



Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

210 5th Avenue W, West Fargo, ND 58078

701-282-3321

www.bscwf.org email: info@bscwf.org



December 14-15, 2024 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Daily Mass & Intentions



Sunday, December 15

8:30 a.m. – +Larry Aberle

10:30 a.m. – the Parishioners

Monday, December 16 - NO MASS

Tuesday, December 17 at *Sheyenne Crossings*

1:00 p.m. – +Ted Nilles

Wednesday, December 18

9:00 a.m. – +Kristie Schrader

Thursday, December 19

9:00 a.m. – +Don Kirchoffner

Friday, December 20

9:00 a.m. – Larry M

Saturday, December 21

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

5:15 p.m. – +Gaylas Pritchard

Sunday, December 22

8:30 a.m. – the Parishioners

10:30 a.m. – +Carter & +Easton Supler

Blessed Sacrament Directory

701-282-3321 | info@bscwf.org

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

Julie Yourczek, Parish Life/Volunteerism/DRE

Julie@bscwf.org

Mary Beth Odegard, Secretary/Youth Ministry

MaryBeth@bscwf.org

Ronda Voss, Music Coordinator

Ronda@bscwf.org

Media Information

Facebook:

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church West Fargo

Web Site: www.bscwf.org

YouTube: Blessed Sacrament West Fargo

Welcome! Fr. Gary Luiten and the faithful of 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:

Bake Sale

Christmas Program, 2 p.m.

Blood Drive, Monday, December 16, 2:45-6: p.m.

OCIA, Tuesday, December 17, 7 p.m.

Weekly Offering



December 7-8, 2024

Adult: \$3,636.06

Children: \$19

Improvements: \$179.49

Poor Fund: \$611

Collected to Date

Goal

\$364,118.80

Adult

\$420,000.00

\$1,026.04

Children

\$1,500.00

\$21,937.46

Improvements

\$50,000.00

\$67,233.00

God's Gift

\$77,436.00

Advent

The Third Week of Advent

The Third Week of Advent Represents: Joy

Candle Color: Pink

This third candle is pink and symbolizes rejoicing. During the third week of Advent, we are filled with joy for the near arrival of Jesus on Christmas day. This Sunday is often called "Gaudete Sunday" as we reflect on the joy the shepherd's felt at the birth of Jesus.

Prayer and Reflection: Advent is a time for spiritual reflection and prayer. Many Christians use this season to prepare their hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Some churches may have special Advent prayer services or devotional guides for personal reflection.



PLEASE FILL MY MANGER with straw. For every positive action towards another place straw in my manger. I know you can fill it so when I come; I will have a soft, warm bed to lie in. ~Jesus

MinisTREE for Churches United! All items must be under the MinisTREE by Wednesday morning, December 18.

Christmas Mass Schedule.

Tuesday, December 24 – Carols 3:30 p.m.
– Mass 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25 – Mass 10:00 a.m.

Donations for Christmas Flowers are due Monday, December 16 to the Parish Office.

Area Advent Reconciliation Services

Services at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| St. Anthony | December 16 |
| Nativity | December 19 |
| St. Benedict, Horace | December 15-4pm |
| Holy Cross | December 17 |
| St. Leo, Casselton | December 20 |
| St. Mary's | December 22-4pm |

Faith Formation



Faith Formation This Week. Our Faith Formation kids/teachers are working hard, and you have taken notice. Thank you for all the positive feedback. More good things to come as we continue to learn throughout the year.

Class - PreK Through Grade 12

| | | |
|--------------------|---------|-----------|
| <u>December 18</u> | Grs 1-5 | 5:45 p.m. |
| | B4WOW | 6:30 p.m. |
| | WOW | 6:30 p.m. |

December 25 NO CLASS

January 1 NO CLASS

OCIA is for adults thinking about becoming Catholic, and for Catholic adults who would like a refresher course on what the church believes and teaches. Contact Father Gary. OCIA meets most Tuesdays into April.

Class December 17
January 14, 28

Music Ministry



| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Contemporary | Practice | Sing |
| <u>December 22</u> | 7:45 a.m. | 8:30 a.m. |

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Joyful Voices | Practice | Sing |
| <u>December 22</u> | 9:30 a.m. | 10:30 a.m. |

Combined Choir
December 24 Practice 3 p.m.
Carols 3:30 p.m.
Mass 4:00 p.m.

