



CHURCH OF THE  
**BLESSED SACRAMENT**

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**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021**

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

- Mk 9:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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### **\* NOTICE \***

#### **Mass Times have changed!!**

**Daily Mass: 8:30 am, Tuesday through Friday. There are no more Noon Masses.**

**Saturday Anticipatory Mass is still at 4:00 pm. Sunday Masses: 8:30 am and 11:00 am**

**First Saturday Masses: 8:30 am. Stations of the Cross during Lent at 9:00am or 5:30pm.**

**Confessions will still be heard after daily Masses, and during the Sundays of Lent Father will also hear confessions for a half hour before each Mass starting at 8:00 am and 10:30 am.**

**Confessions are still available on Saturday from 3:00-3:45 pm.**

**If you have any questions, please call the parish office.**

## Church of the Blessed Sacrament

### See, Then Show

Jesus stands before them with glistening garments. Considered His closest companions, James, John, and Peter, attempt to take in what is happening before their eyes — bewildered and terrified. Their friend, Master, and Messiah, Jesus, transfigures and stands beside Moses and Elijah. Moses, one of the greatest of the lawgivers, alongside Elijah one of the greatest of the prophets. Together with Jesus, the greatest gift from God and the fulfillment of both the law and the prophets. The Apostles are stunned at what is happening before them. Their hearts perhaps still reeling from trying to fully grasp Jesus's recent teaching, "that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise from the dead" (Mark 8:31).



1:23). We are not called to make sense but to pay attention, see with eyes of faith, and believe. He will never abandon nor forsake us.

Peter, James, and John were witnesses to God's glory. A witness is one who first sees, then shows. Jesus had asked them to hold everything they had witnessed in their hearts until the appropriate time to show. However, even with this knowledge, James and Peter would falter in their strength of faith, it would be only John at the foot of the cross on that horrific (yet Good) Friday. Remarkably in this gospel passage, we also see the trinity in its glory together — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — as at the time of the Lord's baptism. Jesus in His glorified state, the Spirit in the cloud that overshadows them, and the voice of God coming from that cloud announcing, reaffirming, that this is His beloved Son, to whom we should listen.

Peter's response at the Transfiguration illustrates he is not a man without failings, as he says to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here; let's make three tabernacles, one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." Yes, Peter is not perfect, and we should take great comfort in that. The beauty, glory, and majesty were revealed to him, this imperfect man. His first reaction to erect tents and freeze the moment clearly shows he is missing the entire point of what Jesus is trying to show him. Yet, we know that Jesus will come to forgive and use Peter to establish the Church. Through the grace of God and the power of the Resurrection, Peter will eventually see.

During our Lenten journey, we, too, are shown the glory of God and given an outpouring of grace. However confused we may be

about our circumstances or whatever we lack in understanding our faith, we can also eventually see with eyes of faith and learn to listen to Jesus.

Peter, John, and James would eventually fulfill the plans God had for them in not only witnessing but showing and evangelizing the world. We, too, have a role to play in evangelization. No matter how beautiful our faith is, it is not given merely for us; once the Lord transforms our hearts, we must go forward and share that good news with others. Once we have witnessed God in our own lives, when we have seen what He can do and have grown to believe — we now must show others. Just as the three Apostles shared the same Good News in their unique way, we too must discern how to be a witness in our life and times.

This moment in today's Gospel is not just a moment in their history but in every Christian's. It reveals the glory of Jesus and what awaits all who persevere in faith — accepting the law and the prophecies. In believing Jesus is the beloved Son of God, in whom God is well pleased and opening our ears and hearts to listen to Him.

*Allison Gingras*



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### Lenten News

#### Individual Confessions

- After daily Mass or 30 mins. Prior to Sunday Mass; also Sat. 3-3:45pm

#### Stations of the Cross with Benediction

- All Fridays except Good Friday @ 5:30 PM

#### Lenten Regulations:

**Abstinence** from meat is observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent by all Catholics 14 years and older.

**Fasting** is observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of ages, but not yet 59. Those bound by this rule may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted as necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

**FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR**

**Looking for help with Food Shelf deliveries**

We are looking for someone willing to assist with bringing our donated food to the local Food Shelves on a weekly basis. We currently have one parishioner doing this now, but it would be best to have another person so we can rotate the task. More hands makes less work all around. If you are interested, please contact John Florin either by email (jflorin@blessedsacramentsp.org) or by calling the parish office. Expect blessings.

**Rosary Leaders Needed Before All Masses**

Please call the parish office if you would be willing to lead the Rosary thirty minutes prior to any of our Masses.

