



**December 01 , 2024**

**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.**

**Mass Times & Intentions**

Day	Date	Time		Intention
Saturday	11/30	4:00pm	+	Jerry Roy by Marietta Fenton
Sunday	12/1	9:00 am	+	John Johnson by John & Arlene Hanna
		11:30 am		The People of Our Parish
Monday	12/2			
Tuesday	12/3			
Wednesday	12/4	Noon	+	Blessings for Jennifer Bayless and Elizabeth Mowrer
Thursday	12/5	Noon	+	George J. McLiney Jr. by Edd McDevitt
Friday	12/6	Noon	+	Gladys DeBias by Ro DeBias
Saturday	12/7	4:00 pm	+	Patrick Dever by John & Arlene Hanna
Sunday	12/8	9:00 am	+	Mary Southam Hamilton by Beth Boyd
		11:30 am		The People of Our Parish

**We Remember in Our Prayers**

Barbara Baldy, Barbara Breese, Bo Burdette, Genevieve Chmellik, Mary Cole, Elizabeth Coleman, Matthew Crabtree, Juanita Diehl, Joe Eisel, Marietta Fenton, Bob Galloway, Mary Gargarella, Dante Geronilla, Joe Gregg, Jane Ann Grishaber, Brad Grishaber Bob & Kathleen Groom, Mary Lou Hammock, John & Arlene Hanna, Gary Hoskins, Rob Hrezo, Claire Johnson, Linda Lynch, Louann Lynch-Kelley, Alec Mansfield, Keith Morgan, Diane Roberts, Bradley Smith, Pat Walker, Sandy Wheeler, Kevin Whelan and the Urecki family

**Pray She Rests in Peace**

Jane Roy's twin sister, Jeanne Heagle

# This Week at Blessed Sacrament - First Sunday of Advent

## Saturday, November 30

- **Men's Bible Sharing**- 9:00am in Room 5
- **Reconciliation** - 3:00pm to 3:30pm in the Reconciliation Room

## Sunday, December 01

- **Youth Music Ensemble** – 10:00 – 10:12am in the Worship Area
- **Adult Faith Formation** – 10:15 am to 11:15 am in the Parish Hall
- **Children & Youth Faith Formation** - 10:15 am to 11:15 am

## Monday, December 02

- **OCIA Meeting** – 6:00pm to 8:00pm in Room 5
- **Energy Efficiency Meeting** - 6:00pm to 7:00pm room TBA
- **Youth Meeting at Church** - 5:00pm to 6:00pm
- **Bells Rehearsal** – 6:00pm to 7:00pm
- **Choir Rehearsal** - 7:00pm to 8:00pm

## Tuesday, December 03 (The office is closed.)

- **Brown Bag Book Club** - 12:00pm to 1:55pm in Room 5
- **BSP Lyres Club in the Worship Space** – 5:30pm to 6:30pm
- **Finance Council** - 6:00pm to 7:00pm

## Wednesday, December 04

- **Bible Study** - 10:00am to 11:30am in Room 5
- **Bible Sharing** –6:30pm to 8:00pm in Room 5
- **Study Guide: not available at press time**
- **Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85136740699?pwd=Q2pXLzdZFdNNU1NajVpeEtKU0hJQT09>

## Thursday, December 05

## Friday, December 06

- **Eucharistic Adoration** - Exposition is at 6 p.m. with song and prayer and Benediction is at 8 p.m.

## 2nd collection-Retirement Fund for Religious

## Saturday, December 07

- **Men's Bible Sharing**- 9:00am in Room 5
- **Reconciliation** - 3:00pm to 3:30pm in the Reconciliation Room
- **Community Garden Project Meeting** -2:00pm to 3:00pm in the Parish Hall

## Sunday, December 08

- **Youth Music Ensemble** – 10:00 – 10:12am in the Worship Area
- **Adult Faith Formation** – 10:15 am to 11:15 am in the Parish Hall
- **Children & Youth Faith Formation** - 10:15 am to 11:15 am

## Rite of Acceptance during the 11:00 Mass

The Rite of Acceptance is an ancient Rite that recognizes the Catechumens decision to begin the process of becoming a member of the Catholic Church through Baptism and welcomes the Candidates, those who have been baptized in another faith or baptized Catholic as a child, but never catechized in the Catholic faith, into the process of full communion with the Church.

