

SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

FOUNDED
1911

3630 Quesada Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20015
202.966.6575 • Phone
202.966.9255 • Fax
www.blessedsacramentdc.org

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

Mass Times ~ Presider Schedule

Saturday, February 4

5:30 p.m. ~ Father D'Silva

Sunday, February 5

7:30 a.m. ~ Father D'Silva

9 a.m.* ~ Father Armstrong

10:30 a.m. ~ Father Armstrong (Church)**

10:30 a.m. ~ Father O (Gym)**

12:30 p.m. ~ Father Ron

5:30 p.m. ~ Father Ron

Saturday, February 11

~ Father Ron

Sunday, February 12

~ Father Ron

~ Father Witzcak

~ Father D'Silva

~ Father Ron

~ Father O

~ Father O

*American Sign Language interpreted Mass

**Nursery services, kindergarten room under the school gym

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.

Adoration Of The Blessed Sacrament

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

Thursday before first Friday of each month: 6 - 10 p.m., with Holy Hour 9 - 10 p.m.

Inside This Issue • February 5, 2012

Youth Group Meeting Rescheduled • 3

Sanctuary Sodality February Activities • 4

Catholicism Video Series • 5

Communication Workshop For Couples • 6

This Weekend

Outreach Weekend — This is our monthly collection of food items and monetary donations for our Soup Kitchen Ministry.

Cardinal's Appeal 2012 — In-pew pledge cards.

Coffee & Doughnuts — Sunday, following the 9 and 10:30 a.m. Masses in the school auditorium.

Scout Sunday — Will be celebrated at the 10:30 a.m. gym Mass. Scout leaders will be available in the auditorium after Mass to meet families who may be interested in joining Scouting.

This Week

Play Reading — Tuesday, 7 p.m., parish library. Join the parish thespians and revisit "A Streetcar Named Desire." Discussion and refreshments after the reading. Call John Dluhy for more information, 202.841.6925.

Afghans For Infants — Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., parish library. Join a group of knitters and crocheters and create warm and cozy hand-made baby blankets. Blankets will be distributed to newborns in need by the Christ Child Society, founded by former parishioner Virginia Mary Merrick. Group also meets Wednesdays, **February 15, 22 & 29.**

First Eucharist Parent Meeting — Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., school auditorium.

Faith On Tap — Thursday, 7 to 8:30 p.m., school auditorium. Dr. Susan Timoney, Assistant Secretary of Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns for the Archdiocese of Washington, to speak on the topic: "God is more than a Facebook Friend." See announcement on page 3 for more details.

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
pdsilva@blessedsacramentdc.org
Deacon Daniel Thompson

Assistants on Weekends

Rev. Regis Armstrong, OFM Cap, Catholic University
Rev. Michael Witzczak, 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. Deadline: Mondays @ 10 a.m.

Newsletter Content — Please send articles, photos and other content to newsletter@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Web Site Postings — Please send requests for postings for the Blessed Sacrament Parish Web site to website@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Pastor's Column

In our first reading from the Book of Job, we find him pouring out his soul in the midst of his suffering. He has suffered greatly with the loss of his family and his material possessions. His anguish and pessimism may seem exaggerated to us but we must let his lamentations resound within in our own heart. His crying out to God is not a revolt but a complaint of a person poised between despair and hope—the same cry we hear so often from those who are in pain and suffering around us. At the time this book was written, the concept of an afterlife was not well defined. In fact, one's suffering was the result of sins committed or the person was unjustly abandoned by God. Job will not speak out against the Lord but places his trust and hope in Him and he will not be disappointed. When we are faced with suffering—our own, and, even more, that of others—we must remain silent and raise our eyes to Christ. He, the Innocent One, who knows suffering, having assumed freely but painfully the suffering of all humanity, forgave His tormentors. It is He whom we bless, and not the suffering that He has taken upon Himself.

In St. Paul's first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians, he speaks of "freedom." He affirms that Christians live under a regime of freedom, but of responsible freedom. We are not authorized to do as we please: freedom is not a license. In a word, true freedom always focuses on the good—charity as taught by Christ. This freedom that he has embraced allows him to be disinterested in material things and free to preach the gospel by word and action. All Christians, married, single, clergy and those in consecrated life are called to live their lives with a transparency rooted in Christ by freely living out the grace that He offers to fulfill our vocations. Each one of us is called as Paul reminds us to follow our path with generosity, humility, without boasting of our choice, and without pretending to be better than others. Others will see Christ shining through us—"All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a good share in it."

