

Sunday Bulletin

Blessed Sacrament & Roncalli Newman Parishes
December 11th, 2022 | 3rd Sunday of Advent



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

Loaves and Fishes Gathering

In the midst of your holiday preparations, take an evening off and join Gathering Loaves & Fishes at the Waterfront Restaurant on Wednesday evening, **December 21st at 6:30 p.m.** Please call Colleen at 608-787-1120 to make your reservation. Hope to see you there.

Alternative Gift Giving Idea: Help Support Newman's Casa Hogar Family:

You or your family can make a donation to help support Newman's Casa Hogar family. You could make this gift and give a card to your loved one telling of the gift in their honor. Newman pledges a minimum of \$1,000 annually to help provide a family setting for 8 children at Casa Hogar. Our "Rosario" family is 2 houseparents and their own children plus 8 orphaned/at risk girls living as a family unit at Casa Hogar. Some of the the girls are not orphans, but without our Casa Hogar family, they would not have food and medical care or education and would be on their own at a very early age. A donation check of any amount can be made out to Roncalli Newman Center with **Casa Hogar Family** in the memo line. Drop it in the collection box. The family is so thankful for your support.

Christmas Decorating Helpers Needed @ BSP

Many hands and several strong backs are needed on the morning of **Friday December 23rd** as we prepare church for His birthday. Please come to the church at 9:00 a.m. if you are able to help.

High School Confirmation Reminder

This is just a friendly reminder that all high school youth preparing for Confirmation will meet on **Sunday, Dec 18th from 5:00pm-8:00pm** at Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Hall for our second session with Fr. Dodge. Only candidates need to attend and a meal will be provided.

December Men's Prayer and Fellowship

The December Men's prayer and fellowship gathering will be **Tuesday December 13th from 6-7:30pm** at the Parish Center conference room at BSP. We will pray as usual and discuss Advent and also will talk about a Saint of December that was very vital to the conversion of millions to the Church. Bring your Rosary and a friend. All men of all area parishes are invited.

Campus Ministry Tuesday Dinners

Thank you to all who helped make our Taco Tuesday and Missions Fiesta a success! We welcomed 140 students this week. Next week we'll be serving Breakfast for Dinner - sign ups are located on the Newman website if you're interested in joining this mission. Anyone who brings a dish is welcome to stay and eat with our students. Thank you!

Christmas Decorating Helpers Needed @RNP

Roncalli Newman is in need of 10 volunteers to help decorate for Christmas on Sunday December 18th. Please contact Sandy in the office if you are able to help.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

December 17/18

Saturday, Dec 17, 4:30 PM (Mass at Blessed Sacrament)

Michele Thorman	Reader (1)
Caryl Doberstein	Reader (2)
Mike H.	Server
Elizabeth H.	Server
Michael J Porter	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Thomas Miller	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Rose Porter	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Kathie Hanna	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mike Vanderploeg	Sacristan/MC
Ellen Kallies	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communi..
Luci Johnson	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communi..

Sunday, Dec 18, 9:00 AM (Mass at Blessed Sacrament)

Patty Keil	Reader (1)
Bob Kelemen	Reader (2)
Charlee G.	Server
Ruby G.	Server
Pat Abraham	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Scott Smerud	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Karen Gamoke	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
John Gallagher	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
William Arnold	Sacristan/MC
Maggie Leon	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communi..
Kathi Hancock	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communi..

Sunday, Dec 18, 11:15 AM (Mass at Roncalli Newman)

Carol Mader	Reader (1)
Maureen Neuville	Reader (2)
Kathryn Barth	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Carlene Ulrich	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Dennis Ulrich	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mike Mader	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Ken Horth	Gift Bearer
Ginger Horth	Gift Bearer
Debbie Clarkin	Sacristan/MC

Rest In Peace

The funeral Mass for BSP parishioner Mary Brennan will be held on **Monday December 12th at 10:30am**. It will be preceded by a 1 hour visitation starting at 9:30am.

