



SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

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Washington, D.C. 20015
202.966.6575
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202.966.6682 School
www.blessedsacramentdc.org

September 14, 2008

Exaltation Of The Holy Cross

MASS  **SCHEDULE**

Presiders For Masses September 20-21, 2008 (25th Sunday In Ordinary Time)

Saturday, September 20

5:30 pm Father Ben

Sunday, September 21

7:30 am Father Ben
8:45 am Father John
10:15 am Father Ben (Church)*
10:15 am Father John (Gym)*
11:45 am Father Komonchak
1 :00 pm Father Ben
5:30 pm Father John

**Nursery services available in the kindergarten room under the school gym.*

St. Thomas More School Supply Donations

will be collected this weekend. Please leave your school supply donations on the tables set up at the church entrances. You may also drop off your donation at the Social Concerns Office, Duffy Parish Center or in the School Office on Monday, **September 15**. Cash and checks and are also accepted. Please make checks payable to Blessed Sacrament with a notation that it is for the school supply drive. See page 3 for details about what type of supplies are needed.

Poor Box Donations in **September** will benefit the Prison Outreach Ministry's "Welcome Home" program to assist former jail and prison inmates re-enter the community. Trained volunteer mentors help participants to acquire jobs and housing and to reconnect with their families and faith communities.

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*from the
Pastor's desk* 

Dear Friends,

We had a very good Pastoral Council meeting last week. Our five Commissions— Administration, Worship, Outreach, Formation, and Community—continue to do really good work for the parish. I can't tell you how much Father Ben and I value their input. Each commission is made up of staff members, Pastoral Council members, and key parishioners. For me, as a pastor, to hear reports from five different groups that are all working diligently to improve a particular aspect of parish life brings great joy.

One of the "buzz" words that is used in the Church today is "Evangelization." It is not an easy word for Catholics to understand. Even in the meeting, very active Council members questioned the word. I think we all agree there is a need to "outreach" and be more welcoming to parishioners and non-parishioners alike.

The good news is that we register at least three new households a week, and we have over twenty signed up for this year's RCIA program. We are beginning a program called "Landings" for those who might be somewhat separated from the Church. We have excellent sacramental programs, especially for baptism and marriage. These are welcoming opportunities for younger people at a particularly beautiful time for their families.

The bad news is that we have many registered Catholics who only attend Mass at Christmas and Easter. We have numerous Catholics who live in our community who are not registered and seemingly have fallen away from the Church. We are seen by some as a most welcoming community but others comment that our parish at times feels cold and unwelcoming.

Throughout this year our Commissions will talk about how we can be more welcoming, be more willing to "reach out" and be more present to those who may be less active in our Church activities. Your thoughts, prayers and ideas will be most welcome as we continue to strive to be present to all those who might wish to journey with us on our way to God.

Father John

The Liturgy

Today the cycle of Ordinary Time is interrupted by the celebration of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Our series on the structure of the Mass is also interrupted to discuss this feast. Although the celebration of Sunday normally takes precedence over most celebrations, because of their importance, certain feasts do outrank Sundays of Ordinary Time. Along with today's celebration, some others are the Transfiguration (August 6) and Ss. Peter & Paul (June 29).

Today's celebration is a "votive" feast because it was instituted to commemorate a historical event. We have to differentiate between the event of the feast and the mystery or theological content. The event is only of passing interest; the facts are often disputed and may even be legendary. The theology, however, transcends time and affects all of us. The event in this case: St. Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine, is said to have led an archeological dig on Mount Calvary, where she found the cross on which Jesus died on September 14, 320 and fifteen years later, two churches were consecrated there, leading to the establishment of this feast on this date.

The theology of the feast reminds us, six months after Easter, that the cross of Jesus is not simply a thing on which he died, but really a sign of redemption, a sign of his victory over death. The first reading and the Gospel both use the image of something being "raised up." In the first reading, the image of the seraph serpent, which brought death, is now raised up to bring healing, while in the Gospel, Jesus uses that same image, and refers to himself as having to be raised up in a similar manner. One commentator suggests that it is especially appropriate that the Church celebrates this feast at the beginning of autumn; the cross is "raised" against the rising darkness of winter, which symbolizes the powers of darkness and hell. One of the key texts in today's liturgy is the alleluia verse, sung by the cantor just before the Gospel: "we adore you O Christ and we praise you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world."

