm & Barb Clements*

Weekday Servers (Grade Schoolers):
Stephanie Gauger

Weekday Readers: *Caryl Doberstein*

Weekday Eucharistic Ministers:
Carolyn Steingraeber

PARISH CONTACTS

Office Ass't Dir: *Elizabeth Skemp*

Finances: *Steve McGovern,*
Luci Johnson

Building Maintenance:
Carl Francksen

Scrip Coordinator: 782.2953 ext. 1
Pat Hammes

Website: *Jennifer Kulzer*

Music Director: 782.2953 ext. 4
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

December 19, 2021

December 20 - 26, 2021

If you would like to serve as a reader, altar server, usher, or Eucharistic Minister at any of the Holy Day Masses, call 608-782-2953, ext. 4 to sign up.

ALL DAY CONFESSION AT THE CATHEDRAL
Monday, December 20
Several priests will be available throughout the day.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR FATHER RAJ'S MOTHER
Periyanayagi Ammal

Wednesday, December 29
5:30 pm

A parish dinner will follow.

Father's mother died on December 10 after a long illness. Father will be leaving for his home in India on January 3 .

Our parish extends its deepest sympathy to him, his father, and all his family at this difficult time.

Come to Mass to pray for them all.

And stay for dinner.

Some directives were received on Dec 13 from the Diocese regarding the safe attendance at Mass:

*Out of concern and safety for others, anyone with fever or flu-like symptoms should not attend Mass.

*Wearing face coverings and maintaining social distance is highly encouraged.

*Holy water will again be available at entrances. The fonts are to be cleaning frequently.

*Holy Communion will continue to be offered under the form of bread alone. Those ministering must wear face coverings. Receiving in the hand is recommended.

*The exchange of the sign of peace has returned. Many people prefer to offer it as a slight bow, a gentle wave, and of course a smile.

*Gatherings associated with Mass can be held following current safety precautions.

THURSDAY ROSARY, 6:30 PM

Do you have a special intention and need Our Lady's intercession? Join us as we pray the Rosary Thursday evenings at 6:30 in the main church. Please use the alley handicap door.

MASS INTENTIONS

This week's reader: Mark Steingraeber

MON 12/20 Late Advent Weekday
7:15 +Mike Knothe

TUES 12/21 Late Advent Weekday; Peter Canisius
7:15 +Bernard Schutten

WED 12/22 Late Advent Weekday
7:15 +Dorothy Heberlein

THUR 12/23 Late Advent Weekday; John of Kanty
7:15 +Dale Reinhart

FRI 12/24 Advent Weekday
NO 7:15 Mass

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 24

4:00 pm +Joe & +Mary Ellen Robertson & family
6:00 pm +Eleanor & +Ellis Crook

December 25

8:00 am +Terri Levi
10:00 am For the People of the Parish
4:30 pm +Connie Goodreau

Our parish is offering a Mass at 4:30 pm on Christmas Day. This Mass will include the readings for Christmas. However, it will fulfil the obligation for Sunday Mass, the Feast of the Holy Family, as long as one has attended a Mass earlier for Christmas. But attending this Mass will not fulfil the obligation to attend Mass on both Christmas and on Sunday.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

December 26

8:00 am Living & deceased members of William Mishler family

Readers: Ed Noelke, Bob Kelemen

10:00 am For the people of the parish
Readers: Ann Lankford, Theresa Kivi

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire You with all my heart.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already in my heart and unite myself to You completely.

Please do not let me ever be separated from You.
Amen.

AROUND THE PARISH

POINSETTIAS FOR THE ALTAR

Help adorn our sanctuary with the beautiful flowers of the season.

Purchase a poinsettia in honor of someone or in their memory by calling the parish office, 608-782-2953, ext. 2.

The plants come in 3 sizes in red or white blossoms.

Small \$12; medium \$18; large \$35

CHRISTMAS DECORATING HELPERS

December 22

Many hands are needed as we prepare the church for His birthday.

At 10:00 on Dec 22 the live Christmas trees from the Skemp farm will arrive and need to be placed, watered, lighted and admired. Come and help, one and all!

A big thanks to John and Joan Mueller for purchasing copies of Matthew Kelly's marvelous inspiring book LIFE IS MESSY. Copies will be available after Christmas Masses to take home. This one is a real keeper!

CONTACT UPDATE INFORMATION

If you have changed address, email, phone number, etc. recently, please call the Parish Office: 782-2953, x. 2, or email Office@bsplacrosse.org.

WARMING CENTER

3rd Street Catholic Charities site

Our parish is joining with Roncalli Newman to provide food & volunteers on Saturdays nights.

*10-12 volunteers; 2 for food

*guests will be quarantined if they exhibit COVID symptoms; other health safety precautions will be in place

*limited to 30 guests/night

To sign up contact:

anthonyweisse@gmail.com or check the parish website

HELPING TORNADO VICTIMS

Our hearts go out to those whose homes and lives have been devastated. To donate monetarily go to CCLSE.org/donate today/"tornado relief."

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

A new schedule for adoration times is in the entry to the Adoration Chapel.

Please indicate when you will come to pray using your name or initials. The chapel is open at all times; however a code is used to gain entry during the night hours. It can be obtained by calling the parish office.

The Adoration Chapel entrance is off the alley between King and Main streets. *He's waiting for you!*

ICE CREAM BUCKETS NEEDED

Drop off your buckets and lids at the parish kitchen or office. The funeral lunch crew thanks you in advance.

All flavors welcome.

