

Blessed Sacrament Parish

April 30, 2023



Mass Times & Intentions

We, Blessed Sacrament Parish, are a Christ-Centered Community, Committed to Worship the Father, Committed to Respond to the Spirit's Gifts, Committed to Loving Service to All God's People.

Day	Date	Time		Intention
Saturday	04/29	5:30pm	+	Philip Corkrean by the Waskiewicz Family
Sunday	04/30	9:00am		Blessings for Charlene Zimmerman by Missy Mowrer
		11:30am		For the People of the Parish
Monday	05/01	Noon		Kay Wharton by Fr. Paul Wharton
Tuesday	05/02	Noon		Rich Harris by Fr. Paul Wharton
Wednesday	05/03			No Mass today.
Thursday	05/04			No Mass today.
Friday	05/05	Noon		Blessings for Denise Leppla by Missy Mowrer
Saturday	05/06	5:30pm	+	Ann & Vincent Stricker by Vince & Carla Stricker
Sunday	05/07	9:00am	+	Alexa Mowrer by Missy Mowrer
		11:30am	+	Eddie Evans by Patricia Garnett

We Remember in Our Prayers

Barbara Baldy, Bo Burdette, Elizabeth Coleman, Matthew Crabtree, Loretta DiGiorgi, Joe Eisel, Marietta Fenton, Rose Finch, Dante Geronilla, Joe Gregg, Bob & Kathleen Groom, Mary Lou Hammock, John & Arlene Hanna, Gary Hoskins, Rob Hrezo, John & Claire Johnson, John Lordan, Bob Lucas, Linda Lynch, Louann Lynch-Kelley, Sheila Kerns, Alec Mansfield, Barbara McCormick, Evelyn Miller, Keith Morgan, Bradley Smith, and Sandy Wheeler

Our Blessed Sacrament Vocations Committee is asking parishioners to pray for **Sister Jennifer Berridge, CSJ** who is in the process of discerning whether or not it is God's will for her to request final vows. **Before all Masses this weekend. we will pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be as a Spiritual Bouquet.**

Pray He Rests in Peace – William Lund, father of Allison Adler.

This Week at Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, April 29

- **Men's Bible Sharing** - 9:00am in room 5
- **Reconciliation** - 4:30pm in the reconciliation room
- **Mass** – 5:30pm in the church

Sunday, April 30

- **First Communion Class** – 10:15am to 11:15am in room 2
- **Youth Faith Formation** - 10:15am to 11:15am in the library and room 5B
- **Joan Chittester Book Club** – 10:15am to 11:15am in the community room

Monday, May 1

- **Mass at Noon** in the chapel
- **Hope Beyond Today** – 6:00pm to 7:30pm in the library
- **Energy Efficiency Meeting** – 6:00pm in room 2

Tuesday, May 2 (The office is closed)

- **Mass at Noon** in the chapel
- **Brown Bag Book Club** – Noon in the library
- **Liturgy Committee Meeting** – 6:00pm in the community room

Wednesday, May 3

- **Bible Study** – 10:00am room 5 ([a new study begins – see note on page 3](#))
- **No Mass today**
- **Lectio Divina** -1:00pm in the community room

Thursday, May 4

- **No Mass today**
- **Youth Meeting – HS** – 5:00pm location TBD
- **Handbell rehearsal** – 6:00pm in the church
- **Choir rehearsal** – 7:00pm in the church

Friday, May 5

- **Scriptural Rosary** – 11:15am in the chapel
- **Mass at Noon** in the chapel

Saturday, May 6

- **Men's Bible Sharing**- 9:00am in room 5
- **Funeral Service for Donnie Mathena** – 11:00am in the church
- **Reconciliation**- 4:30pm in the reconciliation room
- **Mass** at 5:30pm in the church. We will celebrate the baptism of Luke Walter.

Sunday, May 7

- **Mass** – 9:00am in the church. We will celebrate Scarlett Crane's First Eucharist
- **First Communion Class** – 10:15am to 11:15am in room 2
- **Youth Faith Formation** - 10:15am to 11:15am in the library and room 5B
- **Mass** – 11:30am in the church. We will celebrate Madeline Malone's First Eucharist

Contact Information Changes – Please Note

We hope to soon change our internet provider. To be ready for that, our parish has a new email address: **BSCCWV@gmail.com**. Please take a few minutes to change our email address in your contacts list/address book to **BSCCWV@gmail.com**.

If you have not yet changed our mailing address in your address book, or at your bank if you make donations through an online banking system (thank you!), please do so very soon. The post office will begin returning your letters and donations if you use our old PO Box address.

