

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

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 3, 2008
4th Sunday in Ordinary Times

Dear Parishioners:

Lent has come upon us early this year. Easter is March 23rd this year. The earliest Easter can possibly be is March 22nd; so indeed Lent is early. I thought I would share with you a reflection on Lent I found at the website, catholicculture.org.

What Is Lent? Lent is the penitential season of approximately 40 days set aside by the Church in order for the faithful to prepare for the celebration of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. During this holy season, inextricably connected to the Paschal Mystery, adults in RCIA programs prepare for Christian initiation, and current Church members prepare for Easter by a recalling of Baptism and by works of penance, that is, prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Even in the early Church, Lent was the season for prayerful and penitential preparation for the feast of Easter. Though the obligation of penance was originally only imposed on those who had committed public sins and crimes, by medieval times all the faithful voluntarily performed acts of penance to repair for their sins.

Ash Wednesday is the clarion call to "Repent and believe the gospel" (Mk 1:15). For the next forty days, the faithful willingly submit to fasting and self-denial in imitation of Our Lord's forty-day fast in the desert. It is in these dark and still nights, these desert-times, that the soul experiences its greatest growth. There, in the inner arena, the soul battles the world, the flesh and the devil just as Our Lord battled Satan's triple temptation in the desert. His battle was external, for Jesus could not sin; our battle is interior, but with a hope sustained by the knowledge of Christ's Easter victory over sin and death.

His victory is our renewal, our "spring" — which is the meaning of the Anglo-Saxon word, "lengten" or Lent. In this penitential season we have the opportunity to make an annual spiritual "tune-up", a 40-day retreat with Our Lord. Have we allowed worldly cares and the "daily drama" to obscure our call to holiness? Have self-love and materialism eroded our relationship with God? Then let us renew our efforts as we "follow in the footsteps of the poor and crucified Christ" (St. Francis of Assisi). *From Catholicculture.org.*

In this season and always let us pray for one another.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
Feb 4 - 10

Mon, Feb 4 Weekday

7:30 **+Louise & Gertrude Colleran**
Servers: Grace Von Ruden, Amanda Whalen

Tues, Feb 5 Agatha

7:30 **+Phil Knothe**
Servers: Tim Bettis, Tanner Beyer

Wed, Feb 6 Ash Wednesday

7:30 **Intention of Fr. Francis**
Servers: Evan Dolan, Nick Meddaugh

9:00 **+Hickey Families**
Servers: Eliza Skemp, Clare Roop

5:15 **+Don Hefti**
Servers: Mike Vanderploeg, Pete Fiorini

5:15 **NO EVENING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION TODAY**

Thurs, Feb 7 Lenten Weekday

7:30 **+Anna Dunne**
Servers: Louise Hauptert, Emma Smerud

5:15 **+Van Susteren Families**

Fri, Feb 8 Lenten Weekday

7:30 **+John & Cora Darling & John Darling, Jr.**
Servers: Alec Pham, Alex Harris

Sat, Feb 9 Lenten Weekday

7:30 **+Bernard Banasik**
Servers: Shelby Lawrynck, Courtney Frick

1st Sunday of Lent

Sat, Feb 9

4:30 **+Ken Potaracke**
Servers: Debbie Oney, Monica Kachel, Mary Dolan
MC: Pete Fiorini
Readers: Steve and Marian Pavela
Petitions: Katie Gees
Eucharist: Ed Maroon, Mary Ann Bradley, Loretta Clarkin,
Susan Fukuda, Chris Papke
Offering family: Dr. Robert & Yvonne Caplan

Sun, Feb 10

8:00 **For the People of the Parish**
Servers: Casey Cooper, Jamie Cooper, Mitchell Degenhardt,
Mike Guggenbuehl
MC: Mike Vanderploeg
Readers: Bob Skemp, Ruth Vanderploeg
Petitions: Emily Walker
Eucharist: Carol Melde, Mary Ritter, Joe Clements,
Dave Allen
Offering family: Earl & Lucille Newton

10:00 **Intention of Tom Fukuda Birthday**

Servers: Michael Hanson, Bob Kachel, Luke Riley, Luke Schuttenhelm
MC: Jason Hutzler
Readers: Scott Doberstein, Mark Steingraeber
Petitions: Cassie Steele
Eucharistic: Betty Roth, Dave & Trish Coriden, Kathy Curti, Carolyn Steingraeber
Offering family: Joe & Natalie Bennett & family

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT
FRIDAYS, 5:15

AROUND THE PARISH

PARISH VALENTINE PARTY

Sunday, February 10, 5-8 pm

Parish Center

You won't want to miss this!

mixers will be supplied.

