



SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

FOUNDED
1911

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Washington, D.C. 20015
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Blessed Sacrament School
5841 Chevy Chase Parkway, NW
Washington, D.C. 20015
202.966.6682
www.bsstoday.org

MASS TIMES ~ PRESIDER SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil, February 24
5:30 p.m. ~ Father D'Silva

Saturday Vigil, March 3
~ Father O

Sunday, February 25
7:30 a.m. ~ Father O
9:00 a.m.* ~ Father Regis
10:30 a.m. (Church) ~ Father Alec
10:30 a.m. (Gym) ~ Father Bill
12:30 p.m. ~ Father Bill
5:30 p.m. ~ Father D'Silva

Sunday, March 4
~ Father D'Silva
~ Father Bill
~ Father Regis
~ Father Bill
~ Father D'Silva
~ Father O

*American Sign Language interpreted Mass

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 or 5:30 p.m. Mass on federal holidays

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Parish Mission Statement

The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament is a welcoming Catholic community whose people encounter Christ in the Eucharist and serve Him in our neighbor.

THIS WEEKEND

The Veterans-Military Ministry Team meeting will be this Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the lower level of the parish center. Please join us as we plan our Spring transition workshops (the first one is March 3) and our team retreat on March 25. If you have questions, please contact Jocelyn Rowe at jocelyn@roweglobalgroup.com. New members are always welcome and you do not have to be a veteran or member of the military to join!

Tax Statements

If you would like your 2017 Contribution Statement, please email your request to statements@blessedsacramentdc.org. Please be sure to include your full name and address in the email so we can make sure our information is up to date. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Rick Perry at 202.449.3982.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. William Foley, Pastor • wfoley@blessedsacramentdc.org
Rev. Alec Scott, Parochial Vicar • ascott@blessedsacramentdc.org
Rev. Msgr. Maurice V. O'Connell, Senior Priest • moconnell@blessedsacramentdc.org
Rev. Percival L. D'Silva • pdsilva@blessedsacramentdc.org
Deacon Kenneth Angell • kenneth.angell@opic.gov
Deacon Leo Flynn • leo@theflynnnteam.com
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 - Friday, 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

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 contact one of our priests. Please contact one of the parish priests at least six months in advance of your marriage date.

Reconciliation • Saturday, 4 - 5 p.m. 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.

Website Postings • website@blessedsacramentdc.org

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

Dear Parish Family:

Religious people of all persuasions throughout history have found mountains to be both fascinating and fearsome. Many have believed that the mountain is a place of encounter with the divine. Who would dare venture into the clouds that frequently wrap around these sacred places? There is a 14th century book about such an encounter that is simply called *The Cloud of Unknowing*. The anonymous author contends that union with God occurs in an instant wherein there is no thought, no feeling – just a *cloud*. Later discernment might reveal that this was a genuine encounter with the Almighty. All of the *synoptic gospels* (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) tell the story of the *Transfiguration of Jesus*. Each year we hear from one of these accounts on the *Second Sunday of Lent*. What is the point? The brief enlightenment given to the three apostles was a memory that spurred them on through difficult and confusing times. We have entered into the desert of Lent to confront the wild beasts of our own sins, temptations, and challenges to faith. We, too, need *perspective*! We also need to hear the voice which said:

This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

(Mark 9:7)

You know from your Latin studies that the verb to *listen* comes from the words *ob* and *audire*, from which we get another English word – obedience. Obedience is not slavery. We do have a choice; however, it does require trust! Today we hear the *classic* story of obedience in Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. Who can imagine being asked the un-thinkable?! Not only did a son represent inheritance; but, for a people with no real concept of an after-life, a son represented any future hope! If you recall, Abraham was an elderly man when Sarah bore him Isaac! Isn't that what Jesus was discussing with the great pillars of Judaism (Moses and Elijah) – his role as the Son to be sacrificed? From our mountain perspective, how might God be asking us to participate in this mystery at this time in our lives?