Our mailing address is 305 E Street, South Charleston, WV 25303

Spiritual Bouquet

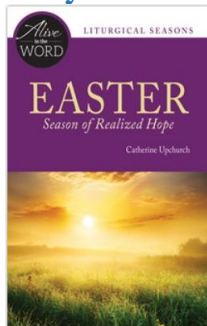
On Saturday May 27th at the Cathedral in Wheeling seminarian **John Soplinski** will be ordained as a deacon. We would like to support him by presenting him with a Spiritual Bouquet from our parishioners. We will place a box in the foyer to collect your spiritual offerings.

Some suggestions to offer would be: Saying a rosary, Masses, Stations of the Cross, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, giving alms, acts of Penance, spiritual reading, visits to the sick.

We will provide paper and pens or you may drop off cards with personal notes. Everything will be sent to him.

The box will be in the foyer from April 23rd till May 14th. Thank you. The Vocations Committee

May 3rd



New Bible Study

Our Wednesday morning Bible study will start a new study, ***Easter, Season of Realized Hope***, on Wednesday, May 3 at 10 am. We thank Jeanne, Ann and Tina for facilitating this enriching group. Our sessions end at 11:30 a.m. It is available in person and by Zoom.

Easter is the high point of the church year and the very heart of Christian hope, and yet sometimes we are tempted to simply move on once Easter Sunday is over. This study invites us to linger a bit. Join the women who visit the tomb of Jesus in the early morning and encounter the risen Lord. Travel with the disciples walking to Emmaus and let your heart burn with recognition. Learn from Paul what a difference it makes that Christ is risen.

May 14th

Attention 2023 Graduating High School Seniors!

Our annual Senior Sunday is coming up on May 14 during 9:00 Mass!

All high school seniors should have received a letter in the mail with all the details. If you are graduating from high school this year and have not received a letter from our staff, please accept our apology and contact Mary Odin at wmodin@frontier.com as soon as possible!

You are invited to send a picture of yourself and a short bio to be included in the worship aid that morning. Formal portraits and candid photos are equally fine. Send your photos to Mary Odin at wmodin@frontier.com, please!

Thanks in advance for allowing us to celebrate this achievement with you,
and **congratulations to all!**

Suggestions Box

On the Nursery

Fr. Paul's response: A suggestion was made about restarting the nursery. We need volunteers to step forward to make it happen. ([See the article about the Nursery at the bottom of this page.](#))

Suggestion: Can we go back to saying the Our Father instead of singing it?

Fr. Paul's response: Christians have been chanting the Lord's Prayer since the very beginning, as Jews sang everything at worship. This particular Lord's Prayer has been used for many, many centuries in the Church. St. Augustine said, "To sing is to pray twice." Chanting the Lord's Prayer is a way of making a special Sunday, special.

During Ordinary Time, we recite the Lord's Prayer. So, beginning June 18, your wish will come true!

On Hymnals

Fr. Paul's response: Some suggestions were made about the hymnals. While I appreciate where you are coming from, I respectfully disagree. Hymnals have been around far longer than worship aids. Hymnals are far less expensive and wasteful of time, paper, and ink.

On the Garden

Many people have shared their thoughts about what to include in our gardens project for the property across from our north (4th Avenue) entrance. (Thank you!) Using plants native to WV and lots of perennials were suggested by a few people. Some wondered if there could be a peaceful place to think like a shady area with benches or a labyrinth. Having room to play and have Mass outside were also among the ideas shared. (We even received a drawing of a shelter concept to be used as an altar area if we do meet outside for Mass – thank you!)

On Stations of the Cross Outside

Fr. Paul's Response: At this point, no idea is off the table, as far as the gardens project goes. But maybe we should think about installing Stations of the Cross in our church/sanctuary first.



Our Nursery

Lori Waller has offered to care for children 3 years old and younger in the nursery during the 11:30am Mass. This great service will happen for 3 weeks. (5/7, 5/14, and 5/21)

Christine Fernandes has offered the same wonderful service for children 3 years old and younger in the nursery during the 9:00am Mass on 5/14 and 5/21.

We need volunteers to help Lori and Christine during these nursery sessions.

Parents, grandparents, and others experienced in babysitting – please let Lori know you are ready to help: lorimay@earthlink.net or 1-717-542-7184.



