

# THE SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

FOUNDED  
1911

3630 Quesada Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20015  
202.966.6575 • Phone  
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[www.blessedsacramentdc.org](http://www.blessedsacramentdc.org)

Blessed Sacrament School  
5841 Chevy Chase Parkway, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20015  
202.966.6682  
[www.bsstoday.org](http://www.bsstoday.org)

## Mass Times ~ Presider Schedule

**Saturday, July 23**  
5:30 p.m. ~ Father Percy

**Sunday, July 24**  
7:30 a.m. ~ Father O  
9 a.m.\* ~ Father Ron  
10:30 a.m. ~ Father Percy  
12:30 p.m. ~ Father O  
5:30 p.m. ~ Father Ron

**Saturday, July 30**  
~ Father Ron

**Sunday, July 31**  
~ Father Percy  
~ Father O  
~ Father Ron  
~ Father Percy  
~ 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 4 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.

### Holy Hour

Thursday before first Friday of each month: 9 - 10 p.m.  
Exposition: Monday - Friday, 3 - 5:15 p.m., in the church

## Inside This Issue • July 24/July 31, 2011

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## Moments In Our History • 1940 – 1950

Present rectory acquired in 1941.

### Parish census conducted in 1948.

There were 5,565 parishioners (1,874 men; 2,161 women; 1,530 children).

### Parish church was the first church in the Archdiocese of Washington to have air conditioning. (1954)

### Parish library opened in 1954.

The following is an excerpt from "The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament: A History, 1911-1986" by Edmond J. LeBreton describing the history of the library.

*As early as 1948 there had been efforts to establish a library that would give parishioners access to a greater supply of spiritual and other religious material than the public libraries could provide, as well as a convenient source of worthwhile secular reading matter. The project was revived as an all-lay enterprise. A committee labored, donations were received, and on October 31, 1954 the Pius X Library opened with a book fair. The name chosen by the organizers commemorates the pope who encouraged frequent reception of the Eucharist. On the shelves at the beginning were 700 volumes, including 100 on loan from the District of Columbia library system. A parishioner who was a professional librarian, Mary Dixon, was in charge. The library, still housed behind the church, has grown to some 7,000 items and is recognized as the best in its field. When Pope John Paul II visited the United States not long after his accession, a television producer scoured the area for background material on the new pope. Directed finally to Blessed Sacrament, she reported afterward she found there the only reasonably complete collection, including the pope's own literary works.*

## 17th Sunday In Ordinary Time/18th Sunday In Ordinary Time

### Pastoral Staff

Rev. Ronald A. Potts, Pastor  
rpotts@blessedsacramentdc.org  
Rev. Msgr. Maurice V. O'Connell, Retired Priest  
moconnell@blessedsacramentdc.org  
Rev. Percival L. D'Silva, Retired Priest  
Rev. Tesfaye Fesuh, Resident Priest  
Deacon Daniel Thompson  
Deacon Mark Gallagher

#### Assistants on Weekends

Rev. Regis Armstrong, OFM Cap, Catholic University  
Rev. Michael Witczak, SLD, Catholic University

### Duffy Parish Center

**Main Office 202.966.6575**  
(Open 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. Chris Kelly, Principal of Blessed Sacrament School, **202.966.6682**  
Ms. Therese Recinella, Director of Religious Education, **202.449.3989**  
Mrs. Patricia Kavanaugh, Social Concerns Minister, **202.449.3987**  
(Office Open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., and by appointment)  
Mr. Jay Rader, Director of Liturgy and Music, **202.449.3981**  
Ms. Kathy Gillespie, Director of Athletics, **202.449.3972**  
Mr. Mark McCaffrey, Coordinator of Youth Ministry, **202.449.3978**  
Ms. Emma Voelzke, Special Needs Coordinator, **202.449.3990**

### Sacraments

**Baptism** — Baptismal preparation is required of all parents prior to the celebration of baptism. We recommend that this take place before the child is born. Contact the Religious Education Office at 202.449.3989 for more information.

