



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 5, 2021 Second 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 5, 2021

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Update: December 1, 2021

Goal	\$58,405
Total Pledged & received	\$63,082
Number of donors:	141
Number of donors 2020:	197
Total received in 2020:	\$106,293

From Bishop Callahan:

*Hear the word of the Lord, O nations;
 declare it to the distant lands:
 Behold, our Savior will come;
 you need no longer fear.*

Advent is a time when we pay particular attention to the way in which the first coming of the Son of God occurred. The readings leading up to the birth of the Christ Child contain many prophetic details, and give us so many reasons to believe that God really did become man.

Jesus was born into a human family; Mary is His mother and St. Joseph, the father given to Him here on earth. This year we have been studying St. Joseph and his role in Salvation History. St. Joseph bears many titles, most notably "Pillar of Families." It was St. Joseph who provided for Mary well before Jesus was born. It was St. Joseph who trusted the message of the angel despite the uncertainties involved. And it was St. Joseph who protected Jesus and Mary, nurturing and caring for Jesus and watching over Him as He grew. It is fitting for us to conclude this year, dedicated to St. Joseph, on December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Joseph loves Mary, and together their love surrounded Jesus throughout this time on earth. Joseph is a model for all men; he is a model for all husbands, and he is a model for all fathers. His examples and mighty deeds, his justice and integrity lead us to become better followers of God and better believers in Jesus. This Advent take time to ponder what it must have been like for St. Joseph as he waited for the birth of Jesus.

Keep close to St. Joseph despite the many tempting reasons to doubt; pray through his intercession for the gift of fortitude to stay firm in your faith. Make this Advent a time of preparation and be ready, as St. Joseph was, to welcome Jesus into your heart and home in a new and powerful way. And may this Advent season fill you with a sense of wonder and stir up your desire for Heavenly Joy.

Blessed Advent to you; St. Joseph, fill our hearts with your love of Jesus.

December 6 - 14, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS

This week's reader: Ed Noelke

- MON 12/6 Advent Weekday; Nicholas
7:15 +Mary Ellen Robertson
- TUES 12/7 Ambrose
7:15 +Joe Sweeney
- WED 12/8 Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary
7:15 +Evelyn Gallagher
8:15 +Marlowe Watunya
5:30 pm +Howard A. Bradley
- THUR 12/9 Advent Weekday; Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
7:15 +Tom & +Philomena Doran
- FRI 12/10 Advent Weekday; Our Lady of Loreto
7:15 +Steve Jahimiak
- SAT 12/11 Advent Weekday; Damasus

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant: Father Peter Raj

Assisting: Deacon Allen and MC

- SAT 12/11 4:30 pm +Edwin Cunningham
Servers: Maria & Michael J.
Readers: Paulette Drozdowicz, Mary Saphner
Rosary leader: Mary Schuttenhelm
- SUN 12/12 8:00 +Richard Jarrett
Servers: Rylan S., Bobby S.
Readers: Steve McGovern, Ruth Vanderploeg
Rosary leaders: Dave & Marie Allen
10:00 For the People of the Parish
Server:
Readers: LuAnn Kratt, Bobbi Schamberger
Rosary leaders: Les & Terry Lachine

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays, 3:30-4:15 pm
or call for an appointment

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

GIVING TREE

Catholic Charities is again asking us to reach out to families who might not have much this Christmas. On the tree in the Narthex are envelopes for your gift card donations. It's easiest to purchase these cards from our Parish's \$crip program, available during office hours. Please return all purchases to the office by next weekend.

LITTLE FLOWERS GIRLS CLUB

Sunday, Dec 12, 11:30-1:00
Parish Center
Young girls and their mothers.
Come together for prayer, for learning, and for some fun.
Contact leaders: Rachel Biemiller, rachelbiemiller@gmail.com, and Cory Marco, gregandcorene.marco@gmail.com

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

Kyle Muenzenberger
Thomas Kraus
Philip & Janelle Francksen & Isla

Father Raj is planning to go home to India on Jan. 10 and staying for about one month.

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.

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 will again team with Newman to provide food & volunteers on Saturdays Nov through April.

