

Blessed Sacrament Parish

130 Losey Boulevard S. La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601

Monsignor Robert Hundt, Pastor

Father Francis Thadathil, MSFS, Associate Pastor

PARISH OFFICE 782-2953

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COULEE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE 784-8585

Parish email address: BLESSEDSACRAMENT@centurytel.net

Parish Website www.blessedsacramentlacrosse.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 pm

Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am

Weekdays Tues- Fri 6:30 am *in the Adoration Chapel*

Mon-Sat 7:30 am

Thurs 8:15 *check school calendar*

Holy Days 5:15 pm day before

10:30 *if a school day*; 5:15 pm

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday 4:00, 7:00, 8:00

in the Adoration Chapel

Saturdays 3:45 & 1/2 Hr before

Sun Masses *in church*

Saturdays 7 pm *in Adoration Chapel*

EVENING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Wednesdays, 5:15 pm

Natural family planning information: 1-800-255-6226

Catholic Radio WKBH 1570 AM

Blessed Sacrament welcomes new parishioners at any time. Contact the rectory to make an appointment.

To arrange for a wedding, contact the rectory at least six months in advance.

To arrange for a baptism, contact the rectory for Baptismal class information.

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. Call the parish office to make arrangements.

If you are home-bound because of illness and would like to be visited, please call the parish office.

December 10, 2006

OFFERING FAMILIES

Dec 16 & 17

4:30 Anita Walker and family

7:30 Florence & Lloyd Koenig

9:00 Nancy & Richard Meyer

10:30 Minda & Mark Chamberlain

SALVATION ARMY FOOD PANTRY

December 12 Betsy Fowler & Ev Gallagher

BLESSED SACRAMENT WEEK FOR

MOBILE MEALS

December 25 - 31

December 10, 2006 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In 1988 the Bishops of the United States started a national collection to help men and women religious communities care for their retired and fragile older members. It was intended to be a 5 year program originally. As the recent meeting of the Bishops in Baltimore the collection was extended to 2017. The good news is that Catholic laity have responded hugely to the annual collection. Since it started about 18 years ago almost 500 million dollars has been collected.

The bad news is that the need has increased faster than the annual outpouring of generosity. Last year about 30 million was collected, yet the total retirement liability is almost 18 billion dollars. It's a grim scene which confronts men and women who dedicated themselves to serving the Church for very small compensation, and therefore very small social security payments.

So many of us were the beneficiaries of the faith, the generosity of spirit, the caring of these women and men who in a very real sense built the Church in the United States. And a very good building they did! They were the ones who prepared the way for the Lord to enter our lives and our world. Having labored for small stipends, religious are now encountering some "winding roads" and "rough ways" that they cannot navigate alone. Our response to their needs this Advent can smooth the path and fill the valleys of their retirement and old age.

One of the Advent practices good for spirit and in full accord with the gift-giving season is to give alms. Giving a generous gift to the annual collection for the retired religious men and women is a very good thing.

REST IN PEACE

Mary J. Pape
Mother of Jeannie Connelly

RCIA CORNER

Our RCIA groups met again this week and learned about the mission of the Church and the meaning of Reconciliation. This weekend Kurt Larson and Rena Cash will experience part of the saving mission of the Church by participating in the Rite of Welcoming. We, the Church faithful, welcome them into our midst and pledge to continue to pray for them and encourage them as they continue their journey to Easter. Please keep them in your prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK Dec 11 - 17

Mon, Dec 11 Advent Weekday, Damascus

7:30 **+Lorraine Erickson**
Servers: Jerry Franke, Anthony McLean

Tues, Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:30 **+Richard Jarrett**
Server: Bill Arnold
7:30 **+Ralph Clason**
Servers: Olivia Roubik, Anna Smith

Wed, Dec 13 Lucy

6:30 **+Mel Kieffer**
Servers: Jason Hutzler, Dave Allen
7:30 **+Nancy Leebens**
Servers: Olivia Roubik, Anna Smith
5:15 pm Evening Prayer & Benediction
Server: Peter Kieffer

Thurs, Dec 14 John of the Cross

6:30 **+Arch & Ellen Skemp**
Server: Dan Skaff
7:30 **+Eleanor A. Pavela**
Servers: Charmaine Nicks, Kristine Clark
8:15 **+Mary Lee & Jim Roop**
Servers: Lizzy Knothe, Hannah Braun