Loads of hors de oeuvres

Music, fun, fellowship

\$15 per person. Tickets available in the Parish Office during the week.

BYOB –

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.

To the Men's Club for footing the bill for the new lighting in church. It surely is an improvement!

PRESCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Will be held during our 10:00 Mass on Sundays in the Parish Center. Questions? Call Helen Roop, 796-2644.

WIDOWS & WIDOWERS

Dinner at Schmidty's

Feb 12, 6pm

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

Needed:

Someone who can do calligraphy.

Contact Karen Perry, 788-1546

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS

Grades 1-10

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

Students and families, meet in church at 6:30 for a Prayer Service, distribution of ashes, and giving of Mite Boxes.

PARISH SUPPORT

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

Needed each week: \$17,400.00

Received 1/27 \$16,463.00

Definition: HOLY WATER: A liquid whose chemical formula is H2OLY.

COMING UP

Feb 7 Lenten Study Group begins, 7:00

Feb 9 Family Rosary, 5:30, school

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

Feb 10 Parish Valentine Party, 5-8 pm

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

Feb 16 Refreshments after 4:30 Mass

Feb 17 Parish Breakfast after both Masses

Feb 16/17 Return Birthright Baby Bottles

MUSIC NOTES

ADULT CHOIR will practice Thurs, 7-8:00. Think about joining the choir for the Lenten and Easter Seasons. We'd love to have you! The choir will sing at 10:00 Mass next Sunday.

8:00 CHOIR will sing at the 8:00 Mass next week. We invite anyone 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!

\$crip 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.

Labels for Education

The students in our school are hoping to collect 20,000 Campbell soup labels. They're up to over 11,000 so far. Cut the UPC code from the label, and drop off in the church narthex or at school. Mmm-good

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.

FAMILY ROSARY

Saturday, February 9, 5:30, School Cafeteria

Come, pray with and for Father Francis.

Bring a dish to pass for supper.

Questions? Contact Barb Clements, 782-5777.

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

ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS in the Crypt Chapel at the Diocesan Center Mon, Feb 4, 7-8 pm. Ice cream social following. We invite all to join us in prayer for ALL vocations – priesthood, consecrated religious, married and dedicated single life.

CATHEDRAL HEALTH FAIR Thurs, Feb 7, 2-4 pm, in the undercroft. Free and open to all. Over 20 healthcare groups will be presenting at this educational opportunity.

CATHEDRAL SCHOOL Q & A Principal John Stellflue and teacher Kathy Fitzpatrick will be here after the 10:00 Mass on Feb. 10 to answer any questions you may have about Cathedral Kindergarten through 2nd grades, and 4-yr-old kindergarten. Round-ups are scheduled for Feb. 12 and 19. For more information about Cathedral School call 782-5998.

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.

*Women's retreat, Feb 9-10 "Art is an Expression of One's Soul" Offering: \$95. No art experience necessary.

**"How and Where Do We Find God in our Depression", Feb 16, 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 Lauermaann 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.

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MEN'S CLUB MEETING, Jan 28

- *There was a big turn-out despite bad weather
- *Numbers were down at the Jan. breakfast, but expenses were covered
- *Wafer, Serra Club, & Fr. Francis sent letters of thanks for monetary Support
- *The Club voted to fund the new lighting in church
- *Cornish Hen dinner will be April 27
- *Next calendar raffle will be in June
- *The Club will give Fr. Francis a good-bye gift of \$500
- *Next meeting: Feb 25

WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING, Jan 24

- *25 ladies attended and shared a pot luck lunch
- *Balance in the bank: \$14,320.93
- *Letters of thanks from Frs. Olson & Francis were read
- *Nominating committee will have a slate of officers for spring meeting
- *Valentine Party is set for Feb 10, 5-8. A committee was formed to chair the event
- *Unanimous vote to give \$500 to Fr. Francis
- *Karen Perry will chair the Christmas Fair in Nov.
- *We are reminded to pray for our sick & deceased members

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FRIDAY FISH DINNER
\$2.00 OFF WITH THIS COUPON
ANY FRIDAY THROUGH MARCH 21, 5-8 PM
3020 HWY 16, LA CROSSE, WI