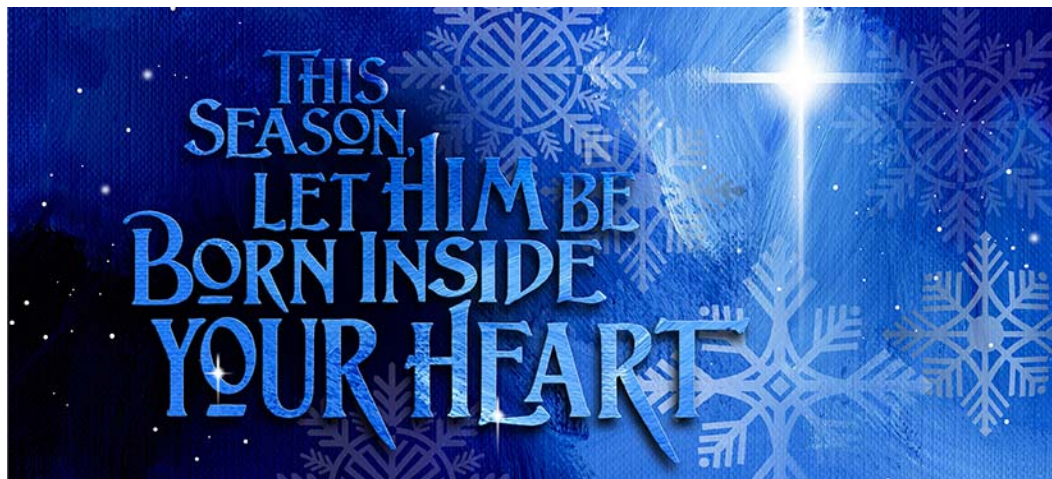




# Blessed Sacrament Parish

**Pastor**  
Rev. Peter Raj

**Deacon**  
David Allen



**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

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD January 3, 2021

### 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):  
*Gabe Trussoni*

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*

January 3, 2021

January 4 - 10, 2021

MASS INTENTIONS

FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED IN CHURCH

- MON 1/4 7:30 Elizabeth Ann Seton +Frank Stoltz
TUES 1/5 7:30 John Neumann Intention of Eileen Knothe
WED 1/6 7:30 Christmas Weekday; Andre Bessette +Doug Imgrund 2:20 pm +Jim Bahr

Grade School children will be attending Mass on Wednesday afternoons. These Masses ARE NOT OPEN to others.

- THU 1/7 7:30 Christmas Weekday; Raymond of Penafort +Verna O'Connell
FRI 1/8 7:30 Christmas Weekday +Marlowe Watunya
SAT 1/9 Christmas Weekday NO 7:30 Mass

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Celebrant: Father Raj
Assisting: Deacon Allen and MC
No altar servers; No Eucharistic Ministers

- SAT 1/9 4:30 +Mary Ann Melvin
SUN 1/10 8:00 For the People of the Parish 10:00 +Robert & +Leona Welsh

The Rosary is prayed before our weekend Masses beginning about 20 minutes before Mass starts. The leaders Jan 9 & 10:

- 4:30 Mary Schuttenhelm
8:00
10:00 Les 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.

While I am in India, Father Aaron Becker will be here at Blessed Sacrament. He will celebrate all the Masses, weekdays and weekends, and he will hear Confessions according to our usual schedule. In fact, for convenience he will be staying in our rectory rather than at St. Patrick Parish in Onalaska where he is assigned. Father Becker serves as a chaplain at Aquinas; his schedule requires him to be at school by 8:00 on weekdays. So our 7:30 am Mass will move to 7:15 while he is with us. Thanks, Father Aaron, for filling in so generously.

Father Raj

CHRIST OUR CORNERSTONE
Restoring our Mother Church,
St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral

It has been nearly 60 years since the dedication of our beautiful Cathedral, and time has taken its toll. Recently it has become clear that restoration work on the building is critical and urgent. Several heavy stone pieces from the steeple have already fallen, posing the risk of further structural damage and creating a hazard.

