



Blessed Sacrament Parish

Pastor
Rev. Peter Raj

Deacon
David Allen



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 Kay Berra
Office: 782.5564 | Fax: 782.7765

Aquinas Catholic Schools

Office: 784.8585

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 6, 2020

MASS SCHEDULE

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

CONFESSION

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

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

MCs: *Gabe Trussoni*
Mike Vanderploeg
William Arnold

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:

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 Coordinators: 782.2953 ext. 1
Paul Poehling, 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, Loretta Clarkin

December 6, 2020

ADVENT VIRTUAL PARISH MISSION

“Preparing for the Birth of the Christ Child through the Eyes of St. Joseph”

There will be 4 presentations, 30-40 minutes each. Each presentation will be available on the Friday preceeding that Advent Sunday: diolc.org/advent

Week 1: St Joseph: The Man Selected by God to be Closest to Mary & Jesus

Msgr. Joseph Diermeier, presenter

Week 2: Joseph and Mary: A Holy Love Story

Msgr. Joseph Hirsch, presenter

Week 3: That Holy Night, through Joseph's Eyes

Father Woodrow Pace, presenter

Week 4: Joseph, Son of David...You are to Give Him the Name Jesus

Bishop William Callahan, presenter

There will be an opportunity to discuss each presentation with others via Zoom. The 2 meeting times are Mondays: 9 am and 6:30 pm. Check the parish website for instruction on “zooming in” on those meetings.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

December 8

Masses: 7:30 am and **5:30 pm**

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Because of the restriction on the number of people who can gather, **you MUST reserve** your places for the Mass you plan to attend.

Call 782-2953, ext. 2, or email office@bsplacrosse.org.

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm (max. 125) – in church

4:15 pm (max. 100) – in Parish Center

6:00 pm (max. 125) – in church

Christmas Day

10:00 am (max.125) – in church

ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIME FOR ADVENT

Wednesday, December 16, 6-8 pm

MILESTONE

**Marge Straight 100th Birthday
December 5**

December 7 - 13, 2020

MASS INTENTIONS

FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED IN CHURCH

MON 12/7 7:30 Ambrose
+Joe Sweeney

TUES 12/8 7:30 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

+Mary Sue Finn

5:30 pm +Mary Ann Melvin

WED 12/9 7:30 Advent Weekday; Juan Diego Cauhlatlatotzin

Intention of the Christen family

2:20 pm Intention of Marge Straight (100th birthday)

**Grade School children will be attending the Mass
On Wednesday afternoons.**

These Masses ARE NOT OPEN to others.

THU 12/10 7:30 Advent Weekday
+Lyda DeGise

FRI 12/11 7:30 Advent Weekday; Damasus I
+Diane Franke

SAT 12/12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
NO 7:30 Mass

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant: Father Raj

Assisting: Deacon Allen and MC

No altar servers; No Eucharistic Ministers

SAT 12/12 4:30 +Ralph Clason

SUN 12/13 8:00 +Lloyd Herlitzke

10:00 +Andrew Coleman

The Rosary is prayed before our weekend Masses beginning about 20 minutes before Mass starts.

The leaders Dec 12 & 13:

4:30 Mary Schuttenhelm

8:00 Allens

10:00 Les & Terry Lachine

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays, 3:30-4:15

Or call Father Raj 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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday
9am – noon and 1-4 pm
Friday
9am-noon

THE GIVING TREE

Take a tag from the tree, purchase a gift card for the item requested (we have just about any business and amount you need through our \$crip program). Return the envelope with your gift card donation to the parish office **by Dec 8.**

CHRISTMAS DECORATING VOLUNTEERS

Wednesday, December 23

Lots of helping hands will be needed at 9:30 to set up the Manger, hang wreaths, etc.

Plus, Carl Francksen will be looking for a small army of men to cut trees from the Skemp farm on top of the bluff, take them to church, and set them **SECURELY** in their stands for the Christmas season.

Call Bernice Lansing at 793-1972 to volunteer.

WARMING CENTER UPDATE

Our parish has joined forces with Roncalli Newman to man the Warming Center. Our date is the **2nd** Saturday of the month.

Names of those who have volunteered or expressed interest in helping were forwarded to Newman; they will handle the scheduling. Part of the ministry is providing a meal, and we will be doing that 3 of the 4 Saturdays each month. To jump on board, contact Tony Weisse at anthonyweisse@gmail.com.

MEMORY STONES

A lovely way to remember a loved one, or honor someone or event is with a memory stone on our church's East plaza. There are 2 sizes:
12' X 12" \$350
6" X 12" \$175

Call the parish office to order your stone. Etching occurs during the warm month

REST IN PEACE

Eileen Pierce

SCRIP NEWS

There are volunteer \$crip sellers in the office daily 9:00-noon.

Masks are required face-wear.

Stop in to place your order or call the \$crip office at 782-2953, **ext. 1**, or email orders:

SCRIP@bsplacrosse.org so your order is ready when you stop by. Thanks to our volunteer Scrip sellers. Aquinas families, remember that the full 100% of the rebate can be applied to your tuition bill.

INTENTIONS FOR MASSES IN 2021

We are now scheduling intentions for Masses for 2021.