*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

SPECIAL ORDERS FOR \$CRIP NEED TO BE IN THE OFFICE BY DECEMBER 8.

REST IN PEACE

Ralph Schwanbeck
founding parishioner
Funeral: December 4, 10:30

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!*

CHRISTMAS DECORATING HELPERS

December 22

Many hands are needed as we prepare the church for His birthday. Call the parish office to sign up. 782-2953, ext. 2, or email office@bsplacrosse.org.

CHAMPION OF THE POOR: FATHER JOE WALIJEWSKI

We have 8 copies of this wonderful informative comic book for you to check out from our Parish Library.

PARISH SUPPORT

BUDGET

July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022

Needed Weekly \$13,000
Received November 28 12,591

You never know how strong you are until being strong is the only choice.

COMING UP

Dec 6-12 Our week for Mobile Meals
Dec 8 Immaculate Conception;
Mass times: 7:15 & 8:15 am; 5:30 pm
Dec 8 NO religious Ed classes
Dec 15 Confessions 6-8:00 pm at BSP
Dec 20 All day Confessions, Cathedral
Dec 22 Decorating church for Christmas
Dec 24 & 31 Office closed
Jan 1 Wedding 1:30: Michaela Schwartz & Tim Holland
Jan 8 Women's Club Holy Hour, 10:00
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

Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception
7:15 and 8:15 am; 5:30 pm

Christmas Eve: Dec 24
4:00 pm – this Mass will 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 – in church

4:30 Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family
(Attending the 4:30 Mass does not satisfy the requirement for both Christmas and for Sunday)

Feast of the Holy Family: Dec 26
8:00 and 10:00 Mass as usual

Formed.org

This week Formed Now tackles the question, "Do we make too much of Mary?" Throughout our Marian feast days, you might wonder why Catholics think so highly of Mary. Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they discuss our Lady's esteemed place among the saints.
- this week on Formed.org.

**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

AROUND TOWN

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY December 8

Our first parents offended God by sinning seriously. Because of the fall of Adam and Eve, every baby is born into the world with original sin. We are all children of our first parents. Therefore, we all inherit their sin. This sin is called original sin.

But the Blessed Virgin Mary was given a marvelous privilege. She was conceived in the womb of her mother, St. Anne, without this original sin. Our Lady was to be the mother of Jesus, God's only Son. The evil one, the devil, should have no power over Mary. There was never the slightest sin in our all-beautiful mother. We honor her with hymns such as "Immaculate Mary."

This great privilege of Our Lady is called her Immaculate Conception. In 1854 Pope Pius IX proclaimed to the whole world that there was no doubt at all that Mary was conceived without sin. Four years later she appeared to St. Bernadette at Lourdes. When Bernadette asked the lovely lady who she was, Mary joined her hands and raised her eyes toward heaven. She said, "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Bishop Callahan will preside at the 12:10 pm Mass on December 8 celebrating both this Solemnity and the close of the Year of St. Joseph. All are welcome to attend in person or via livestream at diolc.org/live.

COOKIE WALK/CRAFT SALE

Sat, Dec 11, 7:30am-1 pm
Mary, Mother of the Church Parish Hall
Continental breakfast & lunch
Raffles/hourly door prizes

COOKIE WALK AND BAKE SALE

Sat, Dec 11, 8:00-noon
Holy Trinity Leo Hall
Loads of edible treats! No crafts.

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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR RETIRED RELIGIOUS

Next weekend, Dec 11 & 12

There will be envelopes in the pews for this special collection. Remembering the wonderful education so many folks received under the watchful eyes of sisters and brothers, we are asked to help them in their older years. Your envelope may be returned via the Sunday collection, mail, or drop off in the parish office. Make your check payable to the parish and note for retired religious.

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.

CALENDAR RAFFLE

St. Patrick Parish, Onalaska
\$25 each, from their parish office
Nice Christmas gifts; 365 chances to win

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.

BEFORE AND AFTER PLANNING SESSION

Help in making plans for one's final wishes
Monday, December 6, 10:00-noon
Good Shepherd, 4141 Mormon Coulee Rd
Conducted by Causeway Caregivers
Donations accepted

Register online: causewayivc@gmail.com; 608-775-9999