The estimated cost of restoring the steeple and other needs of the Cathedral is \$6.1 million. We are all invited to join in providing the funding needed. St. Ambrose Financial Services, Inc. (the diocesan bank to which all parishes belong) has agreed to match \$2 for each \$1 generously pledged. One-time donations are appreciated, and a three-year pledge is also offered, along with IRA charitable gifts and gifts of stock.

At Masses on Jan 10 and 11 we will show a video outlining the Campaign and why it is needed. There will be brochures in the Narthex which contain pledge cards and giving information. If you cannot get one from church, call the parish office; one will be mailed to you. Thank you for supporting our Mother church, the Cathedral.

## AROUND THE PARISH

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday – Thursday:**  
**9am – noon and 1-4 pm**  
**Friday:**  
**9am-noon; closed in pm**

**Thank you  
to all who helped  
with decorating church  
for Christmas. It is beautiful!**

Bernice Lansing	Carl Francksen
Jim Fowler	Ken Hanson
Mark Steingraeber	Don Flynn
Joe Clements	Loretta Clarkin
Ellen Smith	Nancy Soldner
Mary Beth Vach	Father Raj

### REST IN PEACE

+Susie Pearse Keller  
sister of Dick Pearse and Ann Linhart

+Merle Hill, long-ago parishioner

**WARMING CENTER UPDATE**  
Our parish has joined forces with Roncalli Newman to man the Warming Center. Our date is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month. Names of those who have volunteered or expressed interest in helping were forwarded to Newman; they will handle the scheduling. Our next opportunity is Saturday, January 9. 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](mailto:anthonyweisse@gmail.com).

**DONATIONS TO PARISH**  
If you wish to make a donation to our parish and apply it to your taxes for 2020, please have that check in the parish office by 9:00 on January 6.

*On January 1, 2021,  
"Hindsight" will be 2020*

**SCRIP NEWS**  
**There are volunteer \$scrip sellers in the office daily 9:00-noon.**  
**Masks are required face-wear.**  
Stop in to place your order or call the \$scrip office at 782-2953, ext. 1, or email orders: [SCRIP@bsplacrosse.org](mailto: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.

### WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

\*Ed Noelke

\*Sarah & Benjamin Strom  
Children: Finley & Annah

\*Dr. Sunny & Mrs. Christy Onyeabor  
Children: David, Helen, Adiel

\*Timothy & Melissa Pepin  
Children, Joseph, Joshua, Grace

\*Stephen & Jennifer Dehner  
Children: Grace, William, Emerson

\*Dan & Betsy Murphy  
Children: Jack & Madeline

## PARISH SUPPORT

### BUDGET

**July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021**

Needed Weekly	\$13,000
Received Dec 20	13,107
Christmas	12,412
Dec 27	15,325

### COMING UP

Jan 6 Religious Ed classes resume  
Jan 9 Our night to help man the Warming Center.  
Jan 9 & 10 Christ our Cornerstone Campaign kick-off  
Jan 11 – Feb 12 Fr. Raj will be in India

When Father returns from India a decision about when to celebrate First Reconciliation and First Communion will be made. He would like to have the latest information about COVID-19. The Diocese has not made a determination about Confirmation.

## 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 in the Narthex or online at our parish website: [bsplacrosse.org](http://bsplacrosse.org).

### FORMED.ORG

Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year. You can find this and many more interesting discussions on the Formed Now! Program on [Formed.org](http://Formed.org). Use our parish code: K2768J

### 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.

### An additional poinsettia remembrance:

Gene and Mary Ann Roesler donated a plant in memory of Gertrude & Paul Link. We missed their names in last week's bulletin.

## AROUND TOWN

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION RETREATS

The La Crosse Deanery, which consists of 14 area parishes, will be offering *Married Love: Two Becoming One*, a marriage preparation retreat for engaged couples, on February 6, April 24, and July 10, 2021. These retreats will take place at Mary, Mother of the Church Parish in La Crosse. Couples must register at least one month prior to the retreat. To register you may email Mari at [mnerickson95@gmail.com](mailto:mnerickson95@gmail.com) or leave a voice message at 608-518-7655.