Usher Orientation — We are planning an orientation and review session for all ushers at 6 pm Wednesday **September 24** in the rectory. A simple dinner will be served, and spouses are invited. If you are an usher or would like to be an usher, please let Poli Marmolejos know by **today, Sunday, September 14**, that you plan to attend. Poli can be reached at pmarmolejos@verizon.net or at 202.360.7460.

JustFaith — Do you read the newspaper each day wondering how you are called to make a difference? What does our faith call us to do? How can we help our brothers and sisters in need? Consider taking part in a faith formation process called "JustFaith." The 2008-2009 session will start at Blessed Sacrament on **September 25**. For more information, contact Jeanne Rossomme at 202.257.0663 or at rossommecohen@verizon.net.



Thomas Joseph Corcoran
Liam Devine McAllister



Carl Hayes

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



- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| John Bellinger | Suzy Kuczynski |
| Jean Beringer | Kathleen McDermott |
| Carey Cahill | Msg. William O'Donnell |
| Susan Drake | Bridie Rafferty |
| Clara N. Friedl | Father Andrew Royals |
| Ronan J. Friedl | Elizabeth Stechschulte |
| Edwin Finbar Goetz | Joseph Talian |
| Mary Kelliher | Anne Thompson |
| Tom Kelly | Robin Toner |
| | Skip Wright |

Sunday Lecture Series — The Sunday Lecture Series begins this Sunday, **September 14**, at 9 am in the Duffy Parish Center Chapel. The Reverend Joseph A. Komonchak, Professor of Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America will speak about "John Courtney Murray and the Church's Role in the World." Coffee and rolls are available before the lecture in the large room opposite the chapel. If you wish to attend the 10:15 am Mass, the lecture will be finished in time. Next Sunday, **September 21**, Sister Ann Patrick Conrad, Associate Professor and former Dean, National Catholic School of Social Science, The Catholic University of America, will speak about "Poverty in America and Catholic Social Teaching." Copies of the lectures, available on CD, may be ordered by calling Anna Maria Delgado at 301.657.9257. In addition, these lectures, as well as lectures from past lecture series, are available to borrow from the parish library.

Gospel Music Concert — LaVera Day and Friends will give a gospel music concert as part of the Music Series at Little Flower Church, 5607 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda at 1 pm on Sunday **September 28**. Members from the contemporary choirs from both Little Flower and Blessed Sacrament will be singing with Miss Day, and there will be opportunities for congregational participation! This will be an hour of spirit-filled traditional and contemporary gospel music highlighting some of the favorites that Miss Day has sung for us here at Blessed Sacrament over the years. A good will offering will be taken. Come join us on the 28th. For more information, call Ginny Curtin at 202.686.7058.

Youth Corner

Question of the Week

Jesus challenges us to forgive. Who needs your forgiveness? From whom do you need to ask forgiveness?

Child Protection Training — Remember, if you volunteer or work with children at Blessed Sacrament parish or the school you are required to fulfill archdiocesan child protection training. Visit www.virtus.org, click on "Preview the Protecting God's Children Program" and identify a convenient class, register online and let the parish know that you have done so by sending an e-mail to mdurelli@blessedsacramentdc.org.

CYO Basketball — Note to all parents of 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th graders: don't forget to register your child for the 2008-09 CYO basketball season. Simply go to the CYO website at www.washcyosignup.com and follow the instructions for "Player Registration for 2008-09 Program Year." Be sure to register your child by **October 1**.

Religious Education News

Volunteer To Be A Catechist Or Teacher Aide — Volunteer teacher aides are still needed for our Tuesday School of Religion program (4:10 - 5:25 pm) in the first and eighth grades (one teacher aide per grade). Training and support is given. Contact Rob Maro 202.449.3989 or at rmaro@blessedsacramentdc.org for more information.

The School of Religion classes begin next week, Sunday **September 21** (8:30 am Family Mass in the gym) and Tuesday **September 23** (4:10 pm Family Mass in the church). You can still register by visiting www.blessedsacramentdc.org/faith-formation/school-of-religion/ and printing out, then completing and submitting the form. Any student registered the week of classes will attend class the following week.

