



January 23, 2022

*THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME...*  
- LK 4:18

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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CHURCH OF THE  
**BLESSED Sacrament**

2119 Stillwater Ave E St. Paul, MN 55119 651-738-0677 church@blessedsacramentsp.org  
Mass Times: Saturday Anticipatory: 4 pm Sunday: 8:30 am & 11:00 am Daily, T-F 8:30am

## Church of the Blessed Sacrament

### We Have Seen His Glory

Jesus came into this world to show us God's kind, beautiful, suffering face. God, who cares deeply about the poor, the captives, the blind, and oppressed is truly a servant-God. God, majestic in His transcendence is also tender in His immanence. God is the God of the journey who never leaves His people. God simply waits. Generation after generation has wandered and fumbled to find their way. As we continue to stumble over the "gods" we create and often prefer, God simply reminds us that He is here.

What was the reaction when Jesus stood in front of those assembled in the synagogue when He said, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing?" Some may have thought He was presumptuous, arrogant, or even insane. Others who listened more with their hearts than their heads may have thought differently. They could have experienced the genuine, perfect, and unconditional love that resonated in His flesh and knew, without a doubt, that they were in the presence of someone wonderful and remarkable.

Jesus is the ultimate and perfect testament to God's love. His actions and words give witness to this truth. St. Augustine tells us what this love looks like, "It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men." Love finds its pinnacle in Jesus' complete and humble offering of Himself on the cross. This is where Love's sacrifice and transformation meet. This wedding of death and life reveals the mystery of God's unconditional love and mercy. These are the signs for which human beings are constantly looking. Only God, through the gift of eternal life, can give life meaning.

God always finds us. He does not want us to stay lost. He sends messengers, servants, prophets, teachers, signs, promptings, and witnesses to get our attention so that His message can be delivered. Yet repeatedly, pride and arrogance convince us that we can do anything and everything without Him. Perhaps by setting pride and arrogance aside, we might recognize something deeper about ourselves and see just how lost we really are. We will see what binds us and our sinfulness. God wants to release us from all of that baggage! Not only that, but God wants to release us from what centuries of human baggage has caused: world organizational systems and accepted standards of operating that continue to keep people poor, oppressed, captive, and blind to truth. We need to be freed not only from what we are doing to ourselves but from what we are doing to others!

We do not have to look far to see the devastation. Anger, frustra-



tion, starvation, and violence are widespread in our nation and worldwide. Places once known to be safe are now places of anxiety and fear. Division, corruption, and exploitation exist within all institutions. People are confused over who they are and what true happiness means. Wars are waged, and more violence continues to be threatened. God's creation is hurting. It's looking more like what we created than what God has entrusted to our care. Human life as a sacred gift from God has become an increasingly unpopular truth. Corruption and exploitation exist at the highest levels and "sins of the flesh" run rampant. We fail to accurately calculate the devastating cost to humans across the world and throughout all generations.

Are we ready to let go of the control? Of the need to be right? Of the need to be ruggedly independent? We cannot live without God's Mercy, His unconditional, eternal, and ever-present love. We do not always get it right; the world does not get it right. The world is like a washing machine stuck on the spin cycle, relentlessly rotating, never quite getting where it needs to be. It forgets what it is supposed to do. It doesn't work. It is broken.

God, as Emmanuel, came into the brokenness of our world to help us fix it. The followers of Jesus, baptized in Christ and made in God's image and likeness, have yet to learn that to be a servant, one must share. Here's a true story: A woman visiting friends went to the local parish for early Sunday Mass. She proceeded to sit in a pew and in short order received a tap on her shoulder. "Excuse me, you are in my seat. Can you please move?" She got up and went to another pew. Beginning to pray and prepare for Mass, she receives another tap on the shoulder with the same request. "Excuse me, you are in my seat. Can you please move?" What is this, she thought to herself? She got up and moved again. Feeling a bit perturbed at this point, she was astonished when the exact same scenario happened a third time!

What happened to the woman in this story is a microcosm of exactly what is wrong with our world. These "people of God" who asked this woman to move believed they were doing nothing wrong. This stranger encroached on space believed to be rightfully theirs. After all, they are the regular, faithful contributors to this parish and are, thus, entitled to reserved seating, right?