"If God is for us, who can be against us?!"

Yours in the Beloved Son,

Father Bill Foley

RECENT BAPTISMS

Oliver Henry Fitzgerald

William James Collins

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

Ana Maria Arce	Patricia Friend	Patrick Adams Murphy
Amanda Brignola	Bart Hayft	Fredy H. Ortega
Evelyn Childs	Katharine M. Heck	Daniel Ortman
James Curran	Alexa Hughes	Maria Stechschlter
Ann Marie Duggan	Elizabeth Kennedy	Nelly Turner
	Marian Middendorf	

SOCIAL CONCERNS/OUTREACH

Archdiocesan Lenten Food Drive Collection March 10/11

Every Lent, Parishes across the Archdiocese of Washington collect food to help food- insecure families and individuals. Archdiocesan donation bags including instructions will be **distributed** at Masses on **March 3 & 4** and collected the following weekend, **March 10 & 11**. The Archdiocese allows each Parish to donate or to keep the food collected. Blessed Sacrament will donate our collection to the J. S. Mulholland Family Foundation which supports 5 Archdiocesan Parishes located in some of the District's most economically challenged neighborhoods: St. Francis Xavier, Holy Name, St. Luke, St. Vincent de Paul, and our Sister School and Parish, St. Thomas More. The Foundation is unique in that it not only supplies parish food pantries with canned food items, but also provides fresh meat, vegetables and dairy products. On the above collection dates, **March 10 & 11**, bags may be left at Church entrances or in labeled baskets on the altar. Questions, please contact Pat Kavanaugh in the Social Concerns Office, pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org, 202.449.3987. Please be generous with your contributions. Thank you.

Operation Rice Bowl: A Lenten Journey Opportunity

Please remember to join our faith community and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States in the *Lenten faith in action* Catholic Relief Services' "Operation Rice Bowl" program. "RICE BOWLS" are *still* available in church entrances. This program offers participants opportunities to engage daily in the spiritual pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Parishioners are invited to reflect on our brother and sisters and help us see our role in caring for the most vulnerable. A brochure is attached inside of each small *cardboard bowl* providing *instructions, suggestions, prayers, and a Lenten calendar*. For more information or to have a "Rice Bowl" mailed, please contact Patricia K. Kavanaugh in the Social Concerns Office, 202.449.3987, pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org. Information also available Catholic Relief Services, csrricebowl.org.

Regarding the Flu

Questions have been asked about liturgical practices during the flu season. Some suggestions might help. We do clean the holy water containers, but no one is required to use holy water upon entering or leaving Church. We invite people to share a "sign of peace," but that does not necessarily imply touching. A reverential bow or a wave is sufficient. Communion from the chalice is optional, but we will continue to offer that possibility. Anyone who feels ill is encouraged to avoid this option.

PARISH SURVEY- All Parishioners Urged to Participate

One of Father Bill Foley's initiatives after becoming our new pastor has been the design of a Parish Survey to assess our strengths and opportunities for growth. The Survey will provide a basis for setting long-term goals. Working in conjunction with the Pastoral Council and with the expertise of volunteer parishioner Rita Thiron, the survey will be available via both email and hard copy in early March. It is vital to hear from all members of the parish community. If you are not currently receiving emails from the parish, please send your email to the Parish Secretary/Office Manager, Joan Ward, jward@blessedsacramentdc.org, to ensure you receive the survey.

We hope to have the results of the survey sent to parishioners by this coming fall. We strongly urge all parishioners to participate in this important work.

LENTEN ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK



The Light Is On For You – This lenten season, each Catholic parish in the Archdiocese of Washington and the Diocese of Arlington will have confessions available every Wednesday evening.

If you have been reluctant to come to the sacrament, have been away for some time or just found it difficult to get to a confession time, this is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Christ and His Church. Learn more at TheLightIsON.org.

