

## Blessed Sacrament Parish – March 19, 2023

*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*

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

The South entrance doors are unlocked during those hours.

Telephone (Parish Office): 304.744.5523 E-mail: [BSCCWV@gmail.com](mailto:BSCCWV@gmail.com)

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

Pastor: Rev. Paul Wharton E-mail: [pjw424@gmail.com](mailto:pjw424@gmail.com) Cell Phone for Emergencies: 304-433-7472

Music & Youth Director: Mary Odin E-mail: [wmodin@frontier.com](mailto:wmodin@frontier.com) 304-767-9479

Faith Formation: Dr. Bob Pennington: [rpenningtontheologian@gmail.com](mailto:rpenningtontheologian@gmail.com)

Office Manager: Natalie Zellers Office E-mail: [BSCCWV@gmail.com](mailto:BSCCWV@gmail.com)

**Our Pastoral Council:** Chip Council, facilitator, Rick Brennan, Pam Council, Jackson Davis, Matt Davis, Anne Dever, Jack Dever, Christine Fernandes, Mike Granata, Molly Linehan-Belcher, Philip Maramba, Terry Mathias, Katie Smithberger, and Charlie Wilson

We stream our Masses on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BSCCWV/>  
for anyone who cannot come to Mass in person.

| Day       | Date  | Time           |   | Mass Intention   |
|-----------|-------|----------------|---|--|
| Saturday  | 03/18 | 5:30pm         | + | Phil & Nora Corkrean by Carla & Vince Stricker                     |
| Sunday    | 03/19 | 9:00am         |   | Intentions of the People of Our Parish                             |
|           |       | 11:30am        | + | (not assigned)   |
| Monday    | 03/20 |                |   |  |
| Tuesday   | 03/21 |                |   |  |
| Wednesday | 03/22 | 7:00am<br>Noon | + | Toni Oliver by Ro DeBias   |
| Thursday  | 03/23 | Noon           | + | Scott Yoho by Ro DeBias  |
| Friday    | 03/24 | Noon           | + | (not assigned)   |
| Saturday  | 03/25 | Noon           | + | Funeral Mass for Patty and Michael Geissinger                      |
|           |       | 5:30pm         |   | Blessings for Mar Jean Kearney and Deanne Williams by Missy Mowrer |
| Sunday    | 03/26 | 9:00am         |   | (not assigned)   |
|           |       | 11:30am        |   | Intentions of the People of Our Parish                             |

### We Remember in Our Prayers

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

## This Week at Blessed Sacrament

| Day         | Date  | Time          | Event  | Location   |
|-------------|-------|---------------|--|--|
| <b>Sat</b>  | 03/18 | 9:00am        | Men's Bible Sharing Group                            | Room 5/Library and Zoom  |
|             |       | 4:30pm        | Reconciliation                                       | Reconciliation Room  |
|             |       | 5:30pm        | Mass – Vigil   | Church & <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BSCWV/">facebook.com/BSCWV/</a> |
| <b>Sun</b>  | 03/19 | 9:00am        | Mass – OCIA Scrutiny                                 | Church & <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BSCWV/">facebook.com/BSCWV/</a> |
|             |       | 10:15am       | First Communion Class                                | Room 2   |
|             |       | 10:15am       | Youth Faith Formation                                | Library or Room 5B   |
|             |       | 10:15am       | Coffee, Cocoa, and Questions                         | Parish Hall  |
|             |       | 11:30am       | Mass   | Church & <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BSCWV/">facebook.com/BSCWV/</a> |
| <b>Mon</b>  | 03/20 | 6:00pm        | OCIA   | Library  |
|             |       | 6:00pm        | Parkinson's Support Group                            | Parish Hall  |
| <b>Tues</b> | 03/21 |               | <b>Our Office is Closed Today</b>                    |  |
|             |       | 5:30-6:30pm   | BSP Lyres Club Harp Ensemble                         | Parish Hall  |
| <b>Wed</b>  | 03/22 | <b>7:00am</b> | Mass   | Chapel   |
|             |       | 10:00am       | Bible Study  | Library  |
|             |       | Noon          | Mass   | Chapel   |
|             |       | 1:00pm        | Lectio Divina  | Conference Room  |
|             |       | <b>6:00pm</b> | <b>Celebrate the Spirit: Recovery from Addiction</b> | <b>Parish Hall</b>   |
| <b>Thur</b> | 03/23 | Noon          | Mass   | Chapel   |
|             |       | 5:00pm        | Youth Group  | Parish Hall  |
|             |       | 6:00pm        | Handbell Choir Rehearsal                             | Sanctuary  |
|             |       | 7:00pm        | Choir Rehearsal                                      | Sanctuary  |
| <b>Fri</b>  | 03/24 | 11:15am       | Scriptural Rosary                                    | Chapel   |
|             |       | Noon          | Mass   | Chapel   |
|             |       | <b>5:30pm</b> | Stations of the Cross                                | Church   |

