

The Church of the Blessed Sacrament

*Blessed Sacrament is a Catholic community, rooted in the Eucharist,
where All are Welcome as we Build the City of God*

10 Diamond Street, Walpole, Massachusetts 02081-3408 Phone: (508) 668-4700 Fax: (508) 668-3554
www.blessedsacrament.org



January 1-2, 2011

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday	January 1st	
10:00 AM	Feast of the Solemnity of Mary	Church
NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION		
THERE WILL BE NO 4 PM MASS NEW YEAR'S DAY		
Monday	January 3rd	
9:00 AM	Mass	
Tuesday	January 4th	
9:00 AM	Mass	
Wednesday	January 5th	
9:00 AM	Mass	
Thursday	January 6th	
9:00 AM	Mass	
Friday	January 7th	
9:00 AM	Mass	
Saturday	January 8th	
9:00 AM	Loretta Denault	Memorial

Weekly Events Calendar

Sunday	January 2nd	
8:30 AM	Blood Pressure Clinic	Community Room
10:15 to 11:15	Religious Ed Grades 1-5	Classrooms
2 to 3:30 PM	Knitting Ministry	Community Room
4:30 PM	Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal	Church
Monday	January 3rd	
4 to 5 PM	Religious Ed Grades 1-5	Classrooms
5:30 to 6:30	Religious Ed Grades 1-2	Classrooms
7 to 8 PM	Religious Ed Grades 6-8	Classrooms
Tuesday	January 4th	
9:45 to 11 AM	Bible Study	Community Room
5 to 6 PM	Religious Ed Grades 1-5	Classrooms
6:15 to 7:15	Religious Ed Grades 6-8	Classrooms
7 to 8:30 PM	Baptism Prep	Church
Wednesday	January 5th	
9:30 AM	Morning Prayer Group	Community Room
4 to 8 PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Chapel
6:30 to 8:30	School Board Meeting	School
7 to 9 PM	Pieta	Community Room
7:30 to 8:30	Walpole Families of Faith	Fireplace Room
Thursday	January 6th	
9:45 to 10:45	Praying the Scriptures	Community Room
4 to 5 PM	Religious Ed Grades 1-5	Classrooms
5 to 6 PM	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Church
7:30 to 8:30	Beloved Community	Fireplace Room

For the complete parish calendar anytime, go to
www.blessedsacrament.org



Second Collection

This week's second collection will be the monthly Balance the Budget collection, typically held on the first Sunday of each month, and is used to do just that: balance our operating budget. The weekly collection has not kept up with skyrocketing expenses, especially insurance, salaries, and utilities, and so the monthly Balance the Budget collection helps to offset the deficit. Many thanks for your generosity!

Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp in the church burns this week in memory of Philip Rubini.

Remembering in Your Prayers

We are asked to remember in our prayers all our shut-ins, our unemployed, our sick, our grieving, and our own parish dead, especially: Albert Paulauskas, Margaret Moore, James Berluti, Isabella Mealey, George Brown.

Prayer Line

If you have something or someone you would like us to pray for, call the Prayer Line at 508-668-2448 and a group of prayerful parishioners will add your intentions to their daily prayer. Prayer works!

RECEIVING COMMUNION



With the flu season ahead, we need to take care of ourselves and others, so get your flu shots. If you are sick, use good judgment about attending Mass and even as you recover, be responsible not to approach the cup until you are well. Our Eucharistic Ministers will continue to use hand sanitizers before they distribute Communion.

THINKING ABOUT NEXT WEEK'S GOSPEL

In the Gospel for Sunday, January 9, (Matthew 1:13-17), Jesus comes to John for Baptism and once baptized hears God call him, "my own dear Son, with whom I am well pleased."

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/010911.shtml>

Next week's question is:

"How do you respond to being called, 'God's beloved child'?"



A Message from the Co-Pastors

There is a lot of time and preparation put into the celebration of Christmas. Then in one short day it is all over. Yet I believe for the believer that Christmas marks only the beginning. All the prophecies that we have been listening to during Advent are now to come true. The celebration of Christmas marks the fulfillment of the prophecy and the time of visitation for us. When the Blessed Mother was visited by the Angel Gabriel she was asked to be the Mother of the Messiah. Her acceptance of the task marks the beginning of our story of salvation. The Christ child who is both God and human, whose birthday we celebrate grew from this infant we see in the crèche to a man who offered his life for us on the cross and gave himself to us in sacrament, word, and spirit. In doing this he brought light into a darkened world that we might be able to build the city of his promise, the City of God. Now as we all know the city of his promise has yet to come. This is not the case because God has not fulfilled his end of the deal but it is the case because you and I have not taken up the gauntlet.