(The latest project of the Blessed Sacrament Youth)

Faith in Action of the Greater Kanawha Valley is a volunteer program providing free services to older adults, including transportation to medical appointments, grocery shopping assistance, weekly reassurance calls, and minor home repairs. Faith in Action's main fundraiser each year is a Virtual 60+ Mile Challenge to be completed between May 1 - May 31st. You can bike, walk, run, roll, or move however you choose, log your miles on your own profile page, and watch as you hit milestones on the map along the way.

The youth of Blessed Sacrament are forming a team, and we invite you to join us!

You can become a member of the Blessed Sacrament team, or you can simply donate and help us spread the word by going to this website: <https://runsignup.com/Race/WV/Charleston/PedalwithPurpose>

Thank you for helping our youth to live the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, especially #2: Call to Family, Community, and Participation; #4: Option for the Poor and Vulnerable; and #6: Solidarity!

This is how people ignored each other
before smartphones



31 Club this week

31 Club members commit to praying for vocations one day each month.

Sun	04/30	Jim Scharf / Jack Dever / Diane Lordan / Carla Stricker
Mon	05/01	Mary Gargarella / Bev Schissler
Tue	05/02	Joan Fernandes / John McGarrity
Wed	05/03	Sister Frances / Kirtley Marla Weiner
Thu	05/04	Missy Summey
Fri	05/05	Mary Ann Johnson / Vince Stricker
Sat	05/06	Ro DeBias / Sue Anderson

Liturgical Ministers – April 29 & 30

	5:30 pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
Lectors	Tommy Ross	Brian Caldwell	Felix Maramba
Altar Servers	Carla Stricker Vince Stricker	Jackson Davis Jeff Borman	Felix Maramba Pia Maramba
Cantors	Matt Leary	Charlie Wilson	John Shawler
Communion Principal	John McGarrity	Missy Summey	Carolyn Frye
Chalice Minister	Missy Mowrer Bill Frame	Bob Sherrard Chuck Wirts	Connie Lucas Kathy Lester
Communion to the Sick		Jackie Lilly Susan Bowyer Ann Bradley	
Greeters/Ushers	Pat & Mike Habenschuss	Nancy & Dan McLaughlin	Linda & Greg Ayers

Liturgical Ministers – May 6 & 7

	5:30 pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
Lectors	Philip Maramba	Laura Jennings	Kathy Lester
Altar Servers	Karen Lewia	Chip Council	Jeanne Jarrett Eip Shawler
Cantors	Dave Haas	Jack Dever	Heather White
Communion Principal	Tony Ciliberti	Jackie Lilly	Todd Witsberger
Chalice Minister	Diane Lordan Ro DeBias	Jackie Aluise Susan Churchill	Jo Midkiff Kathy Lester
Communion to the Sick		Jackie Lilly Tom Aluise Ann Bradley	
Greeters/Ushers	Mike Granata David Lewia	Brian Cornell Sue Manahan	Ken McNeil Emilie McNeil

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If you have not yet changed our mailing address in your address book, or at your bank if you make donations through an online banking system (thank you!), please do so very soon. The post office will begin returning your letters and donations if you use our old PO Box address.

Our mailing address is 305 E Street, South Charleston, WV 25303



HOPE
A Service of
Charleston Catholic High School
1033 Virginia Street, East
Charleston, WV 25301
304-342-8415

March 7, 2023

Blessed Sacrament Church
Fr. Paul Wharton
305 E Street
South Charleston, WV 25303

Dear Fr. Paul Wharton,

Thank you very much for your generous support of Charleston Catholic High School's **Housing Outreach Project Express - HOPE**.

During the week of June 25-30, 2023, work teams of Charleston Catholic High School students, teachers, alumni, and parents will travel to Wayne and Mingo Counties, West Virginia, to help **low-income families and seniors** make repairs to their homes. Some of our work teams will also assist in the construction of a new house for a family in need.

We are committed to raising \$25,000 toward the purchase of the materials needed to construct this new house. Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission in Dunlow, WV, with whom we are partnering again this summer, will supplement our efforts with the materials needed to make substantial repairs at the homes of several other families.

Your generous donation of **\$1,000** will go directly toward the purchase of the materials which will be used to construct a new house for a family in need of a decent and affordable home.

Your contribution is tax-deductible for Federal income tax purposes. For your records, the Federal Tax Identification number for Charleston Catholic High School is 55-063-0688.

HOPE would not be possible without the generosity of people like you. On behalf of all of us who will participate in HOPE 2023, thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,

Molly Linehan Belcher

Molly Linehan Belcher, HOPE Co-Coordinator
Charleston Catholic High School

*Thank you, Fr Paul
and All!*

Spiritual Icebreakers and Soup Starters 43

Icebreakers give us something to talk about. Soup starters make for a good start. Here is some spiritual kindling to use, think about, and pray with this week.

