



December 15 , 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	12/14	4:00pm	+	Jerry Roy by John & Arlene Hanna
Sunday	12/15	9:00 am	+	Tom Grishaber by Debbie Wright
		11:30 am	+	Don Churchill by John & Arlene Hanna
Monday	12/16			
Tuesday	12/17			
Wednesday	12/18	Noon		People of Our Parish
Thursday	12/19	Noon	+	Jerry Roy by Tina McCready
Friday	12/20	Noon		Blessings for healing for Maddox Potter by Sue Bowyer
Saturday	12/21	4:00 pm	+	Eugene Haid by Jack & Anne Dever
Sunday	12/22	9:00 am	+	Robert Lucas by John & Arlene Hanna
		11:30 am		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

Congratulations to these individuals who celebrated the RITE OF ACCEPTANCE last Sunday.

Betty Jackson, Amy Adkins, Charity Adkins, Harleigh Adkins, Hunter Adkins are **CATECHUMENS** seeking Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the coming Easter Vigil.

Adam Walton, George Shalhoub, Greg Bradford, Elizabeth Battle, and Josiah Martin are **CANDIDATES** who, already baptized in a Protestant church, are looking to be confirmed and received into Full Communion with the Roman Catholic Church during the coming Easter Vigil.

The Rite of Acceptance means the Church recognizes these men, women, and children as members of the Church not yet able to celebrate and receive the Sacraments of, Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Please welcome them and pray for them as they continue their preparations.

This Week at Blessed Sacrament

Warm Up Weekend (see the article)

Saturday, December 14

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

Sunday, December 15

- **Youth Music Ensemble** – 10:00 – 10:12am in the Worship Area
- **Blue Christmas Service at 3:00pm**
- **Christmas Caroling! To Hospice House**– meet at 4:30pm in the Parish Hall

Monday, December 16

- **OCIA Meeting** – 7:00pm to 8:00pm in Parish Hall
- **Parkinson's Support Group** – 6:00pm to 8:00pm in the Conference Room
- **Bells Rehearsal** – 6:00pm to 7:00pm
- **Choir Rehearsal** - 7:00pm to 8:00pm

Tuesday, December 17(The office is closed.)

- **BSP Lyres Club in the Worship Space** – 5:30pm to 6:30pm

Wednesday, December 18

- **Bible Study** - 10:00am to 11:30am in Room 5
- **BSP Lyres Club in the Worship Space** – 5:30pm to 6:30pm
- **Bible Sharing** –6:30pm to 8:00pm in Room 5
- **Study Guide:** <https://blessedsacramentwv.org/download/december-18-2024/?wpdmdl=2186&refresh=675c5797a8a0f1734104983>
- **Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85136740699?pwd=Q2pXLzdzZFdNNU1NajVpeEtKU0hJQT09>

Thursday, December 19

- **Youth Meeting at Church** - 5:00pm to 6:00pm
- **Bells Rehearsal** – 6:00pm to 7:00pm
- **Choir Rehearsal** - 7:00pm to 8:00pm

Friday, December 20

Saturday, December 21

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

Sunday, December 22

- **Youth Music Ensemble** – 10:00 – 10:12am in the Worship Area

Blessed Sacrament Parish Online Giving Portal

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



Thank you for your generosity.

Volunteers Needed!

Ushers/Greeters are in urgent need of volunteers. Greeter/Ushers are old and young, male and female, families and single folks. Everyone is welcome to be a part of this ministry. Greeters arrive about 20 minutes before Mass and say hello to people as they arrive. They answer questions about our facility, hand things out, and generally make us feel welcome. Greeters also help us to recruit individuals and families to bring up the Bread and Wine during the Offertory. Some of their tasks are quite visible, such as passing the plates for the collection and directing the communion procession. They also prepare the church before Mass and hand out bulletins as we leave. They take on many small tasks that help Mass to run smoothly and minimize distractions so that we can all pray. If you are interested please sign up on the sheet in the gathering space or email the office at BSCCWV@gmail.com

and

A call to bakers, requesting that anyone interested in donating a batch of cookies for the January 3 concert. If they are baking for Christmas, perhaps they want to add to a batch they are already making to minimize the effort. If you will let Shelley Nason know what type of cookie you are making no later than 1/2, she can make a card with the type of cookie for display. Shelley Nason, shelleynason@outlook.com, 603-682-1284.

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 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.

December 15th

Christmas Caroling! – 4:30pm in the Parish Hall (pizza/salad and cookies); 5:15pm depart for Hospice

Following the Blue Christmas service, our children, youth, and adult friends will meet in the Parish Hall for a bite of pizza/salad and cookies and a quick caroling “rehearsal” before heading up to Hubbard Hospice House.