Final Exam Snacks for College Students

The college students' final exams are quickly approaching, and we are hoping to collect snacks to help fuel their studying! We are looking for donations of chips, granola bars, candy, crackers, sparkling water, etc.. Donations can be dropped off at Roncalli Newman by the campus ministry office. Thank you very much!

From Roncalli Newman Social Justice

Missed out on #GivingTuesday? There's still plenty of time to make a tax-deductible contribution to Habitat before the year is done. Make your donation today, and let's keep #buildingtogether in 2023!

Weekend Collection 12/4

BSP \$11,881.00 // RNP \$9,538.00

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 10

4:30pm BSP People of the Parish

Sunday, December 11 - 3rd Sunday in Advent

9:00am BSP + Don Dolan

11:15am RNP + Norma Thiele

Monday, December 12

8am BSP Holy Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, December 13

8am BSP +Lloyd Herlitzke

5:15pm RNP Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, December 14

8am BSP SCHOOL MASS: +Karl Zenk

12pm RNP David Reckase and Mental Health Healing

Thursday, December 15

8am BSP +Rita Johnson

7pm RNP Reparation for Offense against Mary

Friday, December 16

8am BSP For the Intention of Barb Clements

12pm RNP +Tom Strange

Saturday, December 17

4:30pm BSP Living and Deceased members of the Jim and Maxine Kroner Family

Sunday, December 18 - 4th Sunday in Advent

9:00am BSP + Ron Hammes

11:15am RNP +Vince Hatt

This Week

Saturday, December 10

- Confessions, 3:30pm @ BSP
- Rosary, 4:05pm (led by Mary Schuttenhelm)

Sunday, December 11 - 3rd Sunday in Advent

- Rosary, 8:35am (led by Les and Terry Lachine)
- last day for BSP Giving Tree and Ukraine Collection

Monday, December 12

- Salvation Army Service, 4:15pm
- Upcoming Sunday Scripture Study, 6pm RNP

Tuesday, December 13

- Men's Prayer and Fellowship Gathering 6-7:30pm
- RCIA Class, 6:30pm BSP

Wednesday, December 14

- Dogma and Donuts Men's Group, 8:45am BSP
- Christmas Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm RNP
- Families Forming Disciples, 5:45-6:45pm MMOC
- High School Faith Formation, 7pm BSP
- RCIA Class, 7pm RNP

Thursday, December 15

- Salvation Army Service, 4:15pm

Friday, December 16

Saturday, December 17

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

Sunday, December 18 - 4th Sunday in Advent

- Rosary, 8:35am (led by Kevin and Helen Roop)
- Families Forming Disciples, 10:10 - 11:10am, BSP
- High School Confirmation, 5pm - 8pm, BSP

Around the Parish | 3rd Sunday of Advent

Roncalli Newman Giving Tree

Look for Roncalli Newman's Giving Tree in the gathering space outside of Mary Ellen's office. The Giving Tree has tags that benefit 3 local organizations, The Exchange, New Horizons Women's Shelter and The Boys & Girls Club. Each tag has a list of highly needed items for each organization. Choose an item or items to purchase and return items in a bag back under the Giving Tree. Attach the tag to identify the organization. No need to wrap the items. We need your items back to Newman **by Monday, December 19**. Thank you for your generosity in this season. Questions call Pat (608) 406-0635

Pointsettias for BSP Altar

Help adorn our sanctuary with the beautiful flowers of the season. Purchase a poinsettia in honor of someone or in their memory by calling the parish office at 608-782-2953, extension 2. The two options include a medium plant with red blossoms at \$18 or a large plant with white blossoms at \$35. Place your order soon.

Families with Children Preparing for First Reconciliation

This is just a friendly reminder to all parents with children from Blessed Sacrament and Roncalli Newman preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. There will be a meeting for both parents and children on **Sunday December 11th from 10:10am-11:10am** at Blessed Sacrament in the parish hall.

High School Faith Formation

High School Faith Formation meets this **Wednesday December 14th from 7:00pm-8:30pm** at Blessed Sacrament.

