

Blessed Sacrament Parish

130 Losey Boulevard S. La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601

Father David Olson, Pastor

Father Edmund Donkor-Baine, Associate Pastor

November 2, 2008

Parish Breakfast

Next Sunday
After both Masses

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

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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

Confessions heard in church; other times by appointment

EVENING PRAYER DAILY WITH BENEDICTION ON WEDNESDAYS

5:15 *in the Adoration Chapel*

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.

November 2, 2008
All Soul's Day

By virtue of the consoling doctrine of the communion of saints the merits and prayers of each one are able to help all; and the Church is able to join her prayer with that of the saints in heaven and supply what is wanting to the souls in purgatory by means of the Mass, indulgences and the alms and sacrifices of her children.

The celebration of Mass, the sacrifice of Calvary continued on our altars, has ever been for the Church the principal means of fulfilling towards the dead the great commandment of charity. Masses for the dead are found in the fifth century. But it was St. Odilo, fourth abbot of Cluny, who was responsible for the institution of the general commemoration of all the faithful departed; he instituted it and fixed its celebration on November 2, the day after All Saints. The practice spread to the rest of Christendom.

Daily in a special Memento in the Canon of the Mass, at which the priest remembers all those who have fallen asleep in the Lord, the priest implores God to grant them a place of happiness, light and peace. Thus there is no Mass in which the Church does not pray for the faithful departed; but today her thoughts are directed towards them in a particular fashion, with the maternal preoccupation of leaving no soul in purgatory without spiritual aid and of grouping them all together in her intercession.

(Catholicculture.org.)

Merciful Father, hear our prayers and console us. As we renew our faith in Your Son, whom You raised from the dead, strengthen our hope that all our departed brothers and sisters will share in His resurrection, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
November 3 - 9, 2008

This week's reader: Earl Newton

Communion Minister: Mary Ann Bradley

Mon, Nov 3 Weekday, Martin de Porres

7:30 **+Bob Fowler (Anniv.)**

Servers: Bill Chamberlain

Tues, Nov 4 Charles Borromeo

7:30 **+Renata Hegenbarth (Anniv.)**

Servers: Pete Fiorini

Wed, Nov 5 Weekday

7:30 **+Phil Knothe**

Servers: Jason Hutzler

9:00 **+Daniel Hess**

5:15 Evening Prayer & Benediction

Server: Sam Steingraeber

Thurs, Nov 6 Weekday

7:30 **+Virgil Grabinski**

Servers: Courtney Frick, Meredith Wedro

Fri, Nov 7 Weekday

7:30 **+Alfred Gerke (Anniv.)**

Servers: Thomas Gallagher, Hannah Nelson

Sat, Nov 8 Weekday, BVM

7:30 **+Alvin & Elizabeth Gerke**

Servers: Emilie Steingraeber, Danielle Langlie

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome

Sat, Nov 8

4:30 +Greg Schmitz (Anniv.)

MC: Pete Fiorini

Servers: Hannah Nelson, Debbie Oney, Monica Kachel

Readers: Steve & Marian Pavela

Petitions: Kate Riley

Eucharist: Mary Ann Bradley, Loretta Clarkin, Susan Fukuda, Chris Papke

Ushers: Wayne Levi, Walt Susdorf, Allan Fukuda, Dave Sweeney

Offering family: Kay Nix & James Nagel

Sun, Nov 9

8:00 +Fred Hegenbarth

MC: William Arnold

Servers: Connor Rademacher, Matthew Brannon, Sam Scheidt, Josh Alexander

Readers: Bob Skemp, Ruth Vanderploeg

Petitions: Kami Doberstein

Eucharist: Carol Melde, Mike Vanderploeg, Florence Koenig, Dave Allen, Gaylord Perry

Ushers: Bob Peshak, Joe Sweeney, Lloyd Koenig, John Gallagher

Offering family: Jack & Pat Scheidt

10:00 For the People of the Parish

MC: Mike Vanderploeg

Servers: Mark Vach, Bobby Kachel, Luke Riley, Luke Schuttenhelm

Readers: Scott Doberstein, Mark Steingraeber

Petitions: Claire Donskey

Eucharist: Betty Roth, David & Trish Coriden, Kathy Curti, Caryl Doberstein, Carol Steingraeber

