

Give *Thanks* to the *Lord*



## CELEBRATING THE DAYS

### Monday, November 21

- ✕ Confessions before Mass
- ✕ **8:00 AM** Toni Weis  
Mary Ellen Picco

### Tuesday, November 22

- ✕ Confessions before Mass
- ✕ **8:20 AM** John Davidson & Tweryon Families

### Wednesday, November 23

- ✕ Confessions before Mass
- ✕ **8:00 AM** Eugene Staudt
- ✕ **5:30 PM** Prayer Service for the Sick & Suffering

### Thursday, November 24, Thanksgiving

- ✕ Confessions before Mass
- ✕ **8:00 AM** Faye Fischer

### Friday, November 25

- ✕ Confessions before Mass
- ✕ **8:20 AM** Don Forsyth  
Zena Garcia and Malick Hines

### Saturday, November 26

- 7:00 AM Richard Schafer (LATIN MASS)
- ✕ Confessions 3:00—4:00 PM
- ✕ 4:30 PM Mary & Louis Schmitt

### Sunday, November 27, First Sunday of Advent

- ✕ 7:00 AM Deceased members of the Carmine Frasco Family
- ✕ 8:30 AM Frances Golden Ware
- ✕ 10:30 AM Intentions of our Parishioners

### Blessed Sacrament Prayer Line

**Call Jean Quigley at 523-6573 or Mary Theresa Drake at 726-6649.** Please pray for the following people: Simon Cory, Mary Kay Gonterman, Annette Fuchs, Phyllis, Gene Kaufmann, Coleen, John Coyne, Bill Coyne, Charles Brady, Paul Hosmanek, Hazel, Cinda Gebbens, John Giachetto, Jackie, Eileen Dennison, Carol, Skylar, Cassidy, Hannah, Brett, MaryAnn, Lennie & William Reed, Margaret & Patty Taylor, Bill Waters, Mary Ellen Brown, J. Schleyhahn, Jeni, Josh, Ginny, Rob, Mary, Roberta, Mary Bernardi, David Neale, Becky Figge, Midge Ward, Toni, Angie Henderson, Angel, Alyssa, Barbara, Beth, Bonnie, Donna Braun, Danielle Loftus, Joe, Mary Schwartz, Marlene, Michael, Ruth Pohlman, Thomas Rice, Tom Schmidt, Michael Guzzardo, Pat, Don, relatives in service, and those who need our prayers.

## DEAR PARISHIONERS,

**Thoughts on Thanksgiving.** There are many excuses I have heard (or even used) for not thanking someone for a gift or kindness given. Here are perhaps the most common excuses:

I was too busy. In our modern world we live full and active lives. Our calendars are filled with work, meetings, games, and other events that keep us going all the time. Writing a note or making a call takes time and energy—a precious commodity. But when I say I am too busy, what I am really saying is that I have more important things to do. I didn't think about it. Perhaps what I mean is that it just didn't occur to me that it was important enough to say something. Is any kindness too little to acknowledge?

I'm sure they knew I was grateful. I think we use this excuse most often with those closest to us—spouses, family, co-workers, etc. We just assume they know what I am thinking.

They get paid, why do I need to thank them? In other words they are only being good to me because it is their job. This is really a rather cynical or judgmental attitude and reduces kindness to a commodity rather than a value.

No one ever thanks me for what I do. I think the word **me** says it all. It is hard to think of others when we are focused on ourselves.

People use these excuses for not thanking others. Sometimes we even use them for not thanking God. The sad truth is that they are nothing more than excuses. If something is important we will make time. We will think about it and say something. If someone is kind to us, it shouldn't matter whether they are paid or not or whether we feel appreciated. We have reason and need to be grateful. As Christians we are called to make a difference. Sometimes it begins with something as small as saying thank you.

This week we celebrate Thanksgiving in our nation. It is a day set aside to give thanks to God. Yet, gratitude to God is about more than one special day a year. It is about our attitude and willingness to recognize and appreciate what we have been given. Perhaps the best way to show this gratitude is to make it a point to thank others for the kindness they show to us. I am sure that would also be pleasing to God.

**Father Jeff**

**OUR PARISH FAMILY****CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY WED**

Matthew Jackson and Kathleen Gietl

**PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DEPARTED**

Josephine Ebers

**PASTOR'S ANNUAL PARTY—TONIGHT!**

Father Jeff invites all parishioners to his first Pastor's Annual Party on November 20, from 5:30 to 8:00 in the school cafeteria. The party is an excellent opportunity to join Father in meeting and visiting with your fellow parishioners. The evening will feature excellent hors d'oeuvres, beverages and live music provided by guest performer, Phil Steinberg, as well two of our own talented parish pianists, Bob Mocharnuk and Choir Director Jody Kienzler.