Families Forming Disciples

Families Forming Disciples meets this **Wednesday December 14th at Mary Mother of the Church and Sunday December 18th at Blessed Sacrament**. Families will share their Lesson 4 Week 2 At Home Mission: Prayerfully Preparing for Christmas & Grace and Holiness In Family Life. Families Forming Disciples will NOT meet again until January 4th and 8th to take time off for Christmas.

Associate Pastoral Notes

From the desk of Father Sam McCarty

Hi All,

Fr. Sam here. I want to start highlighting in the bulletin some of the really good work that's happening often behind the scenes with our college students at Roncalli Newman. I get to see a lot of good and a lot of God working and want to share with all of you some of those stories. This week I have a blurb written by Samuel Obert, one of our FOCUS missionaries, who talks about a student whose life has been impacted by the Lord:

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In this newsletter, I'd like to just spotlight one student, in particular, Nate, a junior here at UW-L. We offer two Sunday Masses on campus- one in the morning and the other in the evening. After each of them, we missionaries hang out around the doors to talk to students as they leave, hoping to meet new people. Most students just scurry out trying to go unnoticed, but one evening my friend Maddie and I were able to stop a guy, Nate, and start a conversation with him. It was short, but the following week we spoke again. Through our conversation, I learned that Nate had never been to the Shrine, so I invited him to go with me. The next week I picked him up and took him; he was astonished by its beauty. While there, we did some praying and I shared with Nate my story of how I grew deeper in my faith during my college years. I also got to learn more about him and his past. A week later, I invited him to watch a video with me about the Eucharist. His mind was blown! Afterward, Nate felt more convicted of his Catholic faith whereas before he was just going through the motions. Since then, he has been saying yes to so many invitations! He came to a talk that I gave one night, he committed to going to the SEEK conference this winter, he said yes to joining me in discipleship, and, most importantly, he went to confession for the first time in SEVEN years! How good! The Holy Spirit is transforming Nate's mind and heart. Because you support me in this mission, Nate and so many other students are finding a new purpose and joy! Jesus invites you to this same purpose and joy. Say 'yes' to Him.

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Thanks to our parishioners for your support that allows this to keep happening - please pray for us!

-Fr. Sam

Music & Liturgy

From the desk of Mary Ellen Hauptert

NEED FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Thanks to those who volunteered to serve at one or more of our Christmas liturgies! Please let me know if you can help fill one of the several "NOT FILLED" roles below. Peace and all goodness during this holy season of Advent!

Sat, 4:00 PM - Christmas Eve (BSP)

Joan Mueller	Reader (1)
Tom Kieffer	Reader (2)
Sam Scheidt	Cantor
Pauline Connell	Accompanist
Dave Schreier	Server
Mark Hyde	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mary Schuttenhelm	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Suzanne Verdoliva	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Mike Vanderploeg	Sacristan/MC
Sandra Borreson	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
Caryl Doberstein	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sat, 6:00 PM - Christmas Eve Family Mass (RNP)

Margaret Anderson	Reader (1)
NOT FILLED	Reader (2)
Kristin Johnson	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
NOT FILLED	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Sacristan/MC

Sat, 8:00 PM - Christmas Eve Candlelight Mass (RNP)

Annie Berendes	Reader (1)
Greg Wegner	Reader (2)
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Cantor
Mary Ellen Hauptert	Accompanist
Gabe Berendes	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Michele Cook	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Sean O'Flaherty	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Sacristan/MC

Sun, 9:00 AM - Christmas Day (BSP)

Dave Reinders	Reader (1)
Mary Jo Reinders	Reader (2)
Christine Nelson	Cantor
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Accompanist
NOT FILLED	Server
NOT FILLED	Server
LuAnne Kratt	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Bob Roth	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Bruce Simones	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
William Arnold	Sacristan/MC
NOT FILLED	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
NOT FILLED	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun, 11:15 AM - Christmas Day (RNP)

Teresa Walter	Reader (1)
NOT FILLED	Reader (2)
Mary Blaha-DeBoer	Cantor
Ryan Howe	Accompanist
Sean O'Flaherty	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Cindy Patros	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Paul Patros	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
NOT FILLED	Minister of Hospitality (Greeter, Usher)
Sandra Johnston	Sacristan/MC

Advent Reflection: Reparation

Each week we will be reflecting on a word: Adoration, Thanksgiving, Reparation and Petition. Each one of these words is located on the sides of the altar at BSP.



