

Blessed Sacrament Parish

130 Losey Boulevard S. La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601

Father David Olson, Pastor

Father Francis Thadathil, MSFS, Associate Pastor

PARISH OFFICE 782-2953

Fax 785-1064

Susan Fukuda, *Office Manager*

Pauline Connell, *Director of Music and Coordinator of Religious Education*

BL. SAC. SCHOOL 782-5564

Fax 782-7765

Kay Berra, *Principal*

COULEE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE 784-8585

Parish email address: BLESSEDSACRAMENT@centurytel.net

Parish website: BLESSEDSACRAMENTLACROSSE.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 pm

Sunday 8:00 and 10:00 am

Monday – Saturday 7:30 am

Tuesday & Thursday 5:15 pm

EVENING PRAYER DAILY WITH BENEDICTION ON WEDNESDAYS

5:15 *in the Adoration Chapel*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays 5:15

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday 7:00 pm

Saturday after 7:30 am Mass & 3:30-4:00

Confessions heard in church; other times by appointment

February 10, 2008

Contact the Parish Office to join the parish, to arrange for a wedding (6 months in advance), and for Baptism 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.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Scott Doberstein, 782-1833

Marcia Kolaczkowski, 781-1318

Jason Hutzler, 787-0407

Pete Fiorini, 608-534-5154

Mike Vanderploeg, 784-4249

Steve Flottmeyer, 788-3650

Susan Fukuda, 782-3633

Tom Kieffer, 784-0580

Tim Brennan, 783-0994

Mike Watunya, 788-9798

Karen Perry, 788-1546

Lynn Donskey, 788-2094

Jeff Reinhart, 784-2133

Pauline Connell, 788-7181

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jerry Borreson, 787-6482

Mark Chamberlain, 787-8355

Mary Jo Werner, 783-1857

Bob Kelemen, 781-4133

Susan Fukuda, 782-3633

Joe Melde, 784-4109

Bill Kratt, 788-4945

Cheryl Pearse, 784-3784

Tim Hall, 788-0042

February 10, 2008 First Sunday of Lent

Dear Blessed Sacrament Parishioners:

Lent is one of the earliest practices of our faith. In the early days of Christianity, Lent was a time of preparation for those who would be baptized at the Easter vigil, which was then a common practice. At that time the holy season lasted three or four days, but by the fourth century, Christians were observing Lent for 40 days. Some link this to the Council of Nicaea which in 325 A.D. discussed a 40-day season of fasting.

We have begun the season of Lent with our observance of Ash Wednesday. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the watch words of Lent. These are the three pillars of the spiritual life and they are talked about explicitly by our Lord in Matthew's Gospel. There we are reminded to do these things so that God may see them, not for any self congratulations nor for the applause of others as to how "religious" we might be.

Prayer helps us to grow closer to God as we develop our friendship by this form of conversation.

Almsgiving is the positive approach of doing something for others, recognizing that we should be generous in our lives as God is generous with us. Giving up something for Lent is a physical practice because of the notion that physical discipline and mental discipline parallel spiritual discipline. Lent gets a bad rap as simply a time to give up chocolate, but it is a time of self-assessment if we allow it where we may enter into the desert as our Lord did for 40 days. In the desert of Lent we choose God and draw a little closer to him or we choose our selves putting our own self ahead of God.

Let us pray for one another that we may grow closer to God in this holy season.

ANGELS OF MERCY

If you or someone you know is seriously ill, facing surgery, recovering, or needs prayers, please let us know so the Angels of Mercy Prayer Group can be notified. Call 782-2953.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK Feb 11 - 17

