Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

210 5th Avenue W, West Fargo, ND 58078 701-282-3321 www.bscwf.org email: info@bscwf.org

May 20-21, 2023 ~ Ascension of the Lord

the faithful of

Daily Mass & Intentions

Sunday, May 21

8:30 a.m. – the Parishioners 10:30 a.m. – +Bill Knoll

Monday, May 22 - NO MASS

Tuesday, May 23 - NO MASS

Wednesday, May 24

9:00 a.m. - +Don Kirchoffner

Thursday, May 25

9:00 a.m. – +Boyd Garman

Friday, May 26

9:00 a.m. - Don Altringer family

Saturday, May 27

Reconciliation 4:00-4:30 p.m.

5:15 p.m. - +Phil Schafer

Sunday, May 28

9:30 a.m. - the Parishioners



Youth: \$31

Offertory Gifts

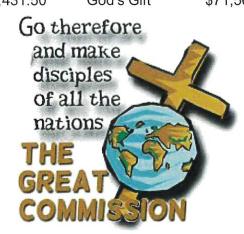
May 13-14, 2023

Adult: \$4,599.97

Improvements: \$20 Firm Foundation: \$100

Poor Fund: \$296

| Collected to I | Goal to Date | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| \$141,381.82 | Adult | \$160,000.00 |
| \$527.00 | Children | \$600.00 |
| \$9,669.24 | Improvements | \$20,000.00 |
| \$455,084.40 | Firm Foundation | \$400,000.00 |
| \$60,431.50 | God's Gift | \$71,561.00 |



Blessed Sacrament welcome you. We hope your time with us may be blessed. May it also be an opportunity to join in fellowship of our faith and joy in Jesus Christ.

This Week



Sunday:

No Coffee Youth Recognition/10:30 a.m. Mass Reception/11:30 a.m.

Churches United, Thursday, May 25

Soup 'N More, Thursday, May 25, 5:30 p.m.

ONE SUNDAY MASS begins NEXT week!

Faith Formation



2023-2024 Faith Formation Registration. It's time to register your child(ren) for religion classes for the next school year. Please return the registration form with payment as soon as possible. If you have any questions, contact Lucy at 701-282-3321.

Preschool and Kindergarten Roundup! *Will your child be 4 yrs. old by July 31? We'd love to have them attend the Preschool class. *If your child is registered for Public or JPII Kindergarten, in the fall, we will welcome them with loving arms, to our Kindergarten class. *If you have questions, contact Lucy at 701-282-3321 or Lucy@bscwf.org.

Formed What to Watch. As we continue to honor Mary during the month of May, scroll down and click on the Blessed Virgin Mary tab and watch The Rosary: Mary Mother of God. Another suggestion is The Bread of Life, Jesus and John 6, which you will find by scrolling and clicking on the Eucharist tab. For students, scroll and click on a new page called Comics where students can learn about Blessed Carlos Acutis, a 15-year Italian computer geek who was passionate about the Eucharist and devoted his short life to sharing Eucharistic miracles.



Contemporary Choir

Date Warmup-Sing May 21 7:45-8:30 a.m.

Joyful Voices Choir

Warmup-Sing Date May 21 9:45-10:30 a.m.

Thank you, Choir Members! This will be the last weekend for the Contemporary and Joyful Voices Choirs until they regather in the fall. Thank you for your dedication to the music ministry at Blessed Sacrament! You bring joy to our liturgical celebrations!

We Need Accompanists & Cantors!

Accompanist - The accompanist is responsible for providing accompaniment for the hymns and acclamations during the Mass. Knowledge of the Catholic Mass is preferred. This is a paid position.

Cantor (Song Leader) – The Cantor is both a singer and leader of the congregational songs. The Cantor has the responsibility for leading the assembly, and inviting them in hymns and acclamations used throughout Mass. You should have a strong singing voice. This ministry is open to high school/adult singers. This is a volunteer opportunity.

If you are interested in assisting at weekend Masses, please contact Ronda at Ronda@bscwf.org or call the Parish Office 701-282-3321.

Parish Life



Banns of Marriage Please pray for those who are preparing for the sacrament of Marriage.