**Matrimony** — Please contact one of the parish priests six months in advance. All couples who are to be married at Blessed Sacrament must complete our parish marriage preparation program.

**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.

### Parish Services & Information

**Care Of The Sick & Homebound** — If you or someone you know is hospitalized and would like a priest to visit, or if you know of anyone who is homebound who could benefit from a regular visit, please contact the parish office at 202.966.6575.

**New Parishioners** — Welcome to Blessed Sacrament! Please register for parish membership by stopping in at the Duffy Parish Center and filling out a registration form. Forms also available in the pamphlet rack inside the Quesada Street entrance to the church and on the parish Web site.

**Bulletin Announcements** — Please send all announcements to [bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org). Deadline: Mondays @ 10 a.m.

**Newsletter** — Please send articles, photos and other content to [newsletter@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:newsletter@blessedsacramentdc.org).

**Web Site Postings** — Please send requests for postings for the Blessed Sacrament Parish Web site to [website@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:website@blessedsacramentdc.org).



### Pastor's Column · July 24

In our first reading from the First Book of Kings, we find Solomon addressing God in prayer, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." Solomon did not hesitate to ask, "Give your servant . . . an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong." "To distinguish right from wrong" is a divine prerogative that no one can usurp without sin. Solomon knows this; he humbly asked to share in the divine wisdom, precisely because he is aware of his own weakness. Such consciousness pleases God, who grants his request. We see Solomon's deep faith in God, whose light can only illumine human judgment and directs human steps on the road of truth and life.

Our second reading continues St. Paul's letter to the Romans. He writes with great certitude concerning God's plan for the world that is "a design of love," the steps of which are connected and call for one another: "For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined he also called, and those he called also justified, and those he justified he also glorified." Salvation is accomplished by Christ and given to us through baptism. We are no longer slaves to sin but God's own daughters and sons washed clean and anointed with the Spirit and conformed to Christ's own image. We have died to sin and death and risen with Christ to newness of life. For this reason we share in Christ's glory even though we carry the cross and suffer its trials and tribulations in this life. This share in Christ's suffering becomes the key that opens to us eternal life and the fullness of glory with God forever in His kingdom.

In Matthew's gospel, we find three parables this Sunday: hidden treasure in a field, a pearl of great price, and the net of fish. In the first two parables, we find a hidden treasure and a pearl of great value. In both cases, the men hasten to sell all their belongings in order to purchase the field and the pearl. The lesson is clear: the kingdom of heaven is a treasure beyond price; we must renounce all we possess in order to acquire it. Jesus uses the image of the net thrown into the sea as the final parable. The net is brought to the shore filled with everything and it must be sorted. This parable is an image of those who have come to hear Him. There are fish of every kind and they will be sorted but not now. The time for judgment will come—"at the end of the age." Now is the time "to fish" and live the kingdom of God as Jesus has taught us by loving God and our neighbor. It is in this way, that we fulfill our role, our vocation, in God's plan by living a faith-filled life and witnessing to Him so when we are "caught" we will enjoy the fullness of the kingdom of heaven.

God bless all of you,

Father Ron

**Youth Corner**

**Question For The Week** — As you grow into young adulthood and begin owning things, what is most valuable to you, and how will you balance that with the value of your faith? (July 24)

How do you make sure that your life decisions correspond to your faith? (July 31) (Source: [www.harcourtreligion.com](http://www.harcourtreligion.com))

**Poor Box Donations in July** will benefit Living Wages of Washington, an organization that helps adults improve their reading, math, and writing skills, and obtain their high school diplomas. The group also provides computer training, as well as seminars on personal and career development.

**Outreach**

**Share Your Homegrown Produce** — Share your homegrown food with neighbors who have less...bring in fresh produce from your garden and place it in baskets labeled "Fresh Produce for Shepherd's Table." Shepherd's Table is a local non-profit serving the poor and marginalized. Baskets are located at the main and Quesada Street entrances to the church. Questions? Contact Pat Kavanaugh at [pkavanaugh@blessed\\_sacramentdc.org](mailto:pkavanaugh@blessed_sacramentdc.org) or at 202.449.3987.