This Week at Blessed Sacrament is continued on the next page.

## This Week continued

|            |       |               |  |  |
|------------|-------|---------------|--|--|
| <b>Sat</b> | 03/25 | 9:00am        | Men's Bible Sharing Group                                | Room 5/Library and Zoom  |
|            |       | Noon          | Funeral Mass for Patty Geissinger and Michael Geissinger | Church   |
|            |       | 4:30pm        | Reconciliation   | Reconciliation Room  |
|            |       | 5:30pm        | Mass - Vigil   | Church & <a href="https://facebook.com/BSCWV/">facebook.com/BSCWV/</a> |
| <b>Sun</b> | 03/26 | 9:00am        | Mass   | Church & <a href="https://facebook.com/BSCWV/">facebook.com/BSCWV/</a> |
|            |       | 10:15am       | Theology Book Club                                       | Community/Conference Room  |
|            |       | 10:15am       | First Communion Class                                    | Room 2   |
|            |       | 10:15am       | Youth Faith Formation                                    | Library and Room 5B  |
|            |       | 11:30am       | Mass – OCIA Scrutiny                                     | Church & <a href="https://facebook.com/BSCWV/">facebook.com/BSCWV/</a> |
|            |       | <b>3:00pm</b> | <b>Communal Reconciliation Service</b>                   | <b>Church</b>  |

**1st COMMUNION CLASS** is meeting **every Sunday** from 10:15am to 11:15am in Classroom 2. If you missed our first few classes, don't worry; please attend this week's class and every Sunday throughout May! Parents can drop off and pick up their child directly in Room 2 of the Parish classrooms past the parish office. If anyone has any questions, please contact me at: [rpenningtontheologian@gmail.com](mailto:rpenningtontheologian@gmail.com).

**YOUTH FAITH FORMATION** class will meet **every Sunday** from 10:15-11:15am in Room 5b (younger group) & the Library (older group). Parents can drop their kids off at these rooms which are located just past the parish offices.

**Faith & Film Festival:** Please come watch "Food Inc." in the Parish Hall on **March 19** @ 2pm. The event is co-sponsored by the Creation Care Committee and the Social Justice Committee. The documentary shows the reality of how, where, when, and why food in the United States is grown, genetically modified, produced, and sold in stores and fast-food chains. All Catholic Social Teaching principles are in play in this documentary of the reality of food production in the United States. Rick Brennan will lead a discussion on this intersectionality after the film. **Food Inc.** is a "hard hitting expose about our nation's food supply, and those who control it who often put profit ahead of consumer health, the livelihood of the American farmer, and the safety of workers and our own environment. But surprisingly, the overall message of the documentary is one of hope -- how every dollar we spend on food makes a difference, not just to our immediate families, but to the world." PBS-POV

**Food Inc.** Rated PG; Common Sense Media Ages 13+ Run Time 1 hr. 24 minutes

The 2008 Robert Kenner film, **Food, Inc.** reveals surprising — and often shocking truths — about what we eat, how it's produced, become as a nation and where we are going from here. 2010 Academy Award Nominee for Best Documentary; 2011 Emmy Award Winner: Outstanding Informational Program, Best Documentary and scores of other nominations and awards.

