

Sunday Bulletin

Blessed Sacrament & Roncalli Newman Parishes
January 8th, 2023 | The Epiphany of the Lord

Contact BSP: (608)-782-2953 bsplacrosse.org | RNP: (608)-860-6001 roncallinewmancenter.com

RNP Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs 9am - 12pm, 1pm - 4pm
Fri 9am - 12pm

BSP Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs 9am - 12pm, 1pm - 4pm
Fri 9am - 12pm

Sunday Mass Times

Sat. 4:30pm @ BSP
Sun. 9am (BSP), 11:15am (RNP), & 8:30pm (RNP)

Daily Mass Times

BSP Mon - Fri 8:00am
RNP Tues 5:15pm
RNP Wed & Fri Noon
RNP Thurs 7pm

Confession Times

Saturday evening @ 3:30pm or by appt.

Around the Parish

Thank you Joe and Denise DeBonville

Thank you to Joe and Denise DeBonville for their artistic eye in designing the beautiful Roncalli Newman Chapel this Christmas. Many thanks to all who brought their vision to life.

RNP Christmas Decor Takedown

Looking for volunteers - Roncalli Newman will take Christmas Decorations down this Sunday, January 8th after the 11:15am Mass. Many hands make light work. Thank you!

Families Forming Disciples

FFD meets TODAY Sunday January 8th at Blessed Sacrament from 10:10am-11:10am. We will begin Lesson 5 Week 1: The Epiphany and Baptism of our Lord. FFD does NOT meet in person January 11th or January 15th. Families should be completing their Lesson 5 Week 2 at Home Mission.

Liturgy Committee Mtg - Jan 10th

Our next Liturgy Committee meeting will be Tuesday, January 10th @ 5:45 PM at Newman. We'll recap the Christmas season, discuss Winter Ordinary Time and the next MSP cycle, Eucharistic Minister recruiting and commissioning, and begin discussions regarding Lent and Easter.

Men's Prayer and Fellowship - Jan 10th

The January Men's prayer and fellowship gathering will be Tuesday January 10th at 6 pm in the scrip room at Blessed Sacrament parish. We will continue to discuss events in church history. Bring your Rosary and a friend. All men invited from all parishes. Hope to see you there.

Welcome new BSP members!

Welcome to new members Luigi and Siera Fotheringham who recently joined Blessed Sacrament Parish.

BSP Christmas Decor Takedown

Please lend a hand, and a strong back, to help take down the Christmas trees and decorations that so beautifully adorned the Blessed Sacrament Church. Help is needed **Tuesday the 10th after the 8:00 Mass**. Thank you in advance for any help you can provide.

High School Faith Formation

High School Faith Formation meets this Wednesday January 11th from 7:00pm-8:30pm at Blessed Sacrament.

Giving Tree Gratitude

We extend genuine thanks and joyful appreciation to those who adopted tags from the Blessed Sacrament Giving Tree this Christmas season! We were charged with servicing 175 individual applicants through our local Catholic Charities assistance program. At the conclusion of our endeavor, we were able to accommodate 152 people in need. **There were 13 tags remaining on the tree at the time of our deadline, and 10 tags were removed from the tree, but never returned to us. We are committed to this project again next year, so let's prepare our hearts in this new year and portion a fraction of our abundant blessings toward reaching our goal! Again, thank you for your generosity and prayerful considerations this season. Caryl Doberstein, BSP Giving Tree Chairperson.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

January 14/15

Saturday, Jan 14, 4:30 PM (Mass at BSP)

Michael J Porter	Reader (1)
Michele Thorman	Reader (2)
Kent Stein	Cantor
Jennifer Kulzer	Accompanist
Maria J.	Server
Michael J.	Server
Michele Cook	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Annie Berendes	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Gabe Berendes	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Leigh Running	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mike Vanderploeg	Sacristan/MC
Caryl Doberstein	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communi..
Luci Johnson	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communi..

Sunday, Jan 15, 9:00 AM (Mass at BSP)

Bobbi Schamberger	Reader (1)
John Gallagher	Reader (2)
Michelle Johnson	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
Dave Schreier	Server
Matthew B.	Server
Mark Hyde	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
LuAnne Kratt	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Steve Flottmeyer	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Bob Roth	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
William Arnold	Sacristan/MC
Maggie Leon	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
Sandra Borreson	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communi...

Sunday, Jan 15, 11:15 AM (Mass at RNP)

Greg Wegner	Reader (1)
Paul Thompson	Reader (2)
Andy Manson	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
Tim Fuss	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Kathy Fuss	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Sandy Sieck	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Karen Lange	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Aaron Zivney	Gift Bearer
Mary O'Mara	Gift Bearer
Sandra Johnston	Sacristan/MC

January 21/22

Saturday, Jan 21, 4:30 PM (Mass at Blessed Sacrament)

Tom Kieffer	Reader (1)
Joan Mueller	Reader (2)
Christine Nelson	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
Mike H.	Server
Elizabeth H.	Server
Gabe Berendes	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Suzanne Verdoliva	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Kathy Running	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Annie Berendes	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Leigh Running	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mike Vanderploeg	Sacristan/MC
Caryl Doberstein	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communi..
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Sunday, Jan 22, 9:00 AM (Mass at Blessed Sacrament)

Dave Reinders	Reader (1)
Mary Jo Reinders	Reader (2)
Andrea Fritts	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
Charlee G.	Server
Ruby G.	Server
Pat Cavadini	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Kathie Hanna	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Scott Smerud	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Karen Gamoke	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
William Arnold	Sacristan/MC
Bernice Lansing	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communion
Sandra Borreson	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communion n

Sunday, Jan 22, 11:15 AM (Mass at Roncalli Newman)

