

# BLESSED SACRAMENT

2116 HOLLISTER AVENUE • MADISON, WI 53726

The Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021

## Growing in Friendship with God: The Joy of Lent

A Parish Mission by Fr. Andrew Carl Wisdom, O.P.

See inside for details!



### 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 8:00 PM  
**Saturday:** 9:00 to 10:00 AM

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Wednesday:** 6:30 to 8:00 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

## The 2nd Sunday of Lent



Br. Edward van Merrienboer, O.P.  
bredward@bbsacrament.org

### Please no excuses!

In today's gospel we hear the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus before his apostles Peter, James, and John. When I first read the reading for today in the context of preparing this reflection, I thought to myself, "why are we reading this during Lent?" It does seem to fit well with the idea of sin, repentance, and penance, but as I reflected more and prayed for some insight, it struck me that it is a perfect reading for the holy season. My early years of studies in theology, which were almost totally based on the teachings of Saint Thomas Aquinas, I recalled a text where he asked whether Peter sinned mortally when he denied Christ. Thomas' answer is remarkable. But before reading his answer, consider what your answer to the question might be: grave matter, full knowledge, and full consent. Did Peter sin mortally? He was denying Christ; that was definitely grave matter. Did he have full knowledge? With a lot of anxiety pumping through Peter, could he fully understand what he was really being asked? Did he have the presence of mind to recognize the gravity of his sin? Without full knowledge and full consent, could Peter have sinned mortally?

Yes, says Thomas Aquinas, Peter's denial was a mortal sin. He could have said he was Jesus's friend. He did not; therefore, Thomas argues, he had full knowledge and full consent. Thomas saw full consent and full knowledge not as separate conditions but rather as parts of the entire composite scene. Thomas did not use these conditions to exonerate as we do today; he used them to illustrate that the sin was mortal. In other words, he interpreted full knowledge and full consent differently than we do today, not looking for what was missing but rather recognizing what was there: Peter knew otherwise and could have acted otherwise; therefore, there was full knowledge and consent.

Thomas was a positive realist when it came to the human condition. He believed that we are capable, intelligent, and free and therefore competent with our moral lives. He also held that we often act without responsibility in our lives and actions. Perhaps the word *mortal* is a bit daunting when speaking of degrees of sin, but I think anyone who looks at the history of the way we have talked about sin would see that we have become an incredibly self-excusing people of God. We have managed to move from the assumption that generally, when we act, we act with knowledge and consent, to the present habit of acquitting one another from culpability by claiming a lack of knowledge and consent. Anyone who has done any therapy, for instance, knows the importance of claiming responsibility for one's actions. It is not morally, spiritually, or psychologically health to relinquish our competency.

In recent generations we adapted our beliefs. We began seeing that not only was God's merciful offer of salvation for all, but we also started to emphasize that God's creation was good and that because humanity was in God's image, we were especially good. These assertions are true, certainly, but the biblical affirmation of goodness as created in God's image is vastly different from the claim that in living out our lives, we are morally good. That is, rather than reminding ourselves we were sinners, but saved, we simply declared that we were good. I think we must tone down the goodness claim and bring it into balance with the truth that we are free and intelligent agents of our moral lives. To give ourselves an "easy pass" when it comes to acknowledging our sins that can be mortal at times is to do a disservice to our human dignity as the image of God. It is good to recall that virtue is the mean between extremes. Lent is an excellent time to apply some correctives to our self-image and accept that we are sinful masses but saved. In a word, we are sinners, but loved.

*Br. Edward van Merrienboer, O.P.*

February 28, 2021

## New and Noteworthy

**Join us for our Parish Mission,  
in-person or online!**

### **This weekend through Wednesday, March 3**

This year, we welcome Fr. Andrew Carl Wisdom, O.P., presenting "Growing in Friendship with God: The Joy of Lent." Lent is an annual call to joyfully re-embrace the life of the Risen Christ and the definitive gift of God's friendship. It is the opportunity to renew our friendship with God as the deepest joy and authentic happiness of our life.

Fr. Andrew will preach at all Masses this weekend and at the 8:30 am Masses March 1-3. He will also speak in the church at 7:00 pm March 1-3. All his evening sessions will be live-streamed for all those who wish to join from home! Go to [blsacrament.org](https://blsacrament.org) and click the link for our YouTube channel on the home page (under the "Mass Times" section) to tune in to the live-stream.

Adoration will end at 6:45 pm on Wednesday, March 3.

### **Care of Creation Event and Monthly Challenges**

Our Care of Creation team is partnering with three other local congregations to bring you "Creation Care in Your Neighborhood," on **Monday, March 8 at 7:00 pm**, to explore the intersection of Christian faith with the environment. In this online event, you'll see how various faith traditions address environmental issues, and see some home hacks on a virtual tour of a few homes. Go to [fb.me/e/43mKAslvt](https://fb.me/e/43mKAslvt) to learn more and to request the Zoom link for the event!

Care of Creation also invites you to participate in monthly sustainability challenges, starting March 1. The March challenge will be a "stuff fast." Learn more and sign up by emailing Peter Steiner ([psteiner523@gmail.com](mailto:psteiner523@gmail.com)).

