



Faith Formation News

A newsletter for families of Blessed Sacrament
March 2018

The Most Holy Days of the Year

by Julie Taylor



While every Sunday is a “mini-Easter,” the upcoming Holy Week is truly the pinnacle of the church year. Children are often surprised to discover this, because in their minds Christmas looms greatest. But while Christmas celebrates Jesus’ birth, amazing in itself - God became human, became one of us! - Easter is the day that God saves us, the day that Jesus overcomes death and opens the door to a new life for all of us. What Jesus did for us by dying on a cross for us and rising from the grave three days later is cause for great pondering and celebration.

So come experience these most holy days of the year with your children and your church family. At no other time of the year will they experience the waving of palms on Palm Sunday, the washing of feet on Holy Thursday, the solemn reverencing of the Cross on Good Friday, the Easter bonfire and darkened church, erupting into golden light as the Paschal fire is passed from candle to candle, just as the good news that Christ is risen has spread from Mary Magdalene two thousand years ago to us in 2018, telling our children: Jesus is risen! Do not fear, but rejoice!

For the Holy Week schedule, please see box on Page 2.

REMINDER:
NO CLASSES NEXT WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28
BECAUSE OF HOLY WEEK

Coming Up:

Friday, March 23:

- Lenten Soup Supper 5-6
- Stations of the Cross 6:30

Wednesday, March 28:

No Faith Formation classes

Saturday, March 31

Young Adult Morning Prayer 9 - 10:15 am

Tuesday, April 3

Teen NET retreat for Grades 6–12 at
Blessed Sacrament 5 - 9 pm

Wednesday, April 4

Faith Formation Classes & Evangelium for
adults 6:30 pm

Thursday, April 5

Movie & Popcorn Night 6:30 - 8:30 pm,
featuring the movie “Risen,” rated PG
-13.

Friday, April 6

Priest & Seminarian Basketball Tourney
5—9:30 pm. Youth & young adults
invited. Contact Sarah.

Saturday, April 7

Lifeline Mass Grades 8 - 12. 4:30 - 10 pm.

Wednesday, April 11

- Faith Formation Classes 6:30
- No Evangelium
- Grade 10 Field Trip to Cathedral
- Grade 6 Field Trip to Missionary
Sisters of St. Peter Claver
- Church Search for First Communion
Children and Parents

Sunday, April 15

Confirmation at the Cathedral 2pm

HOLY WEEK

Saturday/Sunday, March 24/25
Passion (Palm) Sunday Masses at regular times

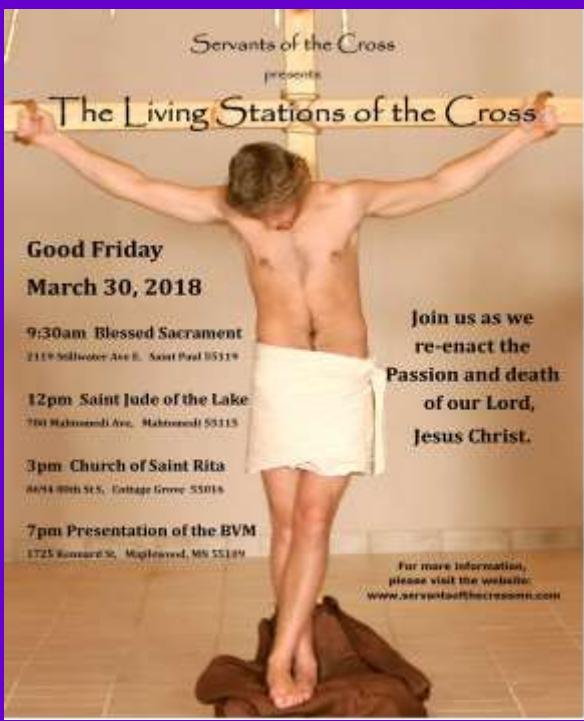
Thursday, March 29
Holy Thursday Mass 6:30 pm

Friday, March 30
Living Stations of the Cross 9:30 am
Good Friday Service 6:30 pm

