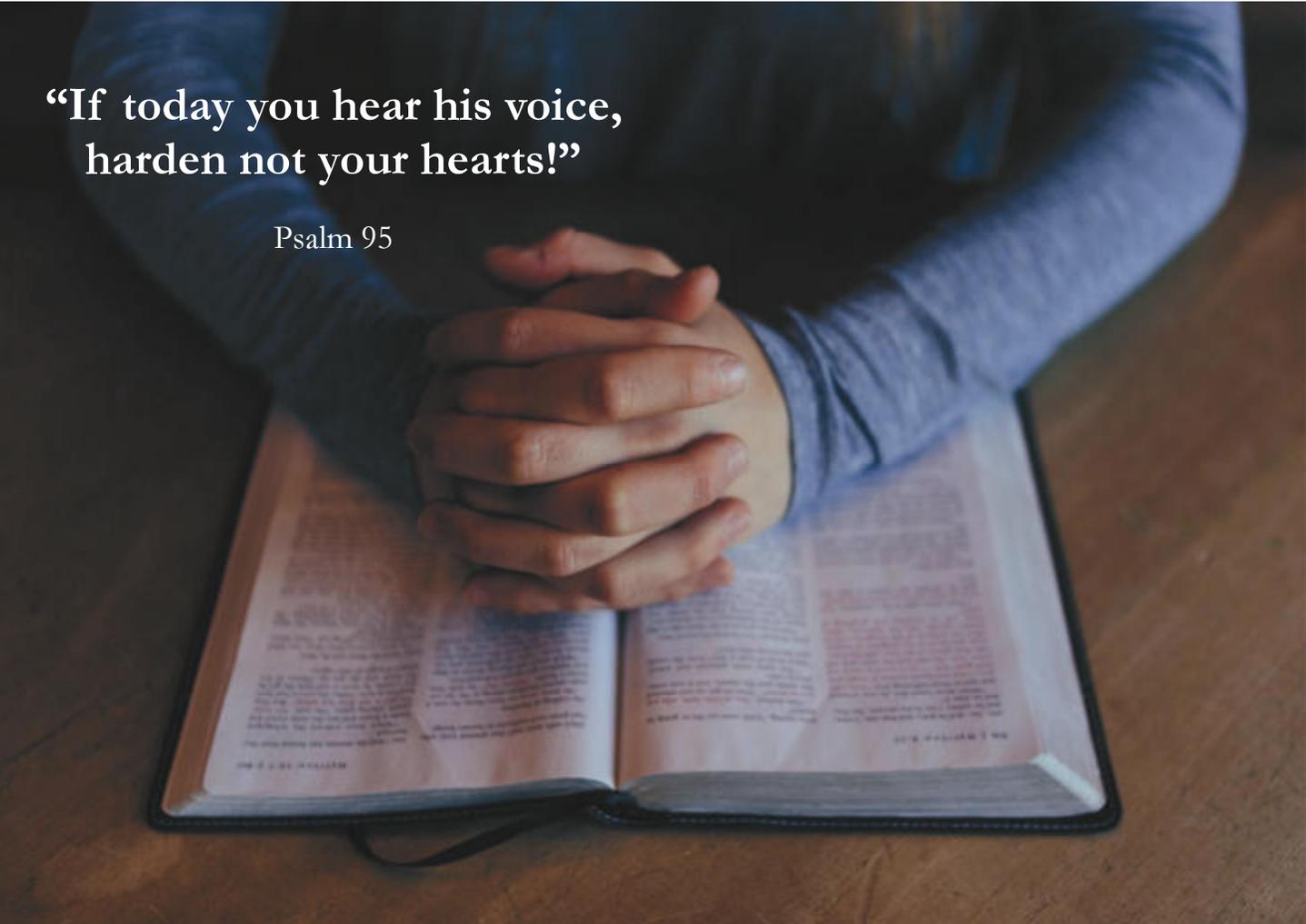


BLESSED SACRAMENT

2116 HOLLISTER AVENUE • MADISON, WI 53726

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 31, 2021



“If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts!”

