



CHURCH OF THE  
**BLESSED SACRAMENT**

2119 STILLWATE AVE E | 651.738.0677 | CHURCH@BLESSEDSACRAMENTSP.ORG

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020**

# 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." - Mt 18:15

## Church of the Blessed Sacrament

### Roads Less Traveled

Humility and the desire to learn and grow are important virtues and qualities to possess. Having a true sense of my brokenness and incompleteness is essential for developing and maintaining healthy, challenging, and stimulating relationships. Jesus is all about relationships. After all, justice in the biblical sense is about restoring relationships to their proper order. It's a priority to do all in our power to restore balance and bring reconciliation to places of discord. These are all worthy ideals to pursue. They also sound great on paper but are extremely difficult to achieve.

Conflict is unavoidable. Weakness and sin will inevitably find their way into our relationships and we will wrong and hurt others, especially those we love. Some folks are such pleasers that they will do anything in their power to avoid conflict, even setting their integrity aside in order to keep the waters calm. Others get defensive when faced with confrontation and immediately set the stage for battle. We all deal with conflict in different ways. Sadly, we often allow our feelings to get bruised and hurt. The hurt, because it's allowed to fester, turns to anger. We find that the only recourse we have is to "pick up our ball" and go home. In doing so, another relationship gets severed and another opportunity for reconciliation is missed. Have there been relationships in your life that have been severed and destroyed because of things that were said or done that caused deep hurt and resentment?

Human beings can do a number on each other. Words and actions have the power to hurt deeply. Many people part ways because of the inability or reluctance to reconcile. We all carry a little child within that prefers to punish those who hurt us. We want them to feel the same pain as we do and suffer the same isolating fate. When we have been hurt, we want to hurt back. The Gospel, however, doesn't tolerate this approach. In fact, it's unacceptable. When we find ourselves at odds with another, there are some extremely important questions we must ask and answer. What does this conflict say about me? Why am I feeling the way that I do?



Being human can be a road to self-discovery and the pursuit of truth. This is a journey that is best traveled with others, not in isolation. Those with whom we associate can be vessels that assist with our enlightenment and understanding of ourselves, God, others, and the world in which we live. Our friends and associates see other sides of ourselves. Sometimes, they see parts of us we would rather keep hidden. We are more vulnerable than we think. Good, healthy relationships are meant to be challenging and engaging. Conflict can be an opportunity for honest self-assessment and a lesson in humility. No one is perfect and we all have a lot to learn.

It is unfortunate that many do not develop and learn the tools necessary for good conflict resolution. We are often discouraged from sharing how we really feel, especially when those feelings are negative or critical in nature. We do not know how to process someone's anger or really listen to and hear what others are saying. We are on the one hand tremendously gifted, talented, and blessed and on the other flawed, broken, and sinful. We often live as if we were only the first part and downplay the flawed, broken, and sinful side! We do not know how to handle difficult conversations or to receive the painful and disturbing feelings of another person into the space of our lives. We react rather than receive.


Do you understand that you are a human being who can make poor choices and hurt another human being? Our egos can quickly get in the way and our self-focused needs can muck up even the best of seasoned friendships. Believe it or not, with patience, humility, perseverance, and a desire to grow we can work our way through conflicts and reconcile differences. Jesus preferred the one-on-one approach to reconciliation. But He also realized that humans, being who they are, and not always willing or able to see the truth. The intervention of others may be necessary.

Then, there are those relationships that are truly beyond reconciliation. They are most often abusive relationships, physically, emotionally or spiritually. Dealing with this type of conflict, because of the dynamics involved, is best achieved by walking away. Even doing this can come at a great price as those who want to control us are reluctant for this to happen. Unfortunately, not everyone has the psychological or spiritual capacity for wholeness. For many, their brokenness is such that being in any type of relationship will only bring greater heartache, shame or pain. There are some relationships that simply cannot exist.