**New concrete at the entrance area coming in the Spring**

We are still planning on working with Eberhard Construction this Spring in replacing much of the concrete at the entrance area of the church. We will be adding a rolling curb for assisting at funerals. We welcome anyone (or any group) wishing to contribute toward this project. God bless.

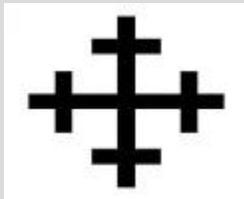
**Parish membership survey**

We are working on verifying the data we have on our parishioners to be sure our records accurately reflect if you are still an active member of the parish. Some of our insurance programs use our membership data when determining the cost level we are charged. This past year has been very odd since many folks are staying away due to COVID -19. At the same time, many folks have mailed in contributions throughout this year, helping us to keep the parish operating. We appreciate you sending in whatever you are able to contribute. Please contact us if you are in need of contribution envelopes or if you wish to give electronically.

We intend to start sending inquiries to those individuals whose parishioner's status is uncertain. We ask your help completing this survey and ask that you return the postcard to us so that we can have the most accurate and complete data. God bless.

**E TEAM NEWS**

E-Team is sponsoring Friday morning Stations of the Cross after the 8:30 AM Mass. It will be led by lay people using the same prayer booklet as the 5:30 evening Stations. This is for those who attend the early Mass and cannot return again in the evening. Blessed Sacrament will now have our Lord's Way of the Cross every Friday morning and evening during Lent. There will be a table in the Gathering Space for evangelization and apologetic materials that can't be displayed in the kiosk. You are invited to take, read and distribute them to your family and friends. To start, there is the famous Pieta prayer book, bibles and pamphlets. The E Team needs new members and their ideas. The Core group meets regularly to come up with ways to share the Faith with the neighborhood and our own people. The Support group prays during events and helps in other ways. Call Connie at church or email Tom @ tomregs@aol.com. A new Pentecost is coming to deal with our many problems. Get in on the ground floor!



**S** PARISH ADMINISTRATION 651-738-0677  
**T** Rev. Benny Mekkatt, Pastor ..... ext. 11  
**A** John Florin, Business Administrator ..... ext. 10  
**F** Joy Hoffman, Administrative Coordinator ..... ext. 12  
**F** Deacon Jerry Saladin.....952-607-9636  
**D** PASTORAL MINISTRY 651-738-0677  
**I** Carol McKenna, .....ext. 15  
**R** FAITH FORMATION 651-738-0677  
**E** Connie Hill, Director ..... ext. 14  
**C** MUSIC  
**T** Jan Meulemans, Director.....651-307-7865  
**O** PRAYER LINE  
**R** Please call Carol McKenna.....612-594-1290  
**Y** CHURCH EMAIL: Church@blessedsacramentsp.org  
PARISH COUNCIL: parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org

**S** **BAPTISM** - Participation in the Baptism preparation program is a prerequisite for Baptism. Schedule with the Parish Office.  
**A** **RECONCILIATION**— Saturday 3:00-3:45pm or by appointment on other days  
**C** **MATRIMONY**- Make arrangements with the pastor at least six months before the date.  
**R** **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.  
**A** **LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE**- Please come to the Sacristy before Mass to arrange to receive one.

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

**P** **Sunday, February 28**  
*Second Sunday of Lent*  
*Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10*  
 8:30am † Bernard Bearth  
 11am Parish Mass  
**R** **Monday, March 1**  
*Lenten Weekday*  
*Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38*  
**A** **Tuesday, March 2**  
*Lenten Weekday*  
*Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12*  
 † Kathy Neuman  
**S** **Wednesday, March 3**  
*Lenten Weekday/Saint Katherine Drexel, Virgin*  
*Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28*  
 † Gen Barthel  
**R** **Thursday, March 4**  
*Lenten Weekday/Saint Casimir*  
*Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31*  
 † Cruz Espenal Ancestors  
**E** **Friday, March 5**  
*Lenten Weekday*  
*Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46*  
 Billy Sue Hendricks Family, Living & Deceased  
**A** **Saturday, March 6**  
*Lenten Weekday*  
*Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 (Morning Readings)*  
 8:30am Intentions of Teri Garrity  
 4pm † Barbara Luna  
**D** **Sunday, March 7**  
*Third Sunday of Lent*  
*Ex 20:1-17/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25*  
 8:30am Ngonu Family  
 11am Parish Mass

## Church of the Blessed Sacrament

### SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

February 28—March 7

Wed, Mar 3:	6:15pm Reconciliation Service 6:15pm Family Formation & CGS 6:15pm Youth Group
Fri, Mar 5:	9:00am & 5:30pm Stations of the Cross

### FINANCE

#### Gifts of Treasure

February 20/21 2021

Sunday Envelopes & Plate:	\$ 2,665.00
Ash Wednesday:	\$ 608.00
Other:	\$ 93.00
Religious Retirement Fund:	\$ 857.00
<u>Catholic Education Fund:</u>	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
<b>Total :</b>	<b>\$ 4,273.00</b>

#### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is growing!