**BREADLINE SUNDAY**

The 26th Annual Breadline Sunday, benefitting St. John's Breadline, is THIS WEEKEND. Loaves of bread will be available to purchase. With your donation, the Breadline can help meet the ever-increasing need to feed the hungry in our community. Please help us continue to provide hot, nutritious meals to the homeless, socially disabled, elderly, unemployed, and many families, including single parent families with children. The Breadline is currently averaging 600 meals a day.

**NOTES FROM OUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL****SCHOOL NOTES:**

Monday, Nov. 21 – Midquarter – Progress reports will be mailed home. 6:15 p.m. - 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' home basketball game vs. Springfield Christian 5:00-8:00 p.m. - Barnes & Noble Event to benefit our school library

Wednesday, Nov. 23 – Friday, Nov. 25 – No school for Thanksgiving break

Monday, Nov. 28 – 8:15 a.m. – Advent wreath ceremony in the cafeteria

Tuesday, Nov. 29 – 9:00 a.m. – Reconciliation for grades 6-8; 4:00 p.m. – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' home basketball game vs. Jefferson

Wednesday, Nov. 30 – 9:00 a.m. – Reconciliation for grades 3-5

Friday, Dec. 2 – 2:00 p.m. – First Friday adoration & benediction for grades 2-8

**BARNES & NOBLE EVENT FOR SCHOOL**

Please join us at Barnes & Noble on Monday, Nov. 21, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. for an evening to benefit the library at Blessed Sacrament School and to enjoy musical performances by our students. A percentage

of the sales with a provided voucher on this day will go to our school library, so be sure to ask for a voucher before paying for your purchases. You may shop and use the voucher any time on Monday, Nov. 21. Barnes & Noble also is willing to hold books for anyone who would like to purchase items but pick them up later. Remember to purchase Barnes & Noble scrip in our school office and start shopping for Christmas! If you cannot attend, you can shop online at [www.BN.com/bookfairs](http://www.BN.com/bookfairs). Enter our book fair ID number, 10615557, at the bottom of the payment page during checkout. Thanks for supporting our school library!

**LIVING HOLY ROSARY**

The DCCW will sponsor a Living Holy Rosary and Fellowship at Blessed Sacrament on Monday, November 21, Feast of the Presentation of Mary, beginning at 6:00 PM. A potluck meal will follow in the school cafeteria. The Living Holy Rosary uses a special format for praying the rosary, which is family-oriented. Everyone attending is asked to bring a favorite dish. Italian beef will be furnished but please call Rose Amon, DCCW International Commission Chair, at 787-8826, so she can have an idea of how much to prepare. All are welcome.

**SCOUT RETREAT**

On Sunday, December 4 from 1 – 4 PM, the Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting is sponsoring a retreat day for Cub Scouts to begin work on the Light of Christ or the Parvuli Dei religious emblem. The retreat will be held at St. Aloysius. The afternoon will include an introduction to the Catholic religious emblems programs, a series of sessions where Scouts can complete some of the activities required for an emblem, and lots of chances for Scouts to have fun learning about our Catholic faith. Registration fee is \$5 for Scouts to help cover supplies and a snack. Please bring your own copy of the workbook – Tiger and Wolf Scouts will work on the Light of Christ emblem while Bear and Webelos Scouts will work on the Parvuli Dei emblem. Workbooks are available at the Council office. Please RSVP to Kyle Holtgrave, chairman of the Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting at (217) 698-8500, ext. 154, or email [kholtgrave@dio.org](mailto:kholtgrave@dio.org).

**BULLETIN SCHEDULE**

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, information to be included in next weekend's bulletin is due Sunday evening, November 20. Thank you.



**ADORATION HOURS**

Balance. Most people haven't thought about balance since they learned to ride a bicycle. Let's consider balance in your life: between your career and your family; between time for your recreation and time for your spiritual life; between the budget for recreation and the budget for charity and church support. The Adoration Chapel is a great place to meditate on balance in your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your thoughts. An hour a week is a small but powerful step for balance in your life and peace of mind.

Prayerfully consider a scheduled hour in our adoration chapel. Contact Merle King (528-6088) or Tom Karaianis (415-3281) for more information.

**6:00 A.M. MONDAY****8:00 PM SATURDAY****2:00 AM SATURDAY****1:00 A.M. FRIDAY****2:00 AM MONDAY****GOSPEL OF LIFE**

The true personalistic interpretation of the commandment of love is found in the words of the Council: "When the Lord Jesus prays to the Father so that 'they may be one' (Jn 17:22), He places before us new horizons impervious to human reason and implies a similarity between the union of divine persons and the union of the children of God in truth and charity. This similarity shows how man, who is the only creature on earth that God wanted for his own sake, can fully discover himself only by the sincere giving of himself" (Gaudium et Spes 24). Here we truly have an adequate interpretation of the commandment of love. Above all, the principle that a person has value by the simple fact that he is a person finds very clear expression: man, it is said, "is the only creature on earth that God has wanted for his own sake." At the same time the Council emphasizes that the most important thing about love is the sincere gift of self. In this sense the person is realized through love.—Crossing the Threshold of Hope, Blessed Pope John Paul II

**MUSIC NOTES**

The First Advent Concert at Blessed Sacrament

The Chorale (adult choir) and the Jubilate Choir (Children's choir) will present an Advent Concert on November 27 at 4:00 p.m. in the church.