Our passage from Mark's gospel picks up where last week's left off—after leaving the synagogue where Jesus healed the man with the unclean spirit He goes to Simon's house. On arriving at the house, Jesus is told that Simon's mother-in-law has a fever. Jesus approaches her and "helped her up" and she is healed. Mark uses the verb "to raise" to describe her healing and immediately "she waited on them." We see the power of Jesus as He heals her—it is instantaneous and complete. The word of the healing spreads quickly and many sick and those who are possessed are brought to Him for healing. On this first day of Jesus' public ministry, He expels the evil spirit who knows His true identity and heals Simon's mother-in-law. The word of these healings spreads quickly throughout the town and many sick and those who are possessed by unclean spirits are brought to Him for healing. These healings are signs of the mission entrusted to Jesus by the Father as our Savior. This mission will be fully realized by Jesus through the Paschal Mystery of His passion, death, and resurrection. It is through Jesus that all of us "are raised" as Simon's mother-in-law was—not from a fever but to new and everlasting life.

May God bless all of you.

Father Ron

Youth Corner

Question For The Week — Jesus knew that his mission was for everyone, not just one village or group of people. How can you reach out to others (outside of friends and family) and offer them hope and Good News?

(Source: www.osvcurriculum.com/lifelong_catechesis)



Sunday, February 12 (Rescheduled From February 5): Informational meeting for New Orleans community service trip, 6:45 to 8 p.m., parish center, main level meeting room (parking lot side). Both students and parents are welcome; pizza will be served. If you plan on attending, register at <http://www.blessedsacramentdc.org/event/2012-02-05-meeting-for-new-orleans-community-service-trip/>. Questions? Contact Mark McCaffrey at mmccaffrey@blessedsacramentdc.org or 202.449.3978.

Poor Box Donations in February will benefit Saint Joseph's House, a daycare and respite home serving school-aged children with multiple and severe disabilities. It offers care before and after school, on respite weekends, during family emergencies, and when schools are closed for vacations, holidays, or weather-related reasons.

Faith On Tap Is Back! — We are starting a new series, with the first event this Thursday, **February 9**, 7 to 8:30 p.m., school auditorium. Dr. Susan Timoney, Assistant Secretary of Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns for the Archdiocese of Washington, will discuss how to go from knowing about God to having a relationship with God. Join us for a beverage and light hors d'oeuvres to go along with this thought-provoking talk. Childcare is available. Let us know if you are coming so we can plan for childcare: Mary Shimp at mshimp@alumni.cmu.edu or 703.201.9803.

Newsletter Articles — Articles and photos for the February/March edition of the parish newsletter must be submitted by next Sunday, **February 12**, to: newsletter@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Meet The Author — Next Sunday, **February 12**, 11:30 a.m. in the parish library. Chris Matthews, host of "Hardball" on MSNBC, will sign his latest book, "Jack Kennedy, Elusive Hero," and speak about why and how he wrote this most recent addition to the immense Kennedy saga. The book will be on sale in the library at a discounted price.

Bread, Book & Brethren Bible Study — Parishioners are invited to study the Epistles of St. John beginning next Wednesday, **February 15**. The bible study group meets every Wednesday in the parish center after the 8 a.m. Mass for refreshments, lecture and small group study. For more information, contact Nan Levine (202.244.7691) or email eogreenburg@gmail.com.

Disabilities Ministry Meeting — The next meeting of the Disabilities Ministry is Tuesday, **February 21**, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the parish library. All are welcome!



Save The Date — What are your plans for St. Paddy's Day, Saturday, **March 17**? Please consider coming to Irish Night 2012. Count on plenty food, drink, music and friends...all at the Blessed Sacrament Gym. Proceeds will benefit activities organized by the Disabilities Ministry. More information available soon. Questions? Contact nick_jacobs@verizon.net.

Faith Formation

School Of Religion

Catechists For School Of Religion — From the National Directory for Catechesis: "The apostolic work of the catechist springs from the Sacrament of Baptism through which all believers come to share in the prophetic ministry of Christ and the evangelizing mission of the Church. It is strengthened in the Sacrament of Confirmation. The call to the ministry of catechist is a vocation, an interior call, the voice of the Holy Spirit." Share your belief in God and the joy of knowing Jesus by becoming a catechist. We are inviting all those who are interested in this ministry to visit our School of Religion program and learn more about it. The first step is to contact Therese at 202.449.3989.

