

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13, 2009

Blessed Sacrament Parish
Losey Boulevard S. La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601
Father David Olson, Pastor

PARISH OFFICE 782-2953 BL. SAC. SCHOOL 782-5564 AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
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Eileen Francksen, *Secretary* Kay Berra, *Principal*
Pauline Connell, *Director of Music and Coordinator of Religious Education*
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.

December 13, 2009
Third Sunday of Advent

Notes from the Pastor:

Advent is for us to prepare for the coming of Christ with eager anticipation. That is to say we increase that expectation with each day. Beginning on December 17 the Church's official evening prayer includes what are known as the "O antiphons." The antiphons are actually several verses long but they contain short titles given to Christ by the prophecies of the Old Testament. In order from the 17th to the 24th they are O Wisdom, O Lord of might, O Root of Jesse, O Key of David, O Dawn (or Dayspring), O Ruler of the Nations, O Emmanuel. These were composed beginning around the 4th century by monks to anticipate the coming of Jesus on the night of the 24th. In fact, taken in reverse order the first letter of each title in Latin spells out "Ero cras" meaning "Tomorrow I will come." Monks can be so clever! When we sing "O come O come Emmanuel" we use each of the "O antiphons" as we anticipate the coming of Christ. So sing it with some gusto, now you know where the song comes from.

Thank you for the many cards and gifts for my birthday (Dec 5) and for your warm wishes.

Thank you to the Family Life committee who did a fine job of organizing a brunch for new members of our parish. The Family Life committee has become quite active and is always in need of more members and willing hands to make projects come to fruition. The Family Life committee is a subcommittee of the Pastoral Council. The Committee's charge includes many aspects of life in the parish.

If you are one of the many volunteers who helps in our parish be sure to mark your calendar for the Parish's volunteer appreciation gathering on January 17.

Let us pray for one another,

Fr. Olson

READERS AT DAILY MASS

A new schedule is being prepared. If you would like to change your date for reading, be dropped or added to the schedule, please call Betty Nelson at 788-6688 ASAP.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
Dec 14 - 20, 2009

Reader: Steve Pavela

Extr. Minister of Body of Christ: Bill Chamberlain

Mon, Dec 14 John of the Cross

7:30 **+Eleanor A. Pavela**

Server: Bill Chamberlain

Tues, Dec 15 Advent Weekday

7:30 **+Louise A. Robers (Anniv.)**

Server: Pete Fiorini

Wed, Dec 16 Advent Weekday

7:30 **Intention of Therese Schaub**
80th Birthday

Server: Jason Hutzler

9:00 **+Mary Shimanski**

5:15 Evening Prayer and Benediction this week

Server: Kristen Sauer

Thurs, Dec 17 Advent Weekday

7:30 **+Robert Gohann**

Servers: Danielle Langlie, Emilie Steingraeber

Fri, Dec 18 Advent Weekday

7:30 **+Mary K. Howard**

Servers: Maria Franke, Danielle Langlie

Sat, Dec 19 Advent Weekday

7:30 **+Jerry Heberlein**

Servers: Kellan Doberstein, Ryan Scheidt

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sat, Dec 19

4:30 +Dorothy Schwei

MC: Pete Fiorini

Servers: Claire & Derek Craig, Matt Brannon

Readers: David & Anna Curtis

Petitions: Helen Kirch

Eucharist: Walt Susdorf, Ruth Wills, Marilyn Holland, Deb Brannon, Pauline Jagodzinski

Ushers: Ralph Jagodzinski, Mike Watunya, Allan Fukuda, Dave Sweeney

Offering family: Brian & Dawn Marie Harris family

Sun, Dec 20

8:00 For the People of the Parish

MC: Mike Vanderploeg

Servers: Eric Clements, Charlie Hlavaka, Sam Scheidt

Readers: Betty Nelson, Jeff George

Petitions: Elizabeth Brennan

Eucharist: Mary Ritter, Bill Chamberlain, Bernice Lansing, Denis Kuennen, Carol Melde

Ushers: Dave Herlitzke, Paul Lyga, Joe Durst, Pat Cavadini

Offering family: Irm & Bob Drier

10:00 +Ruth Hefti

MC:

Servers: Gus, Fritz, & Lucy Wiggert

Readers: Jonella Rademacher, Patti Keil

Petitions: Olivia Curti

Eucharist: Marianne Pittman, Mary Ellen Robertson, Mary Ann Brownell, Terry Felt, Cheryl Pearse

Ushers: Tony Weisse, Tim Desmond, Dan Skaff, Steve Flottmeyer

Offering family: Greg & Fran Sauer family

AROUND THE PARISH

WOMEN'S CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER

Tues, Dec 15, 5:30

Parish Center

Dinner prepared by the Officers

If you bring a gal who normally does not come to the meeting, your name will go into a drawing for a fabulous gift. Call 782-2953, ext. 2, to make your reservation.

Thanks to all the Women of the Parish who give so generously of their time, resources, and talents!

FEEDING THE FLOCK Parish Cookbook

What a treasure of a Christmas Gift!

Cookbooks are on sale now.

Buy one and get a second for half price.

Cookbooks available in the Parish Office and after Masses.