**"Celebrate the Spirit in Recovery: The Journey Toward Transformation"** is a community event, open to the public, from 6pm to 8:30pm on **March 22**; doors open at 5pm. The event is a program to learn about recovery from alcohol and drug addiction through spirituality. Panel presentations, information tables from over 20 local non-profit addiction and recovery treatment centers, food, and sharing will enhance your Lenten journey!

Back by Popular Demand: **"Coffee, Cocoa, and Questions."** Our next meeting will be this Sunday, **March 19** from 10:15-11:15am. This is an opportunity for all parishioners, young and old and in-between, to submit anonymous questions in-person in the submission box in the parish gathering space. You may also go to our Survey Monkey link below to submit questions with complete and secure anonymity. For our next meeting, we invite questions related to Lent! Fr. Paul will answer the questions in a town hall-style event. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/252W85K>

## 8 Things to Know about the Restoration of Communion from the Cup

1. Communion from the Cup will be available beginning on Holy Thursday.
2. As always, it is optional since whenever one receives either the consecrated bread or consecrated wine, one receives both the Body and the Blood of Jesus. The Church has said that doing so is a fuller sign, not a requirement nor a source of more grace.
3. When one approaches the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, one bows his or her head, responds by taking the chalice into one's hands, and saying "Amen" before taking a sip, and returning the chalice to the minister.
4. Out of charity and genuine love of neighbor, one who is coughing, sneezing, has a runny nose, is feverish, or is the least bit sick, ought never to receive communion from the cup or communion on the tongue.
5. Although the chalice is wiped after each communicant, there are no assurances that germs will not be transmitted. The alcohol does not guarantee this either.
6. Since the consecrated wine must be consumed afterwards, it is possible we will run out until we get a better idea of how much wine to use.
7. It is almost certain that we will need more help distributing communion. Please prayerfully consider volunteering.
8. Please complete the Survey Monkey poll on our website or on a table in the Gathering Space.

## 3 Things to Know about Exchanging the Sign of Peace.

1. Also, at your own discretion people may hug, kiss, one shake hands during the Sign of Peace. Peace is exchanged only with those close by.
2. Please read the Body Language of those around you. Some prefer not to physically exchange a sign with others. We need to respect that.
3. One doesn't move around trying to greet everyone everywhere as if this is essential. As has always been the case since its restoration some 60 + years ago, the exchange of this sign is both encouraged and entirely optional.

## Holy Week 2023 at Blessed Sacrament

Holy Week is the most important time of the year for the Catholic Church. The entire reason for Lent is to prepare us to celebrate Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil as a community of faith. We celebrate the Paschal Mystery – the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ – in word and sacrament, in voice and silence, and in actions and symbols. Here is something of what to expect.

***Palm Sunday*** is also known as ***Passion Sunday*** includes the blessing of palms and the reading of the Passion according to St. Matthew (this year). Mass will begin in the Parish Hall for those able to walk easily. It includes blessing of palms, reading of the first gospel, and a procession into the Church as we sing. The Passion includes multiple readers and parts for the congregation to say aloud. Be sure to burn or bring back any palms from past years. **Saturday April 1 at 5:30 pm; Sunday April 2 at 9 & 11:30 am.**

***Holy Thursday*** (**April 6 at 6:00 pm**) is a commemoration of the Last Supper. We remember with awe the humility of Jesus in washing the feet of the apostles and His generosity in giving us the Sacrament of his Body and Blood that we call the Eucharist. The parish will be presented with holy oils blessed by Bishop Mark Brennan. These oils will be used in the sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation, & Anointing in the coming year.

