Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

210 5th Avenue W, West Fargo, ND 58078 701-282-3321

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



Welcome! Fr. Gary Luiten and the faithful of Blessed Sacrament welcome you. We hope your time at Blessed Sacrament may be an opportunity to join in fellowship of our faith and joy in Jesus Christ.

Daily Mass & Intentions

Sunday, February 9

8:30 a.m. - the Parishioners

10:30 a.m. – +Marion Kostelecky

Monday, February 10 - NO MASS

Tuesday, February 11 at Sheyenne Crossings

1:00 p.m. - Merlin P. Nagel

Wednesday, February 12

9:00 a.m. - +Cecelia Kirchoffner

Thursday, February 13

9:00 a.m. - Todd Salter

Friday, February 14

9:00 a.m. - +Bob Plemel

Saturday, February 15

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

5:15 p.m. - +Jim Hill

Sunday, February 16

8:30 a.m. - the Parishioners

10:30 a.m. - +Frank J. Lenzmeier

Weekly Offering

\$120,065.55

\$68,023.00

Your Support Helps us pay the Water Bill!

February 2-8, 2025

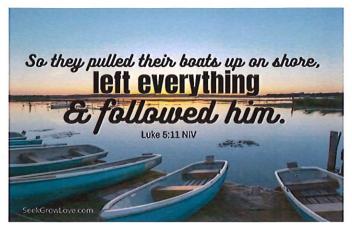
Adult: \$7,994.77		Children: \$16
Improvements: \$5	545.	
Poor Fund: \$630		
Collected to Date	2	<u>Goal</u>
\$44,870.85	Adult	\$50,400.00
\$113.00	Children	\$180.00
\$2,991.49	Improvements	\$6,000.00

Living our Faith

God's Gift

\$400,807.00

\$77,436.00



This Week

Sunday, February 9, 2025:

Concessions, 11:30 a.m. Bingo, 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 13, 2025:

Kitchen Konnection, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Faith Formation

WHERE ARE OUR FAITH FORMATION YOUTH ON WEEKENDS?? It has been a struggle to find different Faith Formation students to bring up the prayer intentions they write weekly. We have 70+ youth that signed up for Faith Formation. We are lucky if there are 5 students at each mass. It is disappointing.

Class Grades PK-12

Olddoo i it iz					
Sunday, February 9					
PK	No Class				
Wednesday, February 12					
Grs 1-5	5:45 p.m.				
B4WOW	6:30 p.m.				
WOW	6:30 p.m.				
Sunday, February 16					
PK	No Class				
Wednesday, February 19					
Grs 1-5	5:45 p.m.				
B4WOW	6:30 p.m.				
WOW	6:30 p m				

OCIA class is Tuesday's at 7 p.m. in the Library. Dates: February 11, 25 March 4, 11, 18, 25

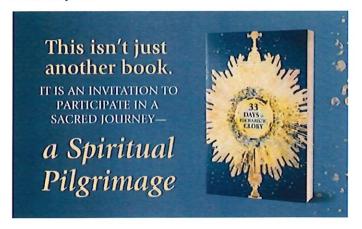
Confirmation Prep Classes for 3rd Grade Students and Parents: Wednesday, February 12 beginning at 5:45 p.m. Please meet in the Social Hall. There must be at least 1 parent or sponsor to attend with the student. Regular lessons will be sent home to be worked on as well as information pertaining to Confirmation.

B4WOW & WOW Students Sponsor BINGO Concession Sales. Bingo is scheduled for most Sundays in February and All Sundays in March. Students: please sign up to help - see your Catechist for the binder. Parents: please sign up with your child and support them.

Adult Formation – 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory. You are invited to join in our book study "33 "Days to Eucharistic Glory". We will meet from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament on the following days: Thursdays: March 6, 20, 27, April 3

Tuesdays: April 8, 15

Pick up a Book and Register at the Parish Office by February 28.



FORMED - How to Lent

Sign up to receive this lent series from Formed that aims to equip us with the tools to understand and practice the pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This series will challenge our preconceived notions about Lent, laying out a roadmap for entering the season with a purpose. Heed the call of St. John the Baptist by preparing for the Lord, using How to Lent to transform your spiritual life this Lenten season. Sign up now at https://dailv.formed.org/lent.

Music Ministry

Joyful Voices

February 9	Practice	Sing
	9:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
February 23	Practice	Sing
	9:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.

No Contemporary Choir in February.

Parish Life

1st Quarterly Blood Drive in 2025: Monday, March 17, 2:45 – 6 p.m. The link and drive is not available yet on the Vitalant site. However, Julie will take appointments and enter them once available. If interested in giving, please call or email Julie at 701-282-3321 or julie@bscwf.org.