### Blessed Sacrament Parish Online Collection Basket

Click this link:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/bspwy>

or scan this with your phone's  
camera:



## Faith Formation

**YOUTH FAITH FORMATION** continues **this Sunday, at 10:15 am**. If you would like more information, please contact Theresa O’Leary ([mtoleary93@gmail.com](mailto:mtoleary93@gmail.com))

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION** continues **this Sunday, in the Parish Hall at 10:15am**. "Jesus: His Life", explores the story of Jesus Christ through the people in his life. Each video session will run approximately 43 minutes, leaving time for any discussion desired afterwards.

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### “Bringing People to Christ”

“If your faith matters to you, do your part.... This season of Advent is a season of hope.... Be the good, faithful servant Jesus call you to be, and you will be rewarded beyond measure by the Lord with a joy that will never end.”

These words by Bishop Mark Brennan are part of his pastoral letter on evangelization, “Bringing People to Christ,” officially released today as we prepare to enter the Advent season. Click the link below to read the letter on our website.

In addition to this electronic version, the full letter will appear in this week’s edition of The Catholic Spirit. Bishop Mark has directed that printed copies will be available in every parish along with an inspirational card that offers spiritual and practical ways for the faithful in WV to put their faith into action. Please take a copy of each home with you after Masses at your parish this weekend and discern how you can help spread the Gospel to all!

<https://r.flocknote.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fdw.org%2Fbringing-people-to-christ%2F1/010001936977811f-aeda3000-c117-4267-b6dd-49e11fcc8678-000000/OnrlifSyxNXfgiyJpUZu1QEjZL-f3XoGgCvi0iDwHI8=381>

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### Special Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious – This Weekend

*Support those who have given a lifetime.*

Women and men religious have dedicated their lives to service – praying, teaching, and caring for those in need – usually for little to no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your donation provides for the essential care, medicine, and daily needs of thousands of senior women and men religious. Please give generously. An offering box for this collection can be found on the gifts table.

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### Advent Supplies Table (Advent begins this weekend)

Stop by our table in the gathering space this weekend. We will have sets of candles (blue & pink and purple & pink), daily devotionals, advent calendars, etc. If you do not have an advent wreath, we have one for you on the table.

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### 2025 Calendars are available in the gathering area.

For now, please take one per household.

Later in December, the remaining calendars will be available to anyone.



**SAVE THE DATE for Vacation Bible School**

**Sunday, July 20 to Thursday, July 24, 2025 from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**

## **December 6th**

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Eucharistic Adoration will take place the first Friday of every month beginning December 6<sup>th</sup> in the main worship space. Exposition is at 6 p.m. with song and prayer and Benediction is at 8 p.m., also with song and prayer. All are invited to spend quiet time with Christ at any time during this two-hour window, whether it be for two minutes or two hours.

## **Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Garden Project Meeting is cancelled.** We will reschedule for a date in January.

## **Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Communal Penance Service** – 3:00pm in our worship space

## **December 9th**

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception** – Masses at Noon and 6:00pm

**Also . . . Lunch Bunch** – follows our noon Mass on December 9th

Please join us for a turkey dinner Lunch Bunch on a special day and date in December. We will celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception at noon Mass on Monday, December 9th, lunch to follow Mass. Please bring side dishes, desserts, and friends!

## **December 15th**

### **Blue Christmas Service**

Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Some of us are feeling blue dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future, and several other trials make parties and joviality painful for of us. A **BLUE** Christmas service seeks to acknowledge whatever shade of **BLUE** we may have, support one another, and find comfort and strength in God. Blessed Sacrament Parish will hold a blue Christmas Service on **Sunday, December 15th at 3:00pm**. It is open to the public.

**Also on December 15th . . . Pizza and Caroling!** -

4:30pm – Carolers meet in the parish hall for pizza

5:30pm – Caroling begins at Hubbard Hospice House

Call Mary Odin for more details – 304-767-9479

## **Christmas Masses**

**Tuesday, December 24 at 4:00pm and 7:00pm +**

**Wednesday, December 25 at 10:00am**

+ We will not have a midnight Mass. See note on page 10

## Service Opportunities

### Christmas Food Baskets for the Good Shepherd Food Pantry in Coalburg, WV

Each year Blessed Sacrament parishioners donate \$14-15,000 for Christmas food baskets (Thank you!). Good Shepherd Food Pantry organizes the purchase and distribution of food to 300+ needy families in the eastern part of Kanawha County. It's a blessing to all involved.

