Church
of the
Blessed Sacrament
Manhattan

Rev. John P. Duffell, Pastor
Rev. D’Angelo Jimenez, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Ernest Izummuo, Sunday Associate
Rev. James O’Shea, CP, Sunday Associate
Tina Silvestro, Director of Religious Education
Caroline Sliney, School Principal

CHURCH: 152 West 71st Street, N.Y., N.Y. 10023  Ph: 212-877-3111  Fax: 212-799-6233
SCHOOL: 147 West 70th Street, N.Y., N.Y. 10023  Ph: 212-724-7561  Fax: 212-724-0735  www.blessedsacramentnyc.org  www.sblsnyc.org

MASSES:
SUNDAY MASSES: Sat. evening at 5:30 PM
Sunday: 8:30, 10:00 (Family Mass)
11:15 (Spanish), 12:30 (choir) & 5:30PM
WEEKDAYS: 7:30 AM; 12:10 PM; 5:30 PM
SATURDAYS: 7:30 AM, 12:10 PM
SPANISH WEEKDAY MASS: Second Wednesday of the month
HOLY DAYS & EVES. OF HOLY DAYS: As Announced.

BAPTISM:
Arrangements must be made at the Rectory. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics. Parents, and also godparents when possible, must attend the Pre-Baptismal conference which is held on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm in the rectory.

CONFessions:
Saturday afternoons 4:30 to 5:15 pm, and anytime at the Rectory.

MARRIAGES:
Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance at the rectory to ensure the date and the hour desired. The Nuptial Mass is the ordinary form of celebrating Christian marriage, and should be strongly considered when making Wedding plans. Attendance at the Pre-Cana Conferences, or the equivalent, is required by the Archbishop.

PARISH BOUNDARIES:
Central Park West to the Hudson River, from the South side of 77th Street down to the North side of 65th Street.

NEW PARISHIONERS:
We welcome new parishioners, and invite them to register at the Rectory. The registration is our only means of certifying anyone as a member of our parish. If you move to another Parish, or change your address within the Parish, please notify us.

FATIMA DEVOTIONS:
The Rosary is said daily after the 12:10 pm Mass. Friday from 6-7 pm there is a holy hour.

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:
First Friday - Exposition: 12:35 pm.
Adoration: All day; Benediction: 5:15 PM.

Miraculous Medal Novena:
Mondays, before the 12:10 Mass and before the 5:30 pm Mass.

Religious Education for Children and teenagers:
Classes in Religion for Catholic children/teenagers, Pre-kindergarten - High School take place on Sundays. The Family Mass begins at 10:00 a.m. in the Church followed by class instruction in the school.

ongoing religious education is important for the religious development of your children. A child must have at least one year of religious instruction before enrolling in the First Communion or Confirmation class.

Sunday School Website: www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org
PARISH NEWS

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

It is the fourth, the final Sunday of Advent. Christmas is fast approaching as today we light all four candles on the advent wreath and we pray that God might "lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice that announces his glory".

There are many engaging features of Advent that serve as building blocks of our faith. Today, in preparation for the feast to come, the emphasis falls on marriage in the persons of Mary and Joseph. This should come as no surprise, since marriage is the cornerstone of society and seen as sacred through the Bible as a whole. But in the account of Mary and Joseph, we are brought face-to-face with the plan of God for the salvation of the world, a plan that, with all its mystery, has an unmatched beauty and splendor.

The promise of a God-given child appears in today’s reading from Isaiah. The threat from enemy forces clouding the life of Ahaz, king of Israel, will be offset by the proximate birth of a child who will be a pledge of Yahweh’s fidelity. He will be the name Emmanuel, meaning “the Lord is with us.”

Matthew sees the prophecy as preeminently fulfilled in the one Paul says in Romans today was a descendant of David in his humanity but proclaimed Son of God in power through his resurrection. Jesus in his human parentage was of the Davidic line through his foster father Joseph and at the same time Son of God through his conception by a virgin through the power of God. Thus, he is truly Emmanuel, “God with us.”