**Volunteer With The Sanctuary Sodality** — Looking for a cool, quiet place to worship and work? Consider volunteering for summer altar duty any Thursday this summer following the 8 a.m. Mass. A director of the Altar Guild will meet you in the work sacristy (to the left of the main altar, behind the statue of St. Joseph). Duties are listed in a log book, and will include cleaning and refreshing holy water vessels and flowers, dusting altars, statues and organ/choir stall, replenishing votive candles and replacing linens. Work is normally finished in one hour. Walk-in's are welcome, or sign up at <http://signupgenius.com/go/blessed10> to see which weeks the need for help is greatest. Your generous donation of time and effort follows a 101 year-old tradition of service by Blessed Sacrament's oldest parish organization, the Sanctuary Sodality.

**Newly Baptized**

Samantha Gaviola Acoba	Harriet Elizabeth Winslow
Laws Peyton Howard	Helen Claire Winslow
Thomas Pablo Renart	Hope Elena Katz-Zogby

**Rest In Peace**

Dr. Leo Amorosi  
 Mary Catherine McInerney  
 William McManus

**Please include our sick in your prayers that they may experience healing and comfort**

Zachary Balog	Stella Kloc
Jane Collins	Christine Warner McDaniel
Joaquinita Diaz	Judy O'Hara
Mary Lou Gomez	Peter Sullivan
Judy Szot	Betsy Toland

**Pastor's Column • July 31**

In our first reading from the Prophet Isaiah, the prophet is addressing the Israelites who have been exiled by the Babylonians. The passage is rich in its imagery of food and drink flowing for all to have their fill. This passage gives them hope in their time of pain and exile by referring to the eschatological banquet, the banquet of the end-time, when God's kingdom on earth will be established with an ideal king to rule over them in the name of God. Then God will make a new covenant with His people. The invitation is simple, "Come to me heedfully; listen, that you may have life." The Lord will never abandon His people but always remain faithful to His promise and to them.

As we read today's passage from Saint Paul to the Romans, we see his inability to contain himself as he realizes the fullness of God's love and grace. He enumerates obstacles of all kinds that can confront us in our daily lives: "anguish, or distress, or persecutions . . ." but in all of these things we conquer overwhelmingly through Christ. Nothing and no one can separate us from the love of God. These words must take root in our heart because we are surrounded by so many "things" which cause us anxiety in our daily lives. The world can "play on" our fears and our anxieties and shake us to our very core. It is Paul who reminds us to remain steadfast in the gift of hope realizing that God never abandons us. We are the Lord's and we belong to Him and our hope will not be disappointed.

In today's Gospel from St. Matthew, we find the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. The crowds have followed Jesus to catch up with Him after He took a boat to a deserted place. When Jesus arrives He sees all the people waiting for Him, "His heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured all their sick." The disciples are concerned because it is late and the people are hungry and there is no where to buy food. However, Jesus tells them, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves." Five loaves of bread and two fish are found—that is all. In helping the disciples to realize their utter helplessness, Jesus wants them to turn to Him in faith. He is trying to teach them a simple lesson, "Turn to me." For, with Me, you will see the bread multiply in your hands. Jesus takes the bread and fish "looks up to heaven," "to say the blessing," and "to give"—all of these gestures have Eucharistic overtones. At Mass today, we are reminded that Jesus takes our simple gifts of bread and wine and by the power of the Holy Spirit are transformed into His Body and Blood so that we might all be fed. Just as there was an overabundance of loaves and fishes when Jesus fed the large crowd so we receive grace beyond our imagining in receiving the precious Body and Blood of Jesus.

God bless all of you,

*Father Ron*

**Visit Your Parish Library**

Make your vacation drive more pleasurable with some of the library's audio CDs as companions. A generous gift of nearly one hundred titles given by John Dluhy includes fiction, history and memoirs, many of them prize-winners when first published as books. Here's a sample of three wonderful stories which bring American history to life:

"His Excellency, George Washington," by Joseph J. Ellis (13 CDs). 'The most exalted hero' and first president was a larger-than-life figure. The author based this portrayal on Washington's personal papers, catalogued at the University of Virginia in recent years. It reveals a complex man, who, on the day he was made commander of the continental army, in his journal recorded only the temperature and where he ate dinner. Listen to the story of the French and Indian War, the American Revolution and much more about an icon of history.