- 1. Taylor Skwiera and Sari Supler, May 19
- 2. Colter Pratt and Stephanie Shimota, May 27
- 3. Tyler Wentz and Allison Schweitzer, June 9

Blood Drive, Tuesday, June 13, 3-6 p.m. The Blood Drive portal is now available! Keep the momentum going by filling those spots and showing how supportive and amazing our Blessed Sacrament Family is! Remember when you give you will help save someone's life. Maybe even someone you know. To schedule contact Julie at 701-282-3321 or go to donors.vitalant.org and use sponsor code bswf.

Blessed Sacrament's Graduating High School Seniors!

Alex Althoff Reagan Black **Elly Butts** Alexis Cossette-Myers Caroline Gravel D.J. Hartze **Dustin Hunsicker** Keelano Mayo Ethan Spanier Karli Urlacher



You have learned much And grown greatly. May God guide and direct you To a Bright and Blessed Future.

Congratulations!

Bulletin Deadline: Articles are due to Mary Beth in the Parish Office, Tuesdays by Noon, for the following Sunday. Drop them off in the office or email MaryBeth@bscwf.org.

Children's Collection: We encourage all youth to use their donation envelopes every weekend! Giving to church is a blessed action. If you don't have an envelope, just drop your donation into the basket at the altar. Our hope is to receive \$30 per week from the 'Children's Collection'. We have 144 youth aged 4-18 here at Blessed Sacrament. That is an average of .21 cents per week per child. A small donation each week goes a long way.

Daily Readings - May 21-27, 2023

May 21: Acts 1:1-11, Eph 1:17-23, Mt 28:16-20

May 22: Acts 19:1-8, Jn 16:29-33

May 23: Acts 10:17-27, Jn 17:1-11a

May 24: Acts 20:28-38, Jn 17:11b-19

May 25: Acts 22:30,23:6-11, Jn 17:20-26

May 26: Acts 25:13b-21, Jn 21:15-19

May 27: Acts 28:16-20,30-31, Jn 21:20-25

Lost & Found: Please check the Lost and Found box on the left side of the shelf above the coat rack for any missing belongings.

New Member Registration. Become a registered member of Blessed Sacrament! To do so, see Fr. Gary Luiten, call the Parish Office 701-282-3321 or register on our website https://www.bscwf.org/become-a-member/

One Sunday Mass Begins NEXT WEEK!

Beginning Sunday May 28, Mass times will change for the summer. Sunday Mass will be 9:30 a.m. This will be the Sunday schedule through Labor Day Weekend. We will go back to two Sunday Masses starting September 10.

Online, Mobile, or Automatic Withdrawal Giving: Online, Mobile, or Automatic Withdrawal Giving allows you to contribute to Blessed Sacrament and not worry about donation envelopes. Use online giving from your computer or smart device to schedule one-time or recurring donations! Or Automatic Withdrawal.

- Online Giving: www.bscwf.org, choose 'Get Involved' and 'Give+ Online'.
- Mobile App: Download "GivePlus Church" free.
- Automatic Withdrawal: www.bscwf.org, choose 'Get Involved', 'Donate', 'Automatic Withdrawal' or Contact MaryBeth@bscwf.org to receive a form.

Thank you for your support.

Our Sympathy to

- Geri Weeding and Gloria Larson on the death of their sister, <u>Kristie Schrader</u>.
- Jody Jones on the death of her brother-in-law, Michael Huttleston.

May Kristie and Michael live forever in eternal life.

Prayer Garden and Landscaping: We are hoping to plant a tree and 3 perennial bushes on the southeast side of the property, as well as flowers for the prayer garden. If you are interested in donating toward this effort, please send your donation to the Parish Office with the note "Prayer Garden" and we will credit you for your donation.

Sick List: We pray for our ill parishioners and family members.

Micah Erickson, Gail Plummer, Kaven Rohrich, Randy Marx, Mary Rohrich, Joan Geyer, Nikki Geyer, Aaron Dahl, Tom Regner Jr., Gregoire Simbare, Teresa Spadafore, Bryan Kuntz, Gary Lammer

Soup 'N More – Thankful for Nice Weather!, Thursday, May 25, 5:30 p.m. All are invited!! Menu: Turkey, Mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable, rolls, salad, and more!!! Free will offering. **Summer Office Hours** Beginning June 2 the Parish Office will be closed on Fridays for the summer. Staff will be back to work on Fridays beginning September 8.