Contact Ronda (Ronda@bscwf.org) if you are interested in assisting at Weekend Masses:

- Instrumentalists
- Song Leaders
- Substitute Accompanists

Parish Life



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.

Daily Readings December 15-21, 2024

December 15: Zip 3:14-18a, Phil 4:4-7, Lk 3:10-18

December 16: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a, Mt 21:23-27

December 17: Gn 49:2, 8-10, Mt 1:1-17

December 18: Jer 23:5-8, Mt 1:18-25

December 19: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a, Lk 1:5-25

December 20: Is 7:10-14, Lk 1:26-38

December 21: Sg 2:8-14, Lk 1:39-45

Give+ Online, Mobile, or Automatic Withdrawal

Giving: Give+ 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 (forms online or in the Parish Office.)

- **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.

Happy Birthday! We pray for those celebrating a birthday this week.

- August Keller, December 19

NATIVITY SHOWCASE: Thank you to all that participated in our 2nd Annual Nativity Showcase. Whether it was bringing your nativity set(s) to showcase, baked goodies, helped with set up, volunteered the 2 days during or just came and enjoyed viewing. You are all greatly appreciated. It was enjoyable to see over 180 different kinds of nativity sets. Not one was duplicated. It was also amazing to see how each artistic creator depicted what Joseph should look like.

Results from the ballots: LaVonne Grosz for best in the show of tabletop sets; as well as most unique overall. Tied for 2nd were Barb Opoien and Debbie Brand. The top 2 favorite ornaments were brought by Ilana Kelly. Congratulations to you all.

New Member Registration. If you are interested in becoming a registered member of Blessed Sacrament, please see Fr. Gary Luiten, call the Parish Office 701-282-3321 or **register on our website** bscwf.org/become-a-member/

Parish Directory Pictures. Thank you to all who had a picture taken. We are done with photo sessions and will begin production on the new directories.

Prayer Requests: We pray for our parishioners and family members.

*Those who are sick or have medical problems:

*Geraldine Cariveau, Doreen Hilzendeger,
Scott Tanata, Kerry Stroik, Pauline Klinger,
Cindy Horner, Becky Jones, Ann Zahradka,
John Anderson, Pat Barnett, Larry Kelly*

*Those who are healing:

Joann Moody, Kolby Hunsicker, Gary Lammer

*Other prayer requests:

Cindy Wulff, The Bosch Family

Preparation of Gifts You may wonder why children go up to the altar during Mass offertory. The children are taking their 'gifts' to the basket on the altar. The gifts could be non-perishable food items, a youth donation envelope or loose cash. We encourage all youth to participate. They are setting an example for us adults!

REMEMBER TO SIGN UJP & DONATE BLOOD on Monday, December 16, 2:45 - 6 p.m. Contact Julie in the Parish Office to get registered 701.282.3321. Let's finish off 2024 with another successful drive.

Soup 'N More: New Name to Be Announced January 1, 2025!

2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month.

January 9 – Welcome to Italy. This SNM proceeds will go to Killian Wells for his trip to Rome with the Diocese.

January 23 – St. Jude Circle is hosting. We will be having ham and scalloped potatoes.

We Pray In Remembrance of...

December 15: Shriley DeBuhr, Richard Moody

December 16: Ray Westman

December 17: Joseph Schultz, Henry Thies

December 18: Daniel Hager, Mary Rustad,

Erik Sjue, Peter Geffre, James Parsons

December 19: Julie Volk

December 20: Agnes Henry

December 21: Paul Lisburg

Family Room – For Infants, Toddlers and

Parents! We are blessed to have such a wonderful room for our families with young children. This room is reserved for infants and toddlers with their parents and people with special needs during Mass. The Family Room has comfortable chairs including a rocking chair. If you need help finding the Family Room, please ask a greeter or usher.

Winter Storm Policy. The Blessed Sacrament Parish Office follows the same winter storm policy as West Fargo Public Schools. If the WF Public Schools are closed because of bad weather, the Parish Office will be closed and there will be no evening activities. Fr. Gary WILL say daily Mass if it is scheduled.

