

# Stewardship

## January 26, 2025 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



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## BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC PARISH

*"All Are Welcome Here"*

1701 East Oakland Park Blvd. Oakland Park Florida 33334

Our Pastor  
Reverend Robert F. Tywoniak,  
M.S.W., C.S.W.M  
Music Director  
Daniel J. Perez

**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

### **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.

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**Nehemiah 8: 2-4a, 5-6, 8-10**

**Psalm 19**

**1 Corinthians 12: 12-30**

**Luke 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21**

**STEWARDSHIP**

**We Are Always Returning to the Lord**

John's Gospel begins with, "In the beginning was the Word..." This is a Biblical statement that says there is a God and as the Gospel unfolds it is made clear God is always calling each one of us to Himself, the one true God. He is the one that humanity has always searched for.

Humanity has turned toward God and at times has turned away from God. Individuals do this and whole groups of people do this. Humanity ebbs and flows in its movement through life toward its END. Humanity has done so as a matter of course throughout history, all of time. WE, every human being, every person, is on a continuing journey.

God is the Prime Mover in the realm of creation and for eternity. The Lord has always existed and will always exist. As such, God is the source and summit of everything created and uncreated. Inevitably, all things must return to the source and summit. There is a natural force that draws all things to the source of all things. Thus we are always returning to the Lord.

In Old Testament times, God gifted our ancestors in the Faith with the Book of the Law. The Law stood as the presence of God. This is seen in the first reading, Nehemiah.

Reading the passage from Nehemiah, what comes to mind is the richness of being in the presence of the Lord God. Nehemiah read the book "from daybreak till midday" to the people. They raised their hands in praise. They were overwhelmed by the sense of God's presence.

At times I sense the same emotion displayed by the people in this passage (Neh. 8). This emotion, which is not mere hysteria, is perhaps the most distinctive evidence that there is a loving God.

At moments when as individuals or as a group, are aware of God, as the people in Nehemiah's time were, we rejoice. Rejoicing cannot be avoided. The sense of the Divine Lord God fills all with great awe. Nehemiah points out it is not a time for trepidation. It is time to rejoice and celebrate!

Truly, the people had become separated from God by their own doing. Nehemiah points out God never

abandoned the people, however. God did not leave them! But now the people have returned to God and Nehemiah exhorts them to rejoice and be glad. "Do not be sad,... Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks...for today is holy to our Lord." They reveled in God's presence. They had returned to the Lord.

There is a lesson for all of us in this scripture. A return to the Lord is a wise thing to do. It is not to say we, the people of Blessed Sacrament Parish, have actively walked away from God. It is that our weekly prayer and celebration of the Sunday Liturgy is a constant act of returning to the Lord. We are always returning to the Lord. That is why there is the third commandment to keep the Lord's Day holy. We constantly return to the source of our being. In recognition of this we cry out in our psalm response, "your words, Lord, are Spirit and life."

Recognition of the Lord is something that draws all humanity together. As such, when we see there is one God, we become overwhelmed by an elevated mood. We reach the moment when as Jesus quoted from the scriptures, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."

**In this special Jubilee year we will do the following. As a parish we will resolve as individuals of Blessed Sacrament Parish to focus more on all the spiritual and educational events and offerings herein. There is no need to add anything to what we already do except to PARTICIPATE. By doing so, each of us, YOU, will be making a return to the Lord. You will come to the source and summit and you will do so by keeping it simple.**

**Thus, in the spirit of Stewardship:**

**- On Friday night, before all go to bed in the household, say a prayer together. Resolve to come to church and celebrate the Holy Liturgy (Mass) with the community of faith.**

**- On Saturday evening or Sunday morning resolve to get up in the Spirit of God and as a family proceed to Mass and celebrate the Liturgy with all of your brothers and sisters of the parish. Raise the roof in praise and worship!**

**- Families with children and youth, be sure to participate in the education of your children. You do this through our Faith Formation offerings. (If you do not know about this, ask the pastor. Inquire by contacting him by calling the rectory. He will get the Faith Formation in touch with you!)**

# Parish Life

- Participate in Scripture Sharing that takes place on Thursday evenings from 7:00PM to 8:00PM. Break open the Sunday Bible readings with the pastor and others in an open discussion.

- Stop in to the Agape after the Sunday morning Liturgies. There, meet one another. Have a beverage and some pastry. Socialize!

- Participate in the parish Mission that starts every Ash Wednesday and continues on that Thursday and Friday evening.

- Pray about participating in serving in some apostolate. We need some more of you to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist (at Week-end Liturgies).

- Volunteer to visit our people in the Assisted Living facility we have in our parish boundaries.

Come to the couple of evening socials we have each year. AND participate in the Afternoon in the Park (our park) that is held each year as a gathering of us all for some family fun.

- Be alert for announcements for other events that might "pop up."

Through all these means we return to the Lord.

## 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: | 289        |
| Tithes Collected:     | \$5,153.00 |
| Per capita:           | \$17.83    |

## TOGETHER WE PRAY FOR

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY 25 - FEBRUARY 2

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

4:00pm † Serge Genillier  
by Javier Duarte  
For the Victims of the  
California Fires

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

9:00am For the Victims of the  
California Fires  
10:45am † Lenny Marcus by Friend  
For the Victims of the  
California Fires

MONDAY JANUARY, 27 | NO MASS

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

8:00am † Carol Wyatt  
by Friend

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

8:00am Jubilee Year

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

8:00am † Deceased of  
the Parish

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

8:00am † James J. Lamberti  
by Helen Lamberti

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

4:00pm † Carol Wyatt  
by Chris  
† Lorraine Walgenwitt  
by Carol Walgenwitt

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

9:00am Blessed Sacrament  
Parish  
10:45am Jubilee Year

*Mass Intentions are a Catholic tradition for love ones; living or deceased.*

*Mass intentions are also a wonderful gift for any special occasion: birthday, anniversary or in thanksgiving for a answered prayer.*

*Please call the office to schedule*