



**December 29 , 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	12/28	4:00pm	+	Jerry Roy by Matt & Linda Higgs
Sunday	12/29	9:00 am	+	Anita Lorenzo by John & Arlene Hanna
		11:30 am		People of Our Parish
Monday	12/30			
Tuesday	<b>12/31</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	+	Those buried in our columbarium
Wednesday	<b>01/01</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	+	Those buried in our columbarium
Thursday	01/02	Noon	+	Kathy Wharton by Father Paul
Friday	01/03	Noon	+	Father Leon Alexander by Our Parish
Saturday	01/04	4:00 pm	+	Mike & Mary Paterno by Jim & Natalie Zellers
Sunday	01/05	9:00 am	+	Brent Savage by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Savage
		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



# This Week at Blessed Sacrament

## Saturday, December 28

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

## Sunday, December 29

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

## Monday, December 30

- **NO OCIA**
- **Bells Rehearsal** – 6:00pm to 7:00pm
- **Choir Rehearsal** - 7:00pm to 8:00pm

## Tuesday, December 31

## Wednesday, January 01 - *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*

## Thursday, January 02

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

## Friday, January 03

- **Epiphany Concert** – at 6:00pm

## Saturday, January 04

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

## Sunday, January 05

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

## *Holiday Dates*

**December 31st** -Mass at 4:00pm

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

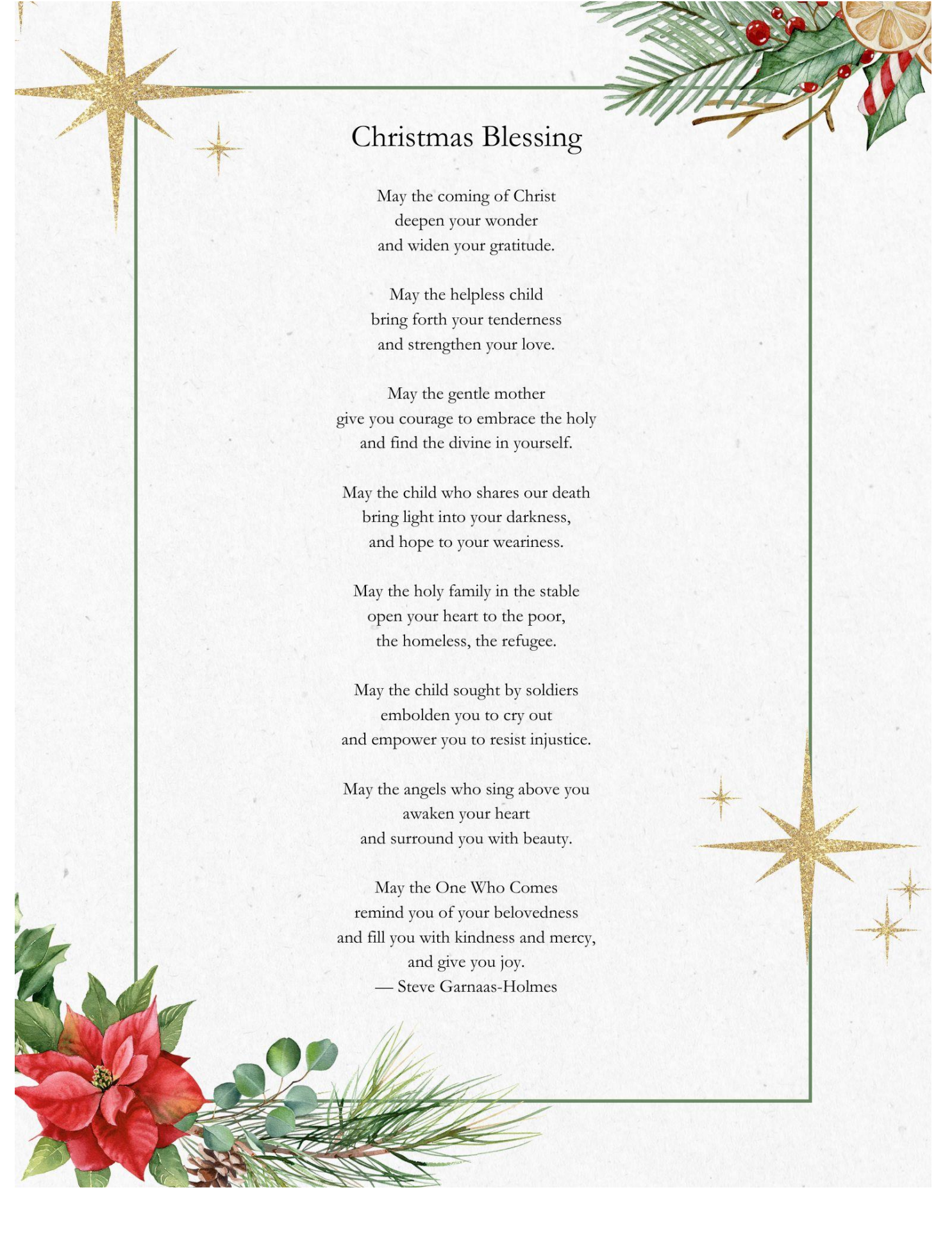
**January 3rd** - Epiphany Concert at 6:00pm

## **Blessed Sacrament Parish Online Giving Portal**

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



Thank you for your generosity.