Year End Contribution Note. If you plan to make a year-end contribution to Blessed Sacrament, please make sure your donation is here by Tuesday, December 31.

Volunteerism - Stewardship



Coffee Talk Starting on Sundays in January. On days we have bingo we will not have Coffee Talk after 10:30 a.m. liturgy. Here's the January schedule – let Julie know which works for you.

January 5: After 8:30 liturgy

January 12: After 8:30 liturgy

January 19: After both 8:30 & 10:30 liturgies

January 26: After 8:30 liturgy

MASS MINISTER VOLUNTEERS: Please complete your availability for January 2025 and turn in by December 16. Forms are on the podium outside the office door. In January we will begin to integrate the new online scheduling program. Details to follow.

Soup 'N More: Contact Julie if you would like to get involved. We can use helpers in the kitchen and dining area. Generally, we ask most volunteers to arrive by 4-5 p.m. Rather be a silent volunteer? Feel free to make baked goods.

CATHOLIC CALISTHENICS: Gestures, Postures and Symbolic Movements used in the Mass.

Part 3

Bowing:

- We may bow in reverence to the crucifix as it passes during the Recession.
- We bow during the Creed at the *Incarnatus* ("and was made man")
- If a thurifer stands before the altar and bids the congregation to stand, we should bow toward him as he incenses us.
- We may bow when saying, "Lord, have mercy" during the *Kyrie*.
- We may fold our hands and bow as we pray the Our Father.
- At the consecration of each element, bow and silently say, "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28).
- One should bow when receiving Holy Communion, if received standing.

Bowing at the Name of Jesus

Bowing the head at the name of Jesus and when the names of the Trinity are pronounced (the Doxology, or "Glory Be"). This is a custom which has gone by the wayside with the modernist putsch however, I believe it's one that is ready for a comeback. Bowing at Jesus' Name is found in Philippians 2:10: "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth." The action was mandated at the Second Ecumenical Council of Lyons convened by Pope Gregory X in 1274. Subsequently, a partial indulgence has been attached to the sign of reverence, and I say, every little bit helps. It's interesting to note that both priest characters in the 1973 *Exorcist* — Fathers. Damien Karras and Lankester Merrin — bowed at the Holy Name of Jesus during the exorcism.

Reflections by Fr. Gary Luiten



the 3rd Sunday of Advent - December 15, 2024

This 3rd Sunday of Advent is also called "Gaudete" or "Rejoice" Sunday. We heard that word over and over again in the readings this weekend. In the first reading, Zephania proclaims, "Shout for JOY, O daughter Zion!" Paul in the second reading says, "REJOICE in the Lord always!" Even John the Baptist has a joyful tone in his voice. His words in the gospel are calling for us to prepare for someone better to come.

One may ask, "Why is there cause to rejoice? We still have cause to rejoice because Jesus has come to save us! Jesus has come to forgive our sins! And Jesus promises an end to the evils that can plague our lives.

Joy is something that is not meant to be kept inside a person but shared with others. And this joy can be catchy. Think of the times you were most joyful, perhaps it was when you were a child, when you 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 always.

Blessed Sacrament 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.

Living Our Faith, Building Our Future

We are in the season of Advent and are preparing for Christmas. That means presents under the tree, mailing of cards and gifts, holiday baking and so forth. Don't be so busy that you forget to pray. In your prayers, please add "*Lord, help me make a sacrifice in order to support my parish with this campaign.*"

A pledge is a promise of aid, an agreement to fulfill that promise within a certain amount of time. This is a FOUR-YEAR Campaign. Would you be willing to make a pledge now and pay later?

There is good news and bad news to report on our campaign.

Good News:

- We are 96% to our goal.

Bad News:

- Only 28% of the parish has responded.

Good News

- \$385,341 has been pledged.

Bad News

- Only 118 of 453 families have pledged.

Good News

- You Can Help Us Do This! Every little bit helps!

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office 701-282-3321.