"The March," by E.L. Doctorow (10 CDs). This author is known best for his books, Ragtime and Billy Bathgate. Here, he brings to life a time of war, after 1864 when General Sherman burned Atlanta. 'Countless lives were swept up in the violence of a country at war with itself'; the experience of the Confederate forces living off the land and incorporating a disparate population will amaze you with its vivid drama.

"A Mercy," by Toni Morrison (read by the author, 5 CDs). The Nobel Prize-winning author of Beloved has written a story about the international slave-trade in the U.S. during the seventeenth-century. Jacob, an Anglo-Dutch trader, takes a young slave girl, Florens, into his household. Morrison tells of Florens' relationship with Lina, an older servant, with the mistress of the household, Rebekka, who is a victim of religious intolerance in England, and with her own mother, whose terrible act reflects with irony the title of the book.

Reserve these and other CDs by calling the library at 202.449.3974; they are not yet catalogued.

**The Parish Book Sale Is Coming: Help To Make It A Success**

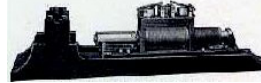
— Mark your calendar for the book sale on the weekend of **October 15-16**. Do you own books, DVDs and CDs which you no longer wish to keep? They may be of great interest to other parishioners. Please donate them for this biennial event, a major fund-raiser for the library. Fiction, travel, gardening, history, religion, children's books, cookbooks, decorating and biographies are all welcome if they are in good condition and unmarked. Note: no textbooks or magazines. Please bring your donations to the library on the second floor of the parish center. Plan to bring the family and friends to spend an hour at the sale and maybe win the raffle which will feature new books, DVDs and gourmet treats. Look forward to what is always a wonderful collection of good reading, viewing and listening.

**Bulletin Schedule  
Summer 2011**

Publication Date	Deadline
August 7	August 1
August 21	August 15

**THE ADULT CENTER**

All parishioners, 39 and holding, are invited to gather at the Chevy Chase Apartments, #1, for fellowship after the 11 a.m. weekday Mass. Weekly activities include coffee and conversation on Mondays, RENEW and the Word on Tuesdays, Art Class with Dick Swartz on Wednesdays, and Bridge for Bridge Lovers on Thursdays. **Please note that weekly activities are suspended for the remainder of the summer.** The usual full schedule of weekly activities will resume beginning the week of **September 12**. For further information, contact Rita Killian at 202.363.5069.



**Chimes Chatter** — Deagan and the 1930's decade: Deagan had already installed 350 tubular systems by the time our 16-note chimes

were ordered, including nine 16-note systems nationwide by 1935. Our chimes arrived by rail in wood crates in October of 1935. In Pastor Smyth's notes of his first Sunday Bulletin publication in November 1935, he wrote: "Chimes arrive for [Blessed Sacrament's] 10th anniversary – several huge crates have replaced Father Smyth's car in the garage back of the rectory. There are long crates and short ones, thin crates and fat ones. All bear important markings: 'Chimes – from J.C. Deagan, Inc., Chicago.' And thus an idea begins to take form in reality." At the Chicago production plant, Deagan employees routinely assembled every large system in its own timber rack in Deagan's parking lot – actually wired each system completely, tested and tuned it and subsequently disassembled it and, once packaged in crates, were transported by rail. After arrival at a site, pieces were lifted into the bell tower by cranes and ropes and pulleys, re-assembled, re-wired and tested.

