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www.blessedsacramentchapel.org or email at blessedsac602@gmail.com

Mission Statement:

Established in the Spirit of Jesus Christ with an
Afro-centric focus, Blessed Sacrament Chapel is com-
mitted to spreading the "Word" through
fellowship and good works.

Sunday Mass: 10:00AM
Reconciliation: 1st Sunday 9:30AM

St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Office: 270-683-6525

Rector: Fr. Jerry Riney, jerry.riney@pastoral.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Jamie Dennis,
james.dennis@pastoral.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr. Jeannette Fennwald, SSND
jeannette.fennwald@pastoral.org

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will fix a place for my people. I
will plant them so that they may dwell in their
place without further disturbance (2 Samuel 7:1-5,
8b-12, 14a, 16).

Psalm — For ever I will sing the goodness of the
Lord (Psalm 89).

Second Reading — To the only wise God, through
Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans
16:25-27).

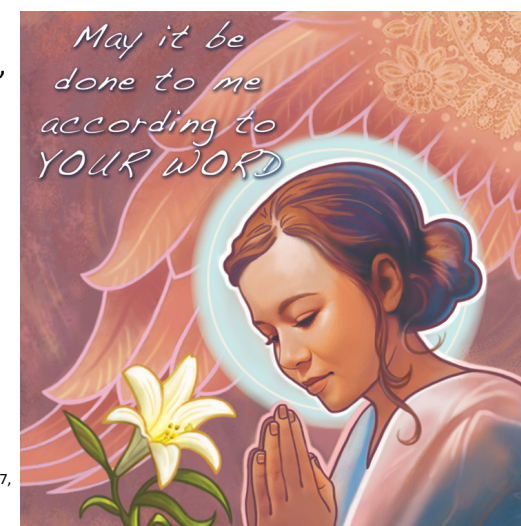
Gospel — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word
(Luke 1:26-38).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997,
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Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2017

The child to be born will be called holy,
the Son of God —*Luke 1:35*



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Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

- ◆ Dec. 24—Finish Church decorations
- ◆ Dec. 24 10 AM Mass (4th Sunday of Advent)
- ◆ Dec. 24—7 PM Mass Christmas Eve
- ◆ Dec. 31 10 AM Mass (Holy Family Sunday)
- ◆ Jan. 1 No Mass at BSC Mass at St. Stephen's at 7 AM and noon
- ◆ Jan 7—Take down Christmas decorations after Mass
- ◆ Jan. 25 Chick-Fil-A Night 4-8 PM (Benefits BSC)

Upcoming Diocesan/Community Events

- ◆ Feb. 17 Diocesan Men's Conference
- ◆ March 9-11 Youth 2000 Retreat (held at Brescia University)

Thank you for your contributions..

Dec. 17—\$910.75
Weekly Budget \$865
Year to date —
YTD budget—.
Candles—.\$7

Thanks for using the Debt Reduction envelope. It helps bring down what we owe.



4th Sunday of Advent, December 24
“May it be done to me according to your word.”
Our Blessed Mother is the model of perfect discipleship. She put fear aside and courageously followed God's will for her. By Mary's intercession for us, may we imitate her faithfulness by responding to God's call.

I Did Not Send You: A man who thought he was John the Baptist was disturbing the neighborhood. So, for public safety, he was forcefully taken to the psychiatric ward of a hospital. He was put in a room with another mentally unbalanced patient. He immediately began his routine, “I am John the Baptist! The Lord has sent me as the forerunner of Christ the Messiah!”
The other guy looked at him and declared, “I am the Lord your God. I did not send you!”

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Blessed Sacrament would appreciate being named as your community reward recipient. Every purchase you make means money back to Blessed Sacrament Thank you for your support. You can enroll at www.kroger.com or call 1-800-KROGERS , option 3

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
During the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18
Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128: 1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
Monday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Tuesday: St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins
Wednesday: St. John
Thursday: The Holy Innocents
Friday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket
Saturday: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity

GOD'S PROMISE

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a “house,” that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given—so different from what we ever could have imagined.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ... HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ... HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR JESUS ... HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

12-21-19

From the desk of Father Jamie



Talk about a lot to pack into one day. The last Sunday of Advent and then Christmas Eve. That is just how things fall sometimes.

As we have come to this final preparation for Christmas, as well as the looking ahead to the second coming of Christ, I hope we have gained as well as given during this season. Please try not to look at Christmas Day as the end, but the beginning of the Christmas season. Don't take down decorations for a while. May we enjoy and dwell upon the feast of Christmas.

May we count our blessings during this Christmas season. Don't feel bad for dragging out to the fullest, this celebration. Technically, there are two celebrations that we celebrate 8 days as one extended day; those are Christmas and Easter. These are the two greatest moments in salvation history.

May we do our best to celebrate, continue to celebrate and celebrate big.



May God fill your hearts with His love and peace. Share it with everyone you meet over the holidays.

