

# Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

210 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue W  
West Fargo, ND 58078-1747  
Parish Office: 701-282-3321  
www.bscwf.org email: info@bscwf.org

**December 11-12, 2021**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent**



"I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER; BUT SOMEONE IS COMING SOON WHO IS GREATER THAN I AM..."

...HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH FIRE."

## Daily Mass & Intentions

### Sunday, December 12

8:30 a.m. – The Parishioners

10:30 a.m. – +Terry Krauth

### Monday, December 13 – No Mass

### Tuesday, Dec. 14 at Sheyenne Crossings

1:00 p.m. – Colleen Sullivan

### Wednesday, December 15

9:00 a.m. – +Louie & +Elizabeth Lesmeister

### Thursday, December 16

9:00 a.m. – Phaedra Leslie

### Friday, December 17

9:00 a.m. – Glorine (Lizotte) Jones

### Saturday, December 18

4-4:30 p.m. - Reconciliation

5:15 p.m. - +Milton Horner

### Sunday, December 19

8:30 a.m. – +Betty Allmaras

10:30 a.m. – the Parishioners

## Offertory Gifts

**December 4-5, 2021**

**Adult: \$8,018      Children: \$11.68**

**Improvements: \$412**

**Firm Foundation: \$1,160**

**Poor Fund: \$358**

### Collected to Date

<u>Collected to Date</u>		<u>Goal to Date</u>
\$309,225.22	<b>General Fund</b>	\$372,400.00
\$965.96	<b>Children</b>	\$1,740.00
\$13,461.00	<b>Improvements</b>	\$49,000.00
\$404,382.40	<b>Foundation Repair</b>	\$448,915.00
\$64,434.00	<b>God's Gift</b>	\$76,212.00

## **This Week:**

**Sunday** – Coffee & Goodies following Mass  
– PK, 10:30 a.m.  
– **Holiday Market**

**No Daily Mass:** Tuesday, December 14

**RCIA:** Tuesday, December 14, 7 p.m., Library

**Next Sunday:** Christmas Program, 2 p.m.

## **Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule**

### Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Vigil - Friday, December 24**

3:30 p.m. Caroling ~ 4:00 p.m. Mass

**Christmas Day - Saturday, December 25**

10:00 a.m. Mass

### New Year's Mass Schedule

**New Year's Vigil - Friday, December 31**

5:30 p.m. Mass

**New Year's Day - Saturday, January 1**

10:00 a.m. Mass

## **Advent**

Celebrating Advent is an excellent way to prepare your mind and heart for Christmas.

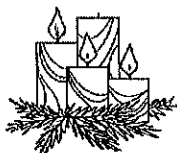
### **The Advent Wreath and Candles**

The wreath is meant to remind us of both the immortality of our souls and God's promise of everlasting life to us through Christ.

The candles Four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, one candle is lit each Sunday, signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice. A Fifth candle represents purity.



**Week Three:** The third candle is pink and symbolizes **joy**. It is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.



**Faith Formation Christmas Program** is NEXT Sunday, Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. Please plan to join us in celebrating with our students the wonders of Christmas and the birth of Jesus.

**Un-Trim the Tree** All items must be under the tree by December 16! If you have questions, please contact the Parish Office.



## Music Ministry

Please consider joining a Choir!

### Practice/Sing

Joyful Voices Dec. 12 9:45 /10:30 am  
Dec. 18 4:30 /5:15 pm  
Dec. 26 9:45 /10:30 am

Contemporary Dec. 12 7:45 /8:30 am  
Dec. 26 7:45 /8:30 am

Combined Choir Dec. 24 2:45 /3:30 pm

Combined Choir = Joyful Voices and Contemporary Choirs combined.

### Area Advent Penance Services

Services at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Dec. 12 St. Benedict (Wild Rice) 4 p.m.  
Dec. 13 St. Anthony  
Dec. 14 Sts. Anne & Joachim  
Dec. 16 Nativity  
Dec. 16 St. Leo (Casselton)  
Dec. 19 St. Mary's Cathedral 4 p.m.