Baptism Preparation — Would you like to share with new parents what you have learned about raising your children Catholic? We are recruiting couples to facilitate our parent-led Baptism Preparation Class. If you are interested in learning more about this important ministry to families, contact Therese at 202.449.3989.

First Eucharist Parent Meeting — Wednesday, **February 8**, at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. For more information, contact Rosalie Days at rdays@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Lenten Highlights — Lenten Highlights for the Lenten Highlights flyer and bulletin need to be sent to Therese by Wednesday, **February 8**. Please send to trecinella@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Catechist Appreciation Mass & Brunch — Next Sunday, **February 12**, beginning with the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the church; gather for brunch in the parish center, main level, after the Mass.

Did You Know??

That members of the Disabilities Ministry will be conducting a series of short interviews with parishioners who are touched by a disability to ascertain how well they are being supported and served by the Blessed Sacrament Community. If you, or someone you know, would like to share your experiences with an interviewer please contact evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org. We look forward gaining to this valuable insight! For more information about how Blessed Sacrament is becoming a more inclusive community, contact Emma Voelzke at 202.449.3990 or evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Newly Baptized

Caroline Keeley Doyle
Alessandra Rose Pagnani
Charley Virginia Thiede

Rest In Peace

William Middendorf

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

Sara Baron	Elizabeth Long
George Cahill	Helen Potts
Jean Chambers	Peter Ross
George Fleming	Judy Szot
Peter Kiss	Jimi Yui

Visit Your Parish Library

What are the magazines saying?

“A Modus Vivendi? Sex, Marriage and the Church,” “Commonweal,” January 13, 12-19. Census figures in 2009 showed that only 52 percent of adult Americans were married compared to 80 percent during the 60s. The historian Eamon Duffy pointed out that “the tragically large and growing number of Catholics in irregular unions is both an indicator of the way in which the values of society shape the lives and perceptions of Christians and also, in pastoral terms, a ticking time bomb...” (“Unfinished Journey: the Church 40 Years After Vatican II”). This article brings together eight well-known Catholic writers and teachers who reflect on what can be done to reverse the current situation.

“A Rock Critic Talks Faith,” “St. Anthony Messenger,” January 2012, 16-19. Rob Sheffield, rock critic for Rolling Stone, has always intertwined faith and music. His two books, “Love is a Mixed Tape” and “Talking to Girls about Duran Duran” are filled with his personal beliefs and love for contemporary music. In this interview he talks about how both have shaped his life from his childhood in Boston to his current work.

“A Platform for Christian Politicians” by Edward Pantin, “Catholic World Report,” December 2011, 42-43. The Dignitatis Humanae Institute was founded two years ago by a group of European politicians as a vehicle through which parliamentarians can “better present coherent, moderate, and mainstream responses to the growing opposition to Christian values in modern life.” It goes beyond the principles expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948: its emphasis is firmly on the defense of the right to life.

Read these articles in the library or call for a copy, 202.449.3974.



Sanctuary Sodality February Activities

Diaper Drive — Holy Rosary Sodality is hosting a diaper drive **now through February 29** to help families in need in the Washington metro area. Please help Holy Rosary Sodality with this drive by bringing new disposable baby diapers to its drop boxes at the church and school during the month of February. Any size is accepted, but sizes 4, 5 and 6 are sizes that are needed the most.

Special Olympics Basketball Exhibition Game — Star of the Sea Sodality will co-host with Special Olympics Montgomery County and Blessed Sacrament’s Disabilities Ministry for the 8th Annual Special Olympics Basketball Exhibition Game. Join the fun and cheer on the players on Saturday, **February 25**, 10 a.m., school gym. We will have a DJ and a special performance by SOMO Joy Cheerleaders.

Searching For A Yoga Instructor — The Adult Center would like to offer Yoga classes and is looking for an instructor. If you know of anyone who might be able to teach Yoga to Seniors, please contact Mary Otero at 301.986.0488.

Sponsor Of The Week

We would like to thank **Therapeutic In-House Massage** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

THE ADULT CENTER

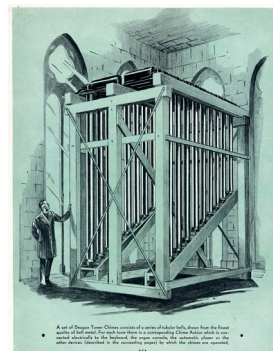
Because of the uncertainties of weather and potential safety risks, the Adult Center will be closed during the **month of February**. Activities will resume on Monday, March 5. Be warm and safe!