POEM One Drop from the Mighty River

Were our souls watered with but one drop
from the mighty river which flows from
the throne of God and the Lamb,
it would quench in us all
thirst for anything in this world,
and remove the aridity and hardness
which make us so dry, tepid, and miserable.
How grateful should we feel to our Savior
for having redeemed us, and
blotted out our sins and given us
perfect joy instead of sorrow!
Suffering, exile, the absence from those we love,
the want of things we now think necessary,
or other trials would no longer afflict us.
So powerful is the fire of the Holy Spirit,
that it mounts upwards, and gives us
a love and trust in God that no
water of sorrow or affliction can extinguish:
it remains ever alight; it fills and inflames our hearts,
burning away all evil, so that not even death
can conquer him whose evil passions it has destroyed.
— Saint John of Avila (1500-1569)



MYSTIC MORSELS

We have all things in Christ, and Christ is everything to us. If you seek someone to heal your wounds, he is a physician; if you are burning with fever, he is a fountain; if you are weighed down by iniquity, he is justice; if you need help, he is strength; if you fear death, he is life; if you shun the darkness, he is light; if you desire heaven, he is the way; if you hunger, he is food.

— Saint Ambrose of Milan

“We understand much better what we
see with our eyes than what we hear with our ears.

— Saint Jerome

PROMISE

For I know well the plans I have in mind for you:
plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope.

PRAYER: God help my Thoughts!

God, help my thoughts! They stray from me,
setting off on the wildest journeys.
When I am at prayer,
they run off like naughty children, making trouble.
When I read the Bible, they fly to a distant place, filled with seductions.
My thoughts can cross an ocean with a single leap;
they can fly from earth to Heaven, and back again, in a single second.
They come to me for a fleeing moment, and then away they flee.
No chains, no locks can hold them back;
no threats of punishment can restrain them,
no hiss of a lash can frighten them.
They slip from my grasp like tails of eels;
they swoop hither and thither like swallows in flight.

O God, who can see into every heart, and read every mind:
take hold of my thoughts. Bring my thoughts back to me,
and clasp me to Yourself. Amen.
— Celtic



April 30, 2023 | Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 | 1 Pt 2:20b-25 | Jn 10:1-10

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

There is much we could ponder in today's Scriptures, but the verses that stood out for me are these: "If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called." I have a hard enough time keeping my inner child under wraps when I suffer due to my own sinfulness or incompetence, and Peter is telling me to be patient when I suffer for *doing what is good*? Well, yes – "because Christ also suffered for [us], leaving an example that [we] should follow in his footsteps." And the clarity of this truth hits me smack in the face. Doing what is good means we are loving another, in some way; we are doing good, *for good*. We are engaging in self-sacrifice, and some form of suffering is inherent to that. But here's the thing: it's an oddly joyful kind of suffering because it produces good fruit and directs our thoughts and vision to the one who is present among us as "the shepherd and guardian of [our] souls." Let us pray for the ability to see each moment of suffering for doing good as "a grace before God."

ACT Is there a charity you have been meaning to call to volunteer your time? Is there a neighbor who might be able to use a helping hand? Is there a friend or family member who has fallen out of favor and you just know it's the right thing to do to get in touch? Act this week. Sacrifice just a bit for the sake of good.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

At this point in the Easter season, we might think, "Why can't we focus more on the joy of Jesus' resurrection and less on the suffering that preceded it?" Well, we certainly can ... but we would lose a great part of the Paschal Mystery. We don't embrace the cross for the sake of suffering in itself. We come to the crucifixion to pass *through* it. We are an Easter people living in a Good Friday world. There's no avoiding suffering in our lives, but the Good News of Jesus Christ is that he has redeemed that suffering. He has given us victory over death and is – quite literally – the way to eternal life. In the Gospel Jesus says, "Whoever enters through me will be saved ... I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." He is our shepherd and we know his voice. During this Eastertide we have an extraordinary opportunity to attend to that voice in a particular way, and to think about how we might be hearing it in a new way this year.



Listening to the Groans of Creation

On Maundy Thursday we remember how Jesus solemnly shared Passover with his disciples but was soon to be cruelly crucified. He typifies our human condition of both love and undeserved suffering. We'd all like to skip the crucifixion and be done with the pain and humiliation, but God's mystery is greater than our understanding and/or desires. The writers and sermonizers in this issue ponder our own groans of despair and pain.