### CONFIRMATION NEWS

*Dear Parishioners,  
Usually during this time of the year I come before you and invite you to lift up in prayer our young people preparing for Confirmation. If possible I also ask you to send them a letter indicating what our faith means to you. This year Confirmation prep, along with many other things, looks a little different, but prayer does not require proximity to be effective. Below is the list of the young people from our parish who are preparing for Confirmation this year. Please keep them in your prayers and, if you feel led to write a letter to one of them, please return it to the parish office to my attention (but with their name on it). I will make sure the letters are delivered. Thank you for lifting them up in prayer.*

*Blessings,  
Jennifer Kulzer, Confirmation Preparation*

### CONFIRMANDI 2021

Elizabeth Bagniefski	Kaitlin Groth
Jacob Hillebrand	Gregory Kusmitch
Damien Lee	Aaron Lepak
Zachary Morgan	Jack Murphy
Alexandra Roupe	Robert Skemp
Henry Suttie	Esmeralda Valera
Estella Weisse	

### PROLIFE SIGNATURE AD

#### Wisconsin Right to Life Committee

Because many churches are not able to hold services right now, it will be difficult to collect the number of signatures and donations to make the signature ad feasible. That ad's cost is \$4000. Keep these intentions in your prayers. There will be a peaceful gathering in front of Gunderson on South Avenue, 10-11am, Saturday, January 16. Signs will be provided.

### MEDITATION FOR EMOTIONAL HEALTH (via Zoom)

First Thursdays of the month, 6:30-7:30 pm  
Free guided meditation sessions.  
Register at [FSCenter.org](http://FSCenter.org)

*From Bishop Callahan:*

### The Peace in Christmas

May we all rejoice in the Lord, for our Savior has been born into the world. Today, true peace has come down to us from heaven.

This year, I invite you to take some time to enter into Christmas through the eyes of St. Joseph as we consider his role in the Incarnation and his unflinching trust in God's plan for our salvation. Despite the many obstacles and circumstances with which he was presented, the Church celebrates his heroic virtues and has given him many titles. At Christmas I invite you to consider these three specifically: The Spouse of Mary, The Foster Father of Jesus, and The Pillar of Families.

St. Joseph, in a very humble and obedient fashion, took Mary as his wife, despite learning she was with child. St. Joseph was given peace when the angel explained to him the message of the Incarnation and Mary's role in salvation history. St. Joseph rightly bears the title Spouse of Mary, and we can look to him for inspiration when we are faced with difficult situations.

St. Joseph is heralded in the Church as the Foster Father of Jesus. As a Jewish man and well aware of the Messianic Prophecy, Joseph took on the role as the protector of both Mary and Jesus. God chose to have His Son come into the world into a family. St. Joseph was there to provide for His earthly needs and to name Him "Son of David." Together with Mary, they cared for and nurtured the Son of God from the moment of His Divine Conception.

We look to St. Joseph as the Pillar of Families. It was Joseph, who by his constant care, gave us a perfect example and model of Family Life. We "Go to Joseph" in times of trial and also in times of joy. Entrust your families to the protection of St. Joseph and pray for his intercession.

As you gaze on the Nativity scene this year, pay particular attention to St. Joseph. Remember how he cared for Jesus and Mary so many years ago. Be inspired by his presence and strive to be more like him whenever possible.

Blessed Christmas to you.  
May you find the peace in Christmas!

### DIACONATE DISCERNMENT RETREAT

Are you a man at least 35 years of age who feels a yearning to give yourself more radically to the service of God and of the Church – preaching the Gospel, serving those in need, assisting at the altar? If you think God may be calling you to be a deacon, talk to your pastor about attending the Diaconate Discernment Retreat on Feb 27 at St. Mary's Parish in Altoona. Then contact Deacon Bryan Hilts, Director of the Office for the Diaconate at [bhilts@diolc.org](mailto:bhilts@diolc.org). A new deacon formation class will begin in fall of 2021, and attendance at the Discernment Retreat is a prerequisite.