Saturday, March 31
Easter Vigil Mass 8:00 pm

Sunday, April 1
Easter Sunday Mass 9:30 am (no 8:30 or 10:30)

Confessions
Saturday, March 24, 3 - 3:45 pm
Tuesday, March 27, 7:30 - 8 am & 6:30 - 8 pm
Wednesday, March 28, 1 - 2:30 pm
Thursday, March 29, 7:30 - 8 am
Friday, March 30, Noon - 1 pm
Saturday, March 31, 3:00 - 3:45 pm



Altar Servers Needed!

For Holy Thursday at 6:30 pm, Easter Vigil (Saturday) at 8 pm, and Easter Sunday at 9:30 am. Sign up on the board in the Gathering Area, or contact Joy Hoffman at jmhoffman@blessedsacramentsp.org.

Altar Server Training



Youth in Grades 4 and up are encouraged to become altar servers. Fr. Erickson will be leading an altar server training session on Saturday, May 5 at 11:00 am. Look for information coming home after Easter.



THANK YOU

to everyone who came to the Valentine's Day Pancake Breakfast to raise money for our Mission Trip Youth! We're selling spring plants right now through April 3rd; order forms in the Gathering Area or online at www.blessedsacramentsp.org under the "Children and Youth" mission trip tab.

Photos from Our Lent



Working with the Last Supper materials



Altar serving for the Ash Wednesday Mass



Praying the Stations of the Cross with our class



An impromptu "jam session" after the Ash Wednesday Mass



Learning about the City of Jerusalem and the story of Jesus' death and Resurrection



Reading the scriptures at Ash Wednesday Mass

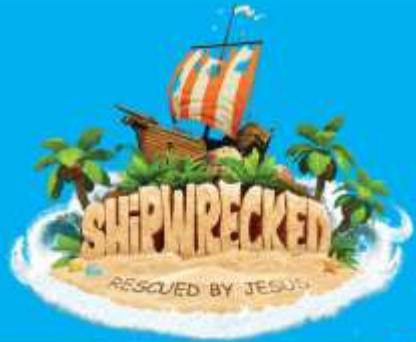
Vacation Bible School

To contradict a popular television show:

“Summer is coming!”

Registration is going on NOW for our summer programs, especially Extreme Faith Camp for middle schoolers and high schoolers, which has a deadline of April 1 to get the early bird rate. Contact Julie or Sarah with any questions, or find more information on the “Children & Youth” tab of our parish website at www.blessedsacramentsp.org.

Vacation Bible School 2018



*Come sail away with us at Shipwrecked Vacation Bible School!
Experience creative games, amazing experiments, tropical treats, incredible music, and surprising Bible adventures!*

Where: *Blessed Sacrament Church*
When: *July 30 - August 3, 9 am - Noon
(with optional afternoon childcare)*
Who: *Children ages 3 to Grade 5
Grade 6 and up, come join in the fun as leaders!*
Cost: *Early bird rate of only \$25 per child if you register by June 1 (\$40 afterwards)*

Registration forms available in Gathering Area at church and online at www.blessedsacramentsp.org/vacation-bible-school. Contact Julie Taylor at jtaylor@blessedsacramentsp.org for more information.



Catholic Youth Camp

Catholic Youth Camp on Big Sandy Lake in McGregor, MN for Grades 1 - 12: Our parish provides financial assistance to children to attend. Week-long sessions from July 1 and August 17. The week-long sessions cost between \$415 and \$495 and the parish will pay for half. Register online at www.cycamp.org, and then contact Julie by June 1st.

Extreme Faith Camp



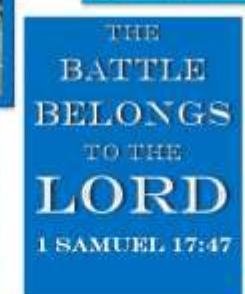
Join a group of middle schoolers attending from Blessed Sacrament Parish!

