

Merry Christmas!

Blessed Sacrament & Roncalli Newman Parishes
December 25th, 2022 | The Nativity of our 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 Bob Skemp!

Thank you once again to Bob Skemp for donating the gorgeous Christmas Trees that adorn the Blessed Sacrament sanctuary. Your continued generosity is so appreciated!

Join us for a New Year's Celebration!

Please join the fun for hot chocolate and other beverages and snacks in the Blessed Sacrament Parish Center hallway after the 4:30 Mass on New Year's Eve. We will ring in the new year a little early as we enjoy the 6:00pm fireworks.

Women's Club Holy Hour - Jan. 7th

Women's Club Holy Hour Saturday January 7th 10:00 - 11:00am in the Blessed Sacrament Church. Start the year off right!

Congratulations!

Congratulations and blessings to Patrick and Mary Campbell whose daughter Nora Estelle was baptized this past week.

High School Faith Formation

High School Faith Formation does not meet December 28th. We will see you again on Wednesday January 4th .

Families Forming Disciples

FFD does NOT meet December 25th, December 28th, or January 1st . We will see you again on January 4th and 8th respectively.

Temporary daily Mass pause @ RNP

With the college students on break and Father Sam traveling for the SEEK conference, we will have a temporary break from daily Masses at Newman. Public masses will be postponed from December 26th - January 6th. Mass intentions will be prayed for privately. Blessed Sacrament daily Masses will continue as normal.

Parish Offices Closed Dec 26 & Jan 2

Offices at both BSP and RNC closed on Monday December 26th and January 2nd.

RNP Social Justice Alternative Gift Giving

It's Christmas eve and you still need Christmas gifts. Don't go to the Mall or on-line on an aimless search, instead donate in honor of your giftee, to a community agency that helps families and individuals in need of assistance.

Or, go online, and find a charity that is meaningful to your recipient. They will be touched by your thoughtfulness, generosity, and concern for others.

Or, help sponsor a UW-L Newman student who wants to attend a religious conference or go on a mission trip. Contact Sandy at the Roncalli Newman office to find out how to do this,

Or, donate to the Red Kettle and wrap up a picture of Salvation Army's Red Kettle and put it under your tree for your loved one.

Have a Blessed and joy-filled Christmas!!

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Dec 31/Jan1

Saturday, Dec 31, 4:30 PM (BSP)

Gene Kolaczkowski	Reader (1)
Caryl Doberstein	Reader (2)
Christine Nelson	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
Natalie Schwinn Weaver	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Scott Weaver	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Kathy Running	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Leigh Running	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mike Vanderploeg	Sacristan/MC
Maggie Leon	Extraordinary Min of Holy Commun
Luci Johnson	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communi..

Sunday, Jan 1, 9:00 AM (Mass at BSP)

Barb Swieciak	Reader (1)
Ann Lankford	Reader (2)
Julia Kreitzer	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
Charlee G.	Server
Sue Grant	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Paul Grant	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
John Wissing	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Greg Sauer	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
William Arnold	Sacristan/MC
Chris SansCrainte	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communi..
Patti SansCrainte	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communi..

Sunday, Jan 1, 11:15 AM (Mass at RNP)

Bob Masewicz	Reader (1)
Grace Nicholson-Maly	Reader (2)
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Cantor
Ryan Howe	Accompanist
Sean O'Flaherty	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Debbie Dahl-Schultz	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Freddi Servais	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Sam Servais	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Aaron Zivney	Gift Bearer
Denise DeBonville	Gift Bearer
Debbie Clarkin	Sacristan/MC

Jan 7/8

Saturday, Jan 7, 4:30 PM (Mass at BSP)

Paulette Drozdowicz	Reader (1)
Mary E Saphner	Reader (2)
Michelle Skemp	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
Hunter J.	Server
Kyle C.	Server
Sandra Johnston	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Michele Cook	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mark Schuttenhelm	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mary Schuttenhelm	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mike Vanderploeg	Sacristan/MC
Christine Nelson	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communion
Kathi Hancock	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communi..