Adult Classes on Catholicism (RCIA) began last Monday. We are very excited to have over 20 people registered for this class. It's not too late to join us from 7:30 to 9:30 pm Monday evenings in the Duffy Parish Center, main level meeting room. And, if you know of anyone who would like to join our parish, an un-baptized person or someone from another Christian tradition, please invite them to come learn more about the church. After a number of sessions, participants can decide whether they wish to join us here at Blessed Sacrament. These classes are also great for Catholics who would like to refresh their knowledge about Church teachings. Tomorrow night, **September 15**, Father Ben Garrett will teach on "God's Loving Plan of Salvation."

Young Adult Bible Study (Single & Married 20s, 30s, & 40s) — Meet new people and apply the Catholic faith to every day life! Join us at 7:30 pm any Tuesday in the Duffy Parish Center, main level meeting room, to discuss the Sunday Mass readings. Contact Rob Maro at 202.449.3989 or at rmaro@blessedsacramentdc.org for more information.

From The Social Concerns Office ...

School Supply Collection For St. Thomas More School — We are helping school children in need of school supplies at our sister parish, St. Thomas More in Southeast D.C. The children's school list includes colored markers, pencils, crayons, colored pencils, glue sticks, highlighters, binders and colored construction paper. Please contribute your supplies by this Monday, **September 15**. Call Pat Kavanaugh at 202.449.3987 if you have any questions or need further information.

Blood Drive Next Sunday, September 21 — The Washington Hospital Center will provide blood donor services in the lower level of the Duffy Parish Center from 9 am to 1 pm next Sunday, **September 21**. A single blood donation may save up to three lives! This is also a small but significant sacrifice to help our troops. Blood is always needed, and again this year supplies are low. You must be 17 and bring along a photo ID. Please call Karen Vittone this week (**September 15 – 20**) at 301.585.0592 with any questions or to schedule an appointment.

Flu Shots Will Be Available At Blessed Sacrament on October 12. Details to follow.

More From the Pastor's Desk . . .

Recently, a parishioner sent me a copy of the rules and expectations for attending a performance at the Kennedy Center. Her recommendation to me was that some of these same thoughts apply to attendance at church. I don't need to harp on behavior at the Eucharist, but the Kennedy Center's "Golden Rules" has expressed it well. I wonder if some of these ideas might be appropriate for our own participation in the Eucharist each Sunday.

Golden Rules

1. Take it easy with the atomizer; many people are highly allergic to perfume and cologne.
2. If you bring a child, make sure etiquette is part of the experience. Children love learning new things.
3. Unwrap all candies and cough drops before the curtain goes up or the concert begins.
4. Make sure all cell phones, beepers, and signal watches are OFF. And don't jangle the bangles.
5. The overture is part of the performance. Please cease talking at this point.
6. Note to lovebirds: When you lean your heads together, you block the view of the person behind you. Leaning forward also blocks the view.
7. THOU SHALT NOT TALK, or hum, or sing along, or beat time with a body part.
8. Force yourself to wait for a pause or intermission before rifling through a purse, backpack, or shopping bags.
9. Yes, the parking lot gets busy and public transportation is tricky, but leaving while the show is in progress is discourteous.
10. The old standby: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Visit Your Parish Library

Joy Choppin, Parish Co-Archivist, highlights her current favorites: 'the books below are some that I use for my morning meditation; they have been helpful in the past and continue to be guides in my spiritual journey. I use the Psalter in conjunction with them and start each day with some psalms. But seek your own. The spiritual growth is in the journey':

Living in God's Embrace, by Michael Fonseca. The author, trained as a Jesuit and a native of India, has written a guide to what is basically a self-directed retreat. He incorporates Eastern meditation traditions with scriptural reflections. His book is divided into 60 exercises any of which could serve as material for one or many days of reflection.

The Way of Simplicity, the Cistercian Tradition, by Esther DeWaal. Ms. DeWaal does a wonderful job explaining and elaborating on the essentials of the Cistercian way with reverence and joy. The reader comes away with an appreciation of the wisdom and inspiration that the Cistercian movement pours out – the reason for its continuing attraction after over 1500 years of activity.

The Liturgical Psalter, translation by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy. This version is wonderful for singers and has the purpose of making the psalms a truly meaningful part of the liturgy. Just reading these beautiful poems with a fresh eye leads to some wonderful insights. They are designed for singing by the whole congregation and very easy to memorize.

Read More About St. Paul — In this Year of St. Paul, as proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI, rediscover the apostle who introduced the world to Christ. Learn more about St. Paul from a series of columns being written each month by the Little Rock Scripture Study staff. Visit www.dolr.org/offices/lrsslifeischristseries.php to read the columns online. For further information, call 800.858.5434.