## Parish Life

**Anniversary:** We pray for those couples celebrating a wedding anniversary this week.  
*Leroy & Roberta Johnson (12/16) 61 years!*  
*Happy Anniversary!*

## Faith Formation

Lucy@bscwf.org



### Class:

PK	Dec. 12	10:30 a.m.
Grs 1-5	Dec 15	5:30 p.m.
WOW	Dec. 15	7:00 p.m.
PK	Dec. 19	NO CLASS
Grs 1-5	Dec. 22	5:30 p.m.
B4WOW	Dec. 22	5:30 p.m.
PK	Dec. 26	NO CLASS
NO Class	Dec. 29	

**RCIA Class** (7:00 p.m. in the Library), Dec.14.

**Youth Offering Envelopes.** All youth in Faith Formation will be given Offering Envelopes for 2022. Please encourage your child to use these weekly donation envelopes. Parents, please teach your child(ren) that giving to the church, no matter what amount, is a good thing. Pocket change goes a long way when supporting your faith community.

### Blessing Box – Nonperishable Food

**Donations Welcome:** The shelves are almost empty, please give if you are able. "Give what you can. Take what you need. Above all, be blessed."

**Christmas Eve Mass Time** is different this year. Please note that caroling will be at 3:30 p.m. and Mass will begin at 4:00 p.m.

### Daily Readings – December 12-18, 2021

Dec. 12: Zep 3:14-18a, Phil 4:4-7, Lk 3:10-18  
Dec. 13: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a  
Dec. 14: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13, Mt 21:28-32  
Dec. 15: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25, Lk 7:18b-23  
Dec. 16: Is 54:1-10, Lk 7:24-30  
Dec. 17: Gn 49:2, 8-10, Mt 1:1-17  
Dec. 18: Jer 23:5-8, Mt 1:18-25

**Donations for Christmas Flowers** are due Monday, December 20 to the Parish Office.

### Our Sympathy to

- Gaylas Pritchard on the death of his sister, Vita Potter.
- Edwin Olson, on the death of his wife, Margaret.

May Vita and Margaret enjoy eternal life with our Lord.

### Remembering Those Who've Passed Away.

December 12: Larry Aberle, Richard Hersch, Gerald Baumgartner

December 13: Joe Zdeb, Ben Salazar

December 14: Rose Stinar

December 15: Richard Moody

December 16: Ray Westman

December 17: Joseph Schultz, Henry Thies

December 18: Mary Rustad, Erik Sjue, Peter Geffre, James Parsons

**Sick List:** Please join us in praying for all our ill parishioners and family members.

*Delaine Hilzendeger, Patti Baerenwald,  
Douglas Krueger, Aggie Hennessy,  
Penny Adam, Gary Lammer*

**Soup & More:** December 23 we will be serving our Soup & More Supper in the Social Hall. Donations are accepted but not required.

### Trivia

**Starting on the first Sunday of Advent,  
many families, and parishes  
light candles...**

- a) To pray for world peace
- b) On an Advent wreath
- c) In front of statues of St. Patrick
- d) To save on electricity

b) Advent wreaths have three purple candles and one pink one. The circle of the wreath and the evergreens often used to make the wreath remind us of God's everlasting love.

**Thank you** to Luke St. Claire from St. Joseph Masonry, for the work he did, making the votive candle shelves, at Mary's feet, in the Gathering Area. It is perfect!! THANK YOU!!



**Youth Offering Envelopes.** Offering envelopes are available for your student even if they are not participating in Blessed Sacrament Faith Formation classes. Contact Lucy at [Lucy@bscwf.org](mailto:Lucy@bscwf.org) or 701-282-3321, to request envelopes for your child.

### Pope Francis Asks for Your Input!

Pope Francis has invited the world-wide Catholic Church to question itself on the involvement and participation of the whole People of God in the life and mission of the Catholic Church. This is called "synodality." For 5 more weeks there will be 2 questions in the bulletin that you will be invited to answer.

#### This week the highlighted questions are:

- 5) **Do you feel listened to when decisions are being made in our parish? Our diocese?**
- 6) **How would you describe the mission of your parish? The diocese?**

Please respond to the questions on a separate sheet of paper, indicate which question you are responding to by putting the question number on your response. Please return the responses to the parish office.

*Questions 1 & 2 are in the 11/28 bulletin.  
Questions 3 & 4 are in the 12/5 bulletin.  
If you missed them, contact the Parish Office for a copy. [Info@bscwf.org](mailto:Info@bscwf.org)*

### Community / Diocesan Events

**Catholic Daughters:** Court St. Ann #261 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet Tuesday, December 14 at St. Anthony's beginning with Mass at 5:15 p.m., meal to follow (Potluck), and meeting at 6:30 p.m. Members are invited to bring socks and toiletries for the homeless. If interested in CDA, please join us at our meeting. Any questions, please send an email to [regentctstann@gmail.com](mailto:regentctstann@gmail.com).