Volunteers are needed to bake cookies! Join us for any part of the fun, at home or on the road. We expect to be home by 7:00pm. Call Mary Odin for more details – 304-767-9479

Shining Stars - Deadline December 15th

If you chose a star from the Shining Stars tree in our gathering area, please bring your gifts to the gathering area by **Sunday, December 15th**.

Please do not wrap the gifts.

Please attach the star to the bag holding your gifts.

These gifts will benefit many, many needy families in the valley. Catholic Charities coordinates this effort each year.

Thank you for participating!

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!



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

Each year Blessed Sacrament parishioners donate a lot of money to fund 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. This year, we need \$16,000.

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.



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. **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 the truck-cap window.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

December 25th - Christmas Brunch, December 25 at 11:00 AM

Our annual Christmas Brunch will take place on Wednesday, December 25, at 11:00 AM in the Parish Hall, immediately following the Christmas morning Mass. All parishioners are welcome to attend as well as family, friends, and neighbors. Blessed Sacrament will be providing ham, and you can bring a side dish to share if you are able. Sign-up sheets will be available starting this weekend in the gathering space. If you would like to volunteer to help in any way, please contact Terry Mathias at 304-741-0045 or tsmathias@earthlink.net.

Join us Friday evening,
January 3, 2025 for our annual



Concert

from 6:00-7:00pm

Blessed Sacrament Parish

305 E Street in South Charleston, WV

featuring our adult choir,
our handbell choir, our youth, harps,
and other small ensembles.

We'll also enjoy a

Post-Concert Cookie Bar

in the Gathering Space following the concert.

Come celebrate the season with us!

Holiday Dates

December 24th - Christmas Masses at 4pm and 7pm

December 25th - Christmas Mass at 10 am followed
by brunch.

December 31st - Mass at 4:00pm

January 1st Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Mass at 10:00am

January 3rd - Epiphany Concert at 6:00pm

Submitted Question in the Suggestion Box: Why don't we chant
"*For the kingdom, the power, and the glory . . .*" after chanting the
Lords Prayer.

Fr. Paul replies: Good question. This doxology is a later addition to
the Lord's Prayer, found no where in the earliest and oldest gospel
manuscripts. It is technically not part of the Lord's Prayer prayed in
the earliest Church. "*For the kingdom, the power, and the
glory . . .*" was added to the Mass in response to the Embolism
Prayer (*Deliver us, Lord, from every evil . . .*) The doxology is a
response to this prayer. Since I speak the Embolism prayer
because I can't reliably chant it, it seems to more natural for
people to do the same. Now this is my *opinion*



Walter CATechist at Work

inspecting a new place in our gathering
space. At Monday's (December 9) Pastoral
Council Meeting, it was suggested having a
table and two chairs for people who find it
difficult to stand in place very long to be
able to stay and enjoy Coffee and Cookies
after the 9am Mass. **Special Seat-
ing for Special People.**

BookMark

Volume 3, Number 4

Welcome to the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church Library! We exist to serve you, our Parish Patrons.

The Library is open for business in Room 6! Children's books are in the process of being outfitted with a "pocket" card so that our youngest patrons (or their parents) can check out a book more easily.

New Titles are in!

- And You Will Find Rest - What God Does in Prayer
- Contemplating the Seven Sorrows of Mary: a chaplet with St. Alphonsus
- One Lord, One Faith, One Church: an inconvenient truth
- Superhabits: the Universal System for a Successful Life
- The Christmas Book: the History, Traditions, and Customs of Everyone's Favorite Holiday



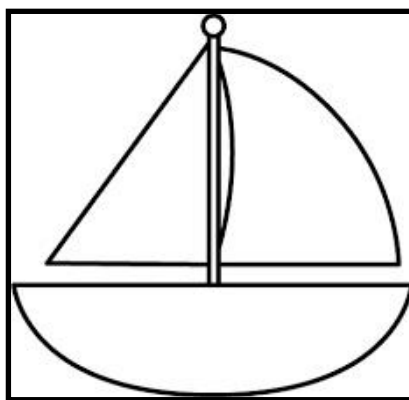
The Blessed Sacrament Library contains books, CDs, and DVDs that reflect a strong catholic emphasis. Questions? Comments? Just email me at BSCCLibrary@proton.me. John C. Priestley II

Spiritual Icebreakers and Soup Starters 128

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.