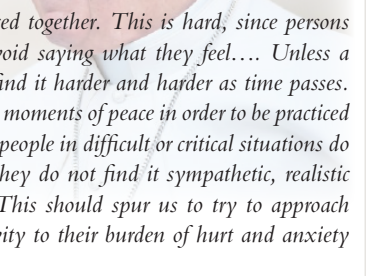
Confessions at Blessed Sacrament: The Light Is On For You Confessions will be heard every Wednesday evening during Lent from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and every Saturday, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Friday, March 2: Stations of the Cross & Pizza

Stations will be held every Friday evening after the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Pizza follows in the Parish Center.

First Friday

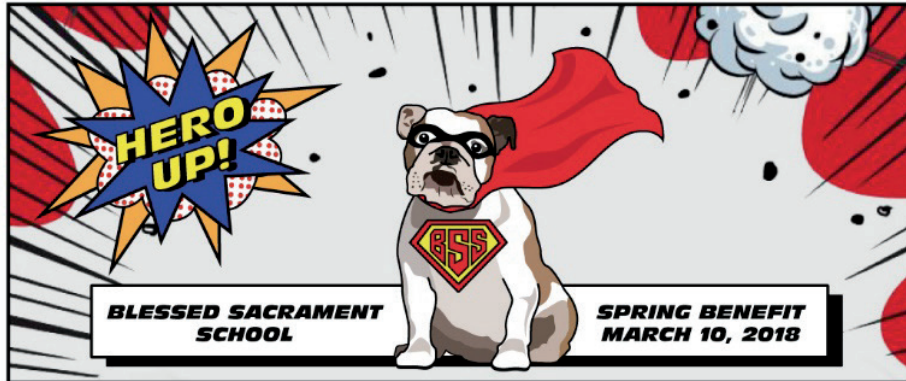
The monthly First Friday gathering of men who relate how they connect their practical business and professional experiences with their commitment to live by their tenets of faith is on **Friday, March 2** after the 6:30 a.m. Mass. Our speakers represent a diverse cross-section of organizations, professions, industries and vocations. Cortez McDaniel, Director of Men's Programs and Services at the Father McKenna Center since 2009, discusses his work with the homeless, recently incarcerated, and others seeking stability. Cortez is also a co-founder of the DC Peace Team mediating conflict resolution for youth and young adults. Please join us on March 2 for another important discussion and also discover the myriad ways our faith is tested and at work in the marketplace.

**Thought for the Week
From Pope Francis**


Crises [in marriage] need to be faced together. This is hard, since persons sometimes withdraw in order to avoid saying what they feel... Unless a couple learns to do this, they will find it harder and harder as time passes. Communication is an art learned in moments of peace in order to be practiced in moments of difficulty... [M]ost people in difficult or critical situations do not seek pastoral assistance, since they do not find it sympathetic, realistic or concerned for individual cases. This should spur us to try to approach marriage crises with greater sensitivity to their burden of hurt and anxiety (Joy of Love, 234).

DisAbilities Ministry Retreat

The DisAbilities Ministry will be holding a retreat for members, friends, families and caregivers during Lent. Please join us for reflection, prayer and community on **Saturday, March 3**, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Light refreshments will be provided. Our retreat facilitator will be Father Foley. Make the most of your Lenten Journey by joining us! For more information, contact evolzke@blessedsacramentdc.org.



HERE ARE A FEW KEY REASONS TO ATTEND THE MARCH 10TH SPRING AUCTION:

1. Just by being in the room you enthusiastically support an event that aims to raise money directly impacting your child's education.
2. The Spring Auction is a great way to connect with other BSS parents. We are stronger together and building community is an integral part of what makes BSS an awesome school.
3. This year's "Raise the Paddle" will financially benefit continued technology growth and library upgrades. Both of these items impact every person at Blessed Sacrament School.

WHAT IS THE ATTIRE FOR THE EVENT? Batman, Captain America, Wonder Woman...the possibilities are endless. Want to wear a full costume? Kapow! Throw on a Superhero t-shirt and jeans? Shazam! It's up to you. There is no set dress code for the event.

