



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil

4:00 pm

Sunday

9:00 am & 10:45 am

Daily: Tuesday - Friday

8:00 am

Sacrament of
Reconciliation

Saturdays

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Office Hours

Monday -Thursday

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Friday

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

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August 25, 2024
21st
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME



*All Are
Welcome Here*

BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC PARISH

1701 East Oakland Park Blvd. Oakland Park Florida 33334

Our Pastor

Reverend Robert F. Tywoniak,

M.S.W., C.S.W.M

Assisting

Deacon Dan Blaha (Retired)

Music Director

Daniel J. Perez

Baptism for Infants and Preschool Children under 7 years old

At Baptism, infants and preschool children are initiated into the Christian community and begin a life-long journey as a committed disciple of Christ. Since the child cannot make this commitment on their own, the parent who requests Baptism states that they wish to pass on the faith in which they believe and live. Parents wishing to have their infant or preschooler Baptized are required to attend Baptism Preparation. This gives them the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of Baptism and to have their questions answered concerning the Sacrament of Baptism and the ceremony. In order to begin preparing for their child's Baptism, parents are asked to contact the parish office at 954-564-1010 prior to the anticipated birth or adoption process. We wish to celebrate this joyful time with you!

Marriage

Blessed Sacrament parish wishes to support couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage through prayer and action. For this reason, guidelines have been established for marriage preparation by the Archdiocese of Miami. This is not done to create obstacles, but to increase the opportunity for a lasting, loving marriage in a society where divorce is prevalent. Couples should contact the parish office at 954-564-1010 at the time of their engagement to allow time to complete the necessary preparation.

August 25, 2024 Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joshua 24: 1-2a, 15-17, 18b

Psalms 34

Ephesians 5: 21-32

John 6: 60-69

Rise Above the Flesh

Today we finish the Bread of Life Discourse.

Just to review, John's Gospel is written about one and a half generations after Jesus walked this earth. John's community of faith grew out of the Jewish community. The Jewish community was throwing the Johannine community out. They did not believe as John's people did, that Jesus was the Messiah. Further, they did not accept all this about Jesus being the Bread of Life come down from heaven. So John writes to his faith community to remind them what they do believe and to remain committed to the practice of the Faith. Already, at that time, the early followers of Jesus were celebrating the Eucharist and knew it was the body of Christ that sustains them for the earthly journey they were on. They believed in Jesus' words spoken at the Last Supper. "This is my Body and this is my Blood." Moreover, they followed Jesus' mandate. "Do this in remembrance of me." Today's passage concludes the discourse. It shows even some of those who originally followed Jesus' way were falling away.

The whole notion of the Bread of Life come down from Heaven is one of closeness, God's closeness to us and our closeness to God. To experience this is to have what I feebly define as a poetic or artist's mind or vision. Such a vision seems to be able to go beyond the flesh of the world. Yes, the Lord gives us his flesh for the life of the world, meaning we may go beyond the flesh of the world. This probably sounds oxymoronic. That is, a combination of contradictory or incongruous words. In simple language it does not make sense in common or fleshly terms.

God always communicates with us in ways we understand or that are familiar to us. So he comes to us in the form of bread and wine, for example. Yet, these familiar forms are to take us into God's greater, expanded, well beyond the immediately familiar, world. These signs and symbols that are truly consecrated by God are used by God to help us transcend this fleshly world. We do get to touch God who is beyond all that may confine us in that which we see only with human eyes in the concrete world. Moreover, God touches us! God touching us and we touching God. Herein is the matter. A relationship that is mutual and understanding.

In one way, all that is spoken of in the Bread of Life Discourse is about making a relationship with God and with each other. True, some people cannot grasp this purely on the force of the written and even poetic word. John desperately tried to do so. However, to know John's community of faith is to know it as one tight knit community of love, understanding and mutuality. They helped each other. Yet, some still left. The ones who left simply could not grasp the

the whole matter of such love. It was too much for them.

What I am getting at here is this. To overcome the flesh of this world we must engage it. We must engage the people who are confused and unable to experience a deeper sense of love that is beyond "fleshy" love. The love of real concern for each other, the kind that says, "I really want to know you and I truly want you to know me," is love that goes beyond the merely "fleshy love".

To have such mutual love, the kind God is capable of, takes a willingness to experience it and to share it.