## Christmas Blessing

May the coming of Christ  
deepen your wonder  
and widen your gratitude.

May the helpless child  
bring forth your tenderness  
and strengthen your love.

May the gentle mother  
give you courage to embrace the holy  
and find the divine in yourself.

May the child who shares our death  
bring light into your darkness,  
and hope to your weariness.

May the holy family in the stable  
open your heart to the poor,  
the homeless, the refugee.

May the child sought by soldiers  
embolden you to cry out  
and empower you to resist injustice.

May the angels who sing above you  
awaken your heart  
and surround you with beauty.

May the One Who Comes  
remind you of your belovedness  
and fill you with kindness and mercy,  
and give you joy.

— Steve Garnaas-Holmes

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!**

## January 10th

**Eucharistic Adoration** will take place on the second Friday of this month, January 10<sup>th</sup>, in the main worship space. Exposition will be at 6 p.m. with song and prayer. Benediction will be 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.

*Thank You!*

**THANK YOU FOR THE BLANKETS AND COATS!** The staff of United Way expressed a sincere thank you for the number of coats and blankets donated this year for the warming center and others needing them for the winter. It was another banner year! A demonstration of parishioners' continuing generosity.

**Re: Prayer Quilt Ministry:** Dear Friends at Blessed Sacrament,

Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer quilt and your special prayers for me. I will treasure this always. You are truly a blessing in my life. God bless you all! - Mary Cole

## Volunteers Needed!



**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](mailto:shelleynason@outlook.com), 603-682-1284.



## Manna Meal Pick Up from Kroger

A number of parishioners are part of a group picking up donated groceries from the West Side Delaware Avenue Kroger's and transporting them to Manna Meal. We have an opening for another. It involves going to several departments at Krogers, transporting what is given to the loading dock, loading your vehicle and then transporting what is collected to Manna Meal where their staff unloads. This is done Tuesdays and Wednesdays around 9 a.m. or so. A van, hatch back or truck are ideal vehicles to utilize. Since there are several of us volunteering, an individual volunteer generally is only scheduled no more than a couple of times a month. Volunteers are scheduled around any conflicts they might have each month. **If interested email Don Becher at [donbecher@gmail.com](mailto:donbecher@gmail.com)**

## Coming Very Soon: A Survey – Your Discipleship Journey

Blessed Sacrament Parish is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ in our parish community. Together we must embrace Christ's vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith.

The very first step in this process involves **assessing our greatest strengths and opportunities**, and that is where the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)** comes in. The DMI is an important survey tool that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey. The Disciple Maker Index is designed to:

- Invite parishioners to reflect on their journey of discipleship.
- Enable parish leadership to make data-driven decisions.
- Help parishioners grow in their faith.

**The 10–15-minute survey can be accessed through an online link from January 7 through February 6** and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide your perspective on our parish's efforts to help you grow in relationship with Christ. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. We will share the link with you a bit closer to the launch of the survey. Paper surveys will also be available for those who do not have the ability to complete the survey online.

Together we must embrace Christ's vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith.

*Please continue to pray for this intention and for the growth and protection of our parish.*



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 9<sup>th</sup> 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

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## New Wednesday Morning Bible Study to Begin!!

Faith, Hope and Love: The Seven Catholic Epistles by Steven Binz will start on **Wednesday, January 15** at 10AM in room 5 and on Zoom. New persons are always welcome. Notify Jeanne Haas [304.382.2631] if you would like more information or to register.

Here is a description of this new Bible Study:

*Because the seven letters provide a unique window into early Christian theology and practice, they should ideally be read together. Known as the “pillars” of the community in Jerusalem, James, Peter, and John offer the church a collection of letters that serves as a complementary, non-Pauline apostolic witness. The great Christian virtues of faith, hope, and love recur throughout these letters and form a thematic unity within the collection. These letters sought to address the challenges encountered by the whole church: refuting false teachings, strengthening believers in the ethical practice of the faith, and upholding their strength in the face of oppression from others.*

### Upcoming Seminarian Birthdays.

Birthday cards keep us connected - cards are a small gesture that make someone feel thought of in a way that email does not quite achieve. Please consider sending a card to:

**January 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Nathan Schmidt** – Mount St. Mary's Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727

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## Blessed Sacrament Weekly Email - December 27, 2024

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“We are in a point in American History that we want to take God and religion out of all public life for fear we will offend someone. So, we don’t thank God at Thanksgiving we are just to be thankful. At Christmas we want to have a happy holiday with no religious intrusion. Christmas has always been a time of Peace on earth, Joy to the World, and good will to mankind. People are nicer at Christmas it seems. So, the secular people of our country want to keep peace, joy, and goodwill in this winter holiday, but avoid all religious references. What they really want is Christmas without Christ.”  
— Author Unknown

When we look at the last 100 years, we would have to admit that Christmas has been ruined — or at best lessened. It seems that Praise has given way to Party, the Savior has given way to Santa, Glory has been exchanged for Gifts, and that Bows (in reverence) have been replaced by Bōws (ribbons). It seems now more than ever we need reminded Jesus IS the Reason for the season. It wasn’t Santa Claus who came to town that first Christmas, but Jesus Christ, the Word (of God) Made Flesh was born in humility and poverty some 2,000 years ago.