2024 Year-End Reports will be provided BY REQUEST ONLY. We will email or print you a hard copy to be picked up. Contact Mary Beth in the Parish Office, with your request. MaryBeth@bscwf.org or 701-282-3321

Baptism Basket! There is a baptism basket in the Gathering Area for 3-month-old Hildy Lou Martin, daughter of Clifton & Carly Martin. Please help us fill the basket with baby shower items.

BINGO February and March Bingo is hosted by our Knights of Columbus and concession proceeds go to the Youth Activity Fund.

Sundays:

February 9, 23 March 2, 9, 16, 23 Concession sales begin at 11:30 a.m. Bingo starts at 12:00 p.m.

Can't Attend Sunday Mass?

- Would you like to receive communion? To receive in-home communion, call the Parish Office, 701-282-3321, give your name, address, and phone number.
- Watch Blessed Sacrament Mass on TV! Our weekend Mass airs on West Fargo Public Access Cable channel, Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m.
- Watch our Mass on YouTube! Go to YouTube search for

Blessed Sacrament Church West Fargo. Or copy and paste this link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPIK7Ix77I6W WtNNUQxt5rw

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church Your Council Representatives Are...

Finance Council

Lori DeKeyser, Karen Hanson*, Rob Haugen Cindy Fischer, Brad Novak*, Eduardo Pablo, and Steve Willson

Pastoral Council

Kathleen Jalbert, Steve Neva, Robert Norton, Mallary Schiele, and Ally Wentz

*Blessed Sacrament Lay Director

Catholic Schools Week – THANK YOU!! Thank you to those that donated:

- By using the provided JPII donation envelopes!
 Approximately \$500 was donated in this manner.
- To the Trinity Elementary After-School Program. They were thrilled with the delivery!
- By attending the Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by the Knights of Columbus! \$581 was given to the 'free-will offering' jar!

Way to go Blessed Sacrament! Your support for Catholic Schools shows strong!!

Daily Readings - February 9-15, 2025

February 9: Is 6:1-2a,3-8, 1 Cor 13:1-11, Lk 5:1-11

February 10: Gn 1:1-19, Mk 6:53-56

February 11: Gn 1:20-2:4a, Mk 7:1-13

February 12: Gn 2:4b-9,15-17, Mk 7:14-23

February 13: Gn 2:18-25, Mk 7:24-30

February 14: Gn 3:1-8, Mk 7:31-37

February 15: Gn 3:9-24, Mk 8:1-10

Donations of Fish Welcome! Blessed Sacrament will be hosting a fish fry this Lent. Fr. Gary is our chef, and he says, "We need more fish!" If you happen to be a fisherman/woman and have some fish in the freezer that you would like to donate to our Fish Fry, contact the Parish Office and arrange to drop it off.

Don't Discard Those Old Rosries! Do you have a broken rosary? Please bring it into the Parish Office and place it in the 'rosary basket'. They will be remade and sent to missions throughout the world. Thank you, Mary Barnes.

POINTSETTIAS ARE AVAILABLE TO TAKE IN GATHERING AREA. THERE ARE SOME BOXES AND BAGS FOR PACKING. **Kitchen Konnection** supper is served two Thursdays in February and March! Please note that menus are subject to change (except for the chili cook-off).

<u>February 13</u>– Valentine's Celebration

Meatloaf cupcakes, potatoes, salad, etc.

February 27 - Mardi Gras

Jambalaya or gumbo, muffuletta pasta salad and more!

March 13- The Luck of the Irish

Shepards pie or corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, and more!

March 27- Chili Cook-Off

Details and sign-up information to come.

Our Sympathy to

- the family of Patricia Barnett.
- Debbie Brand on the death of her cousin, Cal Frovarp.
- The family of <u>Darlene Murray</u>.
- Jan Fuller on the death of her brother Chuck Levin.

May Pat, Cal, Darlene and Chuck attain salvation with our Lord in heaven.

Pastoral Council Meeting, Thursday, February 27, 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

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

*Those who are sick or have medical problems:

Marlys Mattson (mother of Jim Mattson), Ella & Emma Buettner (daughters of Andy & Amanda Buettner), Larry Ellner, Marvin Short, Mary Pierce, Joanne Urlacher, Veronica Zorn, Pauline Klinger, John Anderson, Larry Kelly

*Those who are healing:

Kerry Stroik, Joann Moody, Kolby Hunsicker, Gary Lammer

We Pray In Remembrance of...

