



# Blessed Sacrament Parish

## February 25, 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	02/24	4:00 pm	+	Mary Jane Mowrer by Missy Mowrer
Sunday	02/25	9:00 am		For the People of Our Parish
		11:30 am		Blessings for Kylie Mowrer by Missy Mowrer
Monday	02/26			
Tuesday	02/27			
Wednesday	02/28	Noon		Blessings for Steven and Catherine by Sue Bowyer
Thursday	02/29	Noon		John Lordan by Joan Fernandes
Friday	03/01	Noon		Effa Wharton by Father Paul Wharton
Saturday	03/02	4:00 pm		Blessings for Father Dean Borgmeyer by Missy Mowrer
Sunday	03/04	9:00 am		Don Churchill by Susan Churchill
		11:30 am		For the People of Our Parish



#### We Remember in Our Prayers

Dr. Clark Adkins, Barbara Baldy, Barbara Breese, Bo Burdette, Elizabeth Coleman, Matthew Crabtree, Loretta DiGiorgi, Joe Eisel, Marietta Fenton, Bob Galloway, Dante Geronilla, Joe Gregg, Jane Ann Grishaber, Bob & Kathleen Groom, Mary Lou Hammock, John & Arlene Hanna, Gary Hoskins, Rob Hrezo, John & Claire Johnson, Anita Lorenzo, Bob Lucas, Linda Lynch, Louann Lynch-Kelley, Sheila Kerns, Alec Mansfield, Evelyn Miller, Keith Morgan, Jim Roberts, Bradley Smith, Sandy Wheeler, and the Urecki family

#### OCIA Candidates and Their Sponsors

Johnathan Adkins and John Crane, Janie Adkins and Rachel Crane, and Judy Bailey and Jesse Linehan-Belcher

#### Deacon Candidates and Their Wives

Tommy and Kathy Ross and Tony and Theresa O'Leary

#### First Communion Candidates

Emily W, Elin B., Grayson H, Gabriela T, Kylan F





# Blessed Sacrament Symposium

**This Sunday February 25** at 10:15 - 11:15 am, Molly Linehan Belcher, Fr. John Finnell, and Fr. Paul will have a PANEL DISCUSSION on the Church's Dicastery for the Doctrine of Faith (DDF) released Fiducia Supplicans - Supplicating Trust - which according to some allows for the blessing of same sex couples.

Molly will explain what it says. Fr. Paul will explain why it makes so many people angry. Fr. John will speak about in more positive terms. There will be time for questions, answers, and your opinions. It will NOT be live streamed on Facebook and YouTube.

On **Sunday March 10** at 10:15 - 11:15 am, in the church, Sue Barazi from the Islamic Center will give a presentation on THE MEANING OF RAMADAN which this year is from March 10 - April 9. Ramadan is sometimes called "Islamic Lent." It will NOT be live streamed on Facebook and YouTube.



## Cats in Church History #3

Like any bona fide cat lover, Pope Benedict XVI's face would light up and his hand would reach out at the sight of a fluffy feline. He believed animals must be respected as "companions in creation" As cats are known to sense approaching cat lovers, Vatican kitties would swarm around him.



February 25, 2024 | Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 | Rom 8:31b-34 | Mk 9:2-10

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

Just two weeks ago, when Christians walked around all day with a cross of ashes on our foreheads, we may have received puzzled looks. Who bothers with fasting and almsgiving for 40 whole days? Many of us live with great abundance in this country; the only time we actually *need* to fast might be for lab work. With this in mind, it's helpful to remember the *why*: because Christ sacrificed himself for us, and he calls his followers to participate in his redemptive mission through our own sacrifices. Without sacrifice, we simply cannot be like Christ, nor will we see our own transfiguration in the resurrection to come. So Lent is a blessed season of reorienting our lives to Christian sacrifice: that of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Perhaps this season can also dispel some of the complacency that has a tendency to creep into our lives. The poor and hungry and disenfranchised still exist, and Christ depends on us to be his hands and feet to serve them. But how can we serve them if we do not embrace Christ's example as a living sacrifice? Ask the Lord for the grace to see and hear what he is asking us to do for him.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