The Liturgy on this night includes two other special ceremonies. The entirely optional ritual of Foot-washing has been done in a variety of ways through the years. This year (unless he is called in at the last minute to substitute somewhere else) Fr. John will wash the feet of 12 parishioners as did Jesus at the Last Supper. After communion and prayer, the priest, servers and choir will process through the church to the Chapel of Repose (which will be in the Hallway to the Parish Hall) and the Eucharist will be placed in a tabernacle. Everyone is invited to stop by and visit our Lord Jesus present in the Eucharist, to stay with him as did the disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane. Be sure to sign up for a time to be present and pray.

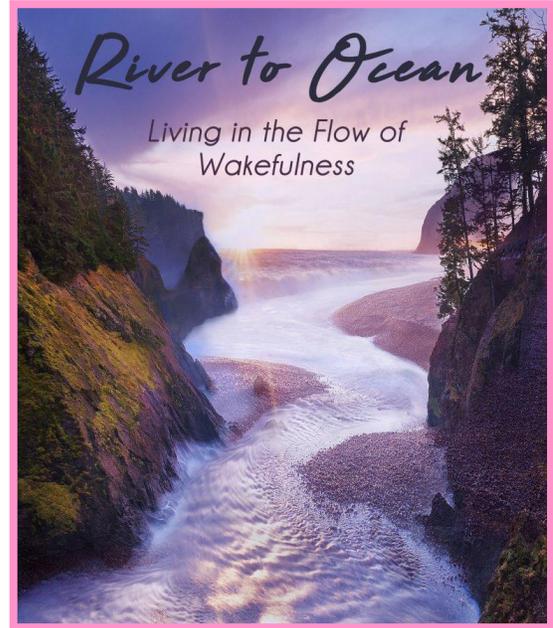
***Good Friday*** is so named because it is not the funeral of Jesus. We believe and know that Jesus rose from the dead. Here are two opportunities for us to gather in faith. In the Stations of the Cross, we follow Jesus as he walks the Way of the Cross. In the Good Friday Liturgy, we listen to God's Word, pray solemn intercessions, venerate the Cross, and receive Holy Communion that was consecrated the night before. Stations begin at 3pm; Good Friday Liturgy at **6pm on April 7, 2023.**

## Spiritual Icebreakers and Soup Starters 37

*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: Fear

It is said that before entering the sea  
a river trembles with fear.  
She looks back at the path she has traveled,  
from the peaks of the mountains,  
the long winding road crossing forests and villages.  
And in front of her,  
she sees an ocean so vast,  
that to enter  
there seems nothing more than to disappear forever.  
But there is no other way.  
The river can not go back.  
Nobody can go back.  
To go back is impossible in existence.  
The river needs to take the risk  
of entering the ocean  
because only then will fear disappear,  
because that is where the river will know  
it is not about disappearing into the ocean,  
but of becoming one with the ocean.  
— Kahlil Gibran



### SCRIPTURE:

Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you. (Is 55:1-3)

### MYSTIC MORSEL:

Our Savior repeats his words: *If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.* He quenched the thirst not only of those who came to him then. Whenever anyone seeks him he is freely admitted to the presence of the Savior. The grace of the feast [Easter] is not restricted to one occasion. Its rays of glory never set. It is always at hand to enlighten the mind of those who desire it. Its power is always there for those whose minds have been enlightened and who meditate day and night on the holy Scriptures.  
— Saint Athanasius the Great (c. 296-373)

### Why Our Pastor Needs a Technology Team:



## **Candy! Candy! Candy! for our Easter Egg Hunt**

We will have an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 1st

We hope you will consider bringing a bag of snack-size  
("will fit inside a plastic egg-size") candy for the hunt.