We Pray In Remembrance of...

May 21: Allen Ressler May 22: Catrina Vetter

May 23: LaVeryne Puhr, Adeline Denis

Mat 24: Loran Paczkowski

May 27: Eleanor Growth, Madeleine Hase, Judy Kraft

Welcome to the Family Room! The Family Room is on the north side of the church (The room with the blue chairs). This room is reserved for infants and toddlers with their parents and people with special needs during Mass. This room has comfortable chairs including a rocking chair.



Sacraments



Baptism: Parents must attend a preparatory class before the baptism can take place. Please contact the Parish Office to schedule the class with Fr. Gary Luiten.

<u>Marriage</u>: To be married at Blessed Sacrament, one or both persons of the engaged couple must be practicing Catholics. Contact Fr. Gary Luiten at least six months prior to the wedding.

Reconciliation: Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and upon appointment.

<u>For the Sick:</u> You are encouraged to seek the Sacrament of the Sick if you are suffering from a serious illness or are going to be admitted to the hospital for surgery. Please contact Fr. Gary Luiten if you would like to be anointed,

Fr. Gary Luiten - Gary@bscwf.org. 701-282-3321

Volunteerism - Stewardship



Julie is anxiously waiting for more disciples to come forward to help Blessed Sacrament Church remain wonderful. Julie would love to hear from you regarding helping with Soup 'N More, CUH, Mass Ministries, etc. Actually, any form of volunteering. You do not get graded on your abilities just thanked immensely. Please reach out to Julie in the parish office at 701.282.3321 if you wish to get involved or have any questions.

In case you didn't know.... Sign up boards are in the social hall through the double doors marked Agora. Walk in and they are directly on the left. No experience necessary. Just need to write your name and show up accordingly. Thank you!

Reflections by Fr. Gary Luiten



The Solemnity of the Ascension - May 21, 2023

I sometimes wonder what we would do if we were in the position of the apostles, watching Jesus ascend into Heaven. Would we be sad at Jesus' departure, or rather would we be looking ahead, anticipating the sending of the Holy Spirit and Jesus' coming again? It seems that it is part of our fallen human nature to center on the negative. All one has to do is look at the news. There are very few positive stories. Sometimes we may even see the sacraments in a negative light, something that we have to do, like the sacrament of reconciliation.

But the wonderful truth is that through the Ascension of Jesus we now can receive the Holy Spirit. So yes, our Lord's Ascension is a great occasion! And that is the positive side of this day. The two angels reminded the apostles of how positive a faith we do have, and how it is worth proclaiming and preaching.

It is interesting to note, too, that on this day of the Ascension, in both the first reading and in the gospel reading we are reminded not of the last Sacrament, but of the first Sacrament, the sacrament of baptism! The Ascension really signifies a new beginning for us Christians as we set out on a deeper relationship with our God and with His Church.

And so, may God give us the grace to see not how bad life can be, but how good life can be when we

live in the grace of the Holy Spirit and receive the Sacraments faithfully, when we concentrate on the positive, on the truths of our faith. When we think of the ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit, we can be renewed with a sense of meaning in our lives, realizing that God has a mission for us, too, to go out and proclaim to everyone the Good News of salvation by what we say and do and by the way we live our lives.

I usually have another item or two on the first bulletin of the month, but since I received the official word just this past week from the bishop, I would like to let you know now. Every seven years we priests are eligible for a sabbatical. I have never taken one, and after thirty years in the priesthood, you could say it is long overdue! A sabbatical is a time for the priest to get renewed in the faith and in his ministry as a priest. I also wanted to let you know this before some of you leave for the lakes for the summer. Beginning September 1, I will begin a three-month sabbatical at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland. This is near where I went to seminary for theology in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

For many years I have thought of taking a sabbatical, but things just never seemed to work out. For one thing, Mom was still alive, and she would have been crushed to be without me for three months! Now things seem to be falling into place. Mom has since gone to her eternal reward and also, I have a priest who is willing and able to take the Masses, funerals, and emergencies for me. It will be my housemate, Father Tom Feltman. Most of you probably know him from taking a Mass here every now and then.