Cost: \$250

**Early bird: \$225
(by April 1)**

(Financial aid available)

Registration forms due by May 1st. For more info, contact Sarah Kalonick at 651-738-0677, ext. 17



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: Talk to Sarah about coming on Prayer Team or Extreme Team
June 9- June 15

June 11 - June 15, 2018

Current 6th–8th Graders (for the 2017–18 school year) from the Metro area come for a week of extreme fun and faith. Boating, fishing, hiking, swimming, Wacky Olympics, small groups, archery, Adoration, Mass, awesome people, and more!

Youth Events Coming Soon!



Youth & Young Adults:

Consider coming! We'll meet at Blessed Sacrament at 5:00 pm and head down together. Contact Sarah at 651-738-0677, ext. 17 or skalonick@blessedsacramentsp.org.

LIFELINE



Mass and Evening Program with Bishop Andrew Cozzens

Saturday, April 7, 2018

4:30 meet at Blessed Sacrament for pizza, head to the NET Center together, and return to Blessed Sacrament at 10pm
Grades 8-12

Let Sarah know you're coming!

skalonick@blessedsacramentsp.org

YTM (Youth in Theology & Ministry)

YTM (Youth in Theology and Ministry) at St. John's University for High School teens:

June 11 – 24. This amazing program blends theology, service, prayer, fun, and fellowship in a life-changing two weeks up at beautiful St. John's. Cost is \$200 for high school teens from our parish. Information available in Gathering Area , online at www.blessedsacramentsp.org, or talk to Julie Taylor!

Classroom Update



Making bread after learning the Parable of the Leaven

CGS Level I (Preschool/Kindergarten)

Lead Catechist: Sally Strasser

Asst. Catechists: Deb Tillges & Rachel Villneauve

With the arrival of Lent we changed our prayer table to purple, talked about Lent, and buried our Alleluluias. We studied the Parable of the Leaven and each child made bread to take home. We've studied the City of Jerusalem and learned the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. We learned the Parable of the Growing Seed and planted flower seeds, discussing how the seed dies and what the seed needs to grow into the flower. We also did the presentation of the Last Supper.

CGS Level II (Grades 1 - 3)

Lead Catechist: Jill Kleidon

Asst Catechists: Kathy Donovan, Kim Roush, & Joan Urban

In CGS level II, we have spent time learning about the significance of the parts of the Mass. To help the children be able to better participate in the Mass, they have started making their own copies of a version of the Roman Missal. We talked about the significance of the Bible and why the Bible is important to us today. They were shown the various sections and books of the Bible. We have a cabinet with wooden blocks representing all of the books in the Bible. It is color-coordinated by section and the height of the books is proportional to their length.

Grade 4

Catechist: Nicole Villneauve

We've been learning about the Ten Commandments, and have been

putting together "Do-Nut" books (each commandment - "Do not" - as a donut).

Grade 5

Catechist: Joe Wappes

We've been studying Joshua, Judges, Samuel and Saul. We've also been able to spend time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Adoration Chapel, and prayed the Stations of the Cross.

Grade 6

Catechists: Cathy Shannon and Carrie Stout

The 6th grade class continues to explore the nature and life of Jesus. They have learned about Jesus as true God and true man, His birth into this world, His teachings as reflected in the Gospels, and His ability to heal both body and most importantly our souls. They prayed the Stations of the Cross and learned about other forms of prayer including Eucharistic Adoration, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Lectio Divina. The students continue to reflect on their Lenten journey in each class.

Grade 7 & 8

Catechist: Peter Vande Hey

In our class we've been taking a deeper look at the Eucharist, as well as praying Lectio Divina and the Stations of the Cross.

Grade 9

Catechists: Tom Regan and Jennifer Tuckner

We renew the profession of Faith of our baptism every time we bless ourselves with holy water. Conversion and rules and commandments not imposed but from God based on our nature. The beauty and power of confession. "Little sins" like exaggeration, discouragement, world conformity, fear & worry, resentments. We did the Stations of the Cross and forming our conscience.