February 9: Neil Leist, Marie Heilman

February 12: Agens Nygaard, Agnes Coster,

Andrew Wickenheiser, Evelyn Cole

February 13: Arthur Libbrecht

February 14: Margie Hummel

February 15: George Cavegn

Volunteerism - Stewardship

Kitchen Konnection Come see us and eat with us every 2nd and 4th Thursday.





Coffee Talk If interested in hosting please call or see Julie in the Parish Office or after liturgies to sign up.

I will be in the parish life coordinator position 3 years in May. During that time, I have all but begged for my parish family to get involved. Yes, there have been some that have come forward, some that have accepted me approaching them. I am so grateful to all of them and enjoy getting to know each and every one. Yet, there are so many more that could be getting involved. What about our young families? Our older parishioners step up. Yes, most are probably retired but we need all of our parish family to come together. Trust me when I say I was not always involved. I put everything else a head of God and my Parish. Then, I decided if I can do this or that, then I can do for God too. I thought what would I say to Jesus if he asked me why I don't do more with my faith, with my church, etc. How embarrassed I would be. And if I said I was too busy with everything else, I thought what if he told God He was too busy to die on the cross for all people!! I realized I didn't want to disappoint our Lord. ~ Julie

Reflections by Fr. Gary Luiten

the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 9, 2025

In today's readings, two people encountered God in a real, deep sense: Isaiah and Peter. They were in awe. In looking at the readings for today, it is quite obvious that God wants us to be aware of his presence in the many ways God comes to us.

One way the Lord comes to us is in the Liturgy. The documents of Vatican II tell us that God really and truly becomes present to us in the presence of the spoken Word. God also comes to us in the presence of the minister. That would include the priest, and all those who are ministering at Mass. The documents teach us that God comes to us in the presence of all of us when we pray and sing. So, it is important to pray and sing, so that we can allow God to be present to us and those around us through these actions. Now I know that not everyone is endowed with an operatic singing voice. And that's OK. If God chose to give us poor singing voices, then we should return the favor by allowing God to listen to us sing! Actually, the scriptures tell us to "make a joyful noise." Notice, it uses the word "noise." So, if it sounds like noise, that's all right, as long as it's joyful!

But God is especially in the Eucharistic species of bread and wine. That's why we genuflect when we come into the church and are in the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. And that's why we bow before receiving Jesus in the Eucharist, both under the form of bread, and, if we choose, under the form of wine.

We are called to be aware of God's presence not just at Mass, but in the world today, along with recognizing God's presence in creation. There are many good Samaritans who do many good deeds – reaching out to those in need physically and spiritually. God is present in them, calling them to reach out to those in need. Then, once we have become aware of God's presence, like Isaiah and Peter, it naturally causes us to think of our sin, and our unworthiness. At least it should cause us to think of that. It causes me to think of that, not to wallow in our sin, but to ask God to cast it out.

May we make time in our busy days to come to develop an awareness of God's presence, like Peter and Isaiah the prophet did in their lives.

Preparing for Lent 2025

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday March 5, 2025.

Collecting Palms: Your old palms can be placed in the marked box by the Parish Office. Please remove plastic bags, paper clips, ribbon, etc., before placing palms in the box.

Begin preparing for the upcoming Lenten Season. What will you do during that time? Will you give something up, or maybe volunteer or get involved at your parish. Will you pray for others intentions? It's never too early to decide what you would commit to during Lent and then hopefully continue after.

Prayer cross will be out beginning on Ash Wednesday. Watch for the cross and a table with blank papers to begin filling out.

Additional Interactive Lent projects to be announced soon!!

Before Ash Wednesday catches you unaware, make a point of sitting down and give some thought to how you want to spend this Lent.

There are three holy practices which we are called to embrace in Lent. These three practices are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

When you make your Lenten plan, choose something specific from each category—and you're set for a grace-filled journey to Easter.

<u>Prayer</u> Lent is the perfect time to build good prayer habits. It gives us the grace to tackle what we couldn't otherwise. Ask yourself: what are my prayer habits now?

We ought to pray every day. Prayer is conversation and communion with the God who made us and loves us. No relationship would flourish if we failed to spend time in the presence of a loved one, conversing with them and offering them genuine attention.

If you are praying once a week at Sunday Mass or saying only a quick "Good morning, God!" as you head to work, make a simple commitment to daily prayer.

How much time should we set aside for daily prayer? Holy priests and spiritual advisors say that fifteen minutes is the absolute minimum. That's a solid goal for all of us.

Prayer is not always easy. It can feel dry, distracted, or lonely. Don't get discouraged—there are things that help inspire, nourish, and strengthen prayer.