A core piece of our faith formation programming is Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS). In CGS, kids learn about God in His Holy Word and Sacrament. CGS teaches doctrine, prepares kids for Mass, and deepens their devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist. Next year we plan to offer CGS on Sunday mornings for children ages Pre-K through 12! We also will have one (or two) weekday morning options depending upon enrollment.

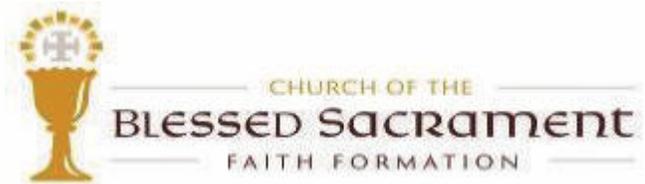
Would you like to describe yourself and your family as “very happy?” Prayerfully consider being a CGS catechist. They commonly speak of CGS as a road to holiness and joy! Be trained now and be ready to teach next year. Curious? Contact Connie to discuss details about training, enrollment, or programming.

#### Net Ministries– Help Feed our Local Missionaries

With the success of our virtual retreats, we've been able to reach out to young people all across the country who so desperately need hope during this time. One young person shared about their experience, "I really feel that the virtual retreat strengthened my relationship with God as well as those involved in my church. I enjoyed watching the videos and learning more about how to stay faithful in my religion." Now, four of our twelve current NET teams have been trained to put on virtual retreats.

Normally, during an in-person retreat, meals would be provided for our missionaries by the parish or school hosting them. Now that so much of their ministry is virtual, however, our teams still need to be fed!

Right now, there is a NET team in the Twin Cities currently doing virtual ministry to bring the love of God to our young people. We humbly ask that you would prayerfully consider providing a meal or a gift card to cover a meal to help feed our missionaries! You can drop off a meal in-person to West St. Paul, MN, mail or email a gift card, or even have a socially distanced meal with the team. For more information, please contact our National Scheduling Coordinator, Jenelle Suchy, by phone at 651.450.6833x113 or by email at [scheduling@netusa.org](mailto:scheduling@netusa.org). We will also have our March Social Concerns Collection dedicated to NET Ministries.



### Upcoming

- Sun, Feb 28 Family Formation & Confirmation 9:20 -10:20 am  
\*Note new time
- Mon, Mar 1 Join "The Search" log in at 7:30 pm  
(email Connie first)
- Tues, Mar 2 CGS 10:00 am to 11:30 am
- Wed, Mar 3 Parish Reconciliation Service 6:15 pm  
CGS 6:15 to 7:45 pm  
High School Youth Group 6:15 to 7:45 pm

### Take Back your Sunday Mornings

Families that worship together are more likely to describe themselves as "very happy" (Pew Research, 2019). Coming to church also makes us more likely to engage in charities and clubs, which provide a sense of fulfillment (Pew Research, 2019). Parents, let's claim Sunday mornings for the family!



As you are able, join us for public Mass. Sundays at 11:00 am is the best option to really spread out and minimize risk. Blessed Sacrament Mass-goers do such a great job of wearing facemasks and keeping a six-foot distance. Thank you for your consideration of others!

You are also welcome to join Faith Formation in-between the Masses. Taste and see the goodness of what the Lord is leading us towards for next school year. Sunday mornings will be an all-giving, all-receiving format. Expect blessings!

Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/01/31/are-religious-people-happier-healthier-our-new-global-study-explores-this-question/>

### What about Wednesdays?

We plan to offer youth ministry programming for students in high school and possibly middle school. (volunteer help needed!) The subtle difference between faith formation and youth ministry is based upon relationship building. Faith formation concentrates on teaching the truths of the Catholic faith and preparation for sacrament. Youth ministry focuses on praise, worship, and service. Participants deepen relationships with God and neighbor through intentional activities.

### Follow us on Instagram and Facebook

Grow in holiness this Lent by following us on social media. Watch for posts to deepen your devotion to the Stations of the Cross and join us at church on Fridays at 9:00 am or 5:30pm to pray the stations together.





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**Chad D. Lemmons**  
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