

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, January 14

5:30 p.m. ~ Father Ron

Sunday, January 15

7:30 a.m. ~ Father O

9 a.m.* ~ Father Witczak

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

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

12:30 p.m. ~ Father Ron

5:30 p.m. ~ Father Ron

*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.

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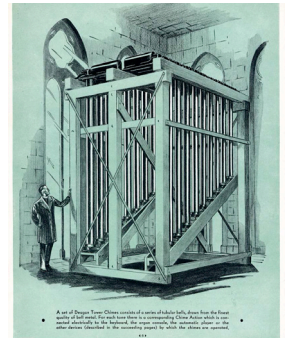
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Chimes Chatter

More On Timing & Our

Chimes: Ever notice when during Mass at the consecration of bread and wine, the chimes may also peal? And those many times the chimes are pealing the hour or quarter-hour phrase of "Holy God We Praise Thy Name" when exiting church after Sunday Mass? Or on the occasions when the 5:30 p.m. weekday Mass is concluding at that very point when the 6 p.m.



hour peals and the third Angelus of the day in turn strikes? The beautiful Angelus peal fills the peaceful, prayerful silence of the church's immense interior just prior to the priest's final blessing and dismissal; again, a spiritual reminder of the power of "the call to prayer." During His Eminence, Donald Cardinal Wuerl's visit last year, he commented on the beautiful sounding chimes as he entered church. And it so coincidentally happened that just as he was exiting the Mass, the chimes pealed, and he again remarked that the chimes were on time again. Incidentally, some teachers use the chimes to end playground recess time. Wonderful stories, thank you, and please keep the stories coming! It is truly a blessing how our "ap-pealing" chimes have "timely" woven themselves into our lives in our parish community! Call to volunteer or share more stories at 202.244.4833.

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
Rev. Tesfaye Fesuh, Resident Priest
Deacon Daniel Thompson
Deacon Mark Gallagher

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

Today we return to the Ordinary Cycle of the Liturgical Year. In our reading from the first Book of the Prophet Samuel, we find Samuel asleep in the Temple when the Lord calls out to him. As we listen to this story, we always find the initiative of God, who reveals Himself and calls the one He has selected. This happened to Moses, Samson, Jeremiah, the Virgin Mary, Paul, and many others throughout salvation history. However the call is manifested, the call is mysterious as it is perceived in the depths of the heart of the individual. It does not necessarily assert itself as immediately evident either to the ones called or to those they consult. Eli acts wisely by listening to Samuel and only after the third time instructing him to reply, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." The lesson is a permanent one in two ways. All who are called to discern a vocation must first of all react so as not to interfere with the possibility of the divine initiative, but without shirking their responsibility because of a conflict of interest. Without playing God, without unduly trusting their own judgment, they must advise those who seek their guidance to remain totally and peacefully open. If the call truly comes from God, it will be confirmed and clarified. Haste would smack of presumption and would be gravely imprudent. Trustful openness becomes the proper attitude as one responds to the call. Samuel's experience teaches us the importance of silence in our lives so we can listen to God. To listen, no activity is more important for us than to open ourselves to God's call as the mystery of lives unfolds as we accomplish the purpose we have been created to fulfill in this world.

In St. Paul's first Letter to the Corinthians, he states and affirms this most important point: the eminent dignity of the human body, its vocation, and its destiny, as seen by the light of faith. Paul's letter is admirable because he uses this teaching to face the moral disorder and scandal facing the church community in Corinth as it confronts sexual immorality. Paul uses this opportunity to express the church's teaching on the sacredness of the gift of sexuality. He reminds us that we express ourselves through our bodies and it involves the entire person. We cannot say that we do not sin with our bodies. This is equal to disregarding or mocking the dignity of the body. He reminds us that our bodies do not belong to us: "The body . . . is . . . for the Lord, and the Lord for the body." We are not robbed of our bodies, but from now on they are in league with the Lord Jesus. Like Jesus, through God's power, we shall rise and, with our bodies, we shall live forever. Paul goes on to explain that our bodies are "temples" of the Holy Spirit. As a consequence, impurity becomes a desecration of the dwelling dedicated to God, for whom the Lord bought it "at a price." Through our bodies, we as Christians are called to offer God worship, praise, thanksgiving, and glory.

As we listen to our passage from John's gospel, John the Baptist points to Jesus as He walks by and then two of John the Baptist's disciples follow Jesus immediately. Jesus calls them and He arouses a desire in their hearts. The two disciples must reply in total freedom and by a concrete action and be ready to accompany Jesus wherever He will go. We see in this calling of the apostles our own relationship with the Lord Jesus. The Lord seeks a commitment from us to follow Him in order to be near Him and to live our lives in union with Him. Faith is not a treasure to be guarded jealously but shared with others as we help each other on our journey through this world to our eternal home.