Blessed Sacrament's Status as of 12/10/24

Pledges: \$385,341.00

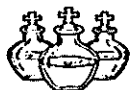
Dollars Received: \$95,957

72% of the parish has not made a pledge.

For the Campaign Status Report go to:

https://www.fargodiocese.org/documents/2024/10/weekly%20summary_103124.pdf

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.

Marriage: 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.

For the Sick: 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

Community & Diocesan Events

Looking for the perfect gift for the young adult in your life??? SEARCH for Christian Maturity is a peer-to-peer ministry, allowing youth (ages 16 and 17) along with young adults (ages 18 and older) to minister to youth and young adults. SEARCH is a way to help you on your journey to discover God, yourself, and a Christian community. This is a time to experience a loving, supportive community of young people who want to learn and experience a closer relationship with God and with others. We have a retreat coming up January 17th-20th, 2025 at Maryvale Retreat Center in Valley City. More details and the application are at www.fargodiocese.org/search4cm or call Dori at 952-210-2219 with questions. Applications are due no later than Monday, December 30th.

Jubilee Opening Mass, Sunday, December 29, 10:00 a.m., Cathedral of St. Mary, Fargo. The theme of the Jubilee Year 2025 is "Pilgrims of Hope." Pope Francis has asked that the local bishop of every cathedral around the world celebrate Mass on December 29 to mark the opening of the Jubilee Year.

7th Annual Family Christmas Ball! - Friday, January 3rd 6:30-9:30 p.m., at Holy Spirit Catholic Church Social Hall. FREE night of Waltzes, Foxtrots, Swing and a few Ballroom Line Dances-that are easy to learn! Bring a snack to share. All ages are welcome, attire is formal.

If you want a few lessons to brush up on your skills, **Free lessons** at Holy Spirit Catholic Church Social Hall: Waltz & Foxtrot - **Dec. 13, 6-8 p.m.** East Coast Swing & Lindy Hop - **Dec. 20, 6-8 p.m.** If you have any questions, please contact Tiffany Goering: goeringtiffany@gmail.com, 701-388-6362

Feast/Holy Day
the Week of December 15, 2024
December 21: St. Peter Canisius:



LIVING OUR FAITH,
BUILDING OUR FUTURE



THANK YOU!!!

96% of Goal!

Every Gift Will Make a Difference.
Make yours today!

**Every gift is
appreciated!**

**118 families
28% participation
Totaling \$385,341**

**Will YOURS be the
Gift that gets us to
GOAL?????**

Ways to Give

Offertory

Scan Here



or



Thank you to those
who have pledged!



Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Vigil

Tuesday, December 24

Caroling: 3:30 p.m.

Mass: 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25

Mass: 10:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve Vigil

Tuesday, December 31

Mass: 5:30 p.m.

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Mass: 10:00 a.m.



Mass on Christmas and New Year are Holy Days of Obligation.

December 21-22, 2024 ~ the 4th Sunday of Advent

| | 5:15 p.m. Saturday | 8:30 a.m. Sunday | 10:30 a.m. Sunday |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Proclaimer | K. Jalbert | J. Klaers | D. Richman |
| EMHC | *K. Jalbert, E. Pablo, C. Pablo, C. Diver, M. Schiele | *L. DeKeyser, J. Klaers, S. DeKeyser, S. Perreault, D. Nechiporenko, | *S. Richman, B. Opoien, K. Hanson, M. Kern, J. Neva |
| Gift Bearer | E. Pablo, C. Pablo | A. Wells, B. Wells | B. Opoien, T. Tweeter |
| Server | W. Schiele, H. Schiele Volunteer | A. Wells, G. Wells, B. Wells | K. Richman, B. Richman, M. Richman |
| Usher | J. Jones, J. W. Jones | J. Wells, L. Sample | R. Haugen, E. Hanson |
| Greeter | K. Walter, J. Walter | A. Wells, B. Wells, A. Wells, B. Wells, G. Wells, J. Wells | S. Richman, D. Richman |
| Rosary Leader | P. Pritchard | A. Pritchard | M. Kern |
| Sacristan | K. Jalbert | D. Nechiporenko | K. Hanson |
| Media Minister | L. Martin | | |
| **Communion to Homebound | | **S. DeKeyser | |

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