The choirs will be joined by Seraphim, a women's ensemble, and singers from Capital Chamber singers to sing some of the season's most beautiful music. Seraphim will perform Benjamin Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" with Harp accompaniment; The Jubilate choir will sing Advent selections, and the finale will be Vivaldi's "GLORIA" with an instrumental ensemble, Violin: Kamen Petkov, Megan Turner, Viola: Karen Frost, and Millikin professors, Amy Flores, cello, Tina Nicholson, oboe and Randy Reymon, trumpet. Dale Rodgers, director of music at Westminster Presbyterian will play harpsichord.

A free will offering will be taken to assist St. Martin de Porres during this season of distress for so many in our Springfield area.

Please help the choirs of our church make this event a success by coming to the concert and inviting friends and family as well. Join us for a reception in the school cafeteria following the concert.

\*\*\*Attention those who are still considering the Parish Pilgrimage trip to Italy, June 24-July 3, 2012. The deadline has been extended. Please call Jody at the Parish office for more information. 528-7521 ext 111

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE****WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21-27****Monday—Wednesday****8:00 AM/8:20 AM**

Haley Londrigan, Alyssa Sweeney

**Thursday-Friday****8:00/8:20 AM**

Patrick Belz, Laura Hanselman

**Saturday, Nov 26, 4:30 PM****Lectors:** Ed Hart**Servers:** Sophia Meier, Grace McDonald, Alex Mauntel**Eucharistic Ministers:** Ken Dobucki, Noreen Luhr, Isabel Figueroa, Rose Amon, Patricia Clarida, Lori Criscione, Susan Gallagher, Marty Mosley**Sunday, November 27, 7:00 AM****Lectors:** Chris Perrin**Servers:** Jack O'Connor, Erin Monroe**Eucharistic Ministers:** Nancy Smith, Phil Graham, Dave Langston, Ann Walker, Mary F. Conwill**Sunday, November 27, 8:30 AM****Lectors:** Laurie Mann**Servers:** Tyree Redpath, Taylor Pohlman, Abby Pohlman**Eucharistic Ministers:** Sr. Francesca Okwars, DDL, Sr. Josephine Okeke, DDL, Scott Reimers, Pat Sheehan, Lynn Frasco, Marge O'Keefe, Colleen VonDeBur, Kathy Harth**Sunday, Nov 27, 10:30 AM****Lectors:** Melaney Arnold**Servers:** Grace Portz, Ben Portz, Tim Oh**Eucharistic Ministers:** Rick Campbell, Lisa Belz, Cindy Ledbetter, Jim Morphew, Barbara Erdmann, Sally Petrone, Andrea Judd, Grace Stannard

**REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**

All are invited to a Service of Remembrance at Holiday Time for bereaved families and friends on Sunday, November 27 at 2:00 PM at the Knights of Columbus on Meadowbrook Road. For information, call 528-6461.

**ANGEL TREES**

The Angel Trees will be decorated next weekend with tags for children and families in need of helping make their holidays special. Please take a tag or two! Details will be provided soon.

**SAVE THE DATE!** – A cocktail reception will be held on Tuesday, December 13 to kick-off this year's B.S.S. Annual Fund. The fund, with a goal this year of \$75,000, supports the operating budget of the school. More information to follow!

**NEW ONLINE GIVING TOOL**

You may now use a link on the school website to give to the school and church! We have worked with Town & Country Bank to provide a safe, convenient way for school families, parish members and alumni to contribute to our parish and school via the general church contributions, the School Annual Fund, and the Building Fund. Funds will be withdrawn from your designated checking account as a one-time contribution, or you may set up recurring contributions.

*Building on Tradition*

<b>Goal</b>	<b>\$5,400,000.00</b>
<b>Total Commitments</b>	<b>\$5,190,985.00</b>
<b>Total Cash Received</b>	<b>\$3,674,916.00</b>

For those already contributing using automatic withdrawals from their bank accounts, these will continue unless we are notified by those families of a change. Automatic deposits in our account each week and each month have helped the parish financially with regular contributions, regardless of whether families are on vacation or away from the parish for a week.

*STEWARDSHIP*

*(Time / Talent / Treasure)*

<b>Parish Collection</b>	
<b>November 6, 2011</b>	<b>\$22,121.00</b>
<b>Target Amount</b>	<b>\$23,500.00</b>

**ACSA**