Attention Ladies — What a better way to start the new year than to plan something just for you! Blessed Sacrament’s Women’s Retreat is coming up the weekend of **March 16-18** at Loyola Retreat House, Faulkner, MD. This special “you” get away is just the nourishment your heart needs and a great way to enhance your Lenten Season! Interested in joining other women in the parish for a wonderful, spiritual experience? Contact Jessica Walsh at jessica@cosmocontracting.com, Marcella Townsend at marct@infostrat.com or Rita Killian at r.killian@verizon.net.

Bread, Book & Brethren Day Of Recollection — The Bread, Book and Brethren Bible Study Group invites all parishioners to join them in their Annual Day of Recollection on **March 28** at the Washington Retreat House. This is a silent retreat as members of the group embark on a spiritual journey with Redemptorist Father James Wallace. On the faculty of the Washington Theological Union, Father Wallace received the Georgetown University’s Center for Liturgy Award in 2009. The day begins at 8:45 a.m. and concludes with a Mass at 2:30. Registration fee is \$30.00, which includes continental breakfast and lunch. For more information and to register, email eniko.basa@verizon.net.

Chimes Chatter

Ever notice that with no leaves on trees, you likely hear our chimes surprisingly from a mile away or more? Well that distance phenom was a concern to Pierre du Pont at the Longwood estate. Taken from a 1920s Deagan brochure footnote: “The far-famed [Longwood Gardens] estate of Pierre du Pont has, like so many other estates, been endowed with a voice.

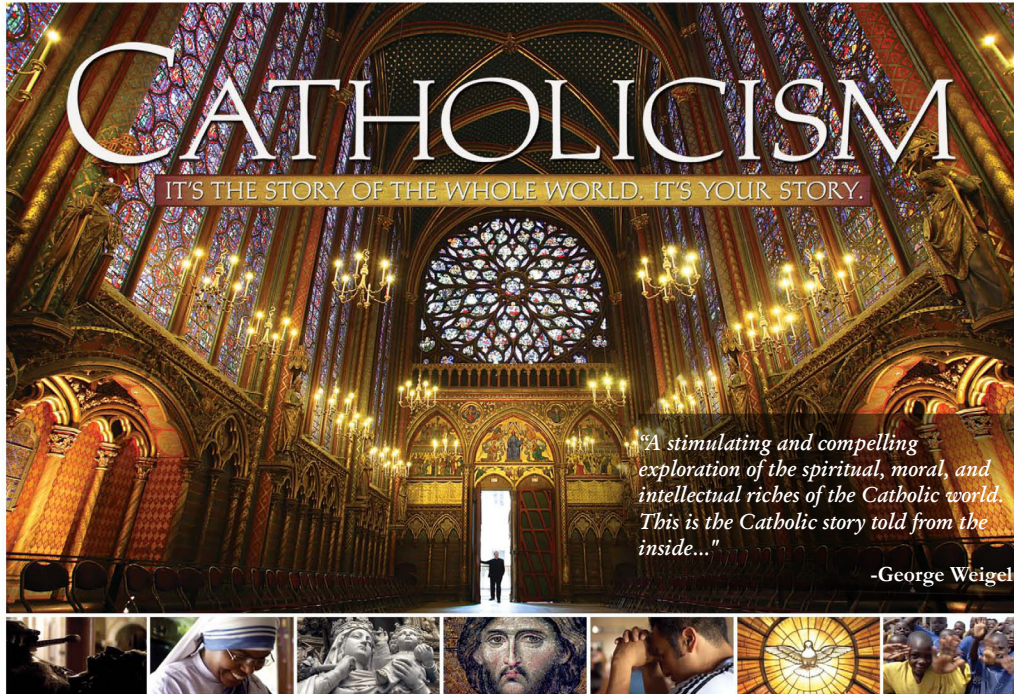


Automatically played Deagan Tower Chimes give expression to the lovely picture of which they are a part.” Pierre du Pont built Longwood’s circular stone Chimes Tower in 1930 and first tested one Deagan tubular chime machine to verify its audibility from the estate house. Convinced of their quality, du Pont installed 25 chimes, the first carillon of Deagan chimes in the country. Moreover, du Pont could operate the chimes from a switch installed in his residence a distance away. Ten years later, with new electronic “imitation” bells, Deagan asked du Pont to replace the “old” chimes, but du Pont insisted that no change would be made to his chimes. It was not until a year after du Pont’s death (1955) that the Deagan Company again approached Longwood stating that their chimes are outmoded and obsolete, and that since 1930, so many electronic changes have occurred that what you have cannot compare to what Deagan had to offer. To be continued....