The 2nd And 4th Monday Club will meet in the Ray Manning Center next Monday, **September 22**, immediately following the 11 am Mass. We will be celebrating our re-opening in our newly refreshed meeting place with a "Welcome Back" luncheon following the long, hot summer. Newcomers are welcome.

A Saint From Blessed Sacrament?

Another extract from the Retreat Notes and Resolutions of Mary Virginia Merrick, Founder of the Christ Child Society, and "Servant of God."

"Render to God the things that are God's. You belong to Him; and, when you draw away from Him, you sin. You commit a larceny when you don't pay Him the honor due Him."

Source: National Christ Child Society, Inc.

The Adult Center invites all parishioners, 39 and holding, to the Chevy Chase Apartments, #1, for fellowship after the 11 am Mass. Bring a sandwich and join the activities. For transportation, call Rita Killian at 202.363.5069.

Mark Your Calendars . . . Regular Schedule Resumes Next Week, September 22-26

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	RENEW and the Word/Low Vision Support
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	Bridge for Bridge Lovers
Friday	Closed

And From The Community ...

Gay And Lesbian Support Group Meeting — Always Our Children, the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle's ministry to gay and lesbian individuals, their families and friends, will hold a confidential support group meeting from 3:30 to 5:15 pm this Sunday, **September 14**, in the West Conference Room of the Cathedral, 1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW. Contact Msgr. Jameson at 202.347.3215 if you have questions or need further info.

Best Buddies At Georgetown University — Do you have someone in your family with an intellectual disability? Best Buddies of Georgetown University is looking for buddies from the D.C. area to form one-to-one friendships with Georgetown students and attend campus events throughout the year. The first event, a kickoff barbecue, will be held from 1 to 3 pm next Sunday, **September 21**. Contact Caitlin Ryan at 203.650.3895 or at cr259@georgetown.edu if interested or for more information. To learn more about Best Buddies, visit www.bestbuddies.org.

40 Days For Life — Christians throughout Washington are uniting for a pro-life campaign from **September 24 through November 2**. This ecumenical, faith-based effort has two key components: 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, and a 40-day peaceful public witness outside Planned Parenthood at 1108 16th Street, NW. For more information or to sign up for a time slot, contact Theresa Bock at 40DaysForLifeDC@gmail.com or visit www.40daysforlife.com/washington.

Tutoring Program — Looking for a tutoring program for your child this fall that is both affordable and effective? The Youth Leadership Foundation offers sessions Saturday mornings and serve grades 3 - 11. The programs are single-sex. Each semester costs \$100; financial aid is available. For more information, call 202.363.4118 for the boys program, 202.387.1141 for the girls program, or visit www.ylf.helpingkids.org.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **Petals and Paths** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Blessed Sacrament



Pastoral Council

**Leadership Meeting
Pastoral Council
Chair: Chris Butler
September 2, 2008**

The Council reviewed its role as defined by the Parish Assessment and Renewal program (PAR): a.) Develop themes for parish/leadership reflection; b.) Set vision and long-range planning; c.) Establish goals and action steps for parish; d.) Coordinate and hold the five commissions accountable; and, e.) Assist pastor in any urgent or pressing matter. Victories identified from last year included the launching of the new website, which is being put to excellent use as a reference tool and as an outlet for promoting ministries, programs and events. Goals were identified for the coming year: a.) Continue to support commission system and provide instruments for the commissions to conduct regular self-assessments; b.) Begin planning for 2011 Parish Centennial Celebration (lay foundation and guidelines for schedule and programming; logistical planning to begin Sept 2009); c.) Reflect on stewardship and evangelization (How do we share our blessings – stewardship/ How do we conduct ourselves as Apostles of Jesus? – evangelization) and challenge commissions to incorporate these principles in their ministries; and, d.) Establish priorities for church renovation based upon critical needs of the parish.

Community Commission

Co-Chairs: Karen Horvath-Wulf (horvath_wulf@hotmail.com) and Lizzy Lazo (lizzy_ohara@yahoo.com)
Pastoral Council Liaison: Matt Horvath-Wulf (horvath_wulf@hotmail.com)
Staff Representative: TBA

The monthly Coffee & Donuts resumes this week after 8:45 and 10:15 masses. The Parish Welcoming Committee for new parishioners reports 100+ new households have joined the parish. They are looking for volunteers (especially young families) to help with welcoming new members. If interested, contact Dolores Royston at daroyston@verizon.net. Volunteers are being sought to serve on the Archdiocesan Legislative Network (must be a D.C. resident). Contact Larry Clark at 202.494.4761 for details. The bi-annual Filipino Community dinner dance will be held October 18. Everyone is invited, and tickets will be available at the door. The annual parish Italian Night dinner will be coming up this fall—watch the website for details/volunteer ops.