Today's readings show an incredible arc from Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son for God to Christ's Transfiguration after his Passion. Without Abraham's willingness to give up that which he wanted most and finally obtained, he would not have earned his greatest blessing from God in having countless descendants; and without Christ's sacrifice on the cross, all of mankind would not have been saved. Maybe we aren't called to great sacrifices such as these in our own lives, but we as Christians are called to offer our lives as a living sacrifice to our family, our neighbor, those in need, and God himself. Lent is a reminder not only to help us reorient our lives to God and his call for our lives, but to live it, too. By our own witness and prayer we have the ability to help bring others to the Lord and his promise of eternal life.

**ACCOMPANY** What is something you have always appreciated being done for you? What is a specific sacrifice, large or small, that you know has been made on your behalf? Make an effort this week to identify a specific need you know someone has, pray for that person/need, and offer to God a sacrifice of treasure, time or even your suffering for the fulfillment of that need.

### Liturgical Ministries – February 24 & 25


	4:00 pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
<b>Lectors</b>	Tony Ciliberti	Brian Caldwell	Tom McLane
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Chip Council David Bowles	Will Stella Madison Ferrell	Tommy Ross
<b>Cantors</b>			
<b>Communion Principal</b>	Todd Witsberger	Peggy Musilli	Rick Brennan
<b>Chalice Minister</b>	Missy Mowrer Diane Lordan	Sr Fran Kirtley Bob Sherrard	Chip and Pam Council
<b>Communion to the Sick</b>		Ann Bradley Laura Hayes Joan Fernandes	
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	Pat & Mike Habenschuss	Kelly & Rob Plutro	Linda & Matt Dunmire

### Liturgical Ministries – March 2 & 3

	4:00 pm	9:00 am	11:30 am
<b>Lectors</b>	Patty Frame	Susan Churchill	Kathy Lester
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Rick Brennan Will Stella	Jeff Borman Maureen Mathis	Eli Simonton Nathaniel Simonton
<b>Cantors</b>			
<b>Communion Principal</b>	John McGarrity	Ted Streit	Jami Knox
<b>Chalice Minister</b>	Tony Ciliberti Ro DeBias	Molly Linehan-Belcher Marueen Mathias	Rick Brennan Jo Midkiff
<b>Communion to the Sick</b>		Susan Bowyer Molly Linehan-Belcher Jackie Lilly	
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	Pat or Mike Habenschuss John Providenti	Brian Cornell Jeanne Haas	Rachael/John/Scarlett/Thatcher Crane

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

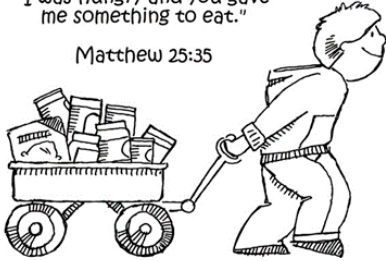
<b>Sun</b>	02/25	Elaine King / Todd Witsberger / Tina McCready
<b>Mon</b>	02/26	Kelley Endres
<b>Tue</b>	02/27	John Finnell
<b>Wed</b>	02/28	Bernie Mabe / Lucy, Henry, & Katie Smithberger
<b>Thu</b>	02/29	Irene Galloway / Therese Cox
<b>Fri</b>	03/01	Mary Gargarella / Bev Schissler
<b>Sat</b>	03/02	Joan Fernandes / John McGarrity



**MANNA MEAL**  
SO THE HUNGRY CAN EAT

**MANNA MEAL/KROGER  
PICK UP SCHEDULE**

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."  
Matthew 25:35



**FEBRUARY**

February 27    John Ellison  
February 28    John Ellison

**MARCH**

March 5        Don Becher  
March 6        Kelley Endres  
March 12       Dennis Thornburg  
March 13       Matt Leary  
March 19       Tony O'Leary  
March 20       Don Becher  
March 26       John Ellison  
March 27       John Ellison