Wrong. Entitlement has become one of our most significant problems and sins. We have become entitled to entitlement! In God's kingdom, nobody is entitled to a seat, yet all are seated. Isn't that wonderful? Maybe that is what the first hearers of Jesus' proclamation in the synagogue understood: that everyone has a place. No one is without a seat and what we do in the small matters of our lives affects how the big ones play out. While we may not have directly exacerbated the plight of someone suffering in another part of the world, we can easily be responsible for making someone in our community feel unwelcome, unappreciated, and unloved. All actions and attitudes are connected to the whole, resulting in a ripple effect on life beyond our comprehension. Until we understand the meaning of love and grasp our reluctance at times to receive it, we will remain tethered and aimlessly spinning. We stay broken and lost. *Jesus, Son of the living God, have mercy on me a sinner!*

Fr. Mark Suslenko

**FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR**

**Food Shelf Collection**

Thank you to those who have been faithfully bringing in donations for our ongoing food shelf collection bin in the Gathering Space outside of church. Many people are in need of these food donations and we are blessed to do our part by helping collect food on their behalf. We also wish to give a special **thank you** to Steve Kestner and Gregg Osaben who volunteer their time each week to bring all collected food to a local food shelf. Expect blessings.

**Who is that masked bandit next to you?**

At this point, the direction the parish has received from the Archdioceses is a strong recommendation that we all wear face masks whenever we are inside of the facilities. Please do your part by complying with this simple directive. We have a limited supply of masks on the Hospitality desk, if you need one. Be safe and God bless.



**Safety, Safety, Safety**

Please always be aware of your surroundings when up at church. Too many crazy things are happening in the parking lots all around the city. Be mindful of any valuables you may have in your vehicles that others can see, and always try to walk with at least one other person when outside in the parking lot. We still have a lot of winter weather ahead of us and we're doing what we can to keep the sidewalks safe and clear of snow and ice. Our goal is to keep everyone safe. God bless.

**Contribution Update**

It's not too late to consider starting to make regular contributions to the parish either by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), PayPal or using our envelope system. We currently have approximately 65% of our registered parishioners who contribute on a regular basis using one of these three options. Once our calendar year-end financials are complete, we will provide a summary of our regular collections. Expect blessings.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS FOR JANUARY**

**2022-2023 Catholic Education Scholarship program status!**

January has been designated the month for our Catholic Education Fund program. In this program, we grant scholarships to children of parishioners who elect to send their children to a Catholic grade school or Catholic high school. Our monthly second collection will take place the last weekend in January. We are accepting donations throughout the month for this worthy cause. Simply indicate "Education Fund" on the memo line of your check or you may pick up an envelope at the hospitality desk in the gathering space.

Please contact John Florin @ [jflorin@blessedsacramentsp.org](mailto:jflorin@blessedsacramentsp.org) and an application will be sent to you. **Application deadline is 2/15/2022.**



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**PARISH ADMINISTRATION 651-738-0677**

- Rev. Jimmy Puttanickal, Pastor ..... ext. 11
- John Florin, Business Administrator ..... ext. 10
- Joy Hoffman, Administrative Coordinator ..... ext. 12
- Deacon Jerry Saladin.....952-607-9636

**PASTORAL MINISTRY 651-738-0677**

Carol McKenna, .....ext. 15

**FAITH FORMATION & SAFE ENVIRONMENT 651-738-0677**

Connie Hill, Director ..... ext. 14

**MUSIC**

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

**PRAYER LINE**

Please call Carol McKenna.....612-594-1290

**CHURCH EMAIL:** [Church@blessedsacramentsp.org](mailto:Church@blessedsacramentsp.org)

**PARISH COUNCIL:** [parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org](mailto: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; after 8:30 am Mass on Friday or 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-Sa, Please see signage for hours.
- The Rosary is said just prior to all weekend Masses.