POEM | PRAYER

How shall I tame the wind?
With sails and rudder.
How shall I tame the wild waters?
With keel and rib.
Then I shall shout, Come wind,
Carry me far!
How shall I tame my heart?
With deeds of love.
How shall I tame my soul?
Only with prayer.
Now let me shout to You, my God,
as I shout to the wind, Come!
I have prepared my heart for You
and my soul waits like an empty sail.
Surely You know how I have patched
the cracked hull, spliced the raveled sheets. . .
Come to me, God,
Come as the wind comes singing
in the rigging of the tall white ships.
— Ruth Brin



STORY

The priest announced that Jesus Christ himself was coming to church the following Sunday. They expected him to preach, but he only smiled and said, "Hello." Everyone offered him hospitality for the night but he refused politely. He said that he would spend the night in church. Jesus slipped away early the next morning before the church doors opened. To their horror, the priest & the people found their church had been vandalized. Scribbled everywhere on the walls was the single word, "*Beware.*" No part of the church had been spared: doors, windows, pillars, pews, pulpit, and altar. Scratched in large letters and small, in pencil and pen and paint of every conceivable color: "*Beware.*" Wherever one looked, one could see the word - *BEWARE!*

BEWARE? What were they supposed to beware of? It did not say. It just said, "*Beware.*" The first impulse of the people was to wipe out every trace of this graffiti, this sacrilege. They did not because they knew it was Jesus himself who had written it. They came to realize Jesus was telling them to "Be **A**ware." Quick question: What might God be asking you to be more aware of between now and Christmas?

MYSTIC MORSELS

Faith lifts the soul. Hope supports it. Experience says it must. And Love says let it be!
— Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774-1821)

Whatever God wants, as God wills, when God wills.
— Saint Maria de las Maravillas de Jesús (1891-1974)



SAINT OF THE WEEK :

Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 12

The Virgin of Guadalupe, like the shroud of Turin, appears on a piece of fabric. Both are sacred objects, hundreds of years old, and both depict an image said to be miraculous. The Virgin of Guadalupe was declared Queen of Mexico and is Patron of the Americas.

Our Lady of Guadalupe first introduced herself as the Mother of God and the mother of all humanity when she appeared on the hill of Tepeyac in Mexico in 1531. An indigenous peasant, Juan Diego, saw a glowing figure on the hill. After she had identified herself to him, Our Lady asked that Juan build her a shrine in that same spot, in order for her to show and share her love and compassion with all those who believe. Afterwards, Juan Diego visited Juan de Zumárraga, who was Archbishop of what is now Mexico City. Zumárraga dismissed him in disbelief and asked that the future Saint provide proof of his story and proof of the Lady's identity.

Juan Diego returned to the hill and encountered Our Lady again. The Virgin told him to climb to the top of the hill and pick some flowers to present to the Archbishop. Although it was winter and nothing should have been in bloom, Juan Diego found an abundance of flowers of a type he had never seen before. The Virgin bundled the flowers into Juan's cloak, known as a tilma. When Juan Diego presented the tilma of exotic flowers to Zumárraga, the flowers fell out and he recognized them as Castilian roses, which are not found in Mexico.

What was even more significant, however, was that the tilma had been miraculously imprinted with a colorful image of the Virgin herself. This actual tilma, preserved since that date and showing the familiar image of the Virgin Mary with her head bowed and hands together in prayer, represents the Virgin of Guadalupe. It remains perhaps the most sacred object in all of Mexico. Over 20 million people visit the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe each year, now situated on the very same hill on which she appeared.

Our Lady of Guadalupe is Patron Saint of the Americas, mothers, and the Right to Life movement.

source: Vatican Website



The Blessed Sacrament Parish Grief Ministry Team is again offering a workshop entitled **GriefShare** for both parishioners and non-parishioners. The **GriefShare** ministry involves loving support to those suffering the pain of grief from the loss of a loved one.

GriefShare is a 13-week workshop that offers a safe, comforting place where you can talk with others about your grief. You'll find support, direction and guidance. Each week you can expect to view a 30-minute video filled with helpful guidance, discussion of grief-related issues, and personal recovery tips through your own individual workbook.

Our first gathering will be Wednesday, January 15th 6:00—7:30pm in Room 2. If you are suffering the pain of grief from the loss of a loved one, consider attending the first several sessions; then decide if this workshop is for you.