Sunday, Jan 8, 9:00 AM (Mass at BSP)

Mark Steingraeber	Reader (1)
Tony Weisse	Reader (2)
Kent Stein	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
Jonny W.	Server
Jackson W.	Server
Bruce Simones	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Sunny Onyeabor	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Roger Korgor	Min of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
William Arnold	Sacristan/MC
Donna Lee	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communi..
Larry Lee	Extraordinary Min of Holy Communi..

Sunday, Jan 8, 11:15 AM (Mass at RNP)

Tom Hench	Reader (1)
Kathleen Hench	Reader (2)
Joshua Kaiser	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
Gabe Berendes	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Annie Berendes	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Ressano Machado	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Vanessa Machado	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Alice Mcquire Backlund	Gift Bearer
Mike Mader	Gift Bearer
Kathy Running	Sacristan/MC

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:00pm BSP +Ray and Florence Mashak
6pm RNP +Leroy and Lynn Paulin
8pm RNP For the people of the parish

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

9:00am BSP +Terri Levi
11:15am RNP +Jack Niedfeldt

Monday, December 26

8am BSP +Karl and Elizabeth Keppel

Tuesday, December 27

8am BSP +Mary Melde-Weiske

Wednesday, December 28

8am BSP Intention of Robert Burg

Thursday, December 29

8am BSP +Joe and Elaine Steingraeber

Friday, December 30

8am BSP For the Living and Deceased Members of the William Mishler Family

Saturday, December 31

4:30pm BSP +Raymond and Laretta Jahimiak

Sunday, January 1

9:00am BSP For the Living and Deceased Members of the Burg Family

11:15am RNP

***Daily Masses at RNP will be on pause** from December 26th - January 6th. Daily Mass will continue as usual at BSP. See front page of bulletin for more info. Additionally, the 8:30pm Sunday night Mass at RNP will be on pause during the students' winter break and will return Jan. 22nd. Thank you!

This Week

Saturday, December 24

- Confessions, 3:30pm @ BSP
- Rosary, (led by Scott and Caryl Doberstein)

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

- Rosary, 8:35am (led by Joe and Barb Clements)

Monday, December 26

- RNP and BSP offices closed
- Salvation Army Service, 4:15pm

Tuesday, December 27

Wednesday, December 28

- Dogma and Donuts Men's Group, 8:45am BSP

Thursday, December 29

- Salvation Army Service, 4:15pm

Friday, December 30

Saturday, December 31

- Confessions, 3:30pm @ BSP
- Rosary, 4:05pm (led by Natalie Schwinn-Weaver)

Sunday, January 1

- Rosary, 8:35am (led by Irm Drier and Barb Swieciak)







BSP Boiler Update

This past month Blessed Sacrament Parish installed in the school building a new more efficient primary boiler. The new boiler replaces an outdated less efficient back up system and will be less costly to operate.

Many thank yous to our parishioners who have generously supported our Parish over the years allowing maintenance of the school building

Follow us!

-  @bsplacrosse
-  @RoncalliNewman
-  @bsplacrosse
-  @roncallinewman

Pastoral Notes

From the desk of Fr. Billy Dodge

Dear Parish Family and Friends of Roncalli Newman,

I want to thank all the volunteers who helped make our Christmas Liturgies possible. The decorators who readied the church. The musicians! The parish staff who worked so hard behind the scenes this time of year. Thank you for all your work!

To those who have sent me Christmas cards - THANK YOU! Your kind notes and generosity are greatly appreciated. I try to respond to as many as possible with personal notes of thanks, but sometimes I get overwhelmed. So I want to publicly thank those who have been so kind and generous, and especially thank those who have made me feel as part of their family!

Merry Christmas and God bless!

Father Billy Dodge

Associate Pastoral Notes

From the desk of Father Sam McCarty

Hi All,

I have just a short testimony this week from a student, Rebekah. I think, though, it's appropriate for the great celebration today and the season we are entering: when we welcome Christ we become who we are meant to be and the best way to live that out is in community. Merry Christmas!