Youth Corner

Question For The Week — Andrew seemed to know immediately that he should follow Jesus. Do you have that same sense of confidence in your faith in Jesus? What helps? What makes it hard? (Source: www.osvcurriculum.com/lifelong_catechesis)

Sports Classes For Blessed Sacrament Parish Youngsters

Basketball Skills Class — Grades Pre-K to Second Grade: Mondays, **January 23 to April 2**, 3:15 to 4:15 p.m., school auditorium.

Lacrosse Skills Class — Grades Pre-K to Second Grade: Tuesdays, **January 17 to April 3**, 3:15 to 4:15 p.m., school auditorium.

Yoga Class — Grades Pre-K to Second Grade: Tuesdays, **January 17 to April 3**, 3:15 to 4:15 p.m., Duffy Parish Center.

For more information and to register your child, visit <http://xcelfitness.net/winter-2012-offerings/>. Questions? 202.577.4089 or Jeremy@xcelfitness.net.

Poor Box Donations in January will benefit the Tenants Empowerment Network, a transitional housing program for homeless families. The program, which is part of Catholic Charities, also provides case management services, addictions counseling, guidance in securing employment, and child care assistance. Families may remain in the TEN program for up to two years.

Year-End Statements — The annual contribution statements for tax purposes will be available for mailing at the end of January, 2012. Statements will be provided only upon request. To request a statement, contact Grace at gpereira@blessedsacramentdc.org or 202.449.3979.

New Exhibit To Open In The Daystar Gallery — The drawings and paintings of Luis Peralta, "Love, Hope and Art" will be on display in the Daystar Gallery, main level of the parish center, from **January 18 through February 17**. A reception to meet the artist will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. next Sunday, **January 22**. All are welcome.

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

New Year's Resolution For Married Couples — How about making 2012 the year when you make your couple relationship a number one priority? Plan on attending the Communication Workshop our parish is offering for the third year on the **four Tuesdays in March**, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the parish center. Engaged couples are welcome too. For more info, contact Jim & Ann Hoffman at 202.362.4510, 202.486.8291 or hoffmanja2@msn.com.

Rest In Peace

Joan Baker
Nicholas Gallagher

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

Sara Baron	Helen Potts
Jean Chambers	Peter Ross
Peter Kiss	Judy Szot
Elizabeth Long	Jim Yui

Faith Formation

School Of Religion

No School of Religion classes this Sunday, **January 15**, and no classes this Tuesday, **January 17**, due to the Martin Luther King holiday. Classes resume next Sunday, **January 22**, and next Tuesday, **January 24**. Progress Reports will be sent home the week of January 22.

No RCIA Reflection on the Word this Sunday, **January 15**, and no RCIA session this Monday, **January 16**, due to the Martin Luther King holiday. RCIA Reflection on the Word resumes next Sunday, **January 22**. RCIA Monday sessions resume next Monday, **January 23**.

Baptism Preparation — We are recruiting four to six couples to lead our parent-led class. The classes meet six Sundays a year. All interested couples please call Therese at 202.449.3989.

Did You Know??

That the Metropolitan Council of Governments has developed an easy to use database for specialized transportation options called Reach A Ride. ReachARide.org and 855.732.2427 provides information about links to specialized transportation options for persons with disabilities and older adults. For more information about how Blessed Sacrament is becoming a more inclusive community, contact Emma Voelzke at 202.449.3990 or at evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Tuesdays With Maury (Father O) — Blessed Sacrament has our very own Maury, Msgr. Maurice O'Connell, and his subject is "The Meaning of Life: taught from experience." Many topics are covered, including: love, work, community, family, aging and forgiveness. Father O conducts these sessions immediately after the 11 a.m. Mass on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Please join us in Apt. #1 of the Chevy Chase Apartments for the next bi-monthly discussion with Father O, which is this Tuesday, **January 17**.

The 2nd & 4th Monday Club "Out To Lunch Bunch" — Next Monday, **January 23**, following the 11 a.m. Mass, we're starting what we hope will become a new tradition—dining out at local restaurants. The first restaurant where we will gather is **Blue 44**, a relatively new restaurant in the neighborhood. Non-members are welcome. Reservations are a must. Contact Rita Killian (202.363.5069) for reservations or additional information.