We hope to see you on Saturday, March 10th. We strongly encourage you to purchase online before February 28th. After the 28th, ticket prices will go up. You can purchase tickets online at BSS.MAESTROWEB.COM

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS

PLATINUM - PERFECT SETTINGS

GOLD - CIRCLE WINE & SPIRITS • RIDGEWELLS CATERING

SILVER - JOHN C. GRIMBERG CO. • R & R MECHANICAL

BRONZE - FRANCIS J. COLLINS FUNERAL HOME, INC. • D & S MILLWORK

• GILBANE BUILDING COMPANY

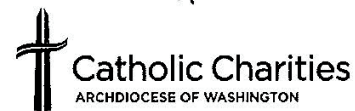
Lenten Food Drive 2018

*Answering the call to serve those in need by
sharing in faith and restoring hope one bag at a time.*

As we celebrate the season of Lent, may we continue to answer the Gospel call to serve those in need. Please help make a difference for local families by filling this bag with food.



To ensure that area pantries receive what is really needed, please fill this bag from the category paired with the first letter of your last name. Thank you for answering the call to serve those in need!



Collection Details

Bags will be distributed to all schools and parishes from March 3rd - 4th. Simply fill a bag with food and return it to your parish or school by the date below:

**Schools:
March 5th - 9th**

**Parishes:
Saturday & Sunday,
March 10th & 11th**

My Last Name Begins With

Food Items that I am asked to donate:

A-C	Dried Legumes and Grains (rice, dried beans, lentils, corn tortilla flour, etc.)
D-F	Canned Proteins (tuna, salmon, chicken, peanut butter)
G-I	Pastas and Sauces (pasta, spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese)
J-L	Soups (beef stew, chili, chicken noodle, turkey, rice)
M-N	Canned Vegetables— low sodium (mixed, green beans, corn, tomatoes)
O-Q	Whole Grain Cereal (cheerios, cornflakes, raisin bran, plain oatmeal)
R-S	Canned Fruits— in own juice or light syrup (pineapple, peaches and pears, applesauce)
T-V	Healthy Snacks (raisins, dried fruits, nuts)
W-Z	Cooking Oils (Vegetable Oil, Olive Oil, Canola Oil, Smart Balance)

Please do NOT donate perishable foods or items packed in plastic bags or glass

For the latest information, visit: www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/LentFood

BLESSED SACRAMENT FACILITIES UPDATE

Parish Projects:

Church Roof – About 20% of the tower work is complete and most of the lower level areas around the church are complete. While progressing well, the completion time will be a function of the weather. The final level of scaffolding has been installed due to the size of the cross on top and will coincide with the refurbishment of the cross. The construction areas and grounds around the fencing remain off limits to pedestrians for safety reasons. Sidewalk areas may be temporarily blocked periodically for safety reasons, but all church entrances should remain open. Also, for safety reasons, all work areas, especially inside the fencing, is off limits to everyone except contractors.

Donations for the roof are continuing to come in and we now have \$134,157 towards our \$350,000 goal for our roof project. Thank so much for your generosity! Please note that this project will be completed in two phases. The first is the major portion which includes all of the roof areas. The second is to refurbish the exterior wall areas which is the smaller portion of the project. Our goal of \$350k will allow us to complete both of these phases at the same time at a reduced cost. Again, your support for this project is greatly appreciated!

Church Chimes – Note that we will not be ringing the chimes until after the roof project is complete.

School Projects:

Outdoor Classroom – The major portion of the outdoor classroom is complete and should be substantially completed when the weather breaks.

If you have any additional questions about these projects, please contact jnavolio@blessedsacramentdc.org

ATTENTION LADIES–Blessed Sacrament’s Annual Women’s Retreat is coming up the weekend of **March 9-11**. It will be held at the Loyola Retreat House in Faulkner, MD. This special “you” get-away is just the nourishment your heart needs and a great way to enhance your Lenten Season!