Mon, Feb 11 Lenten Weekday, Our Lady of

Lourdes

7:30 **+Phyllis "Trudy" Beacham**
Servers: Dylan Fitzpatrick, Joe Cambio

Tues, Feb 12 Lenten Weekday

7:30 **+Tracy Schneeberger**
Servers: Kellan Doberstein, Alex Phan

5:15 **+Vincent Sans Crainte**

Wed, Feb 13 Lenten Weekday

7:30 **+Arch & Ellen Skemp**
Servers: Claire Trussoni, Maddie McLean

9:00 **+Debbie Watunya (Anniv.)**
Servers: Elle Reinhart, Krissy Sauer

5:15 **EVENING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION**

Server: John Brennan

Thurs, Feb 14 Lenten Weekday, Cyril & Methodius

7:30 **+Neal & Ruby Stearns**
Servers: Sam Hyde, Dylan English

5:15 **Special Intention**

Fri, Feb 15 Lenten Weekday

7:30 **+George Allen**
Servers: Ethan Reid, Zach Snyder

Sat, Feb 16 Lenten Weekday

7:30 **Intention of Dick Meyer**
Servers: Lucy Wiggert, Danielle Langlie

2nd Sunday of Lent

Sat, Feb 16

4:30 Intention of Fr. Francis Thadathil

Servers: Cassie Steele, Emily Walker, Michaela Gores
MC: Pete Fiorini

Readers: David & Anna Curtis

Petitions: Emily Dolan

Eucharist: Walt Susdorf, Luci Johnson, Cheryl Pearse, Ruth Wills, Marilyn Holland

Offering family: Tom & Marilyn Holland

Sun, Feb 17

8:00 For the People of the Parish

Servers: Nathan & Carson Schneider, John Soldner, Derek Craig

MC: Mike Vanderploeg

Readers: Betty Nelson & Jeff George

Petitions: Maggie Clements

Eucharist: Mary & Lou Ritter, Bill Chamberlain, Gaylord & Karen Perry

Offering family: Brad & Sarah Nelson & family

10:00 +Don Hefti

Servers: Tony & David Linhart, Mark & Sam Steingraeber
MC: Andrew Flottmeyer

Readers: Jonella Rademacher, Patti Keil

Petitions: Luke Riley

Eucharistic: Marianne Pittman, Mary Ellen Robertson, Mary Ann Brownell, Barb & Terry Felt

Offering family: Jay & Ann Linhart & family

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays, 2:15 (grade school) and 5:15

AROUND THE PARISH

GOOD-BYE TO FATHER FRANCIS

February 16 & 17

We will have the opportunity to say our farewells to Father after all the Masses on this weekend and enjoy some social time together. Saturday evening after the 4:30 Mass refreshments will be served. On Sunday the Men's and Women's Clubs will join forces and serve breakfast after the Masses. All are welcome to enjoy a meal and visit with Father.

If you have some photos of Father that you can loan to us, please drop them off in the parish office by Thursday this week. Put your name on the back so they can be returned. How we wish we had a snapshot of Father operating a snow blower for the first time.

HAPPY 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

February 7

Don and Mary Webb

TEACHING THE WAY OF LOVE

Presentation by Alice Heinzen of the Diocesan Office of Family Life

Mon. Feb 11, 6:30-8:30

Aquinas Middle School Auditorium

Parent ONLY program will help moms and dads with kids in kindergarten through 8th grade

*What to expect at each stage of development

*How to discipline and motivate with respect

*How to talk AND listen

*How to discuss growth & development issues with confidence

REST IN PEACE

Edith Berry

Margaret Lang

Robert Partridge,

father of Sandy Wiggert

Jane Bowman-Nigon

Sister-in-law of Tom

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS

Grades 1-10

Wednesday, February 13, 6:30-7:45

Students in grades 1-5 will pray the Stations of the Cross at 6:30 in church. Families are welcome.

PARISH SUPPORT

COLLECTIONS UPDATE: July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

Needed each week: \$17,400.00

Received 2/3 \$14,135.00

Definition: JESUITS: An order of priests known for their ability to find colleges with good sports teams.

COMING UP

Feb 10 First Communion & First Reconciliation parents Meeting, 9:00, Conference Room

Feb 12 Widows & Widowers, 6:00, Schmidty's

Feb 14 Lenten Study Group, 7:00

Feb 16 Refreshments after 4:30 Mass

Feb 17 Parish Breakfast after both Masses

Feb 16/17 Return Birthright Baby Bottles

MUSIC NOTES

CHILDREN'S CHOIR will practice Sat, 9:30-10:15, and will sing at 10:00 Mass next Sunday. Children in grade school are most welcome to come on board. Looking ahead, the Children's Choir will sing at 8:00 Mass on Easter Sunday.

ADULT CHOIR will practice Thurs, 7-8:00.