I will be auditing some seminary classes, taking spiritual direction, and offering daily Mass when I am gone. I also plan on visiting classmates from my seminary days from over thirty years ago. I plan on returning the weekend of December 3 for the first Sunday of Advent. And so, when those of you return from the lakes in the Fall, don't be surprised if you see someone at the altar who is not me! I will keep you all in my daily prayers during my time away.

Mission Statement:

As loving disciples, we the faith community of Blessed Sacrament, strive for full and active participation in joyfully serving Christ while recognizing the gifts and dignity of all.

Eucharistic Revival



Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress: July 16-22, 2024, in Indianapolis, IN The Diocese of Fargo will offer a pilgrimage to the Congress in Indianapolis, IN. The Congress will include five days of talks, Mass, Eucharistic procession, Adoration and much more. The pilgrimage begins on July 16, 2024, and includes an overnight stop in Mundelein, IL at Our Lady of the Lake Retreat Center and a visit to the shrine of Maximillian Kolbe. The bus route back to Fargo will include a lunch and supper stop as well as an overnight stay in Mauston, WI. Arrival back in Fargo on Monday, July 22. The hotel for the Congress is the Hampton Inn, just a short walking distance to the events. There are only 100 spots available for the pilgrimage route to the Congress. Registration: fargodiocese.org/congress-pilgrimage. For more information or for discounted Congress tickets without the pilgrimage option please call Mary Hanbury 701-356-7909 or email: Mary.hanbury@fargodiocese.org

Every eucharistic celebration sacramentally accomplishes the eschatological gathering of the People of God. For us, the eucharistic banquet is a real foretaste of the final banquet foretold by the prophets and described in the New Testament as "the marriage-feast of the Lamb", to be celebrated in the joy of the communion of saints.

Pope Benedict XVI

Community & Diocesan Events

Fr. Andrew Jasinski invites you to the Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood on Sunday, June 11, 2023. The Jubilee Mass will be celebrated at St. Benedict Church, Horace, at 10:30 a.m. A social will be held at Sts. Anne & Joachim Church. Fargo, at 4:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m. For more information or to RSVP for the dinner, visit www.stbensnd.org/j25 or contact St. Benedict Church at 701-588-4288. Please respond by June 2.

Catholic Charities North Dakota Turns 100! Join the Celebration, June 20, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Bonanzaville. Family friendly event with many activities for everyone. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.catholiccharitiesnd.org.

Iconography Workshop/Retreat: June 25-30, 2023, at Maryvale Retreat Center, Valley City. Learn to paint an icon with no previous art experience necessary! The Diocese of Fargo is sponsoring an iconography workshop and retreat at Maryvale Retreat Center, Valley City. Each participant will learn how to paint/write an icon depicting the Mother of God with the Child Jesus. The price is \$1025 and includes all supplies, accommodations, and meals. There will be Mass and personal prayer time each day. The Instructor is Christi Jentz, a professional iconographer who has taught many classes to beginners and advanced students. Information and registration: fargodiocese.org/art-retreat or call Mary Hanbury 701-356-7909.

Rural Life Celebration, Sunday, July 2, Terry Haman Farm, Rural Crary ND 7361 46 St NE (Crary). Join Bishop Folda as we invoke God's blessing upon our rural communities.

JOB OPENINGS

FT Business Manager/Executive Assistant
Real Presence Radio is accepting applications for a
FT Business Manager/Executive
Assistant. This position ensures the operating
integrity of the station office from all perspectives,
including the timely and accurate record-keeping of
all financial accounts and preparation of financial
statements. Will also work closely with the
Executive Director managing and planning activities
and taking minutes at Board Meetings.
Qualifications include Accounting Background/Work
Experience or Degree, Google Suite and Microsoft
Office experience. For a complete job description,
ask questions or to submit your resume please
email joyce@realpresenceradio.com.

| | with your contribution at Mass or in the Parish Office. |
|--------|---|
| | Name: |
| \ \ | Donation \$: |
| | Envelope Number: |
| | |

Donation for Landscape and Prayer Garden

Alexander Althoff

Parents: Nathan & Katie

Graduating from: West Fargo High School

High School Achievements: Social Club, Drama Cabaret, Guitar, Star Wars Club, E-Gaming,

Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts

Involvement with Blessed Sacrament: Alex took part in Faith Formation and was a Mass Server.