Catch These Food Selections For Dining & Score With Super Bowl Menus From SHARE — Get extra yardage from SHARE @ Blessed Sacrament's three January offerings designed to kick in extra savings to your food budget. The Value Package, just \$20, has split chicken breasts, Tilapia fillets, beef meatballs, pork sausage patties, apple turnovers, grits, white potatoes and vegetables and fruits. Also, just in time for the February Super Bowl, there is a Chicken Combo Package (breast strips, boneless breasts, and chicken tenders) also for only \$20. And for beef fans, order this Choice Sirloin package: six 5 oz. steaks and four 5 oz. bacon-wrapped steaks for just \$20 too. To place an order, fill out an order form at www.blessedsacramentdc.org. Ordering deadline is Monday, **January 16**, at 5 p.m. Food distribution is Friday afternoon, **January 27**. Questions? 202.449.4611 or SHARE@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Visit Your Parish Library

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, **January 18-25**

“The world needs to see concrete examples of generous-spirited, intellectually alive, spiritually profound, interfaith-sensitive, scientifically open, socially engaged Christianity. The good news is that there are writers, church leaders and congregations across the theological spectrum giving this voice and faith,” wrote the Reverend Samuel T. Lloyd III (“On Faith,” Washington Post, December 31, 2011). Since 1908, when the Church Unity Octave was begun by Father Paul Wattson, A Franciscan Friar of the Atonement in Garrison, New York, “concrete” expressions of interfaith cooperation have increased at every level of society (www.geii.org/helpful_links/index.html). Think of the many prominent figures that have broken the barriers between denominations:

“Come Be My Light: the Private Writings of the Saint of Calcutta,” by Mother Teresa (271.9 T27 C734).

This book about Mother Teresa’s spiritual life has surprised many readers. It contains letters compiled by Father Kolodiejchuk, the postulant for Blessed Mother Teresa’s canonization. Her “private vow made while she was still a Loreto nun” led to the call to serve ‘the poorest of the poor;’ then followed the founding of the Missionaries of Charity, which led to “a new call inviting her to embrace the spiritual reality of those she served.” Her life then culminated in ‘her heroic living’ in a period of spiritual darkness.

“The Great Transformation: The Beginning of Our Religious Tradition,” by Karen Armstrong (200.90 A57 G797).

The author of 12 books, most of which are in the library, Armstrong once was a nun who is noteworthy for her ecumenical perspective. Here she writes of the Axial Age (900-200 B.C.) whose dynamic influence of empathy and compassion still encourage you to extend “your benevolence” beyond “your own people...your concern must somehow extend to the whole world.”

“The Hidden Ground of Love: the Letters of Thomas Merton,” edited and selected by William H. Shannon (271.12 S19 T361).

Merton’s letters in this volume deal with religious experience and social concerns. They are frank, uninhibited and always interesting. His correspondents came from many affiliations and include two popes (Pope John XXIII and Pope Paul VI), Paul Tillich, Martin Luther King, Dorothy Day and Erich Fromm, as well as those from a variety of eastern traditions.

To borrow these books or for further information, visit or call the library (202.449.3974).

THE ADULT CENTER

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

Monday	Closed for Martin Luther King Day
Tuesday	Tuesdays with Maury (Father O)
Wednesday	Art Class with Dick Swartz
Thursday	Bridge for Bridge Lovers
Friday	Closed

Play Reading Of ‘A Streetcar Named Desire’ — Tuesday, **February 7**, 7 p.m. Join the parish thespians and revisit this, the most intense and most powerful play that Tennessee Williams wrote. It’s a human story of a young woman, Blanche, who takes a streetcar called ‘Desire’ in New Orleans to visit her sister. You may join in the reading or be a listener. We will discuss the play after the reading while partaking of light refreshments. Call John Dluhy for more information, 202.841.6925.



Sanctuary Sodality News — Sodalists: Are you getting e-mails from Sanctuary Sodality e-mail address sodality@blessedsacramentdc.org? If not, please e-mail Donna O’Neill, Corresponding Secretary, at moneill656@aol.com with your current e-mail address.

AUCTION UPDATE

- * Thank you to our Sponsors and Benefactor families!
- * We are still accepting auction donations. (The deadline is January 30.) Your donations will make this year’s auction a huge success! Remember: donations are tax-deductible and proceeds support tuition assistance.
- * Wine cellar donations are still being accepted. Contact Beth Thomas for information: erthomas1@verizon.net.
- * Tickets are now available for purchase online. See website address below.

For more information about the Blessed Sacrament School auction, visit: <http://bss.maestroweb.com>.



Outreach

LANDINGS: An Invitation To Inactive Catholics — Are you, or someone you know, an inactive Catholic who has left or drifted away from the Catholic Church? Why not take another look? One way to explore a more active return is by participating in the LANDINGS Program here at Blessed Sacrament. We just finished a very successful fall session and look forward to our next one in the spring, **March 3 to May 10**. To find out more about joining our LANDINGS group, please contact Karen Vittone at 301.585.0592 or karen@vittone.com.

Cold Weather Clothing Request — Our Social Concerns office has received many requests for men's gloves, scarves, and coats from homeless and marginalized people who visit the office. Please drop off any of the requested items (gently used) to the Social Concerns office or parish office in the Duffy Parish Center. Thank you. Questions? Contact Pat Kavanaugh at 202.449.3987 or pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org.