Call to volunteer or share your story at 202.244.4833.

Outreach

Christmas Tree Committee Funding Proposals — The Christmas Tree Committee is accepting funding proposals from parish and community agencies working with youth and seniors. Copies of funding guidelines are located in the parish office in the Duffy Parish Center and at the entrances to the parish center and church. Please send funding requests to Pat Kavanaugh, Christmas Tree Committee, 3630 Quesada Street, NW, Washington, DC 20015. All proposals must be sponsored by a Blessed Sacrament parishioner. Deadline to submit proposals is Monday, **March 5, 2012**. Please direct any questions to 202.449.3987.



WITNESS THE CATHOLIC FAITH
AS YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE.



Come See Father Robert Barron's Groundbreaking Video Series

- Feb. 19 Amazed and Afraid: The Revelation of God Become Man
- Feb. 26 Happy Are We: The Teachings of Jesus
- Mar. 4 The Ineffable Mystery of God: That Than Which Nothing Greater Can Be Thought
- Mar. 11 Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast: Mary, Mother of God
- Mar. 18 The Indispensable Men: Peter, Paul, and the Missionary Adventure

SEE IT. OWN IT. SHARE IT.

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL • AUDITORIUM • 5841 CHEVY CHASE PARKWAY, DC
8:30 - 10:20 AM REFRESHMENTS SCREENING DISCUSSION WWW.BLESSEDSACRAMENTDC.ORG



The Heat Is On At Blessed Sacrament School!

The BSS Auction Benefit is fast approaching, but there are still opportunities to participate. Please act now!

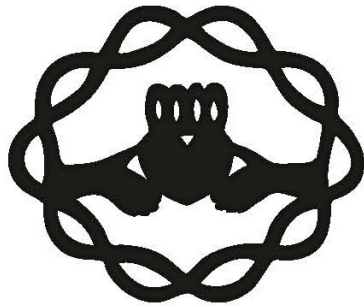
Visit <http://bss.maestroweb.com> to learn more.

From The Archdiocese

Reminder About The Cardinal's Appeal 2012 — The Cardinal's Appeal campaign is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift, payable over ten months. A significant gift to the Cardinal's Appeal will touch the lives of many others in a very positive way. Your gifts to our parish, to the archdiocese and to the work of the Church throughout the world should be given in gratitude for the continuing gifts that God gives you. Sometimes it is difficult to envision how one pledge can help an organization the size of our archdiocese, how it can

make a real difference. But each pledge does make a difference because all parishes participate in the campaign, and the gifts of many enable our archdiocese to deliver needed ministries and services.

If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete it and mail it back. For those of you that did not receive a mailing or have not had time to respond to it, we are conducting our in-pew pledge process at all Masses this weekend and next weekend.



This Lent, How About Enriching Your Sacrament of Matrimony?

During Lent, many of us sacrifice by giving up something. This year, how about giving *TO* something—your relationship?

For the third year, Blessed Sacrament is giving married and engaged couples an opportunity to learn a specific and practical method to improve their communication skills. Participants will learn to:

- Understand each other better
- Make decisions as a couple
- Help resolve differences and solve problems together

Who Should Attend?

Past sessions drew a range of couples, from engaged couples to those with small children and those who had been married for nearly 50 years. All reported feeling closer to their spouse and better able to communicate with each other. Again, this year's session is open to all married and engaged couples interested in strengthening their relationship. This is not for couples who are experiencing serious difficulties in their marriage.

When Do We Meet?

The workshop will be held on four consecutive Tuesdays on the lower level of the Duffy Parish Center: March 6, 13, 20, and 27 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Please note that each session builds on earlier sessions, so plan to attend all four sessions.

The workshop will be led by parishioners Ann and Jim Hoffman, who have been involved in couple ministry for over 30 years. Couples will receive general instruction and will then be paired with a trained facilitator in order to practice the skills taught.

How Do We Register?

We can only accommodate as many couples as we have facilitators so registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. To register by **February 27**: Please send a \$35 check payable to "Blessed Sacrament" to Ann & Jim Hoffman, 6421 31st Place, NW, Washington, DC 20015 along with the registration form below (*to be detached*).

Questions? Contact Ann and Jim Hoffman at 202.362.4510, 202.486.8291, or hoffmanja2@msn.com.

.....

Wife

Husband

Name: _____

Cell #: _____

E-Mail: _____

Home address: _____

Home phone: _____