



SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

FOUNDED
1911

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Blessed Sacrament School
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www.bsstoday.org

MASS TIMES ~ PRESIDER SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil, June 10
5:30 p.m. ~ Father Alec

Saturday, June 17
~ Father Ron

Sunday, June 11
7:30 a.m. ~ Father Ron
9:00 a.m.* ~ Father Alec
10:30 a.m.** (Church) ~ Father O
12:30 p.m. ~ Father D'Silva
5:30 p.m. ~ Father Ron

Sunday, June 18
~ Father Regis
~ Father D'Silva
~ Father O
~ Father Ron
~ Father D'Silva

*American Sign Language interpreted Mass

**The 10:30 Gym Mass is not scheduled during the summer months.

Weekday & Saturday Masses

Monday - Friday: 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m., 11 a.m.

Filipino Mass in Tagalog every 4th Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

Holy Day Masses

Eve of the Feast: 5:30 p.m.

Day of the Feast: 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Adoration Of The Blessed Sacrament*

Exposition: Monday-Friday, 3-5:15 p.m., in the church

Thursday before first Friday of each month, 6-8 p.m.,
with Holy Hour from 7-8 p.m.

*No adoration on federal holidays

INSIDE THIS ISSUE • JUNE 11 & 18, 2017

Parish Patronal Feast Day • 3

That Man Is You • 3

Vacation Bible School • 3

2nd & 4th Monday Club Annual Cookout • 4

Parish Council & Commission's Reports • 6

THIS WEEKEND

Daystar Gallery

Daystar Gallery presents the prints of artist Ann Zahn. "From Plant to Paper to Print." June 6 to June 30. A reception will be held on **Sunday, June 11 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.** All are welcome!

Thought for the Week *From Pope Francis*

For the week of June 11

Adopting a child is an act of love, offering the gift of a family to someone who has none. It is important to insist that legislation help facilitate the adoption process, above all in the case of unwanted children, in order to prevent their abortion or abandonment. Those who accept the challenge of adopting and accepting someone unconditionally and gratuitously become channels of God's love. For he says, "Even if your mother forgets you, I will not forget you" (Is 49:15) (Joy of Love, 179).



THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY/CORPUS CHRISTI

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Ronald A. Potts, Pastor • pastor@blessedsacramentdc.org
Rev. Alec Scott, Parochial Vicar • ascott@blessedsacramentdc.org
Rev. Msgr. Maurice V. O'Connell, Retired Priest • moconnell@blessedsacramentdc.org
Rev. Percival L. D'Silva, Retired Priest • pdsilva@blessedsacramentdc.org
Deacon Kenneth Angell • kenneth.angell@opic.gov
Deacon Donald Mays • dmays@blessedsacramentdc.org

Assistants on Weekends

Rev. Regis Armstrong, OFM Cap, Catholic University

DUFFY PARISH CENTER

Main Office 202.966.6575 (Monday - Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
In an Emergency 202.966.6575, Ext. 3988 (to page priest on duty)
Facilities 202.449.4610
Pius X Library 202.449.3974
Ray Manning Adult Center 202.363.4512

Mr. John Navolio, Business Manager
202.449.3984, jnavolio@blessedsacramentdc.org
Mr. Jay Rader, Director of Liturgy and Music
202.449.3981, jayrader@blessedsacramentdc.org
Ms. Michelle Balch, Director of Religious Education
202.449.3989, mbalch@blessedsacramentdc.org
Ms. Rosalie Days, Sacramental Preparation Coordinator
202.449.4618, rdays@blessedsacramentdc.org
Mrs. Casey Esser, Youth Minister
202.449.3985, cesser@blessedsacramentdc.org
Mrs. Patricia Kavanaugh, Social Concerns Minister
202.449.3987, pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org
(Office open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., and by appointment)
Ms. Emma Voelzke, Special Needs Coordinator
202.449.3990, evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org
Ms. Kate Ryan, Director of CYO
202.449.3972, kryan@blessedsacramentdc.org

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL

Mr. Chris Kelly, Principal
202.966.6682, ckelly@blessedsacramentdc.org
Ms. Nancy Ryan, Director of Admissions
202.966.6682, Ext. 6110, nryan@blessedsacramentdc.org