We are once again asking you to donate to this worthwhile cause.

Please make checks out to Blessed Sacrament and write "food baskets," "Good Shepherd," etc. in the memo line. You can place checks in the collection basket, mail them in, drop them in the slot by the office door. . . whatever is easiest for you.

You can also donate through our online giving portal – see page 2.

**OCIA MEALS/SNACKS SIGN-UP** - Blessed Sacrament Parish under the leadership of Gina McCune, provides meals and snacks for those coming to learn more about possibly becoming Catholic on Monday nights. It means a lot to all the candidates and their families to provide them with food during their studies. **Volunteers are needed for December 16.** Please email Natalie if you can help: [bscwv@gmail.com](mailto:bscwv@gmail.com)

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### Warm-up Sunday is coming, December 14-15!

For the last several years at this time of year, we have brought new hats, scarves, mittens, and socks to church, and our youth have assembled them into Christmas presents for the women at Recovery Point.

To make it even easier this year, you can order matched sets online and have them shipped directly to Blessed Sacrament. You can do a quick online search for "hat scarf glove set for women" or point your smartphone's camera to the QR code below and tap the link that comes up on your phone screen.

Women's socks are also needed, and they don't need to match the hats and gloves; just each other!

When you check out online, please use the following shipping address:

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

305 E Street, South Charleston, WV 25303

Thank you!



### DONATIONS OF COATS AND BLANKETS SOUGHT

For the past several years a collaborative of various service providers and community volunteers have run a temporary overnight warming station/shelter for the homeless, and those living with inadequate heating in Kanawha County. The goal of the warming station is to keep our fellow human beings warm, safe, fed **AND ALIVE**.

Clean blankets and coats are being sought for the warming shelter, as well as for others served by United Way needing to keep warm. **Beginning before the 4 p.m. Mass on**

**Saturday December 7 through Sunday December 8, and again all of the following weekend – December 14 and 15** -- a parishioner will park his older and abused silver Ford Ranger pickup truck with a black truck-cap in the main church lot to collect coats and blankets. The truck-cap will be unlocked, and donations can be placed in the back. There will be a sign in truck-cap window. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**Walter CAtechist's  
Favorite Poetry**



The rule for today  
Touch my tail, I shred your hand  
New rule tomorrow

Pitter patter paws  
A cozy warm place to sleep  
Purring up a storm



**SAINT OF THE WEEK :**

Saint Andrew the Apostle

November 30

Andrew was a fisherman. But he was searching for something more important than life on the sea could give him. Like many faithful Jews of his time, Andrew was waiting for God to send the Savior he had promised.

Andrew first learned about Jesus from the preaching of John the Baptist. John told the people, "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit" (Mark 1:7-8). One day, Andrew and his friend heard John the Baptist say, "Behold, the Lamb of God" (John 1:36) as a stranger walked by. The stranger was Jesus! The two men immediately began to follow Jesus, who invited them to join him. Andrew could not keep this good news to himself. He ran to get his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus. These three men became Jesus' first disciples.

Nothing made Andrew happier than bringing people to meet and believe in Jesus. In John's Gospel, we learn that it was Andrew who found a boy with five loaves of bread and two fish and brought him to the Lord, leading to Jesus feeding a crowd of more than 5,000 people. After Pentecost, the Holy Spirit helped Andrew continue to bring people to Christ. His stories about Jesus convinced many people to be baptized. Andrew was a true missionary for Christ, preaching in Greece and Russia.