To prepare for Christmas, you are encouraged to celebrate the sacrament of penance. Tomorrow Monday, throughout the archdiocese of New York and the diocese of Brooklyn, a priest will be available in every church from 4 PM until 8 PM for the celebration of the sacrament of penance.... here at Blessed Sacrament, I will be in the confessional from 4:00 until 4:30 PM and again from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM; Father D'Angelo will be in the confessional from 430 until 6:30 PM.

If you have not yet done so this Advent, I urge you to celebrate the sacrament of penance on Monday in preparation for the great Christmas feast.

If you are going away to far off places for the Feast, know that our celebration will be less without you. May your journey be special and may you return safely. For those of us who will be here in the Center of the Earth, New York City, please join us for one of the Christmas liturgies. The celebration begins with the Family Masses at 4:00 PM and at 5:30 pm, The Noche Buena (the Christmas Mass offered in Spanish at 7:30 pm and then the traditional midnight Mass which will be offered at 11:00 pm.... preceded by caroling at 10:30 pm. On Sunday, Christmas Day, Mass will be offered at 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 11:15 am in Spanish, and the Solemn Mass of Christmas Day at 12:30 pm .... There will be no 5:30 pm Mass on Christmas Day

I would be remiss if I didn’t ask that you prayerfully consider your Christmas gift to the parish. The Christmas collection is a major way in which we are able to realize our parish budget. If at all possible, I hope that you will join me in offering $500 to the parish in the Christmas collection. If you could do more, and hopefully some can, it would be a great help. If not that much, whatever offering you make will be greatly appreciated.

Let us continue to pray for peace.

Fr. Duffell

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Those in whose memory the Christmas flowers and greens are offered will be remembered in all the Christmas Masses and the Masses throughout the Christmas season.

The names will be listed in all the Christmas Mass programs and in the parish bulletin. To enable this to happen, the names must be received no later than noon on Monday the 19th of December. If you have not yet done so and would like to participate please drop into the rectory after Mass today. Envelopes are available. What is important is that you list clearly on the front of the envelope the name or names of those in whose memory the offering is made.

OUR PASTORAL PLAN:
LOVE CHRIST, CHERISH ALL, GROW IN FAITH

After months of research, and your participation and feedback, the Committee for Pastoral Planning will be distributing our final Pastoral Plan at all Masses this weekend. Our Pastoral Plan will guide Blessed Sacrament Parish for the next 3-5 years. A summary of the implementation plan is included. We invite you to read the plan and join us in its implementation when we sign up volunteers right after the New Year. A detailed implementation plan will be available in the rectory or on www.blessedsacramentnyc.org. Committee members will be at the church entrance distributing plans and to answer your questions.

Thank you for your prayers, support and participation in our Parish Pastoral Plan.
NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES

Queridos Feligreses y Amigos;

Hoy es el 4to y final Domingo de Adviento y encendemos hoy día los cuatro cirios en la Corona de Adviento mientras pedimos al Señor “llenar nuestras mentes con la esperanza de oír su voz anunciando su gloria.”

Existen varios elementos en Adviento que sirven como base a nuestra fe. Hoy cuando nos preparamos para esta Fiesta, el énfasis recae en el matrimonio de María y Jose. Esto no es una sorpresa ya que el matrimonio es la base de nuestra sociedad y visto, a través de la Biblia, como sagrado. Pero con la historia de María y Jose nos encontramos cara a cara con el plan del Señor para la salvación del mundo y el cual tiene, con todo su misterio, belleza y esplendor.

La promesa de un niño venido de Dios aparece hoy en la Lectura de Isaías. “La amenaza de las fuerzas enemigas a la vida de Ahaz, Rey de Israel, se verá alterada por el nacimiento de un niño que cumplirá la promesa de fidelidad de Yahweh y que se llamará Emmanuel, que significa “el Señor está con nosotros.”

El Apóstol Mateo ve la profecía cumplida sobre todo cuando Pablo indica hoy en Romanos que en su humanidad Jesus descendía de David, pero proclamado en el poder de su resurrección, Hijo de Dios. Jesus, por su parentesco humano, pertenecía por su padre Jose, a la linea de David y, al mismo tiempo, Hijo de Dios a través de su concepción por una virgen por el poder de Dios. Es de verdad Emmanuel, “el Señor está con nosotros.”

La fiesta de la Natividad se acerca rápidamente. Si van a lugares lejanos sepan que nuestra celebración no será lo mismo sin su presencia. Les deseo un viaje muy especial y que todos regresen bien.