Outreach Commission

Co-Chairs: Eileen Dombo (dombo@cua.edu) and Ann Mahony (agmahony@aol.com)
Pastoral Council Liaison: Chris Figueras (cwf@tla-dc.org)
Staff Representative: Pat Kavanaugh

The focus for the year is as follows: (1) Social justice, last year's goal, not fully actualized so this year will start with a focus on activities already going on within the individual ministries. The Commission will promote intergenerational and family-oriented opportunities to actualize the social justice dimension of their Catholic faith. Discussed communication vehicles; (2) Inactive/non-participating Catholics outreach — a two-pronged approach with focus groups to discover why people (within the parish boundaries) are not participating/active in parish life. Landings Program for returning Catholics is a new ministry this year with training on September 19 and 20. Great opportunity for people returning to the parish to be welcomed back and process why they have been away.

Formation Commission

Co-Chairs: Meagan Ryan (meagenry@hotmail.com) and TBD
Pastoral Council Liaison: Chris Butler (CJWButler@aol.com)
Staff Representative: Rob Maro

Rob Maro reported that enrollment in the School of Religion, RCIA and Young Adult Bible Study is strong. The Parish is still searching for a Youth Minister/CYO Manager. Our new Landings ministry, which is a listening ministry aimed at bringing back inactive Catholics, is looking for volunteers willing to attend a training workshop (see Outreach). The Commission's goal for the fall is to develop an evangelization plan. The Commission is reading Paul VI's "On Evangelization in the Modern World" in preparation for the October meeting. The members will then develop a 2-3 year plan.

Administration Commission

Co-Chairs: Judy O'Hara (judyoh@earthlink.net) and TBA
Pastoral Council Liaison: Judy O'Hara
Staff Representative: Maria Durelli

The Commission focused on: (1) Stewardship—gifts of talent, time and resources. There will be a presentation in October/November to the Commissions by a professional in this field; (2) Budget Process — David Kushner continues consulting to streamline/support the new budget process for the Parish. He is also working with Maria Durelli to prepare a budget presentation to the parish; (3) Capital Improvements—numerous projects including painting the exterior of the rectory, replacing 2nd floor windows in school, refinishing the gym floor, replacing the HVAC system in rectory, renovation of the Social Concerns office, repairing/replacing many doors throughout the plant. The HAS paid for almost all of the school renovations; (4) Apartment Building — the Ad Hoc Committee—Harry Kettner, Larry Clark, Allison Kingsley and Jim Voelzke—are surveying usage of the building. Tenants have expressed concern. Father John is in the process of communicating with tenants to allay their fears; (5) Field of Dreams — Currently waiting for a "sediment control permit." Father John is hopeful it will be issued soon; (6) Maria Durelli has been cleaning up the parish census/database. Many households inactive or out of date. Letters being sent for updates.

Worship Commission

Chair: Paul Ritacco (Talentpay@aol.com)
Pastoral Council Liaison: David Gardiner (dmgardiner@gardinerhall.com)
Staff Representative: Jay Rader

The Commission discussed the various goals for the year, primarily improving accessibility of worship opportunities for children during Mass. Also discussed was the current strain on our priests due to the existing Sunday Mass schedule and options for alleviating this with consolidated Mass times. The group focused on volunteers needed for the pull-out Children's Liturgy during the 10:15 Family Mass in the gym and the need to coordinate with the Gym Mass Committee on this. The on-going sustainability of this ministry and its inherent challenges was also discussed. The Commission is committed to exploring ways to address the needs of children of all ages, in sustainable/appropriate ways, without interfering with the needs of other parishioners. It was agreed that the flyer "Let the Children Come," produced by Jay Rader using St. Columba Episcopal Church's resource, was beneficial and needed to be reissued, especially with the Family Mass beginning in the gym this Sunday. Brief discussion of the idea of referring to the "Gym Mass" as the "Family Mass," no consensus reached. Finally, the parish may receive a donation of about 100 copies of the *Mass for Children*, which will be made available to families at Mass.