After Graduation Plans: Alex will continue working at Hornbachers and is looking into internships

with local companies and possibly continuing his education.



Elly Butts

Parents: Nick & Stacy Butts

Graduating from: West Fargo High School

High School Achievements: National Honor Society

Involvement with Blessed Sacrament:

After Graduation Plans: SDSU - Wildlife Biology

Caroline Gravel



Parents: Tom & Barb Gravel

Graduating from: West Fargo High School

High School Achievements: 3 yr. academic letter recipient. 5 yr. WFHS Packatahana dance team - 2 yr. team captain. 5 yr. state dance champion. 1 yr. national dance champion. 2 yr. orchestra letter recipient. 3 yr. National Honor Society member. Fellowship of Chris Han Athletes Member.

Involvement with Blessed Sacrament: Attended Faith Formation Classes. Volunteered by serving a meal at Churches Untied for the Homeless.

After Graduation Plans: University of North Dakota - Nursing and Pre Medicine.

Dustin (Dusty) Hunsicker

Parents: Jerry & Cindy Hunsicker

Graduating from: West Fargo High School

High School Achievements: Varsity Football

Involvement with Blessed Sacrament: Server, Usher, Gift Bearer, Volunteer for other stuff.

After Graduation Plans: Join the workforce.



Parents: Evan & Lindsay Spanier

Graduating from: West Fargo High School

High School Achievements: National Honor Society, Varsity Hockey

Involvement with Blessed Sacrament: Altar Server, Cross Bearer,

WOW volunteer, attended Faith Formation K-12 grade.

After Graduation Plans: Attend NDSU to pursue a degree in Microbiology.



Are you THANKFUL for the nicer weather? So are we!!

What better way to show our appreciation than by having a Thanksgiving Meal on

May 25, 2023 - 5,30 to 6:30pm Blessed Sacrament Church—Social Hall

It doesn't need to be

It does Mashed Potatoes Gravy All are welcome! Free will offering (accepted BUT NOT expected!!

May 27-28, 2023 – Pentecost Ministries of Service

| Masses | 5:15 p.m. Saturday | 9:30 a.m. Sunday |
|--|---|---|
| Proclaimers | K. Jalbert | M. Curfman |
| EMHC | *W. Suchla, K. Jalbert, C. & E. Pablo, S. Neva | */**B. Opoien, J. Yourczek, M. Curfman, A. Buettner, M. Doster |
| Gift Bearers | C. & E. Pablo | A. Buettner Family |
| Servers | Volunteers | E. Buettner |
| Ushers | J. & J.W. Jones | S. & L. DeKeyser |
| Greeters | C.& E. Pablo | A. Buettner Family |
| Rosary Leader | H. J. Puvogel | S. Durbin |
| Sacristan | C. Pablo | M. Doster |
| Media Minister | M. Berntson | |
| *Bread Minister **Takes communion to the shut-ins and sick | | |

Feast/Holy Day the Week of May 21, 2023

May 22: St. Rita of Cascia May 25: Sts. Bede, Gregory Vil, and Mary Magdalene May 26: St. Philip Neri May 27: St. Augustine of Canterbury

Blessed Sacrament Directory

701-282-3321 ~ www.bscwf.org

Fr. Gary Luiten, Pastor - Gary@bscwf.org

Julie Yourczek – Parish Life / Volunteerism – Julie@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

Facebook:

Blessed Sacrament Church - West Fargo Twitter:

Blessed Sacrament@Blessed W Fargo

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Meet first Thursday of each month

Classroom #4

at 7:00 p.m. **Blessed Sacrament Church**

St. Francis Thrift Store

Needed: Saleable items, cash donations (tax deductible), and volunteers Purpose: To help the needy in our community



2220 2nd Ave. E. • West Fargo, ND 58078

701.461.7309

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Advertise Here! for \$3 per week **Contact the Parish Office** 701-282-3321

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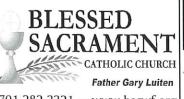
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218-236-1546

joe.schweitzer@taxes-advisor.com

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THIS SPOT COULD BE YOURS! CALL THE PARISH OFFICE 701-282-3321

FOR \$3 PER WEEK