**APRIL**

April 2         Dennis Thornburg  
April 3         Kelley Endres  
April 9         Matt Leary  
April 10        Tony O'Leary  
April 16        Rob Schissler  
April 17        Rob Schissler  
April 23        Dennis Thornburg  
April 24        Don Becher  
April 30        John Ellison



Blessed Sacrament's Staff and Finance Council are pleased to share the **2023 Annual Financial Report** with you. (Spoiler alert: We are blessed!)

We have hard copies available in the gathering area on our bulletin board. The Financial Report is also available online at:


<https://blessedsacramentwv.org/en/download/2023-financial-report/?wpdmdl=1655&refresh=65c5713ed1e7e1707438398>





## Spaghetti Dinner for HOPE

Charleston Catholic's HOPE Project will host a **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser**, 5:30-7:30, on **Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** and the CCHS Commons. Tickets are \$15 a plate. Children, age 5 and under, eat for free. Tickets can be purchased ahead of time at the school office or at the door on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. All of the proceeds from the dinner will go toward the costs for the week-long project in June. HOPE participants commit to raise \$25,000 so that the Cabwaylingo Appalachian Mission can build a house for a family in need. Students and adult volunteers spend the week repairing homes and helping with the new construction. HOPE has the dual purpose of improving the quality of housing for low-income folks in need and instilling the habit of service in students with a commitment to living the works of mercy.



Synod  
2021  
2024

**The Diocese requests the honor of your presence!**  
The Synod on Synodality Continues  
Towards October 2024  
The Interim Stage

For a Synodal Church: Community, Participation, Mission

After three years of the Universal Church's journey of Synodality, we *still* must ask ourselves...  
**Do we yet know how to be a synodal Church in mission?**

We must identify the paths to follow and the tools to adopt  
to empower all of **the baptized** to contribute to the Church's one...

**MISSION: To Proclaim the Risen Lord and His Gospel to the World Today**

Let us remember what Pope Francis has taught, regarding this Synod:  
**"The important thing is *how* the reflection is done, that is, in a synodal way."**

**Diocesan-Wide Listening Sessions**  
The Bishops are asking us to hold more listening sessions – at the Diocesan level – to deepen our reflection.  
Therefore, we will be conducting six (6) listening sessions, one in each vicariate, starting at 6:30 PM. They are:

Wednesday, February 21 <sup>st</sup> :	St. John XXIII P.C., Charleston
Thursday, February 22 <sup>nd</sup> :	St. Leo, Inwood
Tuesday, February 27 <sup>th</sup> :	St. Francis de Sales, Beckley
Wednesday, February 28 <sup>th</sup> :	Immaculate Conception, Clarksburg
Thursday, February 29 <sup>th</sup> :	St. Francis Xavier, Parkersburg
Thursday, March 7 <sup>th</sup> :	St. Michael, Wheeling

**The Nature of This Year's Sessions**  
More than just *listening* sessions, these gatherings are to be "**Conversations in the Spirit**" to **discern** the Will of God for our Church, by listening both to the stirrings of the Holy Spirit, within, and the contributions of one another.

**Two Guiding Questions**  
The Bishops have provided us with two (2) guiding questions that we are going to discern responses to, together.

1. Where have I seen or experienced successes—and distresses—within the Church's structure(s)/organization/leadership/life that encourage or hinder the mission?
2. How can the structures and organization of the Church help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel and to live as a community of love and mercy in Christ?

**Preparing Yourself for These Sessions**  
We need to prayerfully and spiritually prepare for these sessions, by personally reflecting upon synodality.  
We ask that you read and reflect upon some Scripture, in preparation for the listening session:  
**John 14, Romans 12, and Isaiah 61.**

Entrust yourself to the Father, converse with the Lord Jesus, & listen to the Holy Spirit, about these questions.

