

DECEMBER 20, FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Blessed Sacrament

Founded in 1970

CATHOLIC CHURCH

801 Oak Street • North Aurora, IL • 60542

(630) 897-1029 • F(630) 897-1062

www.blsacr-na.org

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 4:30 pm

Sunday - 7:30 am, 9:00 am and 10:30 am

Weekday Mass Schedule

Mon - Weds and Fri 8:30 am

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Wednesday from 9:00 - 12:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Administration for more information.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

3:45 - 4:15 pm on Saturday

or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

As scheduled

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements to be made with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

As scheduled by the Bishop.

ANointing OF THE SICK

Upon request and as scheduled.

If you or your family member is sick or will be hospitalized and wants to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please call Parish Office.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the People of Blessed Sacrament, see ourselves as a community of faith, united by Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Through our celebration of the Sacraments, we proclaim His Presence and offer our service to all.

BULLETIN DEADLINES

Items must be submitted in writing to the office or emailed to bulletin@blsacr-na.org by Monday, noon to be published in the next weekend's bulletin.



Reverend Max Lasrado, Pastor

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afaitthformation@blsacr-na.org

Office Hours

Mon - Thurs: 9:00 am - Noon & 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Friday: 9 am - Noon

Office will be closed
December 24th/25th

A Letter From Father Max



Dear Blessed Sacrament Families & Friends,

Christmas greetings to you all from Father Max!

This year Christmas might seem a lot different for all of us as we continue battling this Coronavirus Pandemic. Although we journey through the same storm, albeit in different boats, we will all be happy enough to see 2020 go. Two thousand years ago, Mary and Joseph went through many upheavals in order to bring forth the Savior of the world. No doubt we can look up to the Holy Family of Nazareth to guide us through this crisis that has befallen us.

In his book, God has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for our Time, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who became a champion against the apartheid in South Africa, writes *"We all experience sadness, we all come at times to despair, and we all lose hope that the sufferings in our lives and in the world will never end."* Then he continues, *"there is no such thing as a totally hopeless case. Our God is an expert at dealing with chaos, with brokenness, with all the worst that we can imagine. God created order out of disorder, cosmos out of chaos, and God can do so always, can do so now- in our personal lives and in our lives as nations, globally... Indeed, God is transforming the world now – through us- because God loves us."*

This pandemic, I am sure, has taught us many things especially, to appreciate the little things of life and more so, to be kinder and compassionate towards others as we remain focused on God's goodness who has loved us in His Son Jesus Christ, a Savior born for us.

If you are struggling this Christmas to make sense of the times that we are in, may the following inspirational saying bring you strength and joy:

Let there be silence in my mind,
Let there be warmth in my heart,
Let there be peace in my soul,
Embrace those who bless you,
Cherish those who you love,
Be kind to those around you,
Give to those who need you,
Pray for those who hurt you,
Have faith, God walks with you.



Indeed, Emmanuel – 'God is with us' walks with us in our joys and sorrows, odds and obstacles, failures and triumphs. And that is the profound and powerful message of Jesus being born in us.

May the light of Christ light up our way as we all look forward with renewed hope in the days to come leading us into 2021!

I, along with the Parish Staff, wish you the peace of Christ and a blessed Christmas.

With Christmas Joy,

Father Max Lasrado

Mass Intentions

Mon	Dec 21	8:30 am	† Sr. Rosemarie Weber / Mary Grommes
Tue	Dec 22	8:30 am	† Jerry & Sue Theisen / Ray & Bonnie Beach
Wed	Dec 23	8:30 am	† James Bruner & Lori Aloisio / Bruner Family
Thur	Dec 24	3:00 pm	† George Vander Linde / Kathy Vander Linde
		4:30 pm	† John Aister / Anne Aister
		6:00 pm	† All health care workers & those who died from Covid 19 / Fr. Max
		8:00 pm	† Jose Vargas Sr. / Jose & Elizabeth Vargas
Fri	Dec 25	8:30 am	† Cathy Birdsall & Timothy Heinen / Marlene & John Heinen
Sat	Dec 26	4:30 pm	† Dan Borowiak / Morning Glory Bowling
Sun	Dec 27	7:30 am	Community of Blessed Sacrament / Father Max
		9:00 am	Tarik Mahieddine complete healing & recovery / Joel & Lisa Gran
		10:30 am	† Rafaela Cardenas and Roy Melgosa / Ray and Lulu Magana

Readings for the week of December 20, 2020

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56
 Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
 Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
 Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25.
 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14. Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20. Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18
 Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
 Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] 0

Stay Connected

Mass LIVE with Fr. Max
on our parish website,
www.blsacr-na.org
10:30 am on Sunday morning.