Bon Appetit

REST IN PEACE

Karlton Keppel
husband of Elizabeth

Poinsettias for the altar

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for use in church during the Christmas season - in memory or in honor of someone - give the Parish Office a call at 782-2953, ext. 2.

BAPTISM

Madeline Victoria Parke
daughter of George & Joan

A limited number of Pictorial Directories (\$5.00) and 2010 commemorative calendars (\$10.00) are for sale in the parish office

Nuptials

Annie Kolaczowski & Mitch Knutson
December 12

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS

Wed, Dec 16, 6:30-7:45

Because class was cancelled last week we will NOT have a caroling party as planned.

PARISH SUPPORT

COLLECTIONS UPDATE: July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

Needed each week: \$14,000

Received: December 6 \$13,785

YEAR TO DATE

Needed: \$322,000

Received: \$253,843

No one ever went to their deathbed saying, "You know, I wish I'd eaten more rice cakes."

COMING UP

Dec 13 Parish Breakfast

Dec 15 Women's Club Christmas Dinner

Dec 21-27 Our week for Mobile Meals

Jan 17 Volunteer Appreciation Party, 3-5 pm

Jan 20 – 24 March for Life, Washington DC

Jan 23 Senior Dinner – MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MUSIC NEWS AND NOTES

ADULT CHOIR practice Thurs, 7-8 pm, and will sing at the 10:00 Mass next Sunday. The choir will also sing at the 6 pm Christmas Eve Mass. ½ hour of caroling before Mass.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR will sing with the **TEEN CHOIR** at the 4 pm Christmas Eve Mass. ½ hour of caroling before Mass.

\$crip News

Call 782-2953, ext. 6

GOOD NEWS: Shipshape Carwash cards can also be used at Quick Clean Carwash on Mormon Coulee Rd, and, at this time of year, a car wash is sometimes necessary so you can remember what color your vehicle really is. Christmas candies – shop Finnottes. Christmas flowers – shop Monet or Bittersweet. Kitchen gadgets, power tools, even sleds – shop Kroner's Hardware downtown.

Christmas and Jan 1: if you would like to participate by being a reader, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, usher, or petition reader, call Pauline in the Parish Office, 782-2953, ext. 3.

Mass times: Christmas Eve, 4 and 6 pm

Christmas Day, 8 and 10 am

Dec 31, 5:15 pm (fireworks afterward)

Jan 1, 8 and 10 am.

ANGELS OF MERCY

If you or someone you know is seriously ill, facing surgery, or needs prayers, please contact the Parish Office so our **ANGELS OF MERCY PRAYER GROUP** can be notified.

THE GIVING TREE

If you missed bringing your gifts to church this past weekend, please drop them off in the Parish Office by Friday morning for delivery to Catholic Charities.

If you can help with the distribution of the gifts at Catholic Charities, please call 782-0710.
22, 9 am to 4 pm.

Help will be needed Dec 14-17, Dec 21 &

YOUTH RALLY Plan to attend the rally at St. Elizabeth's in Holmen on Dec 19, 10:30 am to 6:30 pm. "We Just Can't Wait for our King" will include great music, inspirational speaker, pizza, time for adoration, confession, and Mass. Register by Dec. 16 by calling 526-4424. Cost: \$10.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED at the Village on Cass during mealtimes of the weekends. If you can come, 11:00 – 1:00 or 4:30-6:30, please call Jan Pohlman at 392-9578. Cheerful service and enjoying a meal with the residents will surely be rewarded!

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON

Aquinas High School Concert Dec 13, 2 pm, gym.

Aquinas Middle School Concert Dec 13, 6:30 pm, gym.

Blessed Sacrament School band and 5th & 6th grade Advent Program Mon, Dec 21, 1:00 & 6:30

AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 13, noon – 2 pm

Meet the faculty, take a tour, find out about transportation and financial aid opportunities.

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE Have you lost someone to suicide? Join a group of folks for support and conversation this Wed, Dec 16, 7-9 pm, in the Rose Room at the Franciscan Spirituality Center, 920 Market St. For more information contact Nancy, 769-5007, or Mary at marystoy@gmail.com.

JESUS OF NAZARETH STUDY GROUP will meet Tues, Dec 15, 6:30-7:30, in our Parish Center. Father Peter Damian Fehler is the presenter. He will cover chapters 6 & 7. For more information contact Luna at 788-5752.

FOUND IN SCHOOL Claim in the school office: Xcel Energy jacket, size L, with initials MH on inside tag, along with a Viterbo Athletic coupon book; a watch; key with the number 7039 on it; pink telephone holder.

ADVENT HYMN SING Sun, Dec 20, 7 pm, Christ Episcopal Church, 111 North 9th. \$5 donation asked along with a canned item for WAFER. The La Crosse Chamber Choral and organist Dean Whiteway will perform.

DID YOU KNOW? Following conception at 18 days a baby's heart begins to beat; at 43 days the brain coordinates movements; at 8 weeks all organs are functioning; at 9 weeks permanent fingerprints; at 10 weeks sense of touch (comfort/pain); at 12 weeks a baby can smile, suck, and make a fist.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES GOT YOU DOWN? Problems can develop quickly and can be devastating. Whether you need a fresh start or just some advice, our experienced financial and housing counselors are available to help. Call Catholic Charities at 892-0710.