Formed.org

Christmas is so much more than a humdrum story we've heard since childhood. In *The Story of the Nativity: The Truth of Christmas* join top scholars, speakers, and authors as they explain the gravity of Christ's miraculous birth.

This week on Formed.org.

PARISH SUPPORT

BUDGET

July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022

Needed Weekly	\$13,000
Received December 12	7,595

Common sense is not a gift.

It's a punishment because you have to deal with everyone who doesn't have it.

COMING UP

Dec 20 All day Confessions, Cathedral
Dec 22 Christmas decorating church
Dec 22 NO religious ed classes
Dec 24 & 31 Office closed
Jan 1 Wedding 1:30: Michaela Schwartz & Tim Holland
Jan 5 Parish gathering on Synodality
Jan 8 Women's Club Holy Hour, 10:00
Jan 10-16 Our week for Mobile Meals
Jan 19-23 Pilgrimage for Life
Mar 26 First Confession, 9:00
Apr 20 Confirmation, 6:30 pm
May 1 First Communion, 10:00

COMING UP

HOLY DAYS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: Dec 24

4:00 pm – this Mass will also be streamed into our Parish Center (There will NOT be a separate 4:15 Mass).

Attending Mass in the Center will include the reception of Holy Communion

6:00 pm – Mass in church

Christmas Day: Dec 25

8:00 and 10:00 am Masses
4:30 pm Mass

Attending the 4:30 Mass on Christmas Day does not satisfy the requirement for both Christmas and for Sunday.

However, if one has attended a Mass earlier for Christmas, the obligation for Sunday is met by attending Mass at 4:30, even though the readings are for Christmas.

Feast of the Holy Family: Dec 26

8:00 and 10:00 Mass as usual

**Jan 1 – NOT a holy day of obligation
Dec 31**

5:00 pm Mass

6:00 pm: cocoa party & fireworks

Jan 1

9:00 am Mass – for the Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Epiphany Masses

Jan 1: 4:30 pm

Jan 2: 8:00 & 10:00 as usual

BOB SKEMP

GROWER OF CHRISTMAS TREES
Once again, Bob, thanks from our parish for supplying the huge gorgeous trees for our church at Christmas time.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

Madeline Coyle

Bill & Charlene Noelke

AROUND TOWN

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL CAROLING

Tuesday, December 21, 12:30

The students and staff of our school will go caroling. All are welcome to join them in taking JOY into the community.

Route: west on King St; south on 16th St; east on Cass back to school.

PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE

January 19-23 in Washington DC

All information is on the website: diolc.org.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Recently the Holy Father asked all the parishes in the world to consider some important questions for the universal church. The Holy Father has called a synod; that is, a meeting of bishops gathered to discuss a topic of theological or pastoral significance, to prepare a document of advice or counsel to the pope.

Pope Francis wants us to join him in praying, listening, discerning, examining ourselves personally, and the Church communally, to see if we're truly on the path Jesus has set for His beloved Bride, His mystical Body, the Church.

In this process it is understood:

*The energy and direction driving the Church comes from the Holy Spirit, not ourselves.

*While in the world, we are not of the world, and thus our guiding principles come from the Gospel, revelation, and of settled Church teaching.

The Vatican announced in May that the Synod on Synodality would open with a diocesan phase lasting from October 2021 to April 2022. A second, continental phase will take place from September 2022 to March 2023. The third, universal phase will begin with the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, dedicated to the theme "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission," at the Vatican in October 2023.

There's more information on our website under the bulletin for December 12. Thank you for participating.

MEDITATION FOR EMOTIONAL HEALTH

Thursdays, Jan 6 and Feb 3, 6:30-7:30 pm

Via Zoom only

Guided meditation is proven to reduce stress and promote relaxation.

Sister Sarah Hennessey, FSPA, facilitator

Register online at www.FSCenter.org.

or 608-791-5295.

No charge for this program

SEMINARIANS TO PRAY FOR THIS WEEK

Sun	Isaac Pecha
Mon	John Zweber
Tues	David Nowicki
Wed	John Duranso
Thurs	Joseph Glatczak
Fri	Matthew Szymanski
Sat	Brian Ward

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father, bless Your Church with an abundance of holy and zealous priests, deacons, brothers, and sisters. Give those You have called to the married state and those You have chosen to live as single persons in the world the special graces that their lives require. Form us all in the likeness of Your Son, so that in Him, with Him, and through Him, we may love You more deeply and serve You more faithfully, always and everywhere. With Mary we ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Consider offering an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the seminarians on their special day, along with the Prayer for Vocations.

If you or someone you know is interested in discovering more about a call to the priesthood, please contact me: Father Nate Kuhn, Director of Vocational Recruitment for the Diocese of La Crosse, 3710 East Ave. S, PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004; or phone 608-791-2667.

MEMORY CAFÉ sponsored by Causeway

4th Tuesday of month, 9:30-11:00

Black River Beach House

Those living with dementia or Alzheimer's and their care givers: time for sharing and caring.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION PREPARATION PROGRAM

Franciscan Spirituality Center, La Crosse

This is a 3-year program which gives participants theory and practice through workshops and real-life experiences to share their compassionate listening skills as spiritual directors.

To learn all about this, contact www.FSCenter.org or call 608-791-5295.

GIVING TREE

It seemed almost overwhelming to see the number of tags on our giving tree, requests to Catholic Charities for a little help at Christmas time. There is so much need in our community! However, the committee saw the tags fly off the tree as parishioners took, not just one, but several, and bought the gift cards requested.

This parish has one HUGE heart!