Psalm 95

Parish Mission Statement

Blessed Sacrament Parish forms and nurtures active disciples of Christ, who love God and neighbor, through the Dominican pillars of Prayer, Study, Community, & Ministry.

Parish Vision Statement

To be a flourishing faith community, with all parishioners engaged in transforming lives through evangelization and discipleship.

Mass Times

Monday & Friday: 8:30 AM
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 7:00 & 8:30 AM
Saturday: 8:30 AM & Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, & 11:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday: 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 to 10:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday: 6:30 to 7:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 to 10:00 AM & 4:15 to 4:45 PM
Sunday: 7:00 to 7:30 AM & 10:15 to 10:45 AM



Fr. Ron Kreul, O.P.
frron@bbsacrament.org

In search of conversations about the Sunday readings

Talk of spirits and demons seems primitive and makes us uncomfortable today. We prefer to speak of poverty and mental illness as the causes of bizarre behavior. We also hesitate to use the word evil, which sounds judgmental, and look to medical science to deliver us from our demons. Medical science has accomplished a great deal in that regard and promises to achieve even more. However, medical science is unlikely ever to solve the problem of evil, which is a spiritual problem and a present reality. We have only to read a newspaper to confirm the pervasive presence of evil in our world.

<https://sermonwriter.com/biblical-commentary/mark-121-28/>

What is to be said about the devil?

The gospels name the forces of hell in two ways: sometimes they speak of the devil (diabolus) and at other times of satan (satanus). Are the terms synonymous? Not exactly: Diabolus means to divide, to tear apart; whereas satanus, most curiously, means almost the opposite; it connotes a frenzied, sick, group-think that accuses somebody or something. In essence what the gospels tell us is that the powers of hell, satan and the devil, work in two ways: sometimes they work as the devil by dividing us from God, each other, and from what is best within us. Sometimes they work in just the opposite way, as satan. Here they unite us to each other but through the grip of mob-hysteria, envy-induced hype, and the kind of sick unity that makes for gang-rapes and crucifixions.

And at the root of both lies the same thing, envy. It is no accident that, among the ten commandments, only envy has two inscriptions against it. Jealousy is the devil's tool and satan's weapon. Through envy, the devil works at dividing us from each other. From envy we get the kind of paranoia, jealousy, sense of being wronged, and bitterness that dissipates families, communities, churches, and whole nations. The devil tears us apart. Satan, using the same weapon, works differently. As satan, envy unites us so as to put us into the frenzied, mad pitch of the lynch mob, the crowd hell-bent on crucifixion. Satan uses envy to pit the crowd against an outsider.

Thus, the devil causes us to be distant and distrustful of each other, whereas satan causes us to be caught up in a sick unity that comes of scape-goating, vicious gossip, and the kind of group-hysteria that leads to blood-letting. The devil is always using envy to divide the house, whereas satan is always using envy to gear the whole house up for a crucifixion. In Jesus we see the opposite. The first word out of his mouth ("metanoia") is a word uttered against the power of the devil: be un-paranoid, do not let envy and suspicion divide you from each other, God, and what is highest inside yourself! Everything else Jesus says and does is intended precisely to lead us beyond division, dissipation, and being apart from each other. The kingdom he preaches is about coming together (the opposite of the devil).

https://liturgy.slu.edu/4OrdB013121/reflections_rolheiser.html

Every Sunday you can check out a variety of sources to delve more deeply into the readings. Check out these two sites to see what they offer and other sites as well.

Fr. Ron

January 31, 2021

New and Noteworthy

The Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas) is this Tuesday, February 2!

Fr. Andy will bless candles at the 7:00 am Mass on Tuesday; if you want to get candles blessed for use in your home on Candlemas, you can bring them to Mass with you this weekend and leave them in the sacristy before or after Mass, or drop them off in the parish office on Monday. Please label your candles with your name when you drop them off!

Ash Wednesday is February 17

We will have four Masses: 7:00 am, 8:30 am, 5:00 pm, and 7:00 pm. All four Masses will be streamed to the Assembly Hall for extra seating.