Find an engrossing spiritual or devotional series. These things can bring about spontaneous prayer.

In summary: This Lent, try spending at least fifteen minutes in prayer a day. If you already do this, make the Rosary a daily habit. If you already do that, maybe add a Divine Mercy chaplet or a Holy Hour before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Give it some thought and write down your commitment.

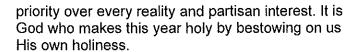
Excerpts taken from "How to Prepare for Lent – Before It Arrives" by Genevieve Netherton

(Fasting and Almsgiving will be in future bulletins.)

Jubilee Year of 2025

Reconciliation

A Jubilee year is a sign of reconciliation because it establishes a "favorable time" (cf. 2 Corinthians 6:2) for conversion. We are called to put God at the center of our lives, growing toward Him and acknowledging His primacy. Even the Biblical call for the restoration of social justice and respect for the earth stems from a theological reality: if God is the creator of the universe, He must be given



As Pope Francis recalled in the 2015 Bull proclaiming the Extraordinary Holy Year, "Mercy is not opposed to justice but rather expresses God's way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe. [...] God's justice is his mercy given to everyone as a grace that flows from the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thus, the Cross of Christ is God's judgement on all of us and on the whole world, because through it he offers us the certainty of love and new life" (Misericordiae Vultus, 21).

In practical terms, reconciliation involves receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation, taking advantage of this time to rediscover the value of confession, and experiencing God's personal words of forgiveness. There are some Jubilee churches that stay open continuously to make available the sacrament of Reconciliation. You can prepare yourself to receive the sacrament by following a guide.

Community & Diocesan Events

Court St. Ann #261 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet Tuesday, February 11, St. Anthony's beginning with the Mass at 5:15 p.m., meal to follow, and meeting at 6:30 p.m. Members are invited to bring non-perishable food item donations. If interested in CDA, please join us at our meeting. Any questions, please send an email to regentctstann@gmail.com

Norsk Musikk A Celebration of Norwegian Music, Tuesday, February 11, 7:30 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church, Fargo. Presented by MSUM Choirs & Edvard Grieg, Society of The Dakotas. Free and open to the public. Donations gratefully accepted at the door.

Catholic Man Night Thursday, February 20, 6-8 p.m., St. Anthony's (710 10th St S, Fargo). Meal and talk with a short discussion featuring Father Lorsung as the speaker! Come and bring a friend! Free will offering.

DeJunkify – Big or Small, We Remove it ALL! Do you have junk and want it removed? Contact Kolby Hunsicker for a quote, he'll help you out, 701-556-3689 or Kolby@Dejunkifyllc.com.

Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages.

February 28-March 2, 2025. Do you and your spouse have any level of disconnection in your relationship? You don't need to wait until you're in crisis to take time to reconnect and rediscover one another as you deepen your love and unity. Instead, you can work to build the kind of joyful, connected marriage you envisioned when you walked down the aisle. Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program that has helped hundreds of thousands of married couples turn the tide, find new hope, and reclaim the love that initially brought them together. Surveys have shown that more than 3 out of 4 couples who complete the entire program have healthier marriages than ever before. The Red River Retrouvaille program will be held locally on February 28-March 2, 2025, in Fargo. For more information visit HelpOurMarriage.com or contact us at (701) 356-7962 or via email at rrretrouvaille@gmail.com.

Men's Silent Directed Ignatian Retreat.

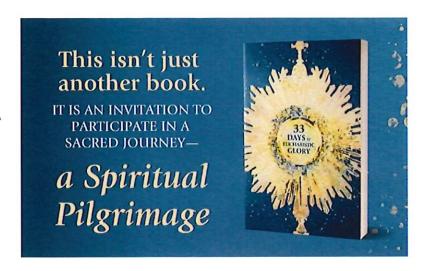
March 20-23, 2025, Maryvale Retreat Center. This retreat is inspired by the prayer methods and exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola led by Msgr. Schlesselmann at Maryvale Retreat Center. A silent retreat is a chance to rest, an intentional time to listen to God in a new way, without the busy-ness of life. Visit https://maryvalend.org/3-23-25-ignatian-1 for all the details or to register.