-Fr. Sam

--

Newman has become such a special place to me. The people I've met through Newman have become some of my closest friends. It is a place where I can grow in my faithful, be my authentic self, and have fun.

— Rebekah Friendshuh



Music & Liturgy

From the desk of Mary Ellen Hauptert

THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE IN OUR SANCTUARIES!

Last week, I thanked all the readers, musicians, ministers of hospitality who serve at both parishes. This week, I would like to extend thanks to individuals who regularly assist Father Billy and Father Sam during Mass. Thanks to all the Blessed Sacrament child servers from the Johnson, Bennet, Hancock, Woolever, and Gauger families, as well as Kyle Craig. Thanks also to Mike Vanderploeg and William Arnold who serve as Master of Ceremonies, Jean Kachel (BSP sacristan), and Dave Schreier, who is an adult server and important resource for training Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Thanks to our active **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**: Marie Allen, Sandra Borreson, Joe Clements, Donna Cramer, Caryl Doberstein, Brian and Susan Fukuda, Holly Gorman, Kathi Hancock, Luci Johnson, Ellen Kallies, Bernice Lansing, Barb and Bud Lee, Larry and Donna Lee, Maggie Leon, Christine Nelson, Betty Roth, Chris and Patti SansCrainte, Fran and Greg Sauer, Dave Schreier, Mary Schuttenhelm, Carol Steingraeber, Janelle Vanderzee, Natalie Schwinn Weaver, and Tony Weisse (sub).

We plan to have training sessions for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at both parishes in January, followed by a commissioning. We don't have very many active communion ministers at Blessed Sacrament, so would welcome any volunteers who might come forward before then; there are currently openings at the 4:30PM Mass on January 7th and 21st .

Thanks to our sacristans at Roncalli Newman Parish – Sandy Johnston, Mary Lou Balts, Kathy Running, and Cindy Sjolander. We don't schedule communion ministers at Newman, so will have to thank you all collectively so as not to leave anyone out!

THANKS TO OUR COMBINED LITURGY COMMITTEE!

From the beginning of our parish merger, the members of Blessed Sacrament and Roncalli Newman Parishes who have served on Liturgy Committee have been models of service, patience, and empathy. We have had several conversations regarding music (choices and the use of the worship aid), scheduling, and liturgical practice and traditions. Thank you to Caryl Doberstein, Mike and Rose Porter, Mike and Carol Mader, Sandy and Ollie Schulteis, Jennifer Kulzer, Dave Schreier, Mike Vanderploeg, Michael Wodzak, Cindy Sjolander, Mary Blaha-DeBoer, Kathy Running, and Maggie Bjorkquist. Special thanks to Bernice Lansing (BSP) and the DeBonvilles (RNP) for coordinating all the decorating at both parishes, especially at this busy time of year! If you ever want to voice concern over anything related to liturgy, please consider joining this group!

THANKS TO THOSE WHO COMPOSE OUR PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL!

For the past several months, two members of Liturgy Committee, Dr. Mike Mader and Dr. Mike Porter, have been composing the Prayers of the Faithful that are read at both parishes. I'm grateful for the time they spend considering scripture passages and the needs of the world. Each week, they send me their work, which I edit and format before sending to the administrative assistants at each parish. If you see them in the pews on Sunday, please take a moment to thank them for their dedicated service!!

THANKS TO STREAMERS!

Thank you to Tom Kratt for streaming Masses from Blessed Sacrament Parish; thanks to Santi Toribio and Kelly Nowicki for providing the same service at Roncalli Newman Parish. Our homebound parishioners are grateful!

THANKS TO ALL OUR CHRISTMAS MUSICIANS!

Special thanks to Mary Blaha-DeBoer for assisting Mary Ellen in her work and for providing beautiful music on Christmas Day! Thanks also to Pauline Connell, Sam Scheidt, and all the musicians who provided music at the 4:00 PM Mass at Blessed Sacrament. Thanks also to the parishioners of Roncalli Newman who worked together at the family Mass @ 6:00 PM and to all those who formed a choir for the candlelight liturgy @ 8:00PM. You have brought joy to so many this season!