Para aquellos que nos quedamos en el Centro del Universo, la ciudad de Nueva York, les pido asistir a una de nuestras liturgias navideñas. Nuestra celebración comienza el día 24 con las Misas de Familia a las 4:00p.m y 5:30p.m, la Misa de Noche Buena en español a las 7:30p.m. La Misa tradicional de media noche será a las 11:00p.m, precedida por villancicos a las 10:30p.m. El domingo día de Navidad las Misas serán a las 8:30p.m, 10:00am, 11:15am (en español) y la Misa especial de Navidad a las 12:30p.m… Ese domingo, día de Navidad, no hará Misa a las 5:30p.m.

Para prepararnos para la Navidad la Iglesia nos urge celebrar el Sacramento de la Penitencia. Cada sábado un sacerdote estará disponible de las 4:30p.m a las 5:15p.m, pero el lunes 19 de diciembre en todas las iglesias de la Arquidiócesis sacerdotes estarán en el confesionario de las 4:00p.m a las 8:00p.m para escuchar su confesión; también aquí en Blessed Sacrament. Yo estaré de las 4:00p.m a 4:30p.m y de nuevo de las 6:30p.m a las 8:30p.m. Padre D’Angelo estará en el confesionario de las 4:30 pm a las 6:30p.m.

Sería un descuido de mi parte si no les pidiera considerar su regalo de Navidad a la parroquia. Esta colecta nos permite alcanzar nuestro presupuesto anual. De ser posible, quisiera que pudieran contribuir $500.00 a esta colecta. Y si pueden dar mas, nos ayudaría muchísimo. Y de no serles posible, lo que puedan contribuir será muy apreciado.

Roguemos por la Paz.
Padre Duffell.

Los Sacramentos de Iniciación Cristiana
En nuestra comunidad ofrecemos en español la formación y celebración de los Sacramentos de Bautismo y Matrimonio.

Para los Sacramentos de Reconciliación contacte a Padre D’Angelo Jimenez mensajeroec@yahoo.com Si desea tener mayor información.

Para información acerca de la Comunidad Hispana, saber de cómo unirse a nuestra Iglesia o si esta interesado en la preparación de nuestras actividades Pastorales favor comuníquese al mismo email.

Misa en Español – Segundo y Cuarto Miércoles del Mes a las 7:00pm, Domingo a las 11:15am

Talleres de formación en sacramentos – Segundo y Cuarto miércoles a las 8:00pm en la rectoría.

FLORES PARA LA NAVIDAD


GODDARD RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER
You are invited to join the Goddard Riverside Community Center For Christmas Dinner, Sunday, December 25, 2016 at 12:00pm – 3:00pm.

Goddard Riverside Community Center – 593 Columbus Avenue (at 88th Street)

To make arrangements for food donations please call Brianne Kilpatrick at 212-873-6600 ext 314 or email BKilpatrick@goddard.org.
ADVENT SIMPLE SUPPERS
Please join us this last Wednesday during Advent: Dec 21st for prayer and meditation followed by a light dinner of soup, salad and bread. Prayers begin promptly at 7pm in the dining room of the rectory. It’s a wonderful and contemplative way to prepare for Christmas. We hope to see you there. For more information please call/ email Chris Williams 304-337-1252/ cew.arts@gmail.com or John Gasdaska 646-345-7350/ jpg1008@gmail.com

CATHOLIC MOMS’ NIGHT:
Date change to 2nd Wednesday of January due to school break! Please join us for our Monthly Moms’ Night - Wednesday, January 11, at 7pm in the Rectory. We look forward to helping each other grow in faith and raise our children as committed Catholics. All details can be found on Meetup: www.meetup.com/NYC-Catholic-Families/

Thanks to Erica Gailing and all who organized, performed at, and supported the JoyJ Benefit Concert last Saturday evening! The beautiful chamber music performed by students from the Juilliard School helped create awareness and raised over $400 for the JoyJ Initiative, which does so much to reach out to those in need here on the Upper West Side.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT’S YEARLY COAT-DRIVE IN CONNECTION WITH NYCARES was again and enormous success. Also many coats were given to people, who desperately needed them. The Social Action Committee would like to thank all the Parishioners who handed in Coats. And all the volunteers who gave their time at all the Masses.