There are two stories that precede the gospel of Jesus' birth that I believe vividly paint what is happening or not happening in our world. These are the stories of St. Joseph and Zechariah. The interesting thing is that both men are believers. Now the story of Joseph tells us he had great difficulty accepting and understanding that the child that Mary was carrying was the child of God. Yet in a dream an angel appears to him and tells him that it is true. Joseph accepts this and takes on the challenge of raising this child. On the other hand we have the story of Zechariah who is told by an angel that he and his wife are to have a son. Due to the fact that they are old he does not believe it. As a result he loses his ability to speak. Joseph hears the voice of God in faith whereas Zechariah hears the voice of God through disappointment and past experience.

You and I have the promise of God before us. If we allow Christ to be the light of our life we are told that we can truly turn this world around. Yet like Zechariah even though we are believers we can hear the promise through ears that tell us it is impossible. Elizabeth was past childbearing and was considered barren. We hear the promise with ears that hear of the war in Afghanistan, violence in our streets and corruption in life. It is hard for us to believe yet it is the promise of God. The reality of that promise is in the hearing and our looking to Christ for direction and putting his plan into action. Are we a Joseph who comes to belief because he has developed a relationship with God that allows him to accept the impossible or are we a Zechariah who can not believe that even God can accomplish this? The real meaning of Christmas is found in our answer.

Like Zechariah and Joseph we gather in faith to celebrate his birth. May our faith be not that of Zechariah, where the message of Christmas is overshadowed by the negativity in the world. May our faith be that of Joseph that our doubt be overshadowed with trust, that we trust in his promise and accept the challenge to follow his light and bring his presence into the world. Then and only then will Christmas be the celebration it is meant to be. May the spirit of Christmas and its promise of peace be ours throughout the year.

~Fr. Tim

SISTER PARISHES

Please visit the web sites or contact our sister collaborative parishes for additional information on Mass schedules and services: St. Mary Parish, East Walpole, 508-668-4974 www.stmarywalpole.com and Our Lady of Sorrows, Sharon, 781-784-2265 www.ourladyofsorrows.net



VOLUNTEERING—A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

Breaking Bread, a community meal sponsored by Walpole Families of Faith, has started serving meals to those in our community who are in need of spiritual, nutritional, or communal sustenance. Meals are served at The United Church, 30 Common Street in Walpole, every Monday evening from 5:30 to 6:30 PM. All people are welcome at the table to enjoy food and fellowship. Anyone interested in helping to prepare and/or serve this meal, please e-mail BreakingBreadWalpole@gmail.com, or contact Marianne Kearney at 508-668-2763. All contributions of time, talent and treasure are welcomed.

SAVE THE DATES

January 22, 2011 Day Away of Prayer at St. Joseph's Retreat House in Milton
January 23, 2011 African Community Mass at 11 AM
March 12, 2011 Morning of Prayer with Sr. Nancy Sheridan, SASV
March 28 – 30, 2011 Collaborative Lenten Retreat
April 2, 2011 Day Away of Prayer at St. Joseph's Retreat House in Milton



CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND PAGEANT



Music Ministry at Blessed Sacrament warmly invites you to an hour of beautiful music prepared by our parish music ensembles on Sunday afternoon, January 9th, at 3 PM in the church. You will hear selections from the Youth Choir, the Adult Choir, and the Handbell Choir, followed by a Christmas Pageant presented by the children of the parish. January 9th officially closes the liturgical celebration of Christmas, and what better way to celebrate the season than listening to these talented local musicians!

KNITTING MINISTRY BEGINS ANOTHER YEAR

Join us on January 2nd from 2-3:30 PM in the Community Room. We will complete our baby blankets and hats as well as continue our work on prayer shawls for our parishioners who need comfort, prayers, and care. Yarn is available. If you knit or crochet and would like more information on this ministry, please contact Jen Dyer at jenmooredyer@aol.com or 508-528-4313.



BLESSED SACRAMENT BOOK CLUB



Our next meeting on Tuesday, January 11th at 7:30 in the Community Room. The book selected for discussion is How Big is Your God? by Paul Coutinho, SJ. Written by an Indian Jesuit with a genial sense of humor and a penchant for asking deep questions, Fr. Coutinho challenges us to embrace a God whose love knows no bounds. Newcomers are always welcome! For information about the book club please call Judy Bosl at 781-821-3680 or email judybosl@gmail.com.