Ushers: John Sullivan, Jim Kroner, Syl Schaub, Tom Richert

Offering family: Tim & Carol Hall

AROUND THE PARISH

PARISH BREAKFAST

Next Sunday after both Masses
\$3.00 suggested donation per adult
Come and enjoy pancakes & sausage with
your fellow parishioners
Helpers welcome (set-up, serve, clean up)
Contact Tim Hall at 788-0042
to volunteer.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the
RUMMAGE SALE
We sure "redistributed" a lot of stuff!!
Couldn't have done it without you.

BLANKETS FOR THE HOMELESS
PUT YOUR GOOD CLEAN BLANKETS IN THE BIN IN THE
NARTHEX. THE SALVATION ARMY NEEDS THEM
BADLY AS THE COLD WEATHER SETS IN. ARE THERE
ANY TEENS AND PARENTS WHO COULD DELIVER THE
BLANKETS FOR US? CALL SCOTT AT 782-1833 OR
MARCIA AT 781-1318.
SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

WELCOME

Tim & Molly Willenbring
and Shane

CHRISTMAS FAIR Heads-up
Elves will be needed to make cinnamon ornaments on
Nov. 13 and decorated cut-out cookies on Nov. 19,
both at 10:00, in the Parish Center kitchen.
Decorating and artistic expertise is NOT required. If
you'd like, bring your fun cookies cutters, pastry
piping bags, and basting brushes. For cookies bring
along colored sugars, sprinkles and other toppings.
Got questions? Call Bernice Lansing at 793-1972.
WANTED: Santa I have the suit. I need someone to
wear it for about 2 ½ hours on Nov. 22. Call Karen
Perry at 788-1546 if you're up to some Ho! Ho! Holing.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Grades 1-10
Wed, Nov 5, 6:30-7:45

PARISH SUPPORT

COLLECTIONS UPDATE: July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009
Needed each week: \$17,400.00
Received 10/26: \$ 8,981.00

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The best exercise for the heart is reaching down
and lifting people up.

COMING UP

Nov 4 Pastoral Council Meeting
Nov 11 Finance Council Meeting
Nov 13 Make and package cinnamon ornaments for
Christmas Fair, 10 am
Nov 16 Family Rosary after 10:00 Mass
Nov 19 Make and decorate cut-out cookies for
Christmas Fair, 10 am
Nov 22 Christmas Fair, 8:30 – 3:00
Nov 24 Men's Club Meeting, 7 pm
Nov 24-30 Our Parish's week for Mobile Meals

MUSIC NOTES

ADULT CHOIR, (High school age and older) will practice
Thursday, 7-8:00, in the choir loft.
CHILDREN'S CHOIR (grade school age) will practice
Sat, Nov 15 and 22, 9:30-10:15, in the choir loft. The
Choir will sing at the 10:00 Mass on Nov. 16, at the
Christmas Fair on Nov. 22, and on Christmas Eve at the
4:30 pm Mass. We'd love to have more children join us!
Call Pauline at 782-2953.
TEEN CHOIR will sing at the 10:00 Mass next Sunday.

REST IN PEACE

+**Debra Schlegel**

daughter of Bob & Ruth Peshak

+**James Smith**

husband of Fran

+**Ophelia Rotering**

VOLUNTEER GROUP OF THE WEEK

ADULT CHOIR

(open to high school age and older)

John Pearse	Sally Oswalt	Luci Johnson
MaryAnn Melvin	Susie Bush	John Stubler
Tom Nigon	Theresa Kivi	Diane Franke
Georgia Gray	Joan Berg	Liz Nutter
Jennie David	Denis Kuennan	Jennifer Kulzer
Rose Wettstein	Lynn Sallander	Gaylord Perry

MaryJane McElligott

Mary Ellen Robertson

Colleen Gleason

Michelle Johnson

Director, Mark Earleywine, 397-7210

Accompanists, Pauline Connell & Jennifer Kulzer

If you like to sing, join us for the Advent and Christmas
seasons and maybe longer.