Sacrament of Confession
Holy Family Hall
on Saturdays from 3:45-4:15.



Congratulations
to
Tara & Peter Gilligan
on 40 years of
marriage.
December 21, 2020

Lector Schedule

MASS/ Date	Dec 26/27 Feast of The Holy Family	Jan 2/3 Epiphany of the Lord
4:30 pm	Caroline St. Clair	Jenny Bourge
7:30 am	Dianne Gatz	Dave Parker
9:00 am	Cindy Gaspardo	Danielle Fogle
10:30 am	Morgan Fogle	Kevin O'Connor

EMHC Schedule

Dec 26/27	
#1 Fran Rogers	#2 Sr. Katrina Lamkin
#1 Sara Casher	#2 Patrick Casher
#1 Lal Jacob	#2 Tomsy Jacob
#1 Grace Fisher	#2 Michelle Fogle



PRAYER REQUESTS

Our parishioners, relatives and friends who suffer from illness, are homebound, confined to a care facility or hospitalized and the unemployed. May the healing hand of God rest on these people and guide them in their time of need.

The deceased priests of the Rockford Diocese who celebrate their anniversary of death this week: Rev Joseph M Egan, Deacon Raymond Orth, Rev William A Budden, Rev Robert Jackson, Msgr John P McGuire, Rev Francis J Hartman and Rev Manuel G Gomez.

Our service men and women. Look upon our men and women in uniform and protect them in their time of need: CS3(SS) Kevin Bohler, CWO3 Nicholas Brandenburg, IT1 Jeremy Daly, SGT Jacob Deegan, Airman Jovany Espinoza, Sgt Zachary Gardner, Capt Ryan C Lutz, SPC Andrew McMullen, Med Spec4 Cheston Shacklett, PVT Maggie Witt ANG, Lance Corporal Jackson Woodward USMC.

For those who are sick: Ann Aister, Louis Amesquita, Happye Baessler, Jason Banda, Mildred Blazer, Marcus Boecker, Natividad Bongcac, John Bukovits, Aubrey Brandt, Charlie Brown, Ann Ciaccio, Coring Coronado, Adam Crothers, Thess David, Brett Deiter, Linda Dokman, Denis Fellman, Edsel Fernando, Phil Gurbal, Debbie Harvat, Sharon Konen, Jack Lausch, Michele Lewis, Randy Likavec, Lannette Love, Tom Lyon, Tarik Mahieddine, Kay McCann, Madeline McCloughan, Larry McNamara, Linda McNamara, Mito Melo, Chelet Mendoza, Susan Mendoza, Rosanne Petersen, Jack Pripusich, Bruce Renz, Tim Roberts, Brian Simmons, Nancy Simmons, Paula Sloan, Regis Snyder, Charles Stangel, Carol Tamani, George Vander Linde, Kimberlee Barack Vitale, Delores Voss, Wiesbrock Family, Mike Winn and Mary Ann Wolf.

To add to our prayer list, please email Jenny at Psecretary@blsacr-na.org.



Our parish uses
www.givecentral.org
for online giving.

Stewardship/ Contribution Report December 12th/13th

	Collection	E-giving (74)	Total
Envelopes	\$8,378.00	\$2,019.00	\$10,397.00
Loose Offering	\$248.00	—	\$248.00
Children	\$1.00	—	\$1.00
Fuel	\$55.00	\$35.00	\$90.00
Building Main.	\$2,233.00	\$258.00	\$2,491.00
Totals	\$10,915.00	\$2,312.00	\$13,227.00



Donation/Collection Updates

Thank you to all who have been contributing during this time either by e-giving or envelopes. To make things easier for both you and our counters, please enclose cash or 1 check in one envelope to cover your Sunday offering, even if it's for multiple weeks. You may add special envelope donations to that total. Just specify the amounts on the envelopes.