PRAYING THE SCRIPTURES

January is the month for new beginnings. What do you desire in 2011? Jesus is always inviting us into a closer relationship with him. Does your desire match Jesus' desire? By listening to the "Word" and noticing the movement of God in our hearts we can come to know Jesus in a more intimate way. We will be praying the Scriptures on Thursday, January 6, 2010, in the Community Room after the 9 AM Mass. God's "Word" is powerful. Can you join us?



SAVE THE DATE!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2011 AT 11:00 AM EXPERIENCE AN AFRICAN AND AMERICAN MASS



As a parish community we are very blessed to have Fr. Leopold Mushobozi with us. He comes as a young priest with a variety of gifts and talents. It is easy to see that one of his great loves is celebrating liturgy. Although the Eucharistic Liturgy is the same throughout the world, it does take on the culture of the people who gather to celebrate. While Fr. Leo is with us wouldn't it be interesting to bring the African culture together with the American culture to celebrate Mass?

A committee of people from our parish staff, school, religious education, and from the Kenyan Catholic Community and friends from the Archdiocese of Boston have started to work out the details for this celebration of the Eucharist. The liturgy will encourage all to actively participate. Joining us on that date will be a large delegation from the African Catholic Community. The liturgy will be celebrated basically in English, with the introduction of some Swahili. The intent is to have all people actively participate in the liturgy.

Immediately following the liturgy there will be a continuation of this celebration in the auditorium where we will have the opportunity to share a meal prepared by the African community, as well as some American favorites. You are encouraged to set this date aside to come experience two cultures, coming together, to worship God.

DAY OF PRAYER - JANUARY 22, 2011



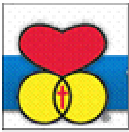
In the deep midwinter the light is short, the darkness long. Sometimes our spiritual lives feel like this, too, especially after the busyness of the holiday season. Give yourself the gift of quiet to get in touch with the Source of your light again. Come away for a day of prayer at St. Joseph's Retreat House in Milton on Saturday January 22, 2011. Cost is \$40 and includes lunch. The day will begin at 10:00 am and end with liturgy at 4:00 pm. Please contact Fr. Tim at ftimk@blessedsacrament.org or call him at 508-668-4700. Registration forms are also available at the Parish House. Car pooling available.

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

Our parish nurses will be available this weekend (**January 2 only**) in the Community Room after all the Masses to check your blood pressure.



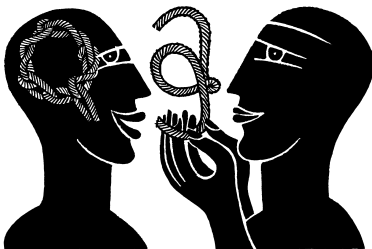
WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



A Special Message to All Married Couples: During this Christmas season as we reflect upon those special gifts we can give to those we love, there cannot be any better gift that married couples can give each other than a relationship that has been renewed, refreshed and revitalized. This renewal of relationship is specifically what a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can offer you. The next weekend will be held at Miramar Retreat Center on January 14th-16th. Miramar Retreat Center offers an incredibly beautiful place right near the ocean for spiritual reflection. After the craziness of the holidays, could you give each other a better gift! For more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wwmeMARI.org

Q&A: NO OBLIGATION

WHY IS THE OBLIGATION TO PARTICIPATE AT MASS WAIVED ON CERTAIN HOLY DAYS?



It can indeed be confusing to determine which holy days are bound by which rules. Simply put, there are six holy days of obligation for most dioceses of the United States: Christmas (December 25), Mary, Mother of God (January 1), Ascension (sixth Thursday after Easter in most places; in some dioceses Ascension is moved to the seventh Sunday of Easter), Assumption (August 15), All Saints (November 1) and Immaculate Conception (December 8). Latin-rite Catholics in the United States are normally obligated to participate at Mass on these days and to refrain from tasks that might limit a joyful celebration of the day.

But there is an exception to the rules. When August 15, November 1 or January 1 falls on a Saturday or Monday, the obligation to attend Mass is no longer in force. The feast remains a significant day in the life of the church, but the obligation to participate at Mass is gone. This policy was approved by the bishops of the United States and confirmed by the Vatican. It went into effect on January 1, 1993.

There are several reasons the bishops chose to remove the obligation to attend Mass on these three holy days. Because of the popularity of vigil or anticipated masses, there is often widespread confusion about which Mass satisfies which obligation when holy days fall on a Monday or Saturday. Furthermore, it is difficult to prepare and celebrate two major feasts back-to-back. In areas where there is a limited number of clergy, the logistics of scheduling become even more of a problem. Finally, it was noted that common practice was to attend either the Sunday celebration or the holy day Mass, but not both.