## Reflections on the Readings for December 12, 2021 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Fr. Gary Luiten

The readings can be summed up in one word: rejoice! We hear it over and over again. The prophet Zephania says in the first reading, "Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!" Paul says in the second reading, "rejoice in the Lord always!" Even John the Baptist has a joyful tone in his voice. His words in the gospel were "get ready, prepare for someone better to come!"

One may ask, "Why is there cause to rejoice? Just give me one reason! In fact, there seems to be cause for just the opposite. We hear continuous acts of violence in our nation – from conception throughout all stages of life – and no matter what type of disabilities people may have – violence seems to know no bounds in our society today. Certainly, that is not cause for rejoicing. The Christian response is: Yes, those things indeed are evil. God didn't cause it. He allows it, for a greater good. We just don't always know what the greater good is. Part of the greater good could be the gift of free will – which, of its nature, must include the possibility of doing evil, as well as good. Unfortunately, free will can be misused and abused at times – as it often is in the world today.

But even after having heard of such horrible news, we still have cause to rejoice in our sadness, because Jesus has come to save us! Jesus has come to forgive our sins! Jesus promises an end to the nightmares that can plague our lives.

Joy is something that is not meant to be kept inside a person but shared and spread to others. And this joy can be catchy, which reminds me of one of my favorite stories. I'm not sure if it is a true story, but it certainly could be. It's about a joy-filled girl who smiled at a sorrowful stranger. Her smile made him feel better. This caused him to remember the kindness of a friend in the past, so he wrote him a thank-you letter. The friend who received the thank-you letter was so pleased that he left a large tip at the café after lunch. The waitress, surprised by the size of the tip, bet the whole thing on a hunch. The next day she picked up her winnings and gave part to a poor man on the street. The man on the street was grateful; and went out to eat. On the way home he picked up a shivering puppy and took it home to get warm. That night the house caught on fire, which caused the puppy to bark. He barked 'til he woke the whole household and saved everybody from harm. One of the boys that he rescued grew up to be President. All this because of the joy on a little girl's face that hadn't cost a cent.

Think of the times we were most joyful – perhaps it was when we were children, when we opened presents on Christmas. Perhaps it was when you watched your children open their presents on Christmas. We have even a greater present than any material gift we have received, and it is given to us every time we celebrate the Eucharist – it is Jesus Himself. May we always be reminded of that, may Jesus be our cause to rejoice, even in the not-to-good times, and always.



**Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church**

# **Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule**

## **Christmas Eve Vigil**

**Friday, December 24**

**3:30 p.m. - Caroling**

**4:00 p.m. - Mass**

## **Christmas Day**

**Saturday, December 25**

**10:00 a.m. Mass**

## **New Year's Eve Vigil**

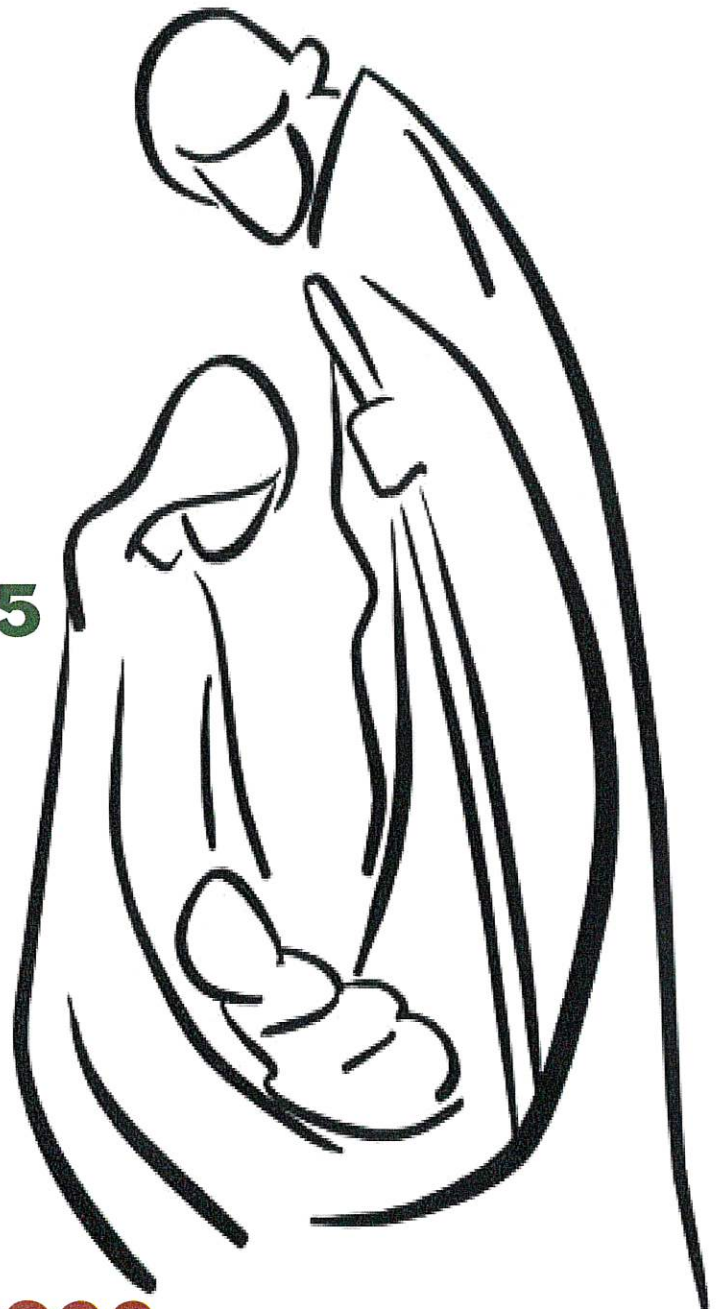
**Friday, December 31**

**5:30 p.m. Mass**

## **New Year's Day**

**Saturday, January 1, 2022**

**10:00 a.m. Mass**



(Mass on Christmas and New Year are Holy Days of Obligation)

**December 18-19, 2021 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Ministries of Service**

Masses	5:15 p.m. Saturday	8:30 a.m. Sunday	10:30 a.m. Sunday
<b>Proclaimers</b>	K. Jalbert	M. Doster	S. DeKeyser
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	*K. Jalbert	*M. Doster, **M. Doster	*K. Hanson
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	D. Krogen Family	J. Wells Family	R. Norton Family
<b>Servers</b>	Volunteers	K. & A. Wells	Volunteers
<b>Ushers</b>	D. & E. Krogen	G. & J. Yourczek	B. Lenertz, E. Hanson
<b>Greeters</b>	E. & M. Pablo	D. Moore, M.A. Schuster	S. DeKeyser Family
<b>Rosary Leader</b>	P. Pritchard	J. Klaers	M. Kern
<b>Sacristan</b>	M. Pablo	J. Yourczek	K. Hanson
<b>Media Minister</b>	M. Berntson	*Bread Minister **Takes communion to home-bound	

**Please contact Karen Beets if you are unable to fulfill your Ministry  
no later than Thursday, December 10, 3 p.m..  
701-282-3321 or Karen@bscwf.org**

**Feast/Holy Day the Week of December 12, 2021  
Dec. 13: St. Lucy    Dec. 14: St. John of the Cross**

**Blessed Sacrament Directory**  
701-282-3321 ~ www.bscwf.org

**Fr. Gary Luiten, Pastor – Gary@bscwf.org**

**Karen Beets – Parish Life/Volunteers – Karen@bscwf.org**

**Lucy Elshaug - DRE/Youth Ministry - Lucy@bscwf.org**

**Mary Beth Odegaard – Support Staff – MaryBeth@bscwf.org**

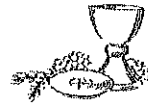
**Ronda Voss – Music Coordinator – Ronda@bscwf.org**

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**St. Francis Thrift Store**  
1425 1st Avenue South  
Fargo, ND 58103  
Ph: 701-235-5944  
Needed: Saleable items, cash donations (tax deductible), and volunteers  
Purpose: To help the needy in our community

**Deaner's Diner**  
405 Main Ave W  
West Fargo ND  
701-277-7062  
Open Mon-Fri: 6:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Saturday: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Breakfast Only)

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**Knights of Columbus Council #6465**  
Meet first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.  
Classroom #4  
Blessed Sacrament Church

**Darren Rohrich**  
701-367-8676  
darrenrohrich@gmail.com

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