The theme this year is “Come, Follow Me”. Ignatian Spirituality proposes principles and practices to help us walk the path set out by Jesus in the Gospel. **This retreat will invite us to hear Jesus’ call to us now, and to respond to it.** The weekend is open to anyone who desires to grow in their relationship with God through prayer. The retreat includes time for prayer, worship and personal reflection. A private room and meals are included.

If you are interested in joining other women in the parish for a wonderful, spiritual experience, contact Jessica Walsh at jessicawalsh@ggcfcd.org, 301.385.9713 or Rita Killian at r.killian@verizon.net, 202.363.5069. You can also get more information on the Loyola Retreat House website at www.loyolaretreat.org. Information flyers can be found in the back of the Church, in the Parish Center and in the School. Carpooling available. The retreat fee for the weekend is \$245. First time retreatants and young adults under 30 years only pay \$195. Registration Fee assistance available. Space is limited...sign up today!

VETERANS AND MILITARY SERVICE MINISTRY

Spring Workshop: Saturday, March 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

The Veterans-Military Ministry is hosting a Spring workshop on **Saturday, March 3** for veterans and active duty military: “Writing from the Heart and Soul: A Workshop for Veterans and Active Duty Military.” The workshop, led by Ministry Team member Susan Mitchell will take place from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus (5034 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, 2nd Floor). A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Questions and to RSVP -- please contact Jocelyn Rowe, jocelyn@roweglobalgroup.com or 202.641.4556.

Preached Rosary

Blessed Sacrament parishioners are invited to join the Sodality in a special Preached Rosary during Lent. The rosary begins in vocal prayer, grows in mental prayer, and blossoms in contemplation. Dominican Friars will provide a Preached Rosary upon the 5 Joyful Mysteries on **Monday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m.** in the parish chapel. Their theological reflections preceding each decade will aid our meditation and contemplation of the Gospel. A free will offering will be taken up for the Dominican Brothers and they will also offer for sale their sacred music CDs, proceeds of which support the Brothers during their years of academic formation at the Dominican House of Studies here in Washington, DC.

Ignatian Weekend Retreat – “Come, Follow Me!”

Give a weekend to God, your family and yourself. The men of Blessed Sacrament go on retreat each year at Loyola On The Potomac – A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, MD. Our Ignatian Weekend is silent and includes generous amounts of time for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deeper relationship with God. The programs and lectures are thoughtful and led by experienced priests and lay persons. It is open to anyone who desires to grow in their relationship with God through prayer and reflection. The retreat begins **Friday evening, March 2 and concludes with lunch on March 4.**

For more information, contact John Vittone at vittone.john@gmail.com or 301.580.8164. A deposit of \$115 and a registration form are required to secure your room. The retreat fee for the weekend is \$245 and includes all meals. (\$195 for first time retreatants and/or young adults up to age 30.) All rooms are single occupancy with a private bathroom. Reserve online at www.loyolaontheptomac.com.

Free Throw Contest

The Knights of Columbus Washington Council 224 will be holding a Free Throw Contest at Blessed Sacrament Gym on **Sunday March 11th, from 6:30-8 p.m.** Contestants between the ages of 10 and 14 are able to take part. Any questions may be directed to the Council Email Address at kofc224dc@gmail.com.

Poor Box Donations

Poor Box donations in **February** will benefit the Weekend Bag program of the Capital Area Food Bank. The program provides bags of groceries to children ages 5-18 who are at risk of hunger during the weekend when school breakfast and lunch programs are not available.

Stations of the Cross

Art by Patricia Friend and Poems by the late Helen Orem are on view in the Daystar Gallery, Duffy Parish Center from **February 16-April 2**. They are beautiful meditations for this Lenten season.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **Lake Liberty of Chevy Chase** for placing an ad in our weekly bulletin.