SACRAMENTS

Baptism • Baptismal classes are required of all parents prior to baptism. We recommend taking classes before the child is born. Group baptisms are offered every 2nd Saturday at noon in the chapel and 4th Sunday at 2 p.m. in the main church. For more info visit: www.blessedsacramentdc.org/sacraments-rites
Matrimony • All couples who are to be married at Blessed Sacrament must complete our parish marriage preparation program. Please contact one of the parish priests six months in advance of your marriage date.
Reconciliation • Friday and Saturday after the 11 a.m. Mass (if no funeral); Saturday, 4 - 5 p.m. and after the 5:30 p.m. Mass, or anytime by appointment.
Altar Server Program: altarservers@blessedsacramentdc.org
Eucharistic Minister Volunteers: worshipministry@blessedsacramentdc.org

PARISH SERVICES & INFORMATION

Care Of The Sick & Homebound • If you or someone you know is hospitalized or homebound and would like a priest to visit, contact the parish office at 202.966.6575.
New Parishioners • Welcome! To register as new parishioners, visit www.blessedsacramentdc.org/new-parishioners. Hard copies of the registration form are available at the parish office or contact Rick Perry: 202.449.3982.
Bulletin Announcements • **Hard Deadline:** Mondays @ 9 a.m. Send to: bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org.
Newsletter Content • newsletter@blessedsacramentdc.org
Website Postings • website@blessedsacramentdc.org
Facebook Postings • dbyers4@verizon.net
Church Bulletin Boards • The parish secretary maintains the church bulletin boards. Please drop off any flyers for posting to Joan Ward in the parish office, Duffy parish center.
Inclement Weather Policy • The parish center/office follows Montgomery County Schools for delays and closings. All evening activities are cancelled those days the schools are closed.

PASTOR'S COLUMN • JUNE 11

Today we celebrate Trinity Sunday as we honor our God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit— One God in Three Persons. Our reading from the Book of Genesis expresses God's transcendence: He takes the initiative to approach whomever He desires— no one can force God to manifest Himself. The Lord reveals to Moses and proclaims He is a "merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity." When God proclaimed His name, Yahweh, He enumerated the qualities by which we can recognize Him and His action. The Israelites were bound to God by a covenant and were the privileged beneficiary of His conduct through His boundless love, mercy and compassion. When His people turned away from Him, He never ceased to exhort them to come back to Him—His love is quick to forgive.



Andrei Rublev, *Trinity Icon* (1410)

Our passage from St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, ends with a very familiar sentence, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you." This is the same "greeting" which the priest uses at the beginning of the Mass. This greeting attests to the understanding of the Trinity from the early days of the Church. Nobody has ever seen God but He has revealed Himself by His actions and deeds in this world. God does not prove Himself but shows Himself. One believes in him; one has the certitude of His existence because one discovers His active presence in the world and in oneself, since one is touched by "the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit." This is a concrete and personal experience that happens in faith together with other believers. We are created in God's image and we must live with one another as the three divine Persons live in their unity: in love, joy, harmony, peace, in mutual encouragement—in order to seek perfection. God Himself is peace and joy because, in the communion of the three Persons there is nothing lacking in fullness and perfection. We inherit these goods with the salvation gained by Christ through the paschal mystery and are to express this deep bond of friendship in Christ by greeting "one another with a holy kiss." The kiss of the ancient Christians expresses this deep meaning with a new efficacy—a sign that expresses the charity that unites them in Christ and, at the same time, the shared gift of salvation: the peace that comes from the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We exchange this liturgical gesture before we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus. Even though we may not know one another, we proclaim ourselves as sisters and brothers in Christ; we impart to one another the gift of the peace that flows from the Trinity. Therefore we foster among ourselves the attributes of love, joy and harmony—the very life of the Trinity. Our participation in the life of the Trinity each day on this earth gives us the assurance of entering eternal life one day.

God bless you,
Father Ron

FROM THE PARISH



That Man Is You

That Man Is You (TMIY) is a program for men interested in refreshing their spiritual life. TMIY offers a Catholic response to the vacuum of authentic male leadership in the modern world. It is an opportunity to develop and deepen friendships with other parishioners. More importantly, TMIY is a practical way to more fully integrate your faith with your daily life, whether at work or in the family. A core team of Blessed Sacrament parishioners run the weekly sessions, which include a hot breakfast, a video presentation, and small-group discussion.

The first year of TMIY at our parish ended in mid-May and will resume after Labor Day. For a real taste of what the program is all about, please visit our Facebook page, TMIY at Blessed Sacrament, where summaries of many of the discussions are posted. During the summer, check the bulletin and parish FB page (BlessedSacramentDC) to keep current on our plans for fall. For more information: Dave Byers, dbyers4@verizon.net, 301.681.7014



June 18: The Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

Next Sunday our parish celebrates our patronal feast day! Please join us in the principal celebration at the 12:30 Mass followed by a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament and Solemn Benediction. First Communicants and their families are encouraged to attend. The extremely beautiful liturgy and music for the feast dates to the 12th century!