21 Reasons To Go To Confession & Why Catholics Confess Sins To Priests

by aggiecatholic.org

There are several questions we need to sort through before we get to the reason we all need Confession.

- Is the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) necessary to have your sins forgiven or can you go straight to God?
- Why do we need this Sacrament?
- Where did it come from?
- What does sin do?
- We have to lay some groundwork before giving adequate answers.

What Sin Does

Sin causes a three-fold damage in relationships:

1. With God
2. With Others
3. With Ourselves

Most people easily see that sin can damage the relationship between us and God. This is why all Christians seek forgiveness of sins in some way. But, this isn't the only damage done. St. Paul tells us, in several of his letters, we are all united to God in one body of Christ - the Church. One example of this teaching:

"We, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another." - Romans 12:5

So, when we sin we can damage others. As Paul says in his long teaching on the Body of Christ in 1 Corinthians:
"If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy." - 1 Cor 12:26

Thus, we not only damage the relationship with God, but also with other members of the Church. The Catechism teaches:

1440 "Sin is before all else an offense against God, a rupture of communion with him. At the same time it damages communion with the Church. For this reason conversion entails both God's forgiveness and reconciliation with the Church."

The third damage caused is to ourselves. We are created for goodness and holiness. When we sin, in a sense, we become less of who we were created to be. This damage needs to be repaired also. This healing only happens when sin is forgiven.

Who Forgives Sin?

Only God has the authority to forgive sins. Yet, this authority is mediated through others. The Jews questioned why Christ was forgiving sins, because they did not realize He was God. We must not forget that Jesus was also a man. He passes on this authority to forgive sins to his apostles.

After the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples who were gathered in the upper room, scared out of their minds and confused. Christ comes and breathes the Holy Spirit on them and then commissions them to forgive sins. This is only the second time God breathes on humans. The first is when He breathes life into Adam. Breath is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

"On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. (Jesus) said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." - John 20 19-23

The apostles are sent as the Father has sent Jesus - with the authority to forgive sins. But, how could they know which sins to forgive and which to retain, if the sins were not confessed? This is why the book of James says this:

"confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed." - James 5:16

In this context of this verse, a person is told to "summon the presbyters of the church" (James 5:14). Presbyter is the Greek word for priest (or elder).

Therefore, based on the Biblical evidence, we see forgiveness of sins is explicitly tied to confession to a priest, who has the authority to forgive sins, which is given by Christ. Christ thus heals the relationship through the priest and we are reconciled to both God and His Church and in doing this, we are healed, thus becoming who we truly ought to be. Therefore, this heals the three-fold damage done in our relationships.

Can You Go Straight To God?

Yes and no. We are told, as we see clearly in Scripture above, that we are to confess our sins to one another. Thus, the ordinary way we have our grave sins forgiven is through the Sacrament of Confession. Thus, this is the way that Christ has established as the ordinary way to forgive grave (i.e. mortal) sins. But, there are extreme circumstances where God may forgive grave sins outside of Confession if the person has perfect contrition (sorrow) for their sins, but these are extraordinary.

Also, we are only required to go to Confession once a year during the Easter season, and only if we have committed a mortal sin. Thus, all venial sins can be forgiven by going straight to God, though they can also be forgiven in Confession, and this is recommended whenever possible.

Can Only Catholics Have Sin Forgiven?

The simple answer is no. While confession is the ordinary way to have your sins forgiven, it is not the only way. The Catechism says:

"When it arises from a love by which God is loved above all else, contrition is called "perfect" (contrition of charity). Such contrition remits venial sins; it also obtains forgiveness of mortal sins if it includes the firm resolution to have recourse to sacramental confession as soon as possible" (CCC 1452).

If someone is not Catholic (thus they do not have recourse to the Sacrament), then they can be forgiven, with perfect contrition and confession of their sins to God. If a non-Catholic is in danger of death, they can receive the Sacrament - if they are a baptized Christian.