Annual Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend is February 13 and 14

This year's theme is "The Kingdom of God is at Hand." We ask that God guide us, and give us the ability to put our faith in Him to allow us the capacity to love and care for those in our parishes, our diocese, and the Church throughout the world.

Respect Life corner:

Arguments and counter-arguments regarding abortion

Since January is commonly observed as a month with special emphasis on life issues, particularly abortion, we will be featuring common arguments you may hear in favor of abortion and a few ways that you can respond.

ARGUMENT 5: Hard cases (baby has a deformity, baby conceived through rape or incest)

RESPONSE: We don't cure illness by killing the patient. When a family learns that the child they are expecting may have a special need, that family needs support and good solid medical information.

RESPONSE: Women who are victims of rape and incest are victims of terrible acts of violence. Tragically, we are sometimes faced with a second victim of these terrible crimes, a baby. The cruelest thing that can happen to the woman in question in those cases is for her to be pitted against her child. Support must be offered to both victims, the mother and the child.

Opportunities to Give and Serve

St. Vincent de Paul's Recycle the Warmth Blanket Drive is this weekend!

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society will place bins in the church entrances this weekend (Friday-Sunday) to collect blankets for their annual Recycle the Warmth Drive! They will accept donations of new or gently-used (and clean) blankets, quilts, and bedding. You can also purchase a blanket at any of Dane County's SVdP stores, or make a monetary donation using the SVdP box in the back of church, or at svdpmadison.org/donate/donate-blankets.

Annual Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend is February 13 and 14

This year's theme is "The Kingdom of God is at Hand." We ask that God guide us, and give us the ability to put our faith in Him to allow us the capacity to love and care for those in our parishes, our diocese, and the Church throughout the world. We ask that His grace make us even more generous in supporting those needs. Each pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal supports diocesan ministries, education, and services and assures a strong future for the Diocese of Madison and the people that it serves. Please consider making a pledge payable over 6 months to support the Diocese of Madison's many ministries.

A baby shower for Pregnancy Helpline! January 10-February 14

Our annual Diaper Drive for the Pregnancy Helpline is underway! They especially need donations of size 4, 5, and 6 diapers; size 4/5T Pull-Ups; baby wipes; and monetary donations (write "Diaper Drive" in memo line of checks). Donations of diapers and wipes can be left in front of the St. Joseph statue. Monetary donations should be mailed to/dropped off at the parish office. Or, you can use the online giving form on our website; go to the "Give" button on our homepage open the online giving form, and look for the Respect Life tab under "Additional Contributions."

Luke House Meal Program

Blessed Sacrament has committed to providing meals for Luke House on the 4th Monday of the month for the 2020-2021 school year and we're looking for volunteers to provide food and other items! If you sign up, please note that you are committing to providing items EACH month. See this sign-up for more information and to see how you can help! tinyurl.com/yyxrwxax

Mass, Church, and Office procedures

We are no longer requiring sign-ups for Sunday Masses, but keep an eye on our website and parish communications for changes to this. See our website (blsacrament.org/safety-updates) to learn more about our Mass safety procedures.

The Assembly Hall is open during the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses on Sundays! We will use our projector to broadcast the live-stream of the Mass. Please follow all normal safety precautions if you sit in Assembly Hall.

During private prayer and confessions (see front cover for adoration and confession times!), please keep adequate distance (6 feet or more) from others.

Per Dane County's emergency order #8, please wear a mask in the church during Mass and private prayer when others are present, and when entering the school and parish center.

Readings for the Week of January 31, 2021

Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/ Mk 1:21-28

Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24 [25]/ Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [8]/Heb 2:14-18/ Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a [cf. 17]/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9, 10-11 [cf. 10]/Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc [1a]/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/ Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/ 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

Please pray for all those who are ill, especially:

Andy Devine, Dan Brigham, Alexander Kotloski, Henry Pitot, David Stiennon, John Ouellette, Paul Werth, Cormac Bower, Helen Karls, Sarah Opitz-Stapleton, Dave Wirka, Ila Elizabeth Scullion, Linda Kelly, Joe Cooper, Margaret Sommer Sazani, and Colleen Brown.