Please contact the church office at 304-744-5523 by January 9th to register. If you have any questions, you are encouraged to contact one of the team members:

Pam Council, Team Leader, 734-664-1527 or pamcouncil@yahoo.com

Ro DeBias, 304-382-3359 or rodebias@aol.com

Missy Mowrer, 304-545-4776 or granmissy@gmail.com

Jeanne Haas, 304-382-2631 or haasjeanne@hotmail.com

Debbie Burdette, 304-545-6917 or Dburdette23@gmail.com



The West Virginia Institute for Spirituality is an ecumenical center for prayer and spiritual growth, located in the heart of the city of Charleston, West Virginia. Our ministry promotes spiritual life through silence, prayer, retreats, education, spiritual direction, and inter-faith dialogue. *Register:* Visit our website at www.wvis.org/register or call [304.345.0926](tel:304.345.0926) Presently, our calendar reflects the following:

WVIS 2024 Advent Retreat via Zoom Saturday, December 14th from 10:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

19th Annotation Spiritual Exercises

WVIS Associate Spiritual Directors offer the 19th Annotation Spiritual Exercises in person and via Zoom.

Contemplative Prayer via Zoom (Monday through Friday)

Thomas Merton Charleston West Virginia Chapter via Zoom (3rd Tuesday each month)



SAVE THE DATE for Vacation Bible School
Sunday, July 20 to Thursday, July 24, 2025 from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE for Camp Leon
Sunday, June 15 through Saturday, June 21, 2025

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

Sun	12/15	Musilli Family
Mon	12/16	Mary Odin / Connie Jarzynski / Theresa O'Leary / Pippa Maramba
Tue	12/17	Bowles Family
Wed	12/18	Mary Burriss / Ruth Conrad
Thu	12/19	Ruth L Kirk / Paul Wharton
Fri	12/20	Denise Burgess
Sat	12/21	Rick Zitzelsberger



MANNA MEAL
SO THE HUNGRY CAN EAT

**MANNA MEAL/KROGER
PICK UP SCHEDULE**

DECEMBER

December 17 Dennis Thornburg
December 18 Matt Leary
December 24 Don Becher
December 31 Don Becher



Liturgical Ministries – December 14 & 15

	4:00pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
Lectors	C Stricker	T DiPiero	G Wright
Altar Servers	C & V Stricker	M Mathias J Borman	R Brennan
Cantors			
Communion Principal	J McGarrity	R Plutro	J Lilly
Eucharistic Ministers	B Frame T Streit	O Duarte C Wirts	R Brennan P Garnet
Communion to the Sick		D Elliott, T Aluise M Summey	
Greeters/Ushers	P & M Habenschuss	D Elliott S Nason	A Site K McNeil T Champe

Liturgical Ministries – December 21 & 22

	4:00pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
Lectors	P Frame	D Becher	K Lester
Altar Servers	W Stella R Brennan	G & M Ferrell	J Mattix J Crane
Cantors			
Communion Principal	T Witsberger	P Musilli	C Frye
Eucharistic Ministers	D Lewia A Davis	M Belcher J Lilly	K Lester J Priestley
Communion to the Sick		M Belcher D Elliott S Bowyer	
Greeters/Ushers	J Haas J Providenti	D Elliott S Manahan	The Crane Family

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

Second Collections - cash, envelopes, or checks made out to Blessed Sacrament may be placed in a marked box in the Gathering Space.

Pastor: Rev. Paul Wharton E-mail: pjw424@gmail.com Cell Phone: 304-433-7472 (For emergencies only after 8:00pm)	Deacons Tony O’Leary - cell: 304-395-6208 / email: aoleary@dwc.org Tommy Ross – cell: 304-590-5003 / email: tross@dwc.org
Office Manager: Natalie Zellers 304-744-5523 Office E-mail: BSCCWV@gmail.com	Director of Religious Education Mike Granata E-mail: mikegranata3@gmail.com Phone: 304-561-8063 Acting Director: Theresa O’Leary mtoleary93@gmail.com
Music & Youth Director: Mary Odin E-mail: wmodin@frontier.com Phone: 304-767-9479	Parish Therapy Cat Walter Email: WalterCatechist@gmail.com
Blessed Sacrament Parish Pastoral Council: Chip Counsil, Rick Brennan, David Lewia, Molly Linehan-Belcher, Philip Maramba, Terry Mathias, Dan McLaughlin, Jonathan Perry, Katie Smithberger, Charlie Wilson	

St. Paul Catholic Radio - WLUX-AM 1450 Charleston/Dunbar



DIOCESE OF WHEELING-CHARLESTON

How to Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children

The Diocese encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, you may also report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel or volunteers of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, by contacting one of the Bishop’s designees 1311 Byron St., PO Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003 Fax: 304.233.4086 Phone 304.230.1504 at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. You may also visit www.dwc.org, under “Accountability” for additional reporting mechanisms.”