Like our Lord, Andrew was crucified, but his cross was in the shape of an "X." That "X" is an important part of one of the legends that is told about how Andrew came to be the patron saint of Scotland. Scottish tradition says that many years ago, the country was being threatened by a much stronger army. King Angus prayed that God would save his country from the invaders. As he prayed, an "X"-shaped cross appeared in the sky. The King recognized the cross as a sign of St. Andrew's protection. The Scots were victorious, and King Angus immediately decreed that Andrew would forever be the patron saint of his country. Today, if you look closely at a picture of the flag of Scotland, you will see the X-shaped cross that recalls St. Andrew the Apostle. His feast day is the national day of Scotland. Saint Andrew is a Patron Saint of fishermen and singers

source: <http://saintsresource.com/andrew-the-apostle>

# Spiritual Icebreakers and Soup Starters 126

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

## **PRAYER**

Father, just as You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus, help me to clear the path in my heart, too. Show me the distractions in my life that block me from all-out worship of You this Advent. Lord, I await Your coming! As I celebrate the first Advent—the first coming—I look toward the day where I will see You face to face. I imagine what it will be like. Give me a heart, Lord, that looks for Your coming on a daily basis. Help me to live my life where I'm constantly seeking Your presence. My offering to You today is my righteous life for I know I am only clean because of Jesus. Show me today how I need to be refined, purified, forgiven. Give me the strength to ask for forgiveness and to then change my ways.

## **POEM**


The Advent story  
of hope and mystery,  
anticipation,  
preparation,  
a kingdom  
of this world and the next,  
and a king  
appearing when we least expect.  
Heaven touching earth,  
the footsteps of the divine  
walking dusty roads  
as once they did in Eden,  
and a people,  
searching for a Savior,  
and walking past  
the stable.  
Open eyes and hearts,  
that this might be  
an Advent of hope to the world.  
— author unknown

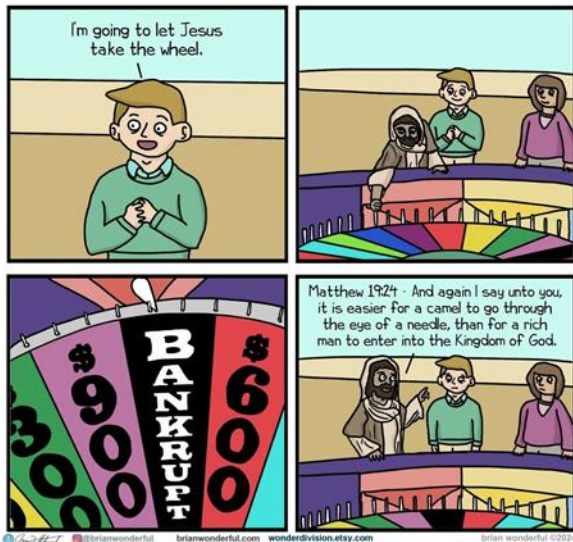
## **MYSTIC MORSEL**

One who prays well lives well;  
one who lives well dies well;  
and for one who dies well, all is well.  
— Augustine (354-430)

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

<b>Sun</b>	12/01	Mary Gargarella / Bev Schissler
<b>Mon</b>	12/02	Joan Fernandes / John McGarrity
<b>Tue</b>	12/03	Sister Frances Kirtley / Marla Weiner / Wayne Miller
<b>Wed</b>	12/04	Missy Summey
<b>Thu</b>	12/05	Mary Ann Johnson / Vince Stricker
<b>Fri</b>	12/06	Ro DeBias / Sue Anderson
<b>Sat</b>	12/07	Philip Maramba / John Priestley / Elizabeth Battle

 <p><b>MANNA MEAL</b> SO THE HUNGRY CAN EAT</p> <p><b>MANNA MEAL/KROGER PICK UP SCHEDULE</b></p>	<p><b>DECEMBER</b></p> <p>December 3 Matt Leary                  December 4 Tony O'Leary                  December 10 Don Becher                  December 11 Kelley Endres                  December 17 Dennis Thornburg                  December 18 Matt Leary                  December 24 Don Becher                  December 31 Don Becher</p>
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**Lectors/Readers:**

Please pick up your new Lector Workbooks in the gathering area this weekend. If you do not see one with your name on it, please let Natalie know.