Father Jerry, Father Jamie, Sister Jeannette

We welcome our guests and hope to see you again at Blessed Sacrament Chapel. If there is anything that we can do, please contact one of the priests or Sister Jeannette.

December Birthdays

18—Robert Johnson

20—Cathy Kramer

24—Susan Mutter

January Birthdays

7—Jacques Williams II

10—Whitney Williams



E-Giving is Alive!!

You can go to www.blessedsacramentchapel.org and click on “E-giving”.

Year End

Many times people are looking to make an end-of-the-year donation for tax purposes. Blessed Sacrament would be honored and happy to be remembered.

Mass Intentions:

Dec. 17—Jerry Mezur

Dec. 24 (10 AM)—Barbara Horsley

Dec. 24 (7 PM)—Sandra Brown

Dec. 31—Les Bumm

Jan. 7—Michael Carrico

Let us remember to pray for those who have recently died or those who are in the process of dying. Always remember to pray for the poor souls in purgatory.

“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.”
If you add up all of the words spoken by Mary to the Angel at the Annunciation [30]; to Elizabeth at their meeting [122 in the Magnificat]; When she and Joseph find Jesus in the Temple[20]; and her comments to Jesus and instructions to the servants at the wedding feast at Cana [9], she speaks a total of 181 words in all of Scripture. Mary was a woman of few words, at least according to the Gospels. From expressing her lack of understanding about How God would accomplish what the angel announced to her, to her simple, “May it be done unto me according to your word” and her awareness that “My *soul* proclaims the greatness of the Lord” to her final instructions to the servants at Cana, “Do whatever he tells you.” Mary is both our Mother and our Model. As Christmas gets nearer we should all be growing stronger in our willingness to accept the challenges God has in store for us with a simple “May it be done unto me according to your word” so our *soul* will “proclaim the greatness of our Lord” and we will be ready, without hesitation to “Do whatever he tells you.” Now, let us celebrate Christmas.

<u>MINSTERS</u>	
<u>Lectors</u>	
<u>Dec. 31</u>	Audrey Mezur
	Marsha Allen
<u>Jan. 7</u>	Jacques Williams
	Layson Brooks
<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	
<u>Dec. 31</u>	Tina Gough
	Charlene Meadows
	Karen Leachman
<u>Jan. 7</u>	Misty Sanford
	Cindy Clark
	Payton Sanford
<u>Ushers/Offertory</u>	
<u>Dec. 31:</u>	Cathy, Ethan, Martha Kramer
<u>Jan. 7</u>	Robert Hagan
	Von Williams
Christmas Tree Blessing Blessed are you, Lord our God, before whom all the trees of the forest sing for joy. We ask you to send your blessings upon this tree which we have decorated in honor of your Son's birth. Let it help us to celebrate this holy season as living branches of him and bear the fruit of good works for your glory, this day and every day, now and forever.	



Many people give gift cards at Christmas or at other times during the year. Think about using Scrip. Gift cards to local and national merchants (department stores, restaurants, health care, automotive, sporting goods, just to mention a few) are available. A percentage is given back by the merchant. If you mention Blessed Sacrament Chapel when you purchase them, we will get 75% of the rebate. Some merchants give us much as 20% of the value of the card. You only pay the amount of the gift card.

Scrip is available at the Catholic High School Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. You can get all your gift cards at one location and not have to go to various stores.

If you have any questions, please see Sister Jeannette. It takes a little effort but is worth it. Cards are available year round.

This past July we received a rebate check for \$235.57—a huge increase from the \$19.99 we received in 2016. Would love to see a big increase this next July.

God Has a Real Face

After Jesus has come into the world, it is impossible to act as if we do not know God, or as if he were something that is abstract, empty, a purely nominal reference. No God, has a real face; he has a name: God is mercy, God is faithfulness, he is life which is given to all. —Pope Francis

How does Jesus birth make your faith more real and human? Celebrate the joy of His arrival.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the *Christkind* in Austria and Belgium, *El Niño Jesús* in Columbia, and *Le Petit Jesus* in France, where he shares his duties with *Père Noël*. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but *Ježíšek*, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Our thoughts and prayers are with:
SICK: Craig Johnson, Frank Adams, Denise Higgs, Ruth Coble, Carol Hatchett, Loretta Wathen, Beverly Chilton, Charlene Meadows, Larry Leachman, Blythe Nantz, . Philip Moorman, Sr., Camilla Greer, Jim Moorman, Sarah Bumm, Dorothy Fulton, Louise Johnson, Larry Allen, Betty Clark, Phillip Moorman, Jr., Linda McDonald **If you know of anyone seriously ill who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.**

THE HOMEBOUND:

Stan Howard at Bishop Soennecker Home, Knottsville, A phone call or a card can cheer the homebound if you can't visit.

The entertainer and comedian Bob Hope once said,

“My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?”

Each one of us in virtue of our Baptism is called to live our faith and to bear witness to the Gospel.