For some thoughtful insights, see the latest from the West Virginia Institute for Spirituality. One essay is by our own Donna Becher

<https://mailchi.mp/5d169a736b94/lets-celebrate-16840655?e=cd9fe11733>

MANNA MEAL/KROGER PICK UP SCHEDULE



MANNA MEAL

SO THE HUNGRY CAN EAT

May 3 Don Becher
May 10 John Ellison
May 17 Matt Leary
May 24 Tony O'Leary

May 31 Rob Schissler
June 7 Greg Ayers
June 14 Matt Leary
June 21 Tony O'Leary
June 28 Rob Schissler

May 18th St. Baldrick's Head Shaving Fundraiser

In 2016, we started the annual celebrating 25-year St Baldricks head shaving fundraiser at TOPS OFF BARBERS in downtown Charleston. In the 7 events we have held to date, we have raised over \$160,000. These funds have been raised by volunteers shaving and soliciting donations to support childhood cancer research. Our 8th event will be held again at TOPS OFF on Thursday May 18, 2023, during the ARTWALK event in Charleston.

One point I would like to make to all in my network. In 2020, with many events cancelled and/or postponed, you stepped up to the table and donated the greatest amount of our events. In 2020, we raised over \$38 thousand dollars. We need to continue that support since national donations remain down.

When we started our efforts in Charleston, the numbers above were 35 kids each day diagnosed and 7 dying. So although the survival rate is going down the number of deaths remains the same. We are making progress but we need to continue our efforts.

How can you help?

1. Continue your generous donations.
2. Join us as volunteers or shavees and help us to raise awareness and funds.
3. Join us at TOPS OFF on May 18 to show support for the shavees and barbers for their efforts.
4. Use your own personal network, especially social media, to share this information.

I continue to be grateful for your support in our efforts. Remember, it's not about me or my son. It is about the kids and family fighting today.

Let me know if you have any questions or want to help. I can be reached at 304-546-1657 or billcovle58@gmail.com.

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
305 E Street
South Charleston, WV 25303
www.blessedsacramentwv.org
Phone: (304) 744-5523
E-mail: BSCCWV@gmail.com

Our parish office is open on
Monday and Wednesday-Friday
from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

The South entrance doors are unlocked during office hours.
The North entrance doors are unlocked on days that there is a Mass.

<p style="text-align: center;">Pastor Rev. Paul Wharton E-mail: pjw424@gmail.com Cell Phone: 304-433-7472 (for emergencies only after 8:00pm)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Office Manager: Natalie Zellers Office Phone: 304-744-5523 Office E-mail: BSCCWV@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Music & Youth Director: Mary Odin E-mail: wmodin@frontier.com Phone: 304-767-9479</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Director of Religious Education Mike Granata E-mail: mikegranata3@gmail.com Phone: 304-561-8063</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Blessed Sacrament Parish Pastoral Council: Chip Counsil, facilitator, Rick Brennan, Pam Counsil, Jackson Davis, Matt Davis, Anne Dever, Jack Dever, Christine Fernandes, Molly Linehan-Belcher, Philip Maramba, Terry Mathias, Katie Smithberger, and Charlie Wilson</p>	



***We, Blessed Sacrament Parish,
are a Christ-Centered Community,
Committed to Worship the Father,
Committed to Respond to the Spirit's Gifts,
Committed to Loving Service to All God's People.***



Weekly Email from Father Paul Wharton

April 29, 2023

One of my favorite ways of addressing God in prayers is “*God, ever faithful and true.*” The reason for doing so has not so much to do with God as with me. I need to remember and believe that God is always true to God’s Word. How many times have we experienced heartache and disappointment because someone did not do what he or said they would? Reminding myself of God’s faithfulness helps me pray with confidence.

Here are six promises God makes about being with us always. When we find ourselves experiencing trials or temptations, these verses can keep us steady on the way to God.

- I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD, your God, is with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9)
- The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The LORD is my life’s refuge; of whom should I be afraid? (Psalm 27:1)
- Do not fear: I am with you; do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)
- God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in distress. (Psalm 46:1)
- Know that I am with you always. (Matthew 28:10)

The Church teaches the the Eucharistic Liturgy - Mass - is the “source and summit of the Christian life.” This is especially true when there is a special celebration. The Baptism of Luke Walter is scheduled during the May 6 5:30 pm Mass. Madeline Malone will celebrate and receive her First Holy Communion during the 11:30 am Mass on May 7. In the coming weeks there will be more children receiving the Body and Blood of Christ for their first time. Be sure to pray for and congratulate them.