RECENT BAPTISMS

Clara Josephine Chettiar	Alexa Providence Murino
Mae Glassie Ciriello	Apolline Nillion
Seamus Nolan Stouffs Grimes	Olivia Marie Perl
Luigi Ashton Ladd Maffioli	

PLEASE INCLUDE OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS THAT THEY MAY EXPERIENCE HEALING AND COMFORT

Alejandro Arce	Bart Hayft	Fredy H. Ortega
Ana Maria Arce	Alexa Hughes	Daniel Ortman
Evelyn Childs	Marian Middendorf	Maria Stechschlitz
Mary Anne Corr	Patrick Adams Murphy	Nelly Turner
James Curran	Brett Norman	Violeta Turner

Youth Ministry

June 18-23: Manus Christi service trip in West VA
High School: Join Fr. Alec on a summer service trip in Appalachia, WVA. Application available now!

July 5-14: Vacation Bible School is back!
Junior & Senior volunteers needed. See below.

Students must submit a permission slip for each event held outside Blessed Sacrament.

Adult chaperones and drivers are always needed, please get in touch!

For more information and to register for these events, please contact Blessed Sacrament's Youth Minister, Casey Esser: cesser@blessedsacramentdc.org | 202.449.3985

Vacation BIBLE SCHOOL

Building God's Kingdom, Breaking Down Walls!

July 5-14, 2017
weekdays 9am-3pm
\$30 per family

Participants welcome: rising K-5th
Volunteers needed: rising 6th-12th & adults!

Sign Up Today!

www.blessedsacramentdc.org/youth/youth-ministry

Poor Box Donations

Poor Box donations in **June** will benefit St. Joseph's House, a nonprofit serving children and teens with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It offers home-based care before and after school. Its summer camp is anticipated by the children all year long. St. Joseph's House enables parents, many of whom are parenting alone, to hold jobs, and also provides them with a place to find support and steadfast friendships in one another.

VISIT YOUR PARISH LIBRARY

Recent Additions for Your Summer Reading

***The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier, and More Creative*, by Florence Williams (155.9 W67 N19)**

The author traveled to Japan, Finland and Scotland as well as extensively in the U.S. to describe scientific studies reaffirming our inherent links to the natural world and the benefits we gain from the latter. One study in Utah showed that people who took walks without cell phones showed an increase in cognition. In Barcelona, children diagnosed with ADHD markedly improved when their school day included increased outdoor activities. Williams' lively interviews with the people she meets give us a great perspective on how contemporary research takes place.

***A Pope and a President*, by Paul Cengor (327.7 K33 P81), gift of Allen Cleghorn.**

The historian and bestselling writer has used archival and previously unknown material to describe the partnership between Pope St. John Paul II and President Reagan in the defeat of Soviet communism. Both survived assassination attempts six weeks apart in 1981 and both felt that God had spared their lives for a purpose. Reagan, referring to a "DP," divine plan, to take down communism became greatly interested in the secrets of Fatima; the author stated in an interview that "Mary is central [to the book]." Nancy Reagan called St. John Paul II her husband's "closest friend." This fascinating account sheds new light on a dangerous time.

***The Power of Silence: Against the Dictatorship of Noise*, by Robert Cardinal Sarah, with Nicolas Diat (248.4 S71 P871).**

This profound and compelling book explores the cultivation of prayer and its vital component, silence, in our alienated world. The Cardinal draws on many ancient and modern witnesses (many unfamiliar to an American audience; the book is a translation from the French original). They include St. Augustine, St. John of the Cross, St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. John Paul II, as well as Henri Nouwen and Thomas Merton. These, together with the Gospels, provide an extraordinary anthology, a kind of sub-set to the book. The author writes "on silence as a sacred discipline" and covers many topics.

Back issues of *First Things*, *Inside the Vatican*, *St. Anthony Messenger*, *Commonweal* and several other titles are available to parishioners. Please call 202.449.3974 if you're interested in reading these publications.

Coffee and Conversation @ the Corbett Café Every Thursday

Join fellow parishioners every Thursday after the 8 a.m. Mass at Corbett Café, Apartment 1 of the Chevy Chase Apartments next to the church, for coffee and conversation.