Grade 10

Catechists: Sarah Kalonick and Sydney March

Grade 10 has been studying prayer such as Lectio Divina and the Liturgy of the Hours. The first weekend of March was spent at the NET Center in West St. Paul on our Confirmation Retreat. As we look forward to our Confirmation in the Holy Spirit on April 15th, please keep us in prayer!

BLESSED SACRAMENT YOUNG ADULTS



Please join us for
Morning Prayer and Adoration
with Fr. Erickson

Saturdays:
Feb. 24 9:00—10:15am
March 31 9:00—10:15am

Childcare provided
Hospitality offered afterwards
Questions? Contact Sarah @
skalonick@blessedsacramentsp.org



Planting seeds after the Parable of the Growing Seed

Sunday Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Lead Catechist: Julie Taylor

Asst. Catechist: Renae Kuettel

We pondered the parables that Jesus taught us about the Kingdom of God: how it's like a mustard seed the starts small but grows very large, like leaven that grows in bread, like a pearl that is worth everything else, like a growing seed that we cannot see growing nor make it grow. We made bread with real yeast and planted seeds that have grown a lot during Lent! We've been learning the story of Jesus' love for us in the Last Supper, his death, and Resurrection. We can hardly wait for Easter, when we will change the purple cloth on our prayer table for a white one and dig up the Alleluias we buried at the beginning of Lent!

Sharing the riches of the Catholic Faith

eVANGELIUM

Wednesdays
6:30—7:45 pm

March 7
April 4, 18, & 25
Robertson Room
Cost: Free

Join Fr. John Paul Erickson as he leads an exploration of the four pillars of the Catholic faith through art in this amazing course:

- Explore the full panorama of the Catholic faith using the Evangelium series.
- Survey the enduring realities of our faith through its most beautiful art and music.
- This course is for all adults, from those new to the faith to those with a lifetime's experience.
- Sessions take place on evenings when Faith Formation is in session.



No registration necessary.
Come for one session or come for them all!

For more info, contact Julie Taylor at 651-738-0677, ext. 14.

Blessed Sacrament Church has Purchased a Gift For You!

Enjoy a free subscription to formed.org — an incredible online gateway to the best Catholic content, all in one place!

With FORMED, you can:

- Prepare for Sunday Mass by watching an insightful five-minute video by renowned Catholic teachers
- Enjoy a movie with your family that is both nourishing and entertaining
- Enrich your marriage with the award-winning video series Beloved: Finding Happiness in Marriage
- Help your children grow in character and embrace the beauty and wonder of the faith

FORMED provides amazing content 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. It's EASY and FREE to Register! Content is available on the website or on the mobile app.

- Go to blessedsacrament.formed.org
- Click on "Register"
- Enter your name, email, and desired password
- You're all set to enjoy the engaging and inspiring content on FORMED!

Folks are calling
FORMED the "Catholic
Netflix."

Register at blessedsacrament.formed.org. Access code: XHMTMH

Get geared up for a dynamic
NET Retreat
and dive deeper into our Catholic faith

exciting presentations, inspiring dramas, funny skits, uplifting prayer, great music, high-energy games, real people

Bring your friends!

Retreat Details

Who's Invited: Teens in Grades 6—12
When: Tuesday, April 3, 5 - 9 pm (dinner included)
Where: Blessed Sacrament Church, 2119 Stillwater Ave. St. Paul
For More Info: Contact Sarah Kalonick at (651) 738-0677 or skalonick@blessedsacramentsp.org

FREE!
Youth from all parishes invited!

NET Ministries has welcomed to more than 1.5 million teens between the ages of 13 and 20 years.
Learn more at www.netmin.org/retreats.

Parish Trip to Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine in LaCrosse
Saturday, May 19, 2018
Info and sign-up in Gathering Area


www.blessedsacramentsp.org', and 'or pick up a paper copy in the Gathering Area!'."/>

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Parish Survey March 1 - April 1

Link for online survey at the
www.blessedsacramentsp.org

or pick up a paper copy in the Gathering Area!