8:00 CHOIR will sing at the 8:00 Mass each week. We invite everyone who loves to sing to join us. The instrumentalists and singers who have been part of the Folk Choir make up the backbone of our new 8:00 Choir. To enhance and support the folks who come to the 8:00 Mass, we'd love to have a loft full of singers. Come, join us. Guess what, NO PRACTICES!

\$scrip News

School or office supplies running low? Shop Office Depot using \$scrip, then use our school's ID #70109223 for a 5% refund to school. Can't lose on this one. We sold \$53,163.00 in \$scrip in January. Our profit was \$2,339.24.

WELCOME

Mary Peeters

AREA FOOD PANTRIES ARE MOST IN NEED THIS TIME OF YEAR. They are especially asking for peanut butter, chicken noodle soup, and toilet paper right now. Let's make Lent a time to open up to the needy by bringing food to church. Children are especially invited to bring items to the altar at the time of the Offertory.

Make it a priority.

WIDOWS & WIDOWERS

Dinner at Schmidty's, Feb 12, 6pm

Contact people: Loretta Clarkin, 784-9917, or Barb Schmitz, 788-1667.

LENTEN STUDY GROUP: Theology of the Body
Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:00, Parish Center, beginning February 7
\$10 for the book Theology of the Body for Beginners
Facilitator: Ann Lankford, Director of Catechesis & Evangelization, Diocese of La Crosse
Call the Parish Office to sign up, 782-2953

MITE BOXES were given to our students on Ash Wednesday. Money collected will be used to support our Diocesan mission in Santa Cruz.

LENTEN SERIES, presentation by Fr. Sam Martin, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Saturdays. Feb. 16 topic: Church Fathers. Presentation at 9:30, Mass at 11:00. Free and open to all.

CATHOLIC TIMES renewal month is here. If you do not receive envelopes you may pick up a special Catholic Times envelope in the Narthex. Cost for the year: only \$16 if you subscribe through the parish. Drop off in the collection basket or in the parish office.

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS wishing to have a visit from someone from the parish, please contact the Parish Office. Dave Allen will be coordinating a visitation program for our shut-ins. If you know someone who'd appreciate a happy face at the door, let us know, also.

WEEKEND RETREATS at St. Anthony's Marathon. Call 715-443-2236 or email: info@sarcenter.com.

*Day on Islam, Sat, Feb 23, 10-3:30. Offering: \$40.

*Healing in Broken Place" Divorced & separated retreat, Feb 22-24. Offering: \$140.

PRO-LIFE T-SHIRTS from the National Life League can be ordered by calling Celine Laueremann at 783-4661 or the parish office at 782-2953. Cost: \$6.50.

NEW HORIZONS training for volunteers and interns Mon-Wed, Feb 11-13, 5-9:00 each night, First Baptist, 1209 Main. If interested or have questions, contact Sharon at 791-2610, ext. 301, by Feb. 6.

RSVP FRIENDLY CALLER PROGRAM helps those who are home-bound by having someone call daily to check on their welfare. If you are interested in being a participant or volunteer call RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) at 785-0500. This is a new program for our area and is free to anyone over 55 years of age.

AQUINAS new student and freshmen registration will be held Feb 18 at 6pm in the theater. For more information call 784-0287.

SPAGHETTI DINNER at Holy Trinity, Sat, Feb 16, 4:30-7:00, Leo Hall. \$6.00 adults; \$3.00 children.

CATHEDRAL SCHOOL NEWS

*Mite boxes were received on Ash Wed. Donations will be sent to our missions in South America

*Donated items will be used to create Easter baskets which will be raffled to benefit the poor

*The students will participate in weekly Stations of the Cross

Catholic charities will be holding their 2nd annual Lenten Luncheon Wed, Mar 5, 11:30-1:00, at Holy Cross Diocesan Center. Recipients of the "In my Name" award will be honored. Cost is \$25. Send check and names of attendees to Catholic Charities, PO Box 266, La Crosse, 54602.

AQUINAS Students of the Month for January
Allison Wettstein, Junior
Jennifer Alexander, Senior

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<p style="text-align:center">KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN BUFFET \$2.00 OFF WITH THIS COUPON ANY FRIDAY THROUGH MARCH 21, 5-8 PM 3020 HWY 16, LA CROSSE, WI</p>
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