**Next PAR Leadership Meeting
October 7, School Auditorium, 7 - 8:30 pm
Pastoral Council Meeting to Follow**

SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT

February 20-22, 2009

Loyola Retreat House, Faulkner, Maryland

“PILGRIM COMPANIONS”

(Called to Know, Love, and Follow Jesus ever more *Faithfully*)

“It is in reading and praying the Gospels that we come to know Jesus, and as we come to know him better we come to love him in such a way that we are moved to go beyond knowing and praying into following him down the road of life”. Adapted from Entering Christ's Prayer by Eric Jensen, SJ (Ave Maria Press, 2007)

The retreat begins on Friday at 6:45 pm with an orientation and concludes with lunch on Sunday at 12:30 pm. Mass is offered each day, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available during the retreat (Mass and Confession are offered before the retreat begins on Friday). Generous blocks of time are provided for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deeper relationship with God.

For more information, contact Blessed Sacrament retreat co-captains:

Maria Durelli at 202.966.6575 or mdurelli@blessedsacramentdc.org

Mary Lou Gomez at 202.362.7457 or gomez.marylou@gmail.com

Registration Form

To register for the retreat, please mail this registration form with your deposit to:
Loyola Retreat House | P.O. Box 9 | 9270 Loyola Retreat Road | Faulkner, Maryland 20632-0009

Today's Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Evening Phone: _____ Day Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Retreat Dates: February 20-22, 2009 Parish/Group: Blessed Sacrament Women's Weekend Retreat

Facility or Dietary Needs: _____

Amount of Deposit: _____

Suggested offering for the weekend is \$215. A non-refundable deposit of \$108 is required to confirm a reservation for any overnight retreat (by check please, Loyola does not accept credit cards). Deposits are transferable to another retreat for you or someone else. A confirmation card will be sent upon receipt of your deposit. For further information, please call 301.392.0801 Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm or email: reservations@loyolaretreat.org.

Website: www.loyolaretreat.org

Parish Staff

Rev. Msgr. John J. Enzler, Pastor
Rev. Benton Garrett, Associate Pastor
Rev. Tesfaye Fesuh, Resident Priest
Deacon Daniel Thompson
Deacon Michael McCarthy, Director of **Pastoral Care**, 202.449.3977
Mr. Chris Kelly, Principal of **School**, 202.966.6682
Mr. Rob Maro, Director of **Religious Education**, 202.449.3989
Mrs. Patricia Kavanaugh, **Social Concerns** Minister, 202.449.3987
(Office Open Monday - Friday, 10 am - 1 pm, and by appointment)
Mr. Jay Rader, Director of **Liturgy and Music**, 202.449.3981
Director of **Athletics**, 202.449.3972
Director of **Youth Ministries**, 202.449.3978

Assistants on Weekends

Rev. Joseph Komonchak, Catholic University

Weekday and Saturday Masses

Monday - Friday: 6:30 am, 8 am, 11 am, 5:30 pm
Saturday: 8 am, 11 am

Filipino Mass in Tagalog every 4th Sunday at 4 pm

Holy Day Masses

Eve of the Feast: 5:30 pm
Day of the Feast: 6:30 am, 8 am, 11 am, 5:30 pm, 7 pm

Holy Hour

First Friday of Each Month 9 pm - 10 pm
Exposition: Monday - Friday, 3 pm - 5:15 pm, in the church

Duffy Parish Center

Main Office 202.966.6575 (Open Mon. - Sat., 8:30 am - 4:30 pm)
In an emergency, 202.966.6575, Ext. 3988, to page priest on duty
Facilities 202.449.4610
St. Pius Library 202.449.3974

Sacrament of 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.

Sacrament of Matrimony — Please contact one of the parish priests 6 months in advance. All couples who are to be married at Blessed Sacrament must complete our parish marriage preparation program.

Sacrament of Reconciliation — Friday and Saturday after the 11 am Mass (if no funeral); Saturday 4 pm - 5 pm and after the 5:30 pm Mass, or anytime by appointment.

Care of the Sick and 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 Deacon McCarthy at 202.449.3977.

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.

Departing Parishioners — We will miss you. Please notify one of our staff members in the Duffy Parish Center office that you will be moving away.

Bulletin Announcements — Please send all announcements to bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org. Deadline: Mondays @ 10 am