ADORATION FOR VOCATION will be held in the crypt chapel at the Diocesan Center Monday, Nov 3, 7-8 pm. All are invited.

ALL SOULS' DAY On Nov 2 it is possible to gain an indulgence for the lessening of purgatory for one or more souls in purgatory. The faithful who visit a church or a cemetery to pray for the faithful departed, saying the Lord's Prayer and the Creed (even if only mentally), may gain a plenary indulgence once only under the usual conditions: sacramental confession (8 days before or after the act), Eucharistic Communion on that day, and prayer for the Pope's intentions (usually one Our Father and Hail Mary as minimum). Each day between Nov 1 and Nov 9, this gains a plenary indulgence that can only be applied to the Poor Souls in Purgatory. Any other time of the year this gains a partial indulgence.

"Sacramentum Caritatis," Pope Benedict's apostolic exhortation on the Eucharist will be the topic of the first Cathedral Forum this year. It will be Sat, Nov 8, 9-10:00, in the Cathedral Undercroft with Fr. Michael Gorman presenting. The second part of Father Gorman's presentation will be December 13. Refreshments will be served and all are welcome to attend.

BLESSED HARVEST BAZAAR at St. Elizabeth's in Holmen Sat, Nov 8, 9-2:00.

HOLLY BERRY FAIR at St. James Nov 15, 9-6:00, & Nov 16, 8:30-11:30.

CHRISTMAS FAIR here at Blessed Sacrament, Nov 22, 8:30 - 3:00.

MARRIAGE BOOSTER RETREAT, sponsored by the Franciscan Spirituality Center, will be offered Sat, Nov 8, 9:00-4:30. Cost: \$99 per couple. Prepare yourself for a romantic, interactive and unique experience. Register by calling 791-5295 or email: fscenter@fspa.org.

TINY TIM GALA BENEFIT, to support local health-related charities, will be held Sat, Nov 8, 5:30, in the La Crosse Center Ballroom. An elegant buffet, musical entertainment, silent and live auctions. Call 392-9766 for reservations. Sponsored by the Franciscan Skemp Auxiliary.

BLOOD DRIVE at the Cathedral Nov. 17. Call 782-0322, ext 0, to save your spot.

THOSE AFFECTED BY SUICIDE A support group will meet at Holy Trinity Nov 19, 7-9:00 pm. For more information call Nancy at 769-5007 or email Mary at marystoy@gmail.com.

CARD PARTY, sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of America, will be held today, Nov 2, 2-4:00, in the Cathedral Undercroft. Lunch and door prizes. \$2.00 donation. Men & women are welcome.

PLANNED GIVING SEMINAR Wed, Nov 12, 7-8:30 pm, Reinhart Center at Viterbo U. Speaker: David Stickler. Topics: estate planning and charitable giving. RSVP by Fri, Nov 7, by calling 784-0707 or email monica.herman@couleecatholicschools.org.

ALUNIMUM CANS may be dropped off in the Aquinas parking lot bin. Thanks! The Booster Club.

BIRTHRIGHT has openings for special volunteers. Birthright is a free, non-profit emergency pregnancy service. Volunteers offer friendly, non-judgmental information and help to anyone affected by a troubling or unwanted pregnancy. Call 782-0373 to volunteer your time.

***YOUTH RALLY** for Middle and High School students will be held Dec. 20 at St. Elizabeth's, Holmen. Mark your calendar. Music, prayer, fellowship, fun! Cost: \$5.00

***PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE** in Washington DC, Jan 20-24. Open to anyone 13 yrs. old and older. \$235 per person includes motorcoach, 2 nights in hotel, sweatshirt. Full amount due Dec. 1. This is a HUGE rally for life. Don't miss joining with thousands of others at our Nation's Capitol to make your voice heard. For more information contact Sister Stephanica at snewell@dioceseoflacrosse.com. Registration form available on the Diocesan website at Youth Ministry Events link.