OUR SCHOOL IS YOUR SCHOOL

Job Position Available At Blessed Sacrament School

Blessed Sacrament School is hiring a part-time Development Director. Primary duties will include continuing historic development efforts (annual fund, school benefit, Smyth Fund, etc.) and identifying new sources of funding to support the five year strategic plan of the school. In addition, alumni relations will be a focus (especially scrubbing and expanding our database) as well as expanding our reach through social media. Please contact Christopher Kelly, School Principal for complete job description: ckelly@blessedsacramentdc.org.

THE ADULT CENTER

All parishioners, "39 and holding," are invited to gather in Apt. 1 in the Chevy Chase apartment building next to the church for fellowship after the 11 a.m. weekday Mass. Bring a sandwich and join the activities. For more information or for transportation, call Rita Killian at 202.363.5069.

Monday	Strong Seniors Strength & Balance Exercise Class
Tuesday	Tuesdays with (Fr.) Maury
Wednesday	Art Class with Dick Swartz
Thursday	Bridge for Bridge Lovers
Friday	Closed

Tuesdays with (Fr) Maury—last one of the season. Please join Fr. O and other parishioners as we cover topics similar to those in the book like love, work, community, family, aging, forgiveness, and also some uniquely Catholic topics. This last session before the Summer Break will be held on **Tuesday, June 13**. Please join us in Apt.#1 of the Chevy Chase Apartments (next to the Church) as we discuss this week's topic and plan future topics for next season.

The 2nd and 4th Monday Club will hold our Annual Cookout on **Monday, June 19**. We will travel to Leo Prahinski's house in Silver Spring for a poolside social, cookout and swim, if you desire. Transportation will be provided and will leave the Adult Center parking lot at 11:30 a.m., returning mid-afternoon. Please call Rita Killian: 202.363.5069 or sign up at the Adult Center by June 15.

CHIMES CHATTER

Campanology... yes a big word meaning the study of bells and the art of bell-ringing, encompassing traditional bells and tubular bells, such as our bell tower's Deagan chimes. Our Blessed Sacrament chimes are listed on a campanologist's website, Carl Scott Zimmerman's, undoubtedly one of the most exhaustive databases on the entire subject. The brain-child and passion of Carl, the database, now a website, is compiled from collecting "bell" or "carillon" information for more than half a century, including Deagan's tubular bells. Carl has been a long-standing member (since 1962) of the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America, having mastered playing carillons years ago, including at the Chapel Tower of Trinity College, Hartford CT. The website, www.TowerBells.org, is very user friendly, containing a general introduction to the world of tower bells, what is "new" to the website, and such inclusive topics as "where to find carillons," listed by state, manufacturer, year and number of tones. Moreover, after the passing of another carillonneur and Deagan webmaster named Joe Connors, Carl was graciously given Joe's Deagan website collection, and has merged pages of additional Deagan nuggets into the TowerBells website. As noted on the website, chimes can weigh several tons, thereby producing "the original 'heavy metal' sound that resonates in the heart of mankind."



Photo by Joe Bozik

Have a story? Chimes are under maintenance for short period—1RetroJoe@gmail.com

PASTOR'S COLUMN • JUNE 18

As we celebrate *Corpus Christi*, the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Jesus, our first reading comes from the Book of Deuteronomy recalling the forty year journey of God's people through the desert. We are reminded that this forty year journey was a punishment for the worship of the golden calf. Although they were punished, God provided for the needs of His people. When the people did not find anything to eat God provided manna from heaven for them to eat. At the same time, the gift of manna had another meaning. It was meant to make the people hungry for God, without whom they could not survive, to make them aware "that not by bread alone does man live, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord." In giving the manna, God tested everyday the faithfulness of His people and the dispositions of their hearts. The same goes for the water, without which there is no life in the desert—only death. God gives the water that really quenches thirst and because it becomes "a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

In our second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians, we find one of the most important testimonies in the New Testament concerning the Eucharistic faith of the ancient Church. Paul and the Christians at Corinth understood the term "communion" in the strongest sense: this "food unknown to our fathers (Deut. 8:16)" establishes between the believer and Christ dead and risen an intimate and a "real" union. Communion in the Body and Blood of Christ creates, between believers, a new union, a vital one, eminently superior to that which results from the community of faith and hope. "Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf." Through baptism, believers become members of the Body of Christ. God has reestablished His Covenant by the sacrifice of His Son. Fed by the Body and Blood of Christ, we are "brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit." The Eucharist insures and expresses its unity and charity. Source of all virtue, the Eucharist gives the Church life and unceasing growth.