We need to stop being ashamed of our feelings and work at creating spaces in our lives that are open, free, and safe. Having this mutual respect lays the groundwork for healthy and honest dialogue that allows me to be vulnerable to my weakness and sin without fear of retribution or greater division. It does no service to anyone to use the labels of "bad" or "sinful" in describing a person. These imply punishment as the only remedy and leave no room for conversion or reconciliation. All of us want, in one way or another, to find our way home.

Every person and every relationship deserves a chance at reconciliation. When olive branches are extended, humility embraced, honesty upheld, love enkindled, and mutual respect exchanged some powerful "God moments" can be had. Years of painful separation and discord can be healed and divisions cast aside. We have to learn to be okay with honesty and not be afraid to hear and process what someone needs to say, even if it is difficult for us to hear. We need to do all in our power not to harden our hearts, especially to the Divine Voice of the Eternal One. Everyone is invited into the kingdom of reconciliation and no one is cast aside. Everyone is given an opportunity to set straight what once was wrong. This is how God works. We need to do the same.

*Rev. Mark Suslenko*



**Tuesday, October 6th-1-7pm**  
We hope to be allowed permission to offer this at our facilities this year  
If you are interested in donating blood here at Blessed Sacrament, please call the Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 and sign up.

Save a Life. Give Blood

If you have any questions regarding donating blood or the time you prefer to donate, please call Carol in the parish office. Also remember, if you give a pint of blood you'll get a certificate to receive a free pint of Culver's Ice Cream!

### How do I watch Mass live??

**Go to Facebook and type in Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. You can also subscribe on Facebook to get notifications when we go live! Please note you must have a Facebook account. If you don't have Facebook, watch it later on YouTube. Go to YouTube and type in Blessed Sacrament Church in St. Paul, MN**



**Pontifical Collection**

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in Catholic Churches to support the work of the Franciscans working in the Holy Land. Christians there rely heavily on the help that comes to them from this worldwide collection. This year, since measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus prohibit gatherings in our churches, the traditional Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land has been postponed to September 12th and 13th.

**THE PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION IS APPLIED TO THESE PROGRAMS:**

**Faith, Memory & Culture – The Holy Places**—Holy Land Franciscans staff and maintain the holy places and shrines. This enables those who live in the Holy Land and those who visit to deepen their faith and their spiritual and cultural connection to salvation history.

**Social & Charitable Activities**—In order to assist Christians to remain in the Holy Land, including the poor and young couples, the Custody builds thousands of residential units. Additionally, they build senior care facilities. Medical assistance is provided for the needy.

**Educational & Scientific Activities**—The Franciscans operate and support schools open to all, regardless of religion or nationality. They provide scholarships for young men to answer the call to become Franciscan priests and brothers. Additionally, Franciscan archaeologists pursue ongoing research at the Holy Places.

**Pastoral Activities**—The Franciscans provide pastoral care in 29 parishes in the Holy Land offering worship, Christian formation, and necessary youth and family programs, especially in regions affected by war.

**Liturgical, Ecumenical and Communications Programs**—The Christian Media Center tells the story of the Holy Land through multimedia distributed throughout the world in more than seven languages. The friars organize liturgical celebrations for local Christians and pilgrims and share with other Christian communities in the Holy Land in ongoing ecumenical cooperation.

**FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR**

**Parking Lot Safety**

We have recently had some vandalism take place in our parking lot, so it is again time to remind everyone to be alert and to never keep anything of value in your car. The recent vandalism occurred in the middle of the day, and someone's catalytic converter was stolen within two minutes. If you see anything suspicious please notify the police immediately and alert the parish staff.

**When will the concrete work be done?**

We are accepting bids for the replacement of the concrete sidewalk outside of the main church entrance area. It is our hope to have this project completed well before the snow begins to fly. We will share more details with you in the coming weeks.