Mass Intentions

+ indicates the person is deceased

Saturday, January 30, 2021

8:30 AM Mother Pia and her Carmelite Nun Community

5:00 PM +Julie Pitot (*Celebrant: Fr. Ron*)

Sunday, January 31, 2021 - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time/
Catholic Schools Week begins

7:30 AM +Sandy Harman (*Fr. Ron*)

9:00 AM Our Parish Family (*Fr. Andy*)

11:00 AM +Anne Samero (*Fr. Andy*)

Monday, February 1, 2021

8:30 AM +Marian Sweeney

Tuesday, February 2, 2021—The Presentation of the Lord

7:00 AM +Rowan Lockwood

8:30 AM Rosann Steinhauer

Wednesday, February 3, 2021—St. Blaise, bishop & martyr

7:00 AM +Mary Jean Whelan-Iacovani

8:30 AM +Besta Leland

Thursday, February 4, 2021

7:00 AM +Ed and Betty Kruchten

8:30 AM +Daniel Jantsch

Friday, February 5, 2021—St. Agatha, virgin & martyr

8:30 AM +Dave Geier

Saturday, February 6, 2021—St. Paul Miki & companions,
martyrs

8:30 AM Levi Chisolm

5:00 PM +Bertha Pitot Hubbard (*Celebrant: Fr. Andy*)

Sunday, February 7, 2021 - 45th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM Our Parish Family (*Fr. Andy*)

9:00 AM +Zadie Moore (*Fr. Ron*)

11:00 AM — (*Fr. Ron*)

Mass intentions are available by calling the parish office at 608-238-3471 or emailing erin@blsacrament.org.



We are still having Wednesday adoration and are in need of adorers! Please consider spending an hour with Our Lord. Visit blsacrament.org/adoration to sign up!

Stewardship Report

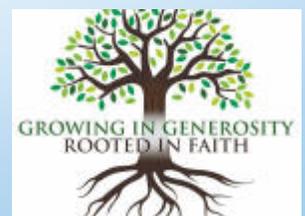
December 2020

Total: \$100,894.69

(includes Christmas)

December 2019: \$100,971.10

(includes Christmas)



Our beloved longtime parishioner **Adrian Stransky** passed away on January 28, surrounded by family. The family extends their gratitude for all the care and love that Adrian has received from the parish over the years. Please pray for Adrian and for the comfort of his family and loved ones!

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Fr. Andy McAlpin, O.P. Pastor, ext. 117;
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ext. 138; matt@bbsacrament.org
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Parish Fax.....(608) 238-4220
School(608) 233-6155
Priory(608) 238-3472

For Sacramental Emergencies & Blessings
please call 608-982-1573 to reach our priests directly

WEBSITES: www.bbsacrament.org
www.school.bbsacrament.org
www.blessedsacramentteens.org
Information: info@bbsacrament.org

Creation Care Corner

THIS WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP RECOMMENDATION:

Auto Maintenance

Burning fuel for our vehicles pollutes the air and contributes to global warming. Reduce waste and save money by properly maintaining your car. According to the EPA, keeping your tires properly inflated, your car properly tuned and using the proper grade of motor oil can improve your car's fuel economy by 8 percent or more. Consolidating trips will further reduce fuel expense and emissions.

Stay connected from home!



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We're live-streaming our
9:00 am Mass on Sundays
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*Pray for us;
we're praying for you!*

Start planning NOW for the annual Men's Retreat at the Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh! February 18-21 (Thursday through Sunday)

Every year for about 40 years, men from Blessed Sacrament and other Madison parishes have been attending a retreat at the Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago. The coming year's Men #008 Retreat will begin with dinner Thursday and ends with lunch on Sunday. All are invited despite financial constraints due to the generosity of those who can do more. Preached retreats are planned to be on-site, but the effort to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus require changes in how retreats are conducted and most importantly, how many retreatants can be welcomed on-site.

Please visit www.jesuitretreathouse.org/index.cfm to register and to read about JHR's efforts to provide a safe environment for retreatants and staff. Please feel free to contact Steve Sadoff, Retreat Coordinator, at healprint@gmail.com or 608-770-9778.



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