Notes from the Pastor:

In looking this over it seems more like a newsletter than pastoral notes. Informing you about the goings on in our parish is, however, also part of my concern as Pastor. So here goes:

Volunteer SCRIP Coordinators

Last week I told you that we would be looking for a new volunteer SCRIP coordinator for our parish. I am glad to let you know that two parishioners have already stepped forward to volunteer for that task and will share the labor doing this potentially very beneficial work for the parish. Thank you to both of them for taking on this task. With the aid of other volunteers to sell SCRIP, I predict this program will expand and will be an even more beneficial program for the parish and schools than it has been up to this time.

Parish staffing needs

This week I want to share with you some further information concerning staffing at Blessed Sacrament. I have already shared this with the members of the Parish Finance Council in seeking their advice and consent. In looking at the parish's staff and our current needs, there are two immediate goals: (1) to bring some needed attention to the ongoing maintenance of the buildings and (2) to do so within the current budget we have for employees. With the economy as it is and for us to maintain all the buildings we now have responsibility for, it is important for us to meet both of these two goals.

Before the change to the unified school system, the church and school shared a single custodian. But, for the past several years the church has relied on volunteers almost exclusively for custodial and maintenance work. That has also meant that at times we responded to maintenance and custodial needs by hiring someone to fix what was broken rather than pro-actively performing the ongoing maintenance and custodial work that might have prevented the break in the first place. Since the construction of the Parish Center, and with the large size of the church, Parish Center, offices and rectory, and with our new responsibility to oversee capital improvements in the school building, [see the note below on School building use] we simply need someone on a routine basis to oversee the maintenance and custodial work for the entire group of buildings.

In the past year I have put in place an active buildings and grounds committee to oversee the needs for repairs and improvements and we have many wonderful volunteers who already help with maintenance and custodial work by doing such things as putting in light bulbs, vacuuming, mopping, shoveling snow, and trimming bushes. Because of this I believe we can get along with a part-time person who can coordinate the work of volunteers as our needs change from time to time, but who will be ultimately responsible for needed custodial work and ongoing routine maintenance. This will allow us to foresee and prevent problems rather than simply having to react when something breaks down.

To accomplish the second goal of doing this within our current budget some change must occur. By shifting some employee responsibilities and changing from a salaried "office manager" to a parish secretary with hours approximating the twenty-seven hours a week the office is open, we will realize a savings of about \$31,000 per year. This is also being done in conjunction with the new volunteer SCRIP Coordinator which will ease time constraints on the parish office staff. The savings from the reduction in hours for office staff will more than pay for a part-time custodian - maintenance person.

The task of a Pastor is not only the spiritual wellbeing of the parish, but also prudent stewardship of the money, property, and resources of the parish. With prudent stewardship we can afford within our current budget to have both needed secretarial staffing as well as maintenance staffing in our parish. The generous spirit of the many people who volunteer in Blessed Sacrament Parish is a wonderful thing for any Pastor to see. I predict that as a consequence of some of these changes, we will see an even greater flourishing of this spirit of generosity which is already of such great benefit to the parish.

School building use agreement with CCS

When the unified school system, CCS, was put in place eight years ago, the school building and its maintenance and repairs became the responsibility of the school system. That changed in the past year when Bishop ListECKI directed that parishes become the owners of the school buildings. Since then we have been negotiating a usage agreement with the school system for the Blessed Sacrament school building. In essence our agreement with the school was that we would assume ownership and maintain the major components of the building. In turn, CCS would pay us a lease amount for using the building. Our goal is to recover the costs which Blessed Sacrament Parish pays for capital improvements to the building. This week we reached an agreement where Blessed Sacrament will recover \$25,000 of capital improvements this school year. We have paid \$37,800 for capital improvements for windows, concrete repairs and roof repairs, but as CCS continues to use the building, we will seek to recover our costs over the coming years to create a net lease arrangement. Part of our responsibility will be to make sure needed maintenance is being done and to prepare for future capital expenses to maintain the integrity and value of the building.

Parish Pastoral Council Elections

Last week we took time out of Mass for the Parish Council elections. My thanks to the seven very well qualified and very generous parishioners who stepped forward volunteering their time and talent for the Parish Council. The three top votes went to Dave Reinders, Galen Pittman and Helen Roop. Congratulations to these three who will join the parish council at our next meeting on November 4.

As we continue to work together for the good of our parish let us strive as always to give glory to God in all that we do and let us pray for one another.