Fri, Dec 15 Advent Weekday

6:30 **+Louise A. Robers**
Server: Pete Fiorini
7:30 **+Mary Howard**
Servers: Charmaine Nicks, Kristine Clark

Sat, Dec 16 Advent Weekday

7:30 **+Bernard Banasik**
Servers: Lizzy Knothe, Hannah Johnson
4:30 **+Ralph Clason**
Servers: Cassandra Steele, Helen Kirch, Emily Walker

Sun, Dec 17 3rd Sunday of Advent

7:30 **+Dan Trussoni**
Servers: Joe, Eric & Tim Clements
9:00 **For the People of the Parish**
Servers: Joshua Lenth, Peter Coppola, John Paul Soldner, Michael Guggenbuehl, Mitchell Degenhardt
10:30 **+Ray Becker**
Servers: Mark Vach, Dan Chamberlain, Alex Wettstein, Benjamin Kolter, Luke Riley

LOOKING AHEAD Saturday, Dec 23

7:30 Hannah Braun, Anna Schuttenhelm
4:30 Michaela Gores, Jenny Gallagher, Jackie Ebner

Sunday, Dec 24

7:30 Tim & John Brennan, Collin Lounsbrough
9:00 Joshua Alexander, Patrick Campbell, Casey Cooper, Nathan Schneider, Kyle Sieck
10:30 Nick Guggenbuehl, Matt Kachel, Ryan Rademacher, Bobbie Reinhart, Charlie Soldner

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26
Tues Zech 2:14-17; Luke 1:26-38
Wed Isaiah 40:25-31; Matt 11:28-30
Thurs Isaiah 41:13-20; Matt 11:11-15
Fri Isaiah 48:17-19; Matt 11:16-19
Sat Sirach 48:1-4,9-11; Matt 17:9a,10-13
Sun Zeph 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

AROUND THE PARISH

PARISH JAMBALAYA DINNER

TODAY Noon 'til ...

Tickets: \$7.00 at the door; \$5.00 advance

Carryouts available.

Packers on big screen T.V. at 3:30

Fun raffle, too.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sun, Dec 24: 4:30 with Children's Choir

10:00 pm with Adult Choir

Caroling 1/2 hour before each Mass

Mon, Dec 25: 7:30 and 10:30

**Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, Readers,
please call the Office at 782-2953 to sign up to help
out at a Christmas Mass. Thanks!**

MEN'S CLUB MEETING NOTES

There was only one empty chair in the Conference Room last Mon. Wow, what a turn-out! Reports given on the Calendar Raffle - nice profit; Pancake Breakfast - nice food; Parish Sport Shirt sale - nice threads. There's still time to order shirts for Christmas giving. Final plans were made for the Jambalaya dinner this Sun. with door prizes and lots of good raffle items. The next Calendar Raffle will be held in June with sales in April and May. Msgr. spoke on religions and the turmoil in the Middle East. He will continue on these topics at the Feb. meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

GIVING TREE GIFTS

If you forgot to bring your gift back by Dec 8, please drop it off in the Parish Office this week. Thanks a lot. Our parish made over 150 people VERY HAPPY this year. And didn't it feel good to do it! Thanks, Karen Perry, for being our elf.

welcome

Mark & Debbie Percy

David, Aaron, Theresa, Stephen, Michelle,
John, Elizabeth and Catherine

*No snow yet, but when it does...
who would like to head up a parish sledding party?
Call Pauline to volunteer, 782-2953.*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-10

Wednesday, December 13 6:30-7:45

Dec 20 Advent prayer Service and party 6:30-7:30

PARISH SUPPORT

COLLECTIONS UPDATE July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007

Needed each week: \$ 17,400.00

Received 12/3 \$ 11,231.00

Sr. Lancelot with laryngitis = Silent Knight

COMING UP

Dec 10 Parish Jambalaya dinner, Packer party

Dec 11 Young adult group, 7 pm, rectory

Dec 12 Widows & Widowers, 6:00, Piggy's



FAMILY FOLK CHOIR will sing at 9:00 Mass next Sunday.

Come and join us!

ADULT CHOIR will practice on Thursday, 7-8:00, and will sing at 10:30 Mass next Sunday.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR will practice the Saturdays before Christmas, 9:30 - 10:15. The Choir will sing at Christmas Eve 4:30 Mass.

Drop off warm blankets for the Salvation Army in the bin in the Narthex. Thanks!