December 2011 Christmas Tree Sales A Success — A special thanks to Co-chairs John Stacks and Jim Mullins for coordinating the Christmas Tree Sale Project. Also, thank you to all parishioners and community members who purchased Blessed Sacrament Christmas trees. Proceeds from the sale will fund local senior and youth programs in the parish and community. 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, include a dollar amount and a detailed description of the program for which funds are sought. The deadline to submit proposals is Monday, **March 5, 2012**. Please direct any questions to the Social Concerns Office, 202.449.3987.

Radio For The Soul — An "all Catholic" radio station, WMET 1160 AM. For more info and a schedule, visit www.gronline.com.

From The Community

Martin Luther King Day Basketball Camp — HoopEd, a local youth sports provider based in Silver Spring, is offering a one-day basketball skills camp this Monday, **January 16**, in honor of Martin Luther King Day. Camps begin at 9 a.m. and conclude promptly at 3 p.m. Children between the ages of 6 and 13 are encouraged to attend; no previous basketball playing experience is required to participate. Tuition is \$60 for the day, and sibling discounts are available. Call 240.863.2010 for more information or visit www.hoopeducation.com to register online.

The Woods Academy Open House — This Wednesday, **January 18**, from 9 to 11:30 a.m.. Refreshments will be served. The Woods is an independent Catholic, co-educational academy for grades pre-school through eight. It is located at 6801 Greentree Road, Bethesda, Maryland. For more information, call 301.365.3080 or visit www.woodsacademy.org.

Benefit Concert For St. Joseph's House — Saturday, **January 21**, 7 p.m., Rosensteel Knights of Columbus. St. Joseph's House in Silver Spring provides day care and respite care for children and teens with multiple disabilities. It offers a home-like atmosphere for these children who have complicated medical needs, many of whom cannot be served by other agencies. Read more at www.saintjosephshouse.net. Saturday's concert features performances by Sixtus (a seminarian a cappella group), Crooked Hat (jazz quartet from the Heights School) and the Heights Faculty Singers. Cost is \$30 per adult and \$15 for children and includes beer, wine, soft drinks and appetizers. Contact Mary Brogan at thebrogans1@verizon.net or 301.351.5966, or Margie Cuff at margiecuff@gmail.com or 301.949.1715. Checks should be made payable to St. Joseph's House and may be mailed to Margie Cuff at 2713 Calgary Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895.

Religious Liberty For Catholics? — Jayd Henricks, newly appointed Director of Government Relations, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, will discuss what has been called "the biggest external threat that the Church in this country has faced in years"—a growing effort by the government at both the federal and state levels to pressure religious institutions to violate their moral convictions with respect to contraception, sterilization and drugs that cause early abortions, or the placing of children for adoption or foster care with same-sex couples. Cardinal Wuerl, citing threats to Catholic schools, hospitals and other institutions, called this "an unprecedented assault on religious liberty." The talk by Mr. Henricks, sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 224, will take place in the Blessed Sacrament parish center at 6 p.m., Friday, **February 3**, (following the 5:30 Mass). Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Bill Ryan at ryan3736@aol.com.

Gonzaga's 25th Annual Bull & Oyster Roast — Parents, alumni, and friends are invited to Gonzaga's 25th Annual Bull and Oyster Roast, Saturday, **March 3**, from 6 to 11 p.m., at the school's Carmody Center. Come out and re-live your "Glory Days" with an encore performance by New Jersey's BStreet Band (the original Springsteen tribute band) and catering (BBQ and oysters) by Jerry D's of Baltimore. Reserved tables of eight fill quickly! For more information and online reservations, visit www.gonzaga.org/BullandOysterRoast. Reservations are requested by February 16. For more information, contact Beth Veith at 202.336.7103 or eveith@gonzaga.org.

Sponsor Of The Week

We would like to thank **Avery Painting & Drywall, LLC.** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Consider the Priesthood



**If you feel Jesus may be calling you,
why not give Him a weekend?**

Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, is leading a discernment retreat for men in their 20's-40's who are considering a call to the priesthood at Blessed John Paul II Seminary, February 10 – 12, 2012.

The retreat will allow men time away from the daily routine and provide an opportunity for prayer and reflection to examine God's call.

It will cost you nothing more than your time.

Place: Blessed John Paul II Seminary
145 Taylor St., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20017
Metro: Brookland/CUA

Date: February 10-12, 2012

Time: Friday, 7:30 p.m. to
Sunday, 12 noon

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT FATHER CARTER GRIFFIN,
DIRECTOR OF PRIEST VOCATIONS AT 202-636-9020 OR VOCATIONS@ADW.ORG