We will have baskets in the gathering area where you can put your  
donations this weekend through next Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Our middle- and high-school youth groups will fill the eggs before  
hiding them for our younger parishioners.

## **Coffee, Cocoa, and Questions – March 19th between the Masses**

Questions to be answered by Fr. Paul in the Parish Hall from 10:15 to 11:15 am

1. Can a priest withhold communion from a politician who supports every abortion bill or a healthcare worker who is forced to help terminate a pregnancy?
2. In his letters Saint Paul tells us to admonish one another to help grow in faith. How can we do this without being a busybody?
3. Why is there a crucifix in plain sight in every Catholic Church?
4. My sister was married by a judge and therefore was not sacramentally married. If she has been married by a Protestant Minister would her marriage be a sacrament?
5. Why did Jesus have to die to open the gates of heaven? Couldn't God, in his infinite power, have simply opened heaven to worthy souls?

## **Return Unused Blessed Palms**

We will have a large basket in our gathering space where you can return unused blessed palms. Those palm crosses and palm flowers you have tucked all around? Bring them here and add them to the basket. Please bring your palm contributions by April 2.

Tommy Ross, one our deacon candidates, and our youth group will take the unused blessed palms and burn them for next year's ashes for our Ash Wednesday Mass.

## Coming Soon

**The Gift of Years Book Club**, led by Kathy Lester will hold its inaugural meeting on **April 16** from 10:15am-11:15am in the Community Room adjacent to the Parish Hall. The Gift of Years: Growing older Gracefully by Joan Chittester will be the first book read and discussed. Meetings will be bi-weekly on the 1st and 3rd weekend of the month. If you are interested in adding your name to our list of registered participants please email me at [rpenningtheologian@gmail.com](mailto:rpenningtheologian@gmail.com).

## Easter Evenings

### Blessed Sacrament Easter Symposium

**WHAT:** Come learn about essential beliefs and practices for every Catholic seeking to live out and grow in faith. Easter is not just one day! It is a liturgical time of 50 days so we invite you to come enjoy our Easter Symposium on Wednesday evening to better understand the theology and spirituality that emerges from this holy season. In our first session we will consider what it means to be Easter people in daily practice.

**WHEN:**

**Part I: Wednesday, April 19 @ 6:30pm, Dr. Pennington "Easter People"**

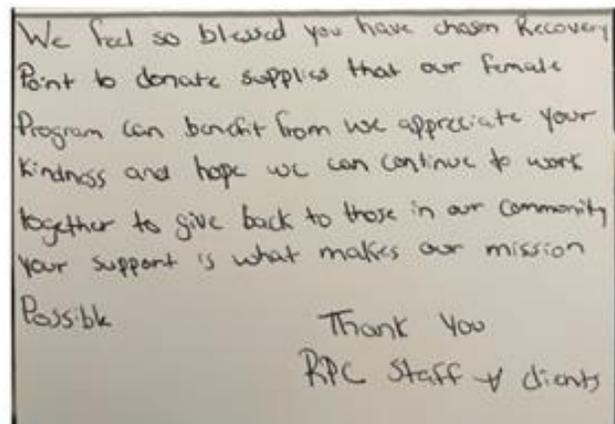
**Part II: Wednesday, April 26 @ 6:30pm, TBA**

**Part III: Wednesday, May 3 @ 6:30pm, TBA Mary Odin**

**WHERE:** Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall in South Charleston, WV

**WHY:** To grow in your Catholic faith formation.

**Here is an example of the impact your hygiene item donations have  
(over 1200 hygiene kits assembled, and counting!)**