CHRISTMAS IDEAS

**An Offering of Words* by Msgr. Hundt

*Parish Spirit shirt (denims, polo's, lots of colors and styles for both men and women)

*Building of the Parish Center DVD

*\$crip, \$crip, and \$crip

GREAT IDEA: GENERIC \$CRIP CARDS (Just like a \$crip gift certificate. Any denomination.)

Business Owners, how about giving \$crip to your employees instead of that box of chocolates?

FEEDING THE FLOCK COOKBOOK

Buy 1 \$10.00

Buy 2 \$15.00 (save \$5 only until Christmas)

All available at the Parish Office

WIDOW & WIDOWERS GROUP

Tuesday, December 12, 6:00

Piggy's restaurant

Questions? Call Barb Schmitz, 788-1667, or Loretta Clarkin, 784-9917.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The group is studying John Paul II's *Theology of the Body* on Mondays at 7 pm in the rectory. For further information call John at 780-5328.

To all who participated in the filming of Masses to be shown Jan. 21 and Jan 28 on T.V. for shut-ins and others who cannot come to church.

+A constant source of inspiration is a visit to the Adoration Chapel. It has become a power house of prayer, a place of peace and quiet, and a comfort to so many in our parish and beyond. Time with the Lord is truly a good time so many are discovering. During the Advent season discover for yourself what a gift that holy place is, if you haven't already.

+A big thank you to the Men's Club for running another successful Calendar Raffle, and thanks to all who participated. In anticipation of a successful Jambalaya dinner and Packer Party - thank you, guys.

+Thanks, too, to the Nicks family who watched over the best attended "Coffee and Donut" social for a very long time. Would another family, or perhaps a couple, be interested in hosting one? Let the Office know. It's very little work, and lots of free tasting.

+The Pension Protection Act of 2006 gives friends of charities or churches an opportunity to help in a way never before possible: tax-free transfers of IRA funds to the charity or church through 2007. Some of the benefits: IRA distributions transferred directly are NOT counted as taxable income; they DO count toward required minimum distributions; they are NOT subject to the rule limiting charitable deductions to 50% of AGI; a taxpayer can contribute up to \$100,000 each year; some states also exclude this IRA withdrawal from state-reported AGI. Contact your advisor for more information.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS FOR CHURCH

If you would like to remember a loved one or honor someone with a poinsettia over the holidays, you may use a slip from the Narthex or call the parish office to make arrangements. All orders must be received by December 17. Prices: \$12, \$18, \$30.

CHRISTMAS GIFT AND BAKE SALE at the Cathedral after all Masses this weekend in the Undercroft. Books and other items will also be on sale in the RCIA office.

BUTTER BRAID PASTRIES are available to order for the holidays by calling 784-6800 by Dec. 12. Catholic Order of Foresters fundraiser. The pastries are delicious!

NEW YEAR'S RETREAT at St. Anthony Retreat Center, Marathon, 7 pm, Dec 31, to 2 pm, Jan 1. With food, fellowship, private and shared prayer, this is a great alternative to the usual New Year's party. 715-443-2236.

ST. CLARE HEALTH MISSION is looking for volunteers to help out at the free clinic for the uninsured poor. Flexible daytime and evening hours are available. Contact Sandy, 791-9546, for more information.

PRO-LIFE BUMPER STICKERS can be ordered from the St. Catherine of Siena Company in Memphis at a cost of \$2 each. Go to www.SaintCatherineOfSienaCompany.com.

PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE Fri, Jan 19, to Tues, Jan 23, for anyone 13 years and older. \$235 per person (\$175 due Dec 1) includes 5-day motorcoach, 2 night at a hotel, and sweatshirt. Contact Sister Stephania at 788-4530.

MARDI GRAS BALL "Revelry on the River" will be Sat, Jan 20, at Stoney Creek Inn. Mark your calendar. Get your group together and make plans to attend and support CCS.

ALUMINUM CANS can be dropped off in the Aquinas Parking Lot. Proceeds fund Booster Club activities. Thanks!

COURAGE MINISTRY is for men and women struggling with same-sex attraction who seek to live in full communion with the Catholic Church. For more information contact Father Hirsch at 791-2666 or email jhirsch@dioceseoflacrosse.com.

We found some nifty battery-operated candles to put in the 30 windows along Losey Blvd. Would you like to help us purchase them at \$20 each, perhaps in memory of someone or in honor of someone or an event. They will twinkle yearly.