**New Lighting System in Church**

Through the generosity of 5 parishioners we have collected 70% of the cost to replace the lighting system inside of the church space. After 20 years, our former lighting system failed and parts to repair it were no longer available. Through the bidding process we were able to secure a new system at a very reasonable cost. We are very grateful to the generous donations for this project. We are only \$775 away from covering all of our costs. If you have a desire to make a donation please indicate this on the memo line of your check.

**Electronically making your contributions**

We currently have 33 parishioners who have elected to make their contributions monthly using the easy method of having your donation transferred to our checking account each month. This saves you the cost of buying checks or having to mail your check to the parish. The process is very easy to set up and it is easy to make changes.

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**PARISH ADMINISTRATION 651-738-0677**  
**Rev. Benny Mekkatt**, Pastor ..... ext. 11  
**John Florin**, Business Administrator ..... ext. 10  
**Joy Hoffman**, Administrative Coordinator ..... ext. 12  
**Deacon Jerry Saladin**.....952-607-9636

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**PASTORAL MINISTRY 651-738-0677**  
**Carol McKenna**, .....ext. 15  
**FAITH FORMATION 651-738-0677**  
**Connie Hill**, Director ..... ext. 14

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**MUSIC**  
**Jan Meulemans**, Director.....651-307-7865

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**PRAYER LINE**  
 Please call **Carol McKenna**.....651-492-2778

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**CHURCH EMAIL: Church@blessedsacramentsp.org**  
**PARISH COUNCIL: parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org**

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**BAPTISM** - Participation in the Baptism preparation program is a prerequisite for Baptism. Schedule with the Parish Office.  
**RECONCILIATION- Saturday 3:00-3:45pm**  
 By appointment on other days  
**MATRIMONY**- Make arrangements with the pastor at least six months before the date.  
**ANOINTING OF THE SICK** - Please call the parish office if you or a family member is going to be hospitalized. Also, if you are home-bound and wish to receive the Eucharist or a friendly visit, please call the parish office.  
**LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE**- Please come to the Sacristy before Mass to arrange to receive one.

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- Blessed Sacrament Adoration, M-W-F 1-11pm & TH 6am-noon
- The Rosary is said just prior to all weekend Masses.

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**Sunday, September 6**  
*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Ez 33:7-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20*  
 † Yvonne Zeimet  
 Parish Mass  
**Monday, September 7**  
*Weekday*  
*1 Cor 5:1-8/Lk 6:6-11*  
**Tuesday, September 8**  
*The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
*Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23*  
 † Allen & Catherine Kobilka  
**Wednesday, September 9**  
*Saint Peter Claver, Priest*  
*1 Cor 7:25-31/Lk 6:20-26*  
 † Juanita Boughton  
**Thursday, September 10**  
*Weekday*  
*1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Lk 6:27-38*  
 Cruz Espenal Ancestors  
**Friday, September 11**  
*Weekday*  
*1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Lk 6:39-42*  
 Joe & Margaret Bianconi  
**Saturday, September 12**  
*Weekday/The Most Holy Name of Mary, BVM*  
*1 Cor 10:14-22/Lk 6:43-49(Morning Readings)*  
 † Huey Henriksen  
**Sunday, September 13**  
*Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Sir 27:30-28:7/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35*  
 † Albert & Joan Bierwerth  
 Parish Mass

## Church of the Blessed Sacrament

### SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

September 6—September 13

The celebration of public Masses has resumed  
for a limited number of participants!  
Please sign up online or call the parish office!

#### Other Schedule Information:

- Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 PM or call for an appointment.
- Livestream Mass on Facebook—**Tuesday-Friday at Noon, Saturday at 4:00 PM and on Sunday at 9:00 am** or watch later on our You Tube channel link via our website.