Thank you for keeping this process simple.

If you are unable to contribute, please keep Blessed Sacrament in your prayers.



2020 Contribution

The IRS requires a receipt to prove a charitable contribution of \$250.00 each or more. For contributions less than \$250, the IRS will accept your canceled check as proof. This rule applies to one time gifts of \$250 or more, not the cumulative total for the year. Also, our books have to be turned over to 2021 on January 1st. We must receive your last contribution for 2020 by Dec 31, 2020. Any checks received after Dec 31st, but dated before, will not be recorded for 2020.

In an effort to keep our faith community safe and healthy, we're inviting parishioners to take home their own personal copy of Breaking Bread for use at home or in the church. Whether you are joining us from home or in person having your own copy will help you to actively participate in the liturgy.

If you need to make arrangements to pick up your copy of the Breaking Bread Missal please do so by calling the office or emailing psecretary@blessedsacrament-na.org.



An additional Mass has been added on Christmas Day in church at 10 am. Reservations can be made by calling the parish office or online.

Attention Liturgy Volunteers The Christmas volunteer schedule has been sent via email. The schedule is also available online and will be posted on our bulletin board in the narthex. If you have any questions please email psecretary@blessedsacrament-na.org or call the parish office. Thank you for your availability!

Solemnity of Mary Dec 31 4:30 pm and Jan 1 8:30 am (live stream) Reservations required for these Masses.

2021 Scenic Calendars are now available for pick up in the Narthex or at the office, courtesy of Daleidan Funeral Home.

Please make sure to include poffice@blessedsacrament-na.org in your address book so that your email provider does not mark emails coming from Blessed Sacrament as spam.

In an effort to keep our Narthex warm before Mass, only the west entrance will continue to be open at this time. For contact free entrance and exit use the handicap push plate to open the doors. Thank you for your cooperation.

Loving Thy Neighbors



Thank you for the continued generosity toward your fellow parishioners who need some assistance during this time. We have received \$1,100 in cash and grocery gift cards in the since Dec 1st. God bless your generosity!

Did you know...? Blessed Sacrament parishioners have donated countless bags of groceries and supplies as well as \$31,700 to the Interfaith Food Pantry/Soup Kitchen since the beginning of this year. That is a 60% increase over last year at this time.



Thank you for your generous charitable donations towards North Aurora Mother's Club & Catholic Charities annual gift giving drive a success! This particular year has its challenges & there is hope in the community that has come together to help those in need. May you & your family have a blessed Christmas & peaceful New Year.

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus members from our parish for donating coats for our annual Coats For Kids drive! The Knights of Columbus collected 38 coats plus hats, gloves and snow pants and delivered them right after Thanksgiving to local North Aurora schools for distribution.

**You will be
enriched in
every way
for your
great
generosity.**

2 Cr 9:11

Blessing A Christmas Tree

Christmas is almost here!
Have you blessed your Christmas tree yet?

According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up just before Christmas and may remain in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. The lights of the tree are illuminated after the prayer of blessing. In the home the Christmas tree may be blessed by a parent or another family member, in connection with the evening meal on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time on Christmas Day.

Visit catholiccurrent.org for the Blessing of a Christmas Tree.



A Reflection From The Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI

Sign

God's sign is his humility. God's sign is that he makes himself small; he becomes a child; he lets us touch him and he asks for our love. How we would prefer a different sign, an imposing, irresistible sign of God's power and greatness! But his sign summons us to faith and love, and thus it gives us hope: this is what God is like. He has power, he is Goodness itself. He invites us to become like him. Yes indeed, we become like God if we allow ourselves to be shaped by this sign; if we ourselves learn humility and hence true greatness; if we renounce violence and use only the weapons of truth and love.

---Homily at Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, December 24, 2009

Christmas Ornament



Commemorate our 50th Anniversary with an ornament for your tree.
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