Meredith Houge	Reader (1)
John Houge	Reader (2)
Calvin Douglas	Cantor
Mary Ellen Hauptert	Accompanist
Sherwin Toribio	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Alie Toribio	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Peggy Jirsa	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mary Mundt Reckase	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mike Mader	Gift Bearer
Carol Mader	Gift Bearer
Debbie Clarkin	Sacristan/MC

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 7

4:30pm BSP +Margaret Skemp Gavahan

Sunday, January 8

9am BSP +Annette Niederkorn

11:15am RNP +Norma Thiele

Monday, January 9

8am BSP +Charlie Brendel

Tuesday, January 10

8am BSP +Dan Crowley

5:15pm RNP +Bonnie Gebhart

Wednesday, January 11

8am BSP SCHOOL MASS + Tim Curtis

Noon RNP Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, January 12

8am BSP + Seth Hammes

Friday, January 13

8am BSP + Robert "Ding" Miller

Noon RNP +Tom Strange

Saturday, January 14

4:30pm BSP +Matt Haug

This Week

Saturday, January 7

- Women's Club Holy Hour, 10am - 11am BSP
- Confessions, 3:30pm @ BSP
- Rosary, 4:05pm (led by Mary Schuttenhelm)

Sunday, January 8

- Rosary, 8:35am (led by Deacon Dave and Mary Allen)
- Families Forming Disciples, 10:10am BSP

Monday, January 9

- Salvation Army Service, 4:15pm

Tuesday, January 10

- Liturgy Committee Mtg, 5:45pm

Wednesday, January 11

- Dogma and Donuts Men's Group, 8:45am BSP
- High School Faith Formation, 7-8:30pm BSP

Thursday, January 12

- Salvation Army Service, 4:15pm

Friday, January 13

Saturday, January 14

- Confessions, 3:30pm @ BSP
- Rosary, 4:05pm (led by Gene and Mary Ann Roesler)

Sunday, January 15

- Rosary, 8:35am (led by Melissa Vach)

Weekend Collection 01/01

BSP \$6,924.00// RNP \$9,392.00

*If you have an article you'd like to submit to the bulletin, please email Adele at media@bsplacrosse.org. Thank you!

January 8, 2023 – The Epiphany of the Lord by: Fr. Thomas Hoisington

“We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.”

Secular culture takes what is three-dimensional and flattens it. Christians, then, must be alert to secularism’s encroachment upon Christian culture. If, for example, Christians adopt secularism’s counterfeits of Christmas and Easter, not only do Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny become the seasons’ patron saints. The seasons themselves become distorted, so that Christmas begins on the day after Thanksgiving and ends on December 25th.

By contrast, the Church calls Christians to order their lives in a way that recognizes December 25th as the first full day of Christmastide, and the day of celebrating the first of several mysteries that the Church ponders throughout Christmastide. Among all these mysteries, the Nativity and the Epiphany of the Lord are the two most important.

The Nativity focuses upon the divine Gift given by God the Father to fallen man. The Epiphany also focuses upon the gifts that men offer to God in return. We might say that the Epiphany is the Church’s first focus upon the stewardship of grateful disciples.

In this Sunday’s Gospel Reading, we hear three wise men arriving before the manger. They are willing to sacrifice of themselves in order to find a newborn King. Here we see a sign of their wisdom: their willingness to make profoundly personal sacrifices in addition to the material objects they offer in sacrifice.



Few persons don’t want to be rich. However, there are many people who believe they’re rich, but who have become satisfied with riches that—in the end—aren’t going to do them real good.

Humility is what we see in the three wise kings. They were willing to leave the splendor and riches of their earthly kingdoms in order to enter a grotto where animals lived, in order to prostrate themselves before a child born of a peasant girl.

Picture this: these three wise kings fall to the ground in adoration before the newborn Jesus in a stable, where the hay of the animals was mixed with the animals’ waste. Would you be humble enough to kneel in that hay?

Look at these three wise kings. Look at their sacrifices. Consider two aspects of the sacrifices that the kings make.

The first aspect is their journey. It is long and fraught with peril, much like the journey of discipleship. These three leave behind the lands where they rule, where they are in control, in order to bow down before the Ruler of Heaven and Earth. They make this perilous journey in order to follow Him wherever He asks them to go for His sake.

The second aspect of their sacrifices are the objects that the three wise kings take from their treasuries and place before the new-born King. These splendid objects reflect their human wealth.

Yet these gifts are given as a response to a greater Gift. These gifts are more a reflection of the One to whom they’re given than of those who give them. So also in the practice of stewardship, while one’s giving is in proportion to one’s means, it’s also meant to be given in proportion to the goodness of the One to whom we give.

The gifts the three wise men give to Jesus reflect the divine Person to whom they are giving their gifts. The gold and frankincense reflect Jesus’ kingship and divinity. These gifts are foretold in the First Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

But Isaiah does not prophesy about the gift of myrrh. Myrrh is a resin used to prepare corpses for burial. What an odd gift for a newborn! Can you imagine someone today showing up at a baby shower with a gift obtained from a mortuary? Nonetheless, the gift of myrrh reflects the wisdom of the three wise men.

It’s often said that God is never outdone in generosity. That truth is reflected in the gift of myrrh. God the Father had given the Gift of His Son. In response, the three wise men give three gifts to the Holy Family. Yet Christmastide is only the start of the Gospel story, and a preparation for the climax reached during Holy Week. On Mt. Calvary, God the Son will offer in sacrifice the Gift of His Body and Blood, soul and divinity. The gift of Good Friday is the source and summit of the Christian life, the gift that gives infinite depth to the journey of discipleship