**Who Knew?:** A gala dedication of the chimes occurred on Sunday, November 3, 1935, Blessed Sacrament's 10th anniversary, and a chimes concert followed. To be continued... (Chimes Committee next meets on Saturday, **August 6**, at 8 a.m. For more info, call 202.244.4833)

**Prayer For The Canonization Of Mary Virginia Merrick** — Ms. Merrick, the Founder of the National Christ Child Society and a former parishioner of the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, has been officially initiated by the Archdiocese of Washington. While church elders undertake the required documentation, parishioners are asked to make their own contribution by saying the following prayer:

*Lord God, in your special love for children, you chose to raise up Mary Virginia Merrick to be the servant of the poor children. In laboring to serve the young and those without hope because of the crushing weight of poverty, she proclaimed the love of your Son. She made her life's work a demonstration that "nothing is ever too much to do for a child."*

*Grant that her example of selfless charity and courageous virtue in the face of her own suffering will inspire us to be as generous in the service of others. We humbly ask that your servant Mary Virginia Merrick be numbered among the Church's canonized saints for the edification of your holy people, in accord with your most holy will. Through her intercession, please hear and answer my request (state intention).*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Save  
the  
Dates!**

**Be a part  
of the  
Centennial  
Celebration!**



## Friday, October 7 100th BIRTHDAY Party

7:00 PM COCKTAILS & 8:00 PM DINNER

Dinner, drinks and dancing under the big tent on school/ church grounds. \$125. per person. (After 7/31, ticket \$150.)

## Saturday, October 8 School REUNION Party

6:30 PM TO MIDNIGHT

Under the big tent on the blacktop and in your old classrooms. Beer, wine, heavy hors d'oeuvres and getting re-acquainted. \$65. per person. (After 7/31, ticket \$90.)

FOR DISCOUNTED  
TICKETS

**Deadline 7/31**

DEADLINE HAS  
BEEN EXTENDED  
FROM JUNE 30

### ORDER TICKETS ONLINE

At [www.blessedsacrament-dc.org](http://www.blessedsacrament-dc.org). Click on: CENTENNIAL. Click on Register: RSVP and follow the steps  
**Visit BS DC Fan page**  
<http://www.facebook.com/BlessedSacramentDC>

### ORDER TICKETS BY MAIL

Mail your check (payable to Blessed Sacrament Centennial) with number of tickets, name, address, phone number where you can be reached and e-mail address to: 3630 Quesada St NW, Wash D.C. 20015-2538

### TICKETS PRICES (BY 7/31)

**Birthday Party \$125**  
**Birthday Table \$1200**  
(SEATS 10 PEOPLE)  
**School Reunion \$65**  
**Combo/both events \$165**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Tom Howe 202-449-3977, [howe@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:howe@blessedsacramentdc.org)  
Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 3630 Quesada Street NW, Washington D.C. 20015-2538

## Faith Formation

**Young Adult Event: Afternoon With The Nats!** — Join the Young Adult Group on **August 21** to see the Nationals vs. the Phillies! Meet at Blessed Sacrament for the 10:30 a.m. Mass and then head to the ballpark for the first pitch at 1:35 p.m. Seating is limited; please contact Lindsay Landvogt at [landvogt01@yahoo.com](mailto:landvogt01@yahoo.com) for more information and/or to RSVP for the game. Find the Young Adult Group on Facebook...search for Blessed Sacrament School Alumni & Friends.

**RCIA** — Are you interested in the Catholic Faith? Blessed Sacrament will soon begin a new journey of faith to share the richness of the Catholic Church and our parish family. We invite you to learn what the Church teaches, and be introduced to some of our parish members. These sessions are also opportunities for you, and others that you may wish to invite, to ask those perplexing and difficult questions you may have about the Church. These gatherings are for inquirers and are open to people who are unbaptized, as well as those who are baptized Christians from Protestant or Evangelical backgrounds. Contact Therese at 202.449.3989.

**Godparents/Sponsors For RCIA** — Our RCIA community will soon need a few individuals to serve as godparents and sponsors for those discerning to become Catholic. The Lord continues to bless our parish with a wonderful group of inquirers. Are you being called to walk with them on their journey of faith? If you are interested, please contact Therese at 202.449.3989.