The observances of holy days are different in different countries. Latin-rite Catholics in the United States observe more holy days than many other countries. But even within this country, practice varies. In nine western states, the feast of the Ascension has been transferred to the following Sunday. Catholics in Hawaii, following the practice of their neighbors in the South Pacific, observe all Sundays and two additional feasts, Christmas and the Immaculate Conception, as holy days of obligation.

THE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

10 Diamond Street, Walpole, Massachusetts 02081-3408
Phone: (508) 668-4700 Fax: (508) 668-3554 www.blessedsacrament.org

PASTORAL STAFF

All extensions refer to (508) 668-4700

Co-Pastors:

Rev. Timothy J. Kelleher, Ext. 10 FrTimK@blessedsacrament.org
Rev. Emile R. "Mike" Boutin, Jr., Ext. 12 FrMikeBoutin@blessedsacrament.org

Permanent Deacon:

Deacon Reynold G. Spadoni (617) 512-9045 ReySpadoni@gmail.com
www.deaconrey.com

In Residence:

Rev. Leopold "Leo" Mushobozi, Ext. 20 Leomushaz@yahoo.com

Pastoral Associates:

Outreach & Bereavement:

Marie Martin, M.A., Ext. 11 MMartin@blessedsacrament.org

Faith Formation/Religious Ed:

Bill Dittrich, M.A., Ext. 26 BDittrich@blessedsacrament.org

Confirmation/Youth Ministry:

Youth Ministry Office, Ext. 17 youthminister@blessedsacrament.org

Director of Pastoral Music:

Dr. Erica Johnson, Ext. 22 Music@blessedsacrament.org

Finance Manager:

Jeanette Penza, Ext. 21 JPenza@blessedsacrament.org

Facilities Manager:

Mike Lamperti, Ext. 36 MLamperti@blessedsacrament.org

School Principal:

Jim Spillman (508) 668-2336 JSpillman@blessedsacrament.org

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:30 AM
9:00 AM Family Mass
11:00 AM
5:30 PM

Daily Mass: 9:00 AM in Chapel

Holy Days: Vigil: 5:30 PM
Day: 9 AM and 7 PM

The Chapel of Reservation of the Most Blessed Sacrament: open daily for prayer
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Pray the Rosary: Monday through Friday at
8:30 AM in the Church.

THE SACRAMENTS

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): For those who wish to become Catholic, receive sacraments as adults, or learn more about our faith. Contact Fr. Tim for more information.

Baptisms: Baptisms are celebrated at any of the weekend Masses and on one Sunday a month at 12:30 PM, except during Lent. The schedule for Baptisms can be found on the online calendar or by contacting Fr. Tim. Baptism Preparation class is held the first Tuesday of each month, except July and September, at 7 PM in the Church. To register for a Baptism, register for the class, or for more information, please contact Fr. Tim.

Confirmation: Celebrated annually for students in Youth Ministry. Contact the Coordinator of Youth Ministry for more information.

First Communion: Celebrated annually for students in Grade 2. Contact Bill Dittrich for more information.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance): Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 PM or anytime upon request.

Parish Visitation/Anointing of the Sick: Contact Marie Martin so that we may minister to the sick and home-bound.

Marriage: Couples preparing to marry here should contact the Parish House at least one year in advance of the proposed wedding date. Parish marriage preparation programs are held in the Spring and Fall of each year and should be attended at least six months prior to the wedding. Contact Fr. Tim or Deacon Rey for more information.

Vocations: if you think that God may be calling you to a life of service in the Church, talk to any member of our pastoral staff, or contact the Archdiocese of Boston at www.vocationsboston.org or by phone at 617-746-5949.

PARISH INFORMATION

New Parishioners: We want to meet you! Please call or visit the Parish House to be registered in the parish or to find out how to get involved.

Parish House Hours: Monday—Friday, 9:30 AM—5 PM.

Accommodations for the Handicapped: Ramp access is available at the East Street entrance of the church.

Blessed Sacrament School: Classes are held for students in grades Pre-K through 8. Contact Jim Spillman, Principal, for information.

St. Francis Cemetery: Lots are available to parishioners in time of need. Contact Michael Lamperti.

Bulletin: All items to be submitted for the bulletin should be sent to bulletin@blessedsacrament.org by noon Saturday for the following week. Please contact Jeff Blouin if you would like to advertise at jblouin@cathedralcorporation.com