"If there is a danger of death or if, in the judgment of the diocesan Bishop or of the Episcopal Conference, there is some other grave and pressing need, catholic ministers may lawfully administer these same sacraments to other Christians not in full communion with the catholic Church, who cannot approach a minister of their own community and who spontaneously ask for them, provided that they demonstrate the catholic faith in respect of these sacraments and are properly disposed." (Code of Canon Law, canon 844.4)

So, Why Go to Confession If you Can be Forgiven Without It?

Many reasons, in fact, I came up with at least 21 of them:

21 Reasons To Go To Confession!

1. God commanded we confess our sins to one another in the Bible. (James 5:16)
2. It is the ordinary way to have our sins forgiven.
3. We receive grace to resist sin through the Sacrament, as well as forgiveness.
4. We learn humility by having to confess to another person.
5. There is built-in accountability.
6. Our relationship with the rest of the Church is healed.
7. We receive counsel from the priest.
8. We can be comforted hearing the words of absolution.
9. All are sins are wiped away.
10. Helps give you the strength to forgive others.
11. It doesn't cost anything.
12. We may not be positive that we have "perfect" contrition without it.
13. Helps us go deep within and think about how we can improve.
14. It feels good emotionally.
15. When we realize (again) we are sinners, it is easier to be patient with others.
16. Always confidential - what is said in the confessional stays in the confessional.
17. No more guilt.
18. We are better prepared to receive the Eucharist.
19. Forgiveness is a necessary part of growing in holiness.
20. Our consciences can be better formed.
21. If we have mortally sinned, then Confession brings us back into the family of God - The Church as well as restores sanctifying grace in our souls!

The Life of Jesus Movie Showings

Join us in preparing for the coming of Christ at Christmas by watching the Gospel of John acted out in "The Life of Christ" (see attached flyer). This amazing movie allows you to encounter Christ in a new way. Witness His miracles and the struggle of the Jewish people to embrace Him as the long-awaited Messiah. It is the Bible come to life and one of the best ways to make this Advent preparation time Christ-centered.

FREE MOVIE at these Church locations!

December 5 (Monday) 9:00 am – Noon St. James the Less – Murphy Hall

December 6 (Tuesday) 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm St. Patrick's, Onalaska – Parish Hall

December 7 (Wednesday) Noon – 3:00 pm Holy Trinity – Leo Hall

December 8 (Thursday) 9:00 am – Noon St. Patrick's, Onalaska – Parish Hall

December 11 (Sunday) 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Blessed Sacrament – Parish Hall

Please join us! Bring your family and friends along!

Free popcorn and soda are provided.

Feel free to bring a bag of candy to share.

Sorry there is no show December 10 (Saturday) at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral due to a funeral taking place that day.

Mary Mother of the Church Cookie Walk and Craft Sale

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish will be holding their Cookie Walk & Craft Sale on Saturday, December 10, at the Parish Hall located at 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse, from 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM. Homemade cookies will be sold by the pound, plus homemade Candies, Breads, Pies, Handcrafted Items and Scrip Gift Cards available for sale. Serving Continental Breakfast and Lunch (homemade soup and chili). Raffles and hourly Door Prizes.

Cor Jesu

Oh come all ye faithful. Join us in adoration and preparation for the birth of our Lord at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman on Friday, December 16th at 7:30 pm, for this month's Cor Jesu group.

There will be Adoration and Confession as we prepare our hearts this Advent season and celebrate the coming of Christ with games, food and refreshments, following the worship.

Diocesan Advent Series

Check out this Diocesan wide Advent video series to prepare for Christmas. Videos can be found here: diolc.org/catechesis

3 rd week: Offering ourselves with Jesus to the Father with Msgr. Richard Gilles

During this season of Advent, we need to take time to focus on spiritual realities, contemplating the miraculous birth of Jesus, coming to us as an infant. Through Jesus, grace, truth and life entered into the world. At Mass, Jesus continues to come to us in the Eucharist. In union with Jesus, we can offer all that we are and everything that we have been given in thanksgiving to the Father.