**Liturgical Ministries – November 30 & December 01**

	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>11:30 am</b>
<b>Lectors</b>	P Council	S Churchill	R Brennan
<b>Altar Servers</b>	W Stella R Brennan	G Ferrell M Ferrell	J Mattix J Crane
<b>Cantors</b>			
<b>Communion Principal</b>	R Teufel	T Mathias	K Lester
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	N Zellers M Mowrer	J Aluise B Sherrard	C & P Council
<b>Communion to the Sick</b>		B Sherrard T Aluise S Bowyer	
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	P & M Habenschuss	S Manahan S Nason	The Crane Family

**Liturgical Ministries – December 7 & 8**

	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>11:30 am</b>
<b>Lectors</b>	D Becher	L Jennings	F Maramba
<b>Altar Servers</b>	J Borman K Lewia	E & N Simonton	C Council
<b>Cantors</b>			
<b>Communion Principal</b>	V Stricker	M Burgess	R Brennan
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	R DeBias S Churchill	A Bradley Sr F Kirtley	C Frye J Midkiff
<b>Communion to the Sick</b>		M Burgess J Lilly A Bradley	
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	D Lewia J Providenti	N & D McLaughlin	A Sites J Tridico

**+ Re: No Midnight Mass**

For several years now, a frequently asked and always dreaded question in parish life every December is “What time is midnight Mass?” Even before 2011 when *Midnight Mass* officially changed to *Mass at Night* in the Roman Missal, many parishes including Saint Peter’s in Rome & our Co-Cathedrals began this celebration at 10:30 pm.

This news is unwelcome by some, but no surprise to many. Blessed Sacrament Parish will no longer have Christmas Midnight Mass. The decision to drop the Midnight Mass was discussed at Staff, Liturgy Committee, and Pastoral Council meetings. The fact is that Midnight Mass has disappeared from many, if not most parish churches due to the reality that Catholics have clearly indicated they prefer to worship on Christmas Eve the late afternoon, early evening, or Christmas morning. Here is a summary of the discussions that took place, but I learned long ago *Reason doesn’t matter when it is an affair of the heart*. Nevertheless . . .

Prior to Covid, the attendance here at Blessed Sacrament’s Midnight Mass was growing steadily less. The attendance post-Covid has been only about 45. About half of those present were there because of one of our several Liturgical Ministries: reader, server, Eucharist, greeter/usher, cantor, choir member, and musician. It seems that the overwhelming majority of folks have chosen other Masses.

It is a more prudent use of our Vocal Choir and ministers to serve at another Christmas Mass. Besides, a mostly empty church with a few non-ministerial parishioners widely scattered would appear to be sad to many people

There is an overwhelming consensus by the Liturgy Committee, Pastoral Council, and Staff that our parish will be better served by pouring our energies into joyful celebrations at 4:00pm and 7:00pm on Christmas Eve and at 10:00am on Christmas morning. I understand why some parishioners will be disappointed and we will provide information of any local parish with a midnight Mass.

**Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**  
**305 E St, South Charleston, WV 25303**

[www.blessedsacramentwv.org](http://www.blessedsacramentwv.org)

**Phone: (304) 744-5523**

**E-mail: [BSCCWV@gmail.com](mailto:BSCCWV@gmail.com)**

Our parish office is open 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><b>Pastor: Rev. Paul Wharton</b>          E-mail: <a href="mailto:pjw424@gmail.com">pjw424@gmail.com</a>          Cell Phone: 304-433-7472          (For emergencies only after 8:00pm)</p>	<p><b>Deacons</b>          Tony O’Leary - cell: 304-395-6208 / email: <a href="mailto:aoleary@dwc.org">aoleary@dwc.org</a>          Tommy Ross – cell: 304-590-5003 / email: <a href="mailto:tross@dwc.org">tross@dwc.org</a></p>
<p><b>Office Manager:</b>          Natalie Zellers          304-744-5523          Office E-mail:  <a href="mailto:BSCCWV@gmail.com">BSCCWV@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Director of Religious Education</b>          Mike Granata          E-mail: <a href="mailto:mikegranata3@gmail.com">mikegranata3@gmail.com</a>          Phone: 304-561-8063</p>
<p><b>Music &amp; Youth Director:</b>          Mary Odin          E-mail: <a href="mailto:wmodin@frontier.com">wmodin@frontier.com</a>          Phone: 304-767-9479</p>	<p><b>Parish Therapy Cat</b>          Walter          Email: <a href="mailto:WalterCatechist@gmail.com">WalterCatechist@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Blessed Sacrament Parish Pastoral Council:</b>          Terry Mathias, facilitator, Chip Council, David Lewia, Katie Smithberger,          Charlie Wilson, Molly Linehan-Belcher, Rick Brennan, Dan McLaughlin, Jonathan Perry</p>	