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON HAS JUST STARTED!

Because Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, the Feast of the Holy Family (Friday, December 30th) is not obligatory. Parishioners can look forward to celebrating the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on the weekend of December 31st /January 1st . The Feast of the Epiphany follows on the weekend of January 7th and 8th, and while many people take their trees down when the guests have left and Christmas Day is past, Christians celebrate the Christmas season through the Baptism of the Lord, which is celebrated this year on Monday, January 9th . (You might want to check on tree pick up in the city, however. They aren't quite as tuned into religious practice as you are!)





Blessing before a Christmas Stable

Father Peter John Cameron, O.P.

“No one, whether shepherd or wise man, can approach God here below except by kneeling before the manger at Bethlehem and adoring him hidden in the weakness of a newborn child.” (CCC 563).

Lord Jesus, as I kneel before you manger in adoration, let my first Christmas word be: thank you. Thank you, Gift of the Father, for coming to save me from my sins. Without you I do not know even how to be human. The characteristics of your human body express the divine person of God's Son. And in that wondrous expression, Lord you reveal me to myself. Thank you for that saving revelation in your sacred humanity. As the Christmas liturgy proclaims, “in Christ man restores to man the gift of everlasting life.” Thank you for coming as one like myself to save me from myself.

You come as a baby because babies are irresistible and adorable. You come as a baby because you want our first impression of God incarnate to be that of one who does not judge. How I long to be united with you in every way. May I never be attracted to the allurements and charms of the world. May I love you always, at every moment, with all my heart, soul, mind and strength. May the tenderness, the dependency, and the mercy that you reveal in your infancy become the hallmarks of my life.

Newborn Saviour, the very silence of your incarnation proclaims that the answer to the misery, the strife, and the meaninglessness of life cannot be found within us. You alone are the Answer. As I kneel before you, eternal King, I surrender to you all my selfishness, self-absorption, self-indulgence, self-righteousness, self-assertion, and selfexaltation. Even as I adore you on this night of your birth, rid me of the nagging desire to be adored.

Word become flesh, you make your dwelling among us. Yet you do not live your life for yourself, but for us. And you enable us to live in you all that you yourself lived. Help me to embrace this truth with all my mind and heart. Come and live your life in me. Empty me of my willfulness, my petulance, my hardness, my cynicism, my contemptuousness. Fill me with your truth, your strength, your fortitude, your purity, your gentleness, your generosity, your wisdom, your heart and your grace.

O Emmanuel, may the assurance of your unfailing Presence be for me the source of unending peace. May I never fear my weakness, my inadequacy, or my imperfection. Rather, as I gaze with faith, hope and love upon your incarnate littleness, may I love my own littleness, for God is with us. Endow my life with a holy wonder that leads me ever more deeply into the Mystery of Redemption and the meaning of my vocation and destiny.

Longed-for Messiah, your servant Saint Leo the Great well wrote that in the very act of reverencing the birth of our Saviour, we are also celebrating our own new birth. From this night on may my life be a dedicated life of faith marked by holy reliance, receptivity, and resoluteness. May I make my life a total gift of self. May my humble worship of the nativity manifest how much I seek the father's kingdom and his way of holiness. The beauty of your holy face bears the promise that your Father will provide for us in all things This Christmas I renew my trust in God's goodness, compassion, and providence. I long for the day when you will teach us to pray "Our Father."

May your Presence, Prince of Peace, bless the world with peace, the poor with care and prosperity, the despairing with hope and confidence, the grieving with comfort and gladness, the oppressed with freedom and deliverance, the suffering with solace and relief. Loving Jesus, you are the only real joy of every human heart. I place my trust in you.

Oh divine Fruit of Mary's womb, may I love you in union with the holy Mother of God. May my life be filled with the obedience of Saint Joseph and the missionary fervour of the shepherds so that the witness of my life may shine like the star that leads the Magi to your manger. I ask all this with great confidence in your holy name. Amen.