Many thanks to those who organized and participated in Tuesday evening’s Mass and get-together for the Gay Fellowship. The members of the fellowship greatly appreciate all that Fr. Duffell has done to help them grow in their faith and to foster such a strong sense of community. Thanks also to Joanne Trattoria for hosting the reception.

JESSE TREE
The JoyJ Initiative will again this year host the Jesse Tree for our Homeless Outreach, which will be held in January, 2017. We will be requesting new items including McDonald or Subway gift cards; hats; gloves; scarves; warm socks; and sweatshirts. If you cannot provide an item, please consider a cash donation instead. Thank you.

We will be collecting the items or donation in the vestibule of the Church this Saturday, December 17th and Sunday December 18th.

God bless you for your generosity and Merry Christmas!
Fourth Sunday of Advent

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

Date
Your Name
Your Spouses Name
(Only if BOTH are Registering)
Address
Apt. #          City                  State
Zip               Telephone
Email
Your Occupation
Your Spouses Occupation
How should we address you? (Check One)
Mr. & Mrs.        Mr.         Mrs.         Ms.
Would you like to receive weekly offering envelopes?  Yes    No
If not, would you like us to sign you up for ParishPay?  Yes    No

What is Parish Pay?
With ParishPay, it’s simple to make online donations to Blessed Sacrament using a credit or debit card. Simply go online at www.parishpay.com or call 1866-727-4741 ext.1 and—just like your monthly mortgage or other bills—the money will simply be debited from your account and go directly to Blessed Sacrament.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, December 24th
4:00pm - Family Mass (English)
5:30pm - Family Mass (Spanish)
7:30pm - Noche Buena (Spanish)
11:00pm - Choral Mass
(Carols begin at 10:30pm)

Christmas Day, December 25th
8:30am - (English)
10:00am - (English)
11:15am - (Spanish)
12:30pm - (English)

Weekly EM and Lector Schedule
Saturday, Dec 17
5:30 1st  Kimberley LaMarque
      2nd  Julie Grega
      POF  Roscoe Orman
            Stephen Whelan, John Gibbons, Kimberley
      EM   LaMarque, Roscoe Orman, Julie Grega

Sunday, Dec 18
8:30 1st  Eileen Simpson
      2nd  Damien Begley
      POF  Thomas Caffrey
      EM   JoDell Shields, Anthony Jaldandoni, Eileen Simpson, Dmaien Begley, Thomas Caffrey

10:00 1st  Gabriel Keane
        2nd  Eddie Litton
        POF  Andrew Fitzsimmons
        EM   Andrew Jenkins, Eddie Litton, Judy Braun, Mary Bradley, Anna-Sophia Leone, Nellie-Gonzalez-Arce, Andrew Fitzsimmons

11:15 1st  Herminio Vargas
        2nd  Cindy Ochoa
        POF  Marina Che
        EM   Junior Santiago, Lourdes Lopez, Celia Navarro

12:30 1st  Jack Going
        2nd  Ingrid Leacock
        POF  Anita Pearl
        EM   Ingrid Leacock, Jack Going, Thomas Alexander, Lida Stempien, Vivienne Singer, Elsa Alvarez, Carlos Sosa

5:30 1st  Anita Faherty
        2nd  Elizabeth Kubinski
        POF  Adriana Gonzalez
        EM   Matthew Sitman, Louise Ulman, Rosemary Girouard, Mary Flannery, Rob Porell, Tiffany Riady, Pat Girouard

YOUTH CHOIR
Want to sing with the Youth Choir for the Christmas Eve 5:30 Mass but have missed the Wednesday rehearsals? We have added an additional rehearsal on Monday, December 19 5:30-6:30 in the rectory. We also have rehearsal on Wednesday, December 21. Come join us if you are in the 3rd grade and up. Teenagers are welcome!
The Parent Permission Form to sign up can be found on the Sunday School website under the YOUTH CHOIR tab (www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org) or you can pick up the form at the rectory office. Please call Tina Silvestro if you need more information 212-877-3111.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
Our Annual Sunday School Christmas Pageant will take place on this Sunday, December 18 at 12:15 in the lower hall. All are invited.