Call the parish office at 782-2953, ext. 2, or stop in to schedule Masses.

DO NOT leave your requests on voice mail; you must contact Elizabeth Skemp. One person may request 3 Masses for someone during the next year, one on the weekend, a holyday or a holiday, and 2 during the week. The dates must be a minimum of 6 weeks apart.

The stipend is \$10 per Mass.

PARISH SUPPORT

BUDGET

July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021

Needed Weekly	\$13,000
Received Nov 29	10,287

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL Update: December 1, 2020

Goal	\$55,635
Total Pledged & received	\$73,550
Amount received	\$69,055
Number of donors:	159
Number of donors (2019)	196

COMING UP

Dec 12/13 Collection for Retired Religious

Dec 14-20 Our week for Mobile Meals
Dec 24 & 25 Mass times: Dec 24 – 4:00 and 6:00pm in church and 4:15pm in Parish Center.

Dec 25 – 10:00 am in church

Dec 31 – Mass at 5:15 pm for Holy Day;
No cocoa/cookie party after.

COMING UP

USHERS NEEDED

We welcome men and women high school age and older to help out at Mass by serving as ushers. Sign up on our parish website: bsplacrosse.org.

FORMED.ORG

This week we celebrate two important Feasts related to Mary.

On the 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the 12th is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Ever wonder why we give Mary so much honor? Explore the reasons behind our faith on *Formed Now!*, the conversation program on Formed.org. Also check out *Guadalupe: the Miracle and the Message* to learn more about this visitation by the Blessed Mother that has changed the lives of millions.

Use our parish code: K2768J

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas, we fly to you today as your beloved children.

We ask that you intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach us all in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.

Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts. We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.

AROUND TOWN

From Bishop Callahan

O God, You have shown forth Your salvation to all the ends of the earth. Grant, we pray, that we may look forward in joy to the glorious Nativity of Christ.

Advent inspires us to "look anew" at our lives and prepare our hearts to welcome the Christ Child at Christmas.

As you start your Advent preparations, take time to pray with the scriptures. Whether you are able to attend Mass at your parish, are watching Mass at home or simply praying with the daily readings, listen to how the many prophecies of the Old Testament are fulfilled. We hear how the prophets foretold, how the shepherds responded, and how Mary and Joseph welcomed the Christ Child in Bethlehem.

This Advent, consider stepping into the season through the context of the Mass. On the first Sunday you heard, "You, Lord, are our Father, our Redeemer You are named forever." This prophecy, written several hundred years before the Resurrection of Jesus, identifies our Lord as Father and Redeemer. Facts we know today; but, for the people living before the birth of Christ, were kept as hope filled promises.

The second Sunday is about Baptism. John the Baptist is heard saying, "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of His sandals. I have baptized you with water; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Consider your own baptism, the entry point into your Catholic faith. Your baptism is a divine call to live out your life in the way God intended it. Through your baptism you are called to give witness to the Resurrection.

For the third week, consider the role of the Holy Spirit in your life. The readings focus on the Spirit and the joy that follows when we conform our will to the will of God. At Mass you will notice the priest's vestments will be rose, to express our joy in the coming of Jesus our Savior. The responsorial psalm is taken from Mary's Magnificat in which she exclaims: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord: my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." As you ponder how your life is guided by the Holy Spirit, let the joy of your own witness radiate to those around you.

Mary's, "May it be done to me according to your word," allows the world to receive the Savior and brings to completion our Advent journey. Use the fourth Sunday of Advent to recommit yourself to doing the will of God. Whether in large or small matters, listening to God's word and being docile to His promptings will bring lasting joy to you and those around you.

Join me, as we start this new Church year, recommitting ourselves to listening to the Word of God and going out to tell the Good News. Pray for the vision and courage to use your gifts to build up the kingdom of God.

We wait with expectant hope for the coming of Christ. We are created to know, love, and serve God and to be happy with Him in heaven. May this Advent season fill you with hope and awaken your desire for Heavenly Joy!

ADVENT: AN INVITATION TO STILLNESS

Fri-Sun, Dec 11-13, Franciscan Spirituality Center
Silent directed weekend via Zoom
Daily spiritual direction sessions through videoconferencing.
Deb Hanson, facilitator
Register by Dec 7 – limited to 5 participants
Call 608-791-5295 or go to:FSCenter.org.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Tuesday, December 15, 7-8 pm
Franciscan Spirituality Center or via Zoom
John McHugh, Presenter
Limited seating; register by Dec 10; \$10

DEPRESSED ANONYMOUS

Free meetings Mondays, 5:30-6:30,
by conference call
A 12-step program for those dealing with depression and needing to generate positive energy, form friendships and find support.
Call Gayle, 608-406-7990.
Sponsored by Franciscan Spirituality Center

Seminarians to pray for this week

Sunday	Jared Clements
Monday	Alex Kren
Tuesday	Isaac Pecha
Wednesday	John Zweber
Thursday	David Nowicki
Friday	Joseph Glatczak
Saturday	Brian Ward

DIocese OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE (published twice/year)

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its policies and procedures, seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Karen Becker, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 546012-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Becker at 608-791-0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608-791-2679; or tbrown@diolc.org.