Women's Reading Retreat. March 28-30, 2025, Maryvale Retreat Center. This week-long reading retreat is filled with group and silent reading times, small and large group discussions, prayer time, daily Mass, adoration, evening social, and the building of lasting friendships. Participants will be reading and discussing *God's Bucket List* by Teresa Tomeo. Details and registration available at https://maryvalend.org/3-30-25-gods-bucket-list-1

At the Feet of St. John Paul II. April 10-12, Maryvale, Valley City. You are invited to a retreat that opens up St. John Paul II's life changing teaching called the "Theology of the Body". This teaching on the total vision of the human person will then be applied to life and love issues as well as the Eucharist. In addition, there will be Mass, Adoration, Confessions, music and time for personal prayer and reflection. You can register by going to Marvalend.org or by scanning this QR code.

February 15-16, 2025 – 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Ministries of Service

Masses	5:15 p.m. Saturday	8:30 a.m. Sunday	10:30 a.m. Sunday
Proclaimers	B. Schmidt	C. Pratt	D. Lenzmeier
EMHC	*C., Diver, C. Paintner, M. Schiele, P Tritchard, C. Pablo	*D. Chapek, M. Doster, H. Madson, L. Sample, J. Klaers	*M. Regner, B. Opoien, K. Novak, A. Buettner, L. Grosz
Gift Bearers	B. & S. Schmidt	A. & A. Wells	A. & K. Kottsick
Servers	A. Walter, J. Walter, H. Schiele	B. Wells, G. Wells, A. Wells	S. Neva, G. Yourczek, Volunteer
Ushers	K. Jalbert, J. Jones	T. Allmaras, A. Pritchard	B. Novak, J. Regner
Greeters	K. Walter, G. Kirkeby	J. & B. Wells	A. & K. Kottsick
Rosary Leader	P. Pritchard	J. Yourczek	M. Kern
Sacristan	C. Pablo	H. Madson	M. Regner
Media Minister	R. Cwikla *Eucharist Minister **T. English (Communion to home bound)		



You are about to embark on an incredible journey. 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory isn't just another book. It is an invitation to participate in a sacred journey—a spiritual pilgrimage. It's a guide that will lead you to the essence of what it means to be Catholic...and it will change your life in the most marvelous of ways.

Eucharistic Consecration will take your spiritual life to unimaginable new levels, but it will also energize your relationships, refocus your professional life, rearrange your priorities, awaken your dreams, and show you the genius of Catholicism.

The key to unlocking these fruits in your life is surrender. Consecration is to devote yourself to God and make yourself 100 percent available to carry out His will on this earth. Through the act of consecration, we dedicate ourselves wholeheartedly to the will of God, surrender our distractions and selfishness, and promise to faithfully respond to God's grace in our lives.

Jesus in the Eucharist offers His entire self to you. This consecration journey will prepare your heart, mind, and soul so that you are ready to offer your entire self back to Him.

This pilgrimage to Eucharistic Glory will require sacrifice, discipline, and radical love. It is a blessing that you are not making this journey alone. The people of your small group will be your companions, and sharing this life-changing experience together will form a very special bond. Encourage and challenge one another to become all God created you to be. Help one another walk toward Eucharistic Glory—toward Heaven.

33 days to Eucharistic Glory

Blessed Sacrament
Catholic Church

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursdays
March 6, 20, 27
April 3
Tuesdays
April 8,15
Consecration Day
Palm Sunday, April 13

Register and pick up a book at the Parish Office

Read the introduction: "The Eucharist is the Answer," before the first meeting.

Contact:

Lori DeKeyser 701-866-4492, Lucy Elshaug 701-212-3942 or the Parish Office 701-282-3321, with questions.

Directory

Address: 210 5th Ave W, West Fargo ND 58078

Phone: 701-282-3321

Position Name Email Address Pastor: Fr. Gary Luiten - Gary@bwcwf.org

Parish Life/Volunteerism/DRE:

Julie Yourczek - Julie@bscwf.org

Administrative Secretary/Youth Ministry:

Mary Beth Odegaard - MaryBeth@bscwf.org

Music Coordinator:

Ronda Voss - Ronda@bscwf.org

Media Information

Facebook:

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church West Fargo

Web Site: www.bscwf.org

YouTube: Blessed Sacrament West Fargo

Feast/Holy Day

the Week of February 9, 2025

February 10: St. Scholastica

February 11: Our Lady of Lourdes February 14: Sts. Cyril & Methodius

Our Lady of Lourdes Prayer:

Ever Immaculate Virgin Mother of Mercy, Health of the sick, refuge of sinners, Comforter of the afflicted, you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings; look with mercy on me.

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.



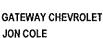
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Darren Rohrich 701-367-8676

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Blessed Sacrament Knights of Columbus



Meet the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Faith in action, Catholic men living their faith at home, in their parish, and their community.

TOP NOTCH

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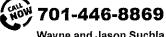
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