**Looking For A Religious Education Session Coordinator** — Position Summary: The Religious Education Session Coordinator is responsible for the basic operation and overall maintenance of the Religious Education Program while classes are in session. The goal is to create a welcoming atmosphere for parents and students, as well as an environment of support for the catechists. This person should be able to handle a multi-faceted, fast-paced environment and work well with people. Excellent organizational skills are a must. This is a paid part-time position during the period September-May. The total time commitment would be 3-4 hours per week; some meeting times are scheduled at the discretion of the Director of Religious Education. If interested, contact Therese at 202.449.3989 or [trecinella@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:trecinella@blessedsacramentdc.org).

Faith Formation *continued...*

School Of Religion

**Wanted: Catechists & Teacher Aides for Religious Education in 2011-12** — Share your belief in God and the joy of knowing Jesus by becoming a catechist or teacher aide!

**Sunday Session, 8:45 - 10 a.m.**

- 1st grade: 2 Catechists, 2 Aides
- 2nd grade: 2 Aides
- 3rd grade: 2 Catechists, 1 Aide
- 4th grade: 2 Aides
- 5th grade: 1 Catechist, 1 Aide
- 6th grade: 2 Catechists, 1 Aide
- 7th grade: 1 Catechist, 1 Aide
- 8th grade: 1 Catechist, 1 Aide

**Tuesday Session, 4:10 - 5:25 p.m.**

- 2nd grade: 1 Catechist, 1 Aide
- 4th grade: 1 Catechist
- 5th grade: 1 Catechist, 1 Aide
- 6th grade: 1 Catechist, 1 Aide
- 7th grade: 1 Catechist
- 8th grade: 1 Catechist, 2 Aides

Substitutes are also needed for both Sunday and Tuesday sessions. Contact Therese at 202.449.3989 or [trechinella@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:trechinella@blessedsacramentdc.org).

**Did You Know??**

That we are currently looking for volunteer catechist to work this fall with children who have special needs? Classroom aides may be responsible high school students who accompany the participant to regular CCD classes and help when needed. Community service hours will be provided. Also needed are adults who are willing to work with students one to one who need additional direction and attention outside the structured classroom environment. Support, training, and curriculum materials will be provided. Contact [trechinella@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:trechinella@blessedsacramentdc.org) for more information. For more information about how Blessed Sacrament is becoming a more inclusive community, contact Emma Voelzke, Special Needs Program Coordinator, at 202.449.3990 or at [evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org).

**Resource For Mass Times When Traveling** — Since many of our parishioners may be traveling during the summer, and while away from home would like to attend Mass, the following Web site may be helpful: [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org). For those without Internet access, call 734.794.2100, which is a computer-generated voice system, and enter the zip code of the desired U.S. church location.

**Sponsor Of The Week**

We would like to thank **Brenda Lizzio** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

**Top Ten Reasons To Be A Catechist Or Teacher Aide**

10. Grow in your faith. When you teach, you will deepen your relationship with the Lord and better learn the teachings of the Church.
9. If not you, then who? Our children need you! Were it not for the generosity of so many dedicated volunteers that come forward each year, our program would literally cease to exist.
8. Serve as a good role model. Our young people need good adult role models, in addition to their parents and family members.
7. You can make a difference. As a catechist, you have a unique opportunity to touch the lives of your students for all eternity. Even if you bring only one student to Christ, it will have all been worthwhile.
6. We'll train you! All catechists and teacher aides participate in an orientation training session and will have opportunities for ongoing growth and support throughout the year.
5. Meet new people. As a catechist, you are part of a vibrant faith community here at Blessed Sacrament. You'll meet people who are equally passionate about living their faith and passing it on to the next generation.
4. Improve your health. Studies have shown that volunteering can boost a sense of well-being, improve the body's immune system, and act as an antidote to stress, chronic pain, and even insomnia. Giving to others contributes a healthier psychological and physical life.
3. You have gifts to share. Each catechist's uniqueness is a special gift to the young people they serve. God has not short changed you! Realize that you have something unique and special to offer these young people.
2. Put your faith into action. Christianity is not a spectator sport. Our faith takes on new life and meaning when we share it with other people.
1. Because of the Great Commission. Jesus tell us: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you." Matthew 28:19-20