**Sunday, January 23**

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/1 Cor 12:12-30/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21*

8:30am † Barbara Luna

11am Parish Mass

**Monday, January 24**

*Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

*2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Mk 3:22-30*

**Tuesday, January 25**

*Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle*

*Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18*

† Myron & Opal Bull

**Wednesday, January 26**

*Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops*

*2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Mk 4:1-20*

† Carmel Wawra

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**Thursday, January 27**

*Weekday/Saint Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder*

*2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Mk 4:21-25*

† Joan Miske

**Friday, January 28**

*Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Religious and Doctor of the Church*

*2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Mk 4:26-34*

† Martin Denk

**Saturday, January 29**

*Weekday/BVM*

*2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Mk 4:35-41 (Morning Readings)*

4 pm Parish Mass

**Sunday, January 30**

*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/1 Cor 12:31-13:13/Lk 4:21-30*

8:30am Parish Mass

11am Charlie & Lydia Thompson

## Church of the Blessed Sacrament

### SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

January 23—January 30

Sun, Jan 23:	9:30-10:45 Coffee & Donuts 9:45-10:45 Faith Formation Classes
Mon, Jan 24:	6:00pm Grief Support Group 6:30pm Movement & Christian Meditation 8:30pm C-Team Zoom Meeting
Tues, Jan 25:	9:30 CGS
Wed, Jan 26:	Young at Heart after Mass
Sun, Jan 30:	9:30-10:45 Coffee & Donuts 9:45-10:45 Faith Formation Classes

### FINANCE

#### Gifts of Treasure

January 15/16, 2022

Sunday Envelopes & Plate	\$ 2,762.00
Holy days:	\$ 25.00
Utilities:	\$ 20.00
Adoration Chapel:	\$ 25.00
Catholic Education Fund:	\$ 938.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,770.00</b>

#### Divine Mercy Cenacle

*"Great love can change small things into great ones, and it is only love which lends value to our actions. And the purer our love becomes, the less there will be within us for the flames of suffering to feed upon, and the suffering will cease to be a*



*suffering for us; it will become a delight! By the grace of God, I have received such a disposition of heart that I am never so happy as when I suffer for Jesus, whom I love with every beat of my heart."*

(303)

Prayer cards are on the table to take.  
Look for a new message from St. Faustina's Diary weekly.

## RED CROSS



## BLOOD DRIVE

**Friday, February 25  
1:00-7:00pm**

**Signup on the Registration  
Form located in the  
Robertson Room, or call  
the parish office.  
Space is limited.**

**FAITH FORMATION: PEEK AT THE WEEK**

**PARISH NIGHT OF SERVICE: THE 5 W'S**

**What:** Kick-off the night with dinner. After a good meal, complete service projects at four different stations. Make sandwiches for folks in Minneapolis who lack permanent housing and adequate food. Assemble "to-go" lunch bags for residents of transitional housing. Tie fleece blankets to give to children in hospitals. And, create cards for homebound parishioners and residents of local care facilities. The night concludes with prayer and a blessing of all the works of service.

**Who:** This night is for everyone. All ages and stages are invited. Bring family and friends. RSVP by calling the front office or emailing Connie at [cahill@blessedsacramentsp.org](mailto:cahill@blessedsacramentsp.org).

**When:** Wednesday, February 23 at 6:00 pm. Start with a delicious dinner, stay for service projects, and finish by 8:00 pm with prayer and blessing of all the works.

**Where:** Blessed Sacrament Robertson Room and Gathering Space.

**Why:** Feel the joy of doing good for others. Share in our unified purpose to build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Give thanks and have fun!

**Mass and Class**

We are enjoying the fruits of our new Faith Formation schedule of Mass and class on Sunday mornings. Kids are pondering the great mysteries of the Kingdom of God, in heaven and on earth. Families are worshipping together either before or after class at either 8:30 am or 11:00 am Mass. Visit our website for resources, full calendar, and more information. <https://blessedsacramentsp.org/faith-formation>

**UPCOMING CALENDAR**

**Jan. 23 - Mass and class**

**Jan. 30- Mass & parent/student meeting for First Holy Communion**

**Feb. 6 -Mass and class**

**Feb. 13 - Mass & sponsor/candidate meeting for Confirmation**

**Feb. 23- Parish Night of Service**





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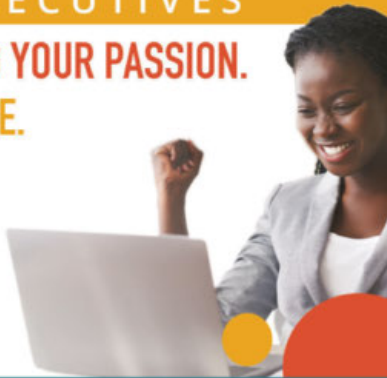
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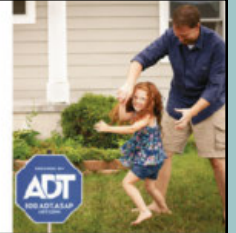


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