Our gospel passage from John, follows the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. The miracle arouses the enthusiasm of the crowd as they want to crown Jesus king but He escapes from the crowd to the mountain. He meets with the crowd the next day and says, "You are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled." The "food that perishes" is not worth all the trouble of crossing the lake and looking for it on this side. One thing alone counts: to "work...for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him the Father, God, has set his seal." It is Jesus, "the bread of God...which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." Jesus is personally the bread, the "living bread." Whoever eats it "will live forever." Faith in the Eucharist goes hand in hand with faith in the Incarnation; Jesus is really the bread "for the life of the world" because He is true God and true human being. The reality of His humanity, "this man," founds the realism of the Eucharist, true Body of Christ, dead and now living at the right hand of the Father, true food. In the Eucharist, we receive the Body and Blood of the risen Christ, eternally living with the Father. It is by virtue of this new condition that He can be our food under this form. It is also because of this new condition that when eating this bread and drinking this wine transformed by the Holy Spirit into the Body and Blood of Christ, we participate already now in the life that the Son shares with His Father. The Eucharist establishes with Christ and through Him and with the Father such a close bond that it is comparable to the one that unites the Persons of the Trinity. This life already communicated here on earth must grow into eternal life. To participate in the Eucharist is to proclaim the resurrection of Christ and to receive the pledge of it.

God bless you,
Father Ron

Thought for the Week
From Pope Francis

For the week of June 18

No one must say that they cannot be close to the poor because their own lifestyle demands more attention to other areas. This is an excuse commonly heard in academic, business or professional, and even ecclesial circles. . . . [N]one of us can think we are exempt from concern for the poor and for social justice: "Spiritual conversion, the intensity of the love of God and neighbor, zeal for justice and peace, the Gospel meaning of the poor and of poverty, are required of everyone" (Joy of the Gospel, 201).



FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

Online Survey to Share with Pope Francis!

In preparation for an international gathering of Bishops (Synod) next year, Pope Francis wants your input on the topic of *Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment*. People of all ages, Catholics and non-Catholics, are invited to give their feedback on how the Church can engage and support youth and young adults in making major life decisions. To participate, visit www.SharewithFrancis.org.

2017 Annual Jubilarian Mass

Cardinal Donald Wuerl will celebrate the annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, and 51+ years on **Sunday, June 25 at 2:00 p.m.** at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

OUTREACH

Pope Francis Calls Catholics and All People

Tuesday June 20 is designated World Refugee Day to bring attention to the plight facing refugees throughout the world. Pope Francis supports all efforts to support and improve the challenges so many of our brothers and sisters face in their struggles to obtain secure and safe lifestyles. Pope Francis states, "pray for the hungry and then feed the hungry. On Tuesday June 20th and all other days, please pray for all refugees that include men, women and children and support organizations providing programs to assist refugees in their road to a lifestyle all god's children deserve." The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops offers information regarding programs they and other agencies offer to Refugees. For more information please contact Pat Kavanaugh in the Social Concerns Office, pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org or 202.244.3987.

SPECIAL DEADLINES FOR THE BULLETIN

Publication date	Deadline
July 2	June 26
July 16	July 10
July 30	July 24
August 13	August 7
August 27	August 21

*Weekly publication of the bulletin will resume with the August 27 issue. Send bulletin announcements by Monday, 9 a.m. to bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org.

BLESSED SACRAMENT PASTORAL COUNCIL & COMMISSION'S REPORTS: MAY 2017

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Fr. Ron announced that Fran Scango, former Blessed Sacrament School principal, and Bill Kelly have accepted appointment as co-Chairs of the Council. They will begin a three-year term in September. Ceil Malphrus will chair the Community Life Commission next year, while Dave Byers joins Frank Pellegrino as co-Chairs of the Communications Commission. Besides receiving reports from the Commissions (see below), the Council accepted some final adjustments to a document entitled *General Communication Policies* and recommended it to Fr. Ron. Business Manager John Navolio explained his plan for moving incrementally toward hiring someone to oversee parish internal communications.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

The Commission has completed editing and updating the content of the current parish website in preparation for migrating this content to a new site supported by web provider eCatholic. Commission Chair Frank Pellegrino has chosen a design template for the new site. Attractive images of parish life will predominate over text, presenting a brighter, livelier and more welcoming face to the public. If anyone has photos of past or present events appropriate for display on the homepage slideshow, please submit them to frankp@comcast.net.