## FINANCE

### Gifts of Treasure

August 29/30, 2020

Sunday Envelopes & Plate:	\$ 4,068.00
Holy Day:	\$ 40.00
Other:	\$ 260.00
<b>Total :</b>	<b>\$ 4,368.25</b>

### Movement and Meditation Classes available via Zoom

This Fall's Movement and Meditation Classes are scheduled to start on September 14. This 8 week session will last until November 2. Cost for the 8 week session is \$72.00 and it will be a "Zoom session."



#### **Classes will not be held in the Robertson Room.**

To register and pay directly please click this link: <https://yogadevotion.com/class/zoom-yogadevotion-with-nancy>  
If you know someone who would like to attend these classes, have any questions, please contact Lisa @yogadevotion.com

### **Blessed Sacrament's Prayer Line is available via phone or email.** **You need only request a prayer using ONE of the following Options.**

For either **Option**, please know that you do not need to leave a name or a full name. Messages can be left with out a name or details. We are here to pray for whatever needs you or a loved one has. Members of the Prayer Line will keep your request in their prayers for 18 days (9 days of petition and 9 days of thanksgiving).

**For the Phone Option:** There are parishioners praying daily for people who are ill or in need. It is through our prayers that God is able to work His wonders. To make a prayer request contact the Prayer line directly. Call the church office:  
651-738-0677 Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM or call:  
Carol McKenna at 651-492-2778.

**For the Email Option:** The purpose of the Prayer Line Email is to provide 24/7 availability to submit prayer requests and to participate in this ministry by praying for all requests sent our way. All requests are handled in a sensitive and confidential manner.

Prayer is a gift of the Holy Spirit. **You are invited** to join this ministry to pray for the various requests received. Prayer requests are communicated to members of this ministry as requests are received. You may join this ministry by sending an email to Carol McKenna, ([rheanita@gmail.com](mailto:rheanita@gmail.com)) or leaving a message on her voicemail in the parish office.

## Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



### Upcoming September Classes

Sun., Sept. 13 – Confirmation – for one hour after Mass

Sun., Sept. 13 – Family Formation – for one hour after Mass

Tues., Sept. 15 – CGS – 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Wed., Sept. 16 – CGS and Family Formation – 6:15 pm to 7:45 pm

Sunday Sept 27 – Confirmation – for one hour after Mass

Sunday Sept 27 – Family Formation – for one hour after Mass

(Approximate Sunday class time is 9:45 am to 10:45 am)

**Registration continues. Contact Connie Hill at the office or at [ca-hill@blessedsacramentsp.org](mailto:ca-hill@blessedsacramentsp.org)**



### What is Family Formation?

Family Formation is parents and kids learning and living the faith together with the support of parish catechists and at-home materials. It is families of all ages coming together for prayer, study, and discussion. It is what every family needs during these times of uncertainty and unrest.

### ¿Qué es la Formación Familiar?

La Formación Familiar es que los padres y los niños aprenden y viven la fe junto con el apoyo de los catequistas parroquiales y los materiales en el hogar. Son familias de todas las edades que se unen para orar, estudiar y discutir. Es lo que toda familia necesita durante estos tiempos de incertidumbre y malestar.

### Minimizing Risk

For in-person classes, we will follow CDC and MDH recommendations for minimizing risk including: Frequent hand-washing, newly-installed hand sanitizing pumps in classrooms, social distancing, limiting occupancy, limiting movement throughout the building, regular sanitizing of rooms and commonly-touched surfaces, face coverings (for ages six and up) per the Archbishop and Executive Order 20-81, and documented wellness screenings upon entering the building.

### RCIA

Are you or someone you know looking to engage in the full sacramental life of the church? RCIA is an adult formation program that teaches the joy and the fullness of our Catholic faith. Candidates are "brought into the church" at the Easter Vigil Mass. For more info, contact the Connie.



¿Estás buscando participar en la vida sacramental completa de la iglesia? RCIA es un programa de formación de adultos que enseña la alegría y la plenitud de nuestra fe católica. Los candidatos son "traídos a la iglesia" en la Misa de Vigilia Pascual. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con la oficina de la iglesia.



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