# Spiritual Icebreakers and Soup Starters 88

*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**      Three\_dwellings

*Peter said to Jesus,  
"Rabbi, it is good for us to be here;  
let us make three dwellings..."*

—Mark 9.5

The first is the booth of Seeing:  
knowing what's going on,  
understanding, placing everything  
where it belongs on our Map of Things.

Instead there is light  
too bright to see in.

The second is the house of Certainty:  
knowing there is a law about this,  
knowing we are right,  
and that we know all there is to know.

Instead there is a cloud of unknowing,  
thick as ignorance and even doubt.

The third is the temple of Control:  
in which our powers are enhanced  
and in the end we will have deserved this.

Instead there is not congratulation  
but instruction: "Listen to him."

There are no booths,  
only a clearing  
where the Beloved enters  
a barely discernible path,  
the path of mystery,  
the path of wonder,

— Steve Garnaas-Holmes *Unfolding Light*

[www.unfoldinglight.net](http://www.unfoldinglight.net)



## PRAYER

Holy God, mighty and immortal,  
you are beyond our knowing,  
yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ,  
whose compassion illumines the world.  
Transform us into the likeness of the love of Christ,  
who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity,  
the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## MYSTIC MORSELS

A seed grows with no sound, but a tree falls with huge noise.  
Destruction has noise, but creation is quiet.  
This is the power of silence . . . Grow silently.

The soul does not grow by addition but by subtraction.  
– Meister Eckhart (1260-1328)

In nature we find silence — the trees, flowers, and grass grow in silence.  
The stars, the moon, and the sun move in silence.  
Silence of the heart is necessary so you can hear God.  
– Saint Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)

## SAINT OF THE WEEK : Saint Isabel of France February 26

Isabel was sister to the great king of France, St. Louis IX, in the 13th century. Not only was she royal and wealthy, but she also had a sharp intellect and was a highly accomplished lady. She left aside all of these advantages of life as a princess, however, and sought holiness above everything.

Even as a girl, she was known for fervent prayer and fasting. She loved learning and studied Latin so that she could pray the liturgy of the hours and read the Church Fathers. Isabel refused to be married, even when famous men courted her. Once, the pope wrote to her directly to encourage her to marry the king of Jerusalem for the good of Christendom, but her refusal to him was so humble and wise that he acknowledged her desire to dedicate her life to God alone.

Every day, before she ate her dinner, Isabel would seat poor people at her table and serve them herself. She would spend the evening visiting others who were sick and poor.

She established a convent for Franciscan nuns, asking St. Bonaventure to write up the rule of life for the community, and named it the Monastery of the Humility of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Isabel never joined the community herself, but did live in the monastery in a room separate from the nun's cells. . . She kept a discipline of silence for most of her day.

Isabel understood the connection between the Eucharist and its call to service. Jesus washed the feet of his disciples at the Last Supper, which calls us to humble ourselves in love for others. Before she received communion herself, Isabel always begged forgiveness, on her knees, of the few servants that she retained. Her life of prayer was marked by ecstasies at several points of her life, including a period of time near the end of her life when she stayed awake through several nights in rapt contemplation. She died in 1270.

Saint Isabel of France, who had the known world at her fingertips and left it all to serve God and the poor—pray for us!

source:

<https://faith.nd.edu/s/1210/faith/interior.aspx?sid=1210&gid=609&calcid=53508&calpgid=61&pgid=18256&crd=0>

Saint Isabel is a Patron Saint of the sick, of peace, and of bride



**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 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><b>Pastor: Rev. Paul Wharton</b></p> <p>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>Office Manager:</b>  Natalie Zellers  304-744-5523 Office E-mail:  <a href="mailto:BSCCWV@gmail.com">BSCCWV@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>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>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, facilitator; Jackson Davis, Anne Dever, Jack Dever, Christine Fernandes, David Lewia, Molly Linehan-Belcher, Philip Maramba, Terry Mathias, Katie Smithberger, and Charlie Wilson</p>	



**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.”