COMMUNITY LIFE COMMISSION

At Fr. Ron's urging, the Commission is stressing expansion of the Welcoming Committee to address two principal needs: creating a more welcoming culture at Blessed Sacrament, and engaging new parishioners (RCIA graduates, inactive Catholics, new residents, religious seekers) in parish life. The Commission is also offering encouragement and support to a new Veterans Ministry, headed by Jocelyn Rowe. The ministry held a very successful meeting in early May attended by about 25 veterans and active military personnel. Young Catholics with Disabilities continues to offer monthly outings for the men and women of Blessed Sacrament. The Ministry also sponsors an exercise class for interested parishioners. For more information, contact Emma Voelzke, evolzke@blessedsacramentdc.org.

FAITH FORMATION COMMISSION

Co-Chair Fran Scango reported on her ongoing conversations with a group of younger parishioners. A common theme ran through most of the sessions. The parishioners felt that people new to the parish have difficulty finding a group to join. They recommend an expanded Welcoming Committee for new parishioners, those having their first child baptized, those new to the school, etc. They also felt that a greater use of social media is needed. A second theme was having the Outreach Commission sponsor more family-friendly projects. Those with children indicated that outreach from the parish school

and School of Religion are natural avenues for assisting parents in their own faith formation and that of their children. Mrs. Scango recommended that the Commission recruit those willing to be a part of a task force to determine a realistic path forward. Co-Chair Pam Kelly issued a general invitation to Council members to attend a conference on discerning spiritual gifts to be held in Springfield, Virginia in August.

FACILITIES COMMISSION

Chair Patty Myler reported that the parish is considering three contractors' bids to repair earthquake damage to the bell tower, which is partly responsible for ongoing water infiltration of the church walls. (Water damage is most visible on the Quesada side around the Stations of the Cross.) Work can begin once the archdiocese gives its approval, and should be completed this summer. Mrs. Myler also expressed the Commission's frustration at a lack of progress on fixing all the extant roof leaks.

OUTREACH COMMISSION

To encourage and support Blessed Sacrament's efforts to meet the basic needs of refugees in the DC metropolitan area, the Outreach Commission continues to explore options for establishing a Refugee Ministry. We are working in partnership with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Charities. In early May, the Outreach Commission successfully sponsored a collection of gift cards which were distributed to refugee families. At our May meeting parishioners presented a proposal to the Commission outlining possible areas of involvement to address the concerns. Finally, the Commission is looking for volunteers to tend the Community Garden which is located on the Rectory grounds. Produce from the garden is donated to people in need through the Social Concerns office and the Blessed Sacrament Soup Kitchen Ministry.

WORSHIP COMMISSION

Chair David Gardiner reported that, with the assistance of liturgical expert Rita Thiron, the Commission has drafted a set of goals to guide its work next year. They are as follows: (1) to increase communication to and among our liturgical ministers in order to facilitate scheduling and to promote a sense of duty to ministry; (2) to provide liturgical formation to the members of our assembly via bulletin articles, website pages, and seasonal workshops; (3) to increase the number of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, to train them according to archdiocesan guidelines, and to commission them regularly according to archdiocesan norms; (4) to assist the Faith Formation Department by providing resources for liturgical formation for both students and leaders, including resources on the preparation and authentic celebration of the liturgical rites; and (5) to provide for the dignity and beauty of all our liturgical celebrations.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY MOVEMENT MINISTRY

In domestic mass shootings (four or more) 42% of the deaths are children, 39% women and 19% men (*Huffington Post*, 2016).

A Prayer For Help In Ending Violence

Loving and faithful God, through the years the people of our archdiocese have prayed in times of war, disaster and illness. We come to you Father and ask you to help us in the battle of today against violence, murder and racism.

We implore you to give us your wisdom that we may build a community founded on the values of Jesus, which give respect to the life and dignity of all people.

Bless parents that they may form their children in faith. Bless and protect our youth that they may be the peace-makers of our time. Give consolation to those who have lost loved ones through violence....

We ask you this through Christ our Lord.

FROM THE COMMUNITY



Middle School Crew Summer Rowing Academy

Do you have a middle school student who might be interested in **learning to row (crew)** in time for high school? BCC Crew Summer Rowing Academy offers three one-week summer camp sessions in July that allow middle school students (rising 7th, 8th, and 9th graders) to learn the basics of rowing in a fun and safe environment. For more info, see www.bcccrew.org/summer-camp.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank the **Blue 44 DC Restaurant and Bar** for placing an ad in our weekly bulletin.