## Opportunities to Give and Serve

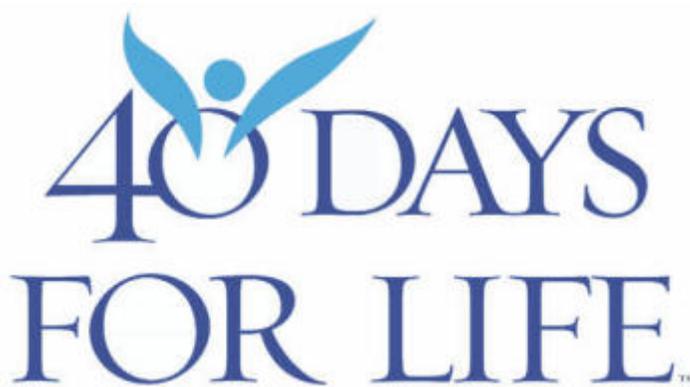
### **Luke House Meal Program**

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/yyxrwxaxa](https://tinyurl.com/yyxrwxaxa)



**Drive-Thru St. Patrick's Day  
celebration  
Saturday, March 13,  
12:00 pm-3:00 pm**

Get ready for St. Patrick's Day with our St. Paddy's Day Drive-Thru, sponsored by Blessed Sacrament's Rosary Altar Society! Come by for corned beef sandwich kits, shamrock cookies, and Irish soda bread. More information will be in next weekend's bulletin. Tell your friends and neighbors!

The logo for "40 Days for Life" features a stylized blue figure with arms raised above the number "40". To the right of the figure, the words "DAYS" and "FOR LIFE" are written in a large, blue, serif font. The word "40" is also in a large, blue, serif font.

**40 Days for Life is halfway through their  
campaign—join Bishop Hying in thanking God  
and praying for endurance!**

On March 8th, the 40 Days for Life prayer campaign at the Planned Parenthood at 3706 Orin Road will be halfway finished. It's time to gather to thank God for our progress and to pray for endurance to finish strong! A midpoint prayer vigil led by Bishop Hying will be held Sunday, March 7 at 1 pm on the sidewalk outside the Orin Road clinic. Call Gwen Finnegan (608-393-8545) to learn more. Sign up to pray at [vigilforlife.org/calendar/monthview](https://vigilforlife.org/calendar/monthview).

## 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](https://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 February 28, 2021

**Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

**Monday:** Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38

**Tuesday:** Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12

**Wednesday:** Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28

**Thursday:** Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31

**Friday:** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

**Saturday:** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

**Next Sunday:** Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

### Please pray for all those who are ill, especially:

**Andy Devine, Dan Brigham, Alexander Kotloski, Henry Pitot, David Stienon, 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, February 27, 2021—Parish Mission begins  
(Fr. Andrew Carl Wisdom preaching at all Sunday Masses)

8:30 AM Members of the Habib and Rodrigues families

5:00 PM +Donald McCarty (*Celebrant: Fr. Ron*)

Sunday, February 28, 2021 - 2nd Sunday of Lent

7:30 AM — (*Fr. Ron*)

9:00 AM +Joseph Sebastian (*Fr. Andy*)

11:00 AM Our Parish Family (*Fr. Andy*)

Monday, March 1, 2021

8:30 AM +Ray Sweeney

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

7:00 AM +Terrance Dolan

8:30 AM Emily Duffy

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

7:00 AM +Mary Jean Whelan-Iacovani

8:30 AM E. Michael Poole

Thursday, March 4, 2021

7:00 AM A special intention

8:30 AM +Daniel Jantsch

Friday, March 5, 2021

8:30 AM +Thomas Kohl

Saturday, March 6, 2021

8:30 AM +Mary Rowlette

5:00 PM — (*Celebrant: Fr. Andy*)

Sunday, March 7, 2021 - 3rd Sunday of Lent

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

9:00 AM +Otis and Genevieve Cipperly (*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](mailto:erin@blsacrament.org).



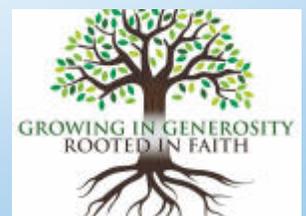
We are still having Wednesday adoration and are in need of adorers! Please consider spending an hour with Our Lord. Visit [blsacrament.org/adoration](https://blsacrament.org/adoration) to sign up!

### Stewardship Report

January 2021

Total: \$71,867.31

January 2020: \$60,645.52



### STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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Brother Ed van Merrienboer, O.P. Director of Faith  
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Manager, ext. 110; erin@bbsacrament.org  
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Baptism Prep, ext. 106; peggie@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:**  
**This Lent, consider a sacrifice focused on care for  
God's creation**

**Why a Lenten Creation Care Fast?** Plastic waste is  
clogging landfills, waterways, disrupting ecosystems &  
poisoning food chains.

**WEEK THREE:** The average American uses 156 water  
bottles/year. Limited demand means only a small portion of  
the plastic in your recycling bin gets recycled. Plastic takes  
centuries to degrade, breaks down into ever smaller pieces  
that harms wildlife when animals mistake for food. During  
Lent, lets sacrifice convenience in favor of protecting God's  
wonderful gift to us of Creation.

*Stay connected from home!*



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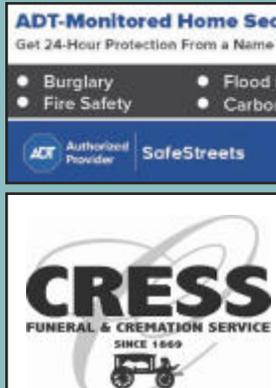
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