Other anonymous writers have compared Santa Claus and our Lord Jesus Christ.

- Santa lives at the North Pole. Jesus lives everywhere.
- Santa rides in a sleigh. Jesus rides on the wind and walks on the water.
- Santa comes once a year. Jesus is an ever-present help.
- Santa comes down your chimney. Jesus stands at the door of your heart & knocks
- Santa fills your stockings with goodies. Jesus supplies all your needs.
- You have to wait in line to see Santa. Jesus is as close as the mention of His name.
- Santa lets you sit in his lap. Jesus holds you in His hands.
- Santa has a belly like a bowl of jelly. Jesus has a heart of love.
- Santa’s little helpers makes new toys. Jesus makes new lives.
- Santa puts gifts under your tree. Jesus became our gift and died on a tree.

Remember Jesus especially today, tomorrow, and forever.

Father Paul

### MYSTIC MORSELS

As the sun illumines not only the heaven and the whole world, shining on both land and sea, but also sends rays through windows and small chinks into the furthest recesses of a house, so the Word, poured out everywhere, behold the smallest actions of our life.


— Saint Clement of Alexandria (c.150-215)

Christ is born, glorify Him! Christ from heaven, go out to meet Him! Christ on earth, be exalted! Sing to the Lord all the whole earth; and that I may join both in one word, let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad, for Him who is of heaven and then of earth. Christ in the flesh, rejoice with trembling and with joy; with trembling because of your sins, with joy because of your hope.

— Saint Gregory Nazianzen (329-c. 391)

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

<b>Sun</b>	12/29	Irene Galloway / Therese Cox
<b>Mon</b>	12/30	Jim Scharf / Jack Dever
<b>Tue</b>	12/31	Carla Stricker
<b>Wed</b>	01/01	Mary Gargarella / Bev Schissler
<b>Thu</b>	01/02	Joan Fernandes / John McGarrity
<b>Fri</b>	01/03	Sister Frances Kirtley / Marla Weiner / Wayne Miller
<b>Sat</b>	01/04	Missy Summey

 <b>MANNA MEAL</b> SO THE HUNGRY CAN EAT		<b>MANNA MEAL/KROGER          PICK UP SCHEDULE</b>	
<b>JANUARY</b> January 1                    Dennis Thornburg January 7                    Matt Leary January 8                    Anne Davis January 14                   Don Becher January 15                   Kelley Endres January 21                   Matt Leary January 22                   Don Becher January 28                   Don Becher January 29                   Don Becher		<b>FEBRUARY</b> February 4                   Don Becher February 5                   Anne Davis February 11                   Dennis Thornburg February 12                   Kelley Endres February 18                   Matt Leary February 19                   Anne Davis February 25                   Dennis Thornburg February 26                   Kelley Endres	

**Liturgical Ministries – December 28 & 29**

	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>11:30 am</b>
<b>Lectors</b>	M P Peck	P Nagem	T McLane
<b>Altar Servers</b>	C & V Stricker	E & N Simonton	F & P Maramba
<b>Communion Principal</b>	R Teufel	T Mathias	R Brennan
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	T Streit S Churchill	B Sherrard A Bradley	C & P Council
<b>Communion to the Sick</b>		B Sherrard A Bradley L Hayes	
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	D Lewia J Providenti	B Cornell S Manahan	P Cochran R Norman



### Liturgical Ministries – December 31 & January 1

	4:00pm	10:00 am
<b>Lectors</b>	C Stricker	P Frame
<b>Altar Servers</b>	C Council	M Mathias
<b>Communion Principal</b>	V Stricker	T Mathias
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	P Musilli S Churchill	R Brennan M Summey
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	MB Abbot P Cochran	S Nason

### Liturgical Ministries – January 4 & 5

	4:00pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
<b>Lectors</b>	T Ciliberti	B Caldwell	TBD
<b>Altar Servers</b>	J Borman K Lewia	E & N Simonton	C Council
<b>Communion Principal</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA
<b>Communion to the Sick</b>		TBA	
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	P & M Habenschuss	P Cochran D Elliott	T Greene R Norman

**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**



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  <b>Acting Director:</b> Theresa O’Leary  <a href="mailto:mtoleary93@gmail.com">mtoleary93@gmail.com</a></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>  Chip Council, Rick Brennan, David Lewia, Molly Linehan-Belcher, Philip Maramba, Terry Mathias,  Dan McLaughlin, Jonathan Perry, Katie Smithberger, Charlie Wilson</p>	

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](http://www.dwc.org), under “Accountability” for additional reporting mechanisms.”