It is very difficult to love God's way. But that is why God gives us his flesh for the life of the world, the Bread of Life. He does so to infuse us with Grace. It is impossible to have such love for others on our own. We cannot sustain such a relationship. It is too intense and too hard. But we may attempt it with God's grace. Open up to Godly love.

To illustrate, Blessed Sacrament, named for the Bread of Life, is to be a place where people come to find healing. I myself am a broken person in need of love. I want to be welcomed here too. I know in our imperfect way we, the parish members, make people feel welcome.

Over the years, people have said thank you to me as the Pastor here. They said thank you to me and this parish for listening to him or her. Finally, they encounter a parish where they fit in. They have encountered flawed people like themselves who have God's love to build them up. They have told me they tried other parishes but were turned away either literally or by a sense of not belonging. That has brought sadness and joy to me at once. Sadness that they were rejected elsewhere and joy that in our feebleness we accepted them. Yet, even after such a warm encounter, people still walk away. Even this encounter is too much for them to endure.

Believe it or not, such love does get rejected. It is too much for some. They leave. Perhaps it is too much to believe that God can break through the fleshly world. It is hard to believe such love can be experienced through other feeble, broken people. And it might also be that they are not yet ready to love in return.

As pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, I want to be as refreshed and sustained in the Lord, the Bread of Life, as possible. I want to experience it from the altar of the Liturgy, and I want to experience it from the people too. I want to know God's love, be understanding and to be understood. I want all of us to rise above the flesh.

Parish Life



Watch Father Bob's weekly video reflection



Next Week's Readings

Dt4:1-2,6-8; Jas1:17-18,21b-22,27; Mk7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Join us for Scripture Sharing Thursdays at 7:00pm in the chapel.

Stewardship

Time, Talent Tithing

It is our way of showing gratitude to God for life itself. It is also your way of being part of the mission and participating in the challenge of spreading the Good News of Love.

Attendance last week:	245
Tithes Collected:	\$5,148.00
Per Capita:	\$21.01

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Attendance last week:	64
Tithes Collected:	\$857.00
Per Capita:	\$13.39

If you are returning from vacation and have been away, PLEASE catch up with your tithes.

Wills and Trusts

It is always good Christian Stewardship to think into the future. There will be people, such as your own relatives, who will come after you. They will be looking for fullness and fulfillment of life as you have. Thus, remembering the parish or other Church related institution in your will or in a trust is a good way to keep the Word of God alive for generations to come.

Contact Fr. Bob at the rectory office to discuss this matter.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Saturday August 31st at 9:30am

This is our yearly opportunity to gather, share fellowship and enjoy some shared home cooked food. Each person brings in a dish to share with the others.

Please print your name on the list in the foyer.
Include the food you will bring.

Volunteer Position Available Compliance Officer

This person monitors the eligibility status of all who work in apostolates (ministries) in the parish. One must be able to work in a confidential manner. He or she reports directly to the Pastor.

Contact Fr. Bob

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Angiolina Armenti, Mary-Ellen Batcho, Mary Benivegna, Carl Bocchino, Margarita Bogle, Michael Bryant, Ronald Gustinella, Richard & Cathy Harper, Dil Hatchett, John Hunter, Patrick Keough, Doris Lakso, John LaNeve, Gail Martin, Sean Martin, Luz Mercado, Fay Michael, Sasi Morejon, Teresita Nazareno, Lauren Nicole, Austin R., Renette Valcourt, Sr. Frances Vass, OSC, Nancy Zakem, Marie & Jeff, Monica Yassa, Lucas Zaky

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 24

4:00pm †Regina Michel-Barone by Anthony & Rose Michel
†John Walgenwitt by Carol Walgenwitt

Sunday, August 25

9:00am † Dan Blaha, Jr. by Mom & Dad
10:45am †Carmela Dee by Family
†Lee Steiner & Bobby Walsh by Dad & Brother

Monday August 26 | NO MASS

Tuesday, August 27

8:00am †Fr Dennis Donovan, SDB (AOS- USA) by Parish

Wednesday, August 28

8:00am † Al Souckar by Parish

Thursday August 29

8:00am For the Sick of Parish

Friday August 30

8:00am Joe Laudicina by Parish

Saturday, August 31

4:00pm †Thomas W. Marchese by Dave Marchese & Family
†Daniel Alfaro Tobar by Friends

Sunday, September 1

9:00am Blessed Sacrament Parish
10:45am †Edda Cardona by Selma Cardona
† Carmela Dee by Family