March 19, 2023

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a | Eph 5:8-14 | Jn 9:1-41

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

Five days, five minutes of sunshine: That's how the city where I live greeted 2023. As the month wore on, the gloom seemed unrelenting with only momentary breaks in the clouds. When the sun did return, people posted photos on social media with a combination of joy and relief. That experience hints at the effect Jesus had on St. Paul and the early Christians. As he writes, "You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord." Today, just as then, Jesus brings light and healing to the darkness within us and within our world. Unlike the elusive sun, we can see the light of Jesus every day - in the people we love, the kindness of strangers, moments of prayer, unexpected joys. In turn, St. Paul encourages us to "live as children of light" by being the face of Jesus to others.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Even in the midst of Lent as a penitential season, the Sunday readings offer us much hope. Consider today's familiar story of Jesus healing the blind man. He doesn't just tell the man to open his eyes. Instead, Jesus smears clay on the man's eyes and has him wash in the Pool of Siloam; only then does the blind man see. He was transformed through Christ. Through our baptism we, too, have been transformed and "enlightened," becoming sons and daughters of light (CCC 1216). As we continue to observe Lent, perhaps we're working on areas in our life where we have been spiritually blind - or at least not seeing 20/20. Through our baptism and the sacraments, we can be healed and transformed by Jesus, the "light of the world." In turn we can share that light with others, as we continue to grow in the virtues of "goodness and righteousness and truth" of which St. Paul speaks.

**PRAY** Psalm 23 is a favorite of many and for good reason. Read or listen to it this week as encouragement on your Lenten journey:

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;  
beside restful waters he leads me;  
he refreshes my soul.*



### Liturgical Ministers – March 18 & 19

|                              | 5:30pm  | 9:00 am   | 11:30 am                     |
|------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| <b>Lectors</b>               | Carla Stricker<br>Alec Mansfield<br>Susan Churchill | Peg Nagem<br>Rory Isaac<br>David Elliott          | Kathy Lester<br>Rick Brennan |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>         | Rick Brennan<br>Jeff Borman                         | Bob Danielson<br>Eip Shawler                      | Jeanne Jarrett               |
| <b>Cantors</b>               | Dave Haas   | Jack Dever  | Olivia Hayes                 |
| <b>Communion Principal</b>   | Vince Stricker                                      | Rob Plutro  | Todd Witsberger              |
| <b>Communion to the Sick</b> |   | Rob Riser<br>Molly Linehan-Belcher<br>Ann Bradley |                              |
| <b>Greeters/Ushers</b>       | Rob & Bev Schissler                                 | Kelly Plutro                                      | Ken McNeil<br>Emilie McNeil  |

### Liturgical Ministers – March 25 & 26

|                              | 5:30pm                         | 9:00 am                                   | 11:30 am                  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| <b>Lectors</b>               | Rick Brennan<br>Tony Ciliberti | Mary Claire Davis<br>Rory Isaac           | John Priestley            |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>         | Carla & Vince Stricker         | Jackson Davis<br>Maureen Mathias          | Tommy Ross                |
| <b>Cantors</b>               | Joe Deegan                     | Charlie Wilson                            | Heather White             |
| <b>Communion Principal</b>   | Tony Ciliberti                 | Peggy Musilli                             | Kathy Lester              |
| <b>Communion to the Sick</b> |                                | Bob Sherrard<br>Tom Aluise<br>Laura Hayes |                           |
| <b>Greeters/Ushers</b>       | Rob & Bev Schissler            | Brian Cornell<br>Sue Manahan              | Rene Norman<br>Anna Sites |

### 31 Club this week

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

|            |       |  |
|------------|-------|--|
| <b>Sun</b> | 03/19 | Ruth Kirk Paul Wharton                         |
| <b>Mon</b> | 03/20 | Denise Burgess                                 |
| <b>Tue</b> | 03/21 | Rick Zitzelsberger                             |
| <b>Wed</b> | 03/22 | Susan Churchill                                |
| <b>Thu</b> | 03/23 | Ron Teufel Felix Maramba Pam Council Ro DeBias |
| <b>Fri</b> | 03/24 | Mary Ellen Providenti                          |
| <b>Sat</b> | 03/25 | Elaine King Todd Witsberger Tina McCready      |