

TODAY

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH are in loving memory of Arsenio D. Domingo, Jr. (4th Anniv., Jan. 7) from his loving wife.

FLOWERS IN THE CHAPEL are in loving memory of Arsenio D. Domingo, Jr. (4th Anniv., Jan. 7) with love from his family.

SECOND COLLECTION today is for Maintenance.

The **EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** celebrates the “manifestation” of God in his Son Jesus to the whole world. The magi come from afar and return home with their new awareness of God’s presence in Jesus. God continues today to reach out to all persons to make known the mystery of God’s Son-made-flesh. Those of us who honor Jesus as our Lord bear the mission of making this mystery known by our lives.

**CHRISTMAS CORNER**

The **FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD** next Sunday concludes the Christmas Season. The Lord born in Bethlehem came to fulfill the mission of redeeming the world. He undertakes his mission and begins his “public life” on the day of his baptism.

THIS WEEK’S PARISH EVENTS

- SUNDAY: January 3**
- 10:00 AM** Coffee & Donuts - Parish Hall
- MONDAY: January 4**
- BSS & BEHS classes resume
- 7:30 PM** Novena and Benediction
- TUESDAY: January 5**
- 7:00 PM** K of C - Parish Hall
- WEDNESDAY: January 6**
- 6:00 PM** Adult Religious Education - MR
- 6:45 PM** Choir Practice
- 7:00 PM** RCIA - Parish Hall
Spanish RCIA - MR
- THURSDAY: January 7**
- 8:45 AM** School Mass
- 7:00 PM** H.S.A. - Parish Hall
- SATURDAY: January 9**
- 7:15 PM** Crossover - Parish Hall

THIS WEEK

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) PROGRAM: The next RCIA class will be held Wed., January 6th. The topic for this class is “The Church - Apostolic Tradition.” For more info. about our RCIA program, please call Sr. Colie at 556-0801.

YOUTH CORNER

The purpose of youth ministry at Blessed Sacrament is to encourage middle and high school age teens to: **R**evere God in the Mass and Eucharist, **E**xtend God’s love to others, **A**pply themselves to learn about our Catholic faith, **C**onnect with fellow believers through Christ, and **H**elp those in the community.

CROSSOVER - For 6th-8th Graders

THIS WEEK

Saturday, Jan. 2: NO MEETING - Happy New Year!

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, Jan. 9: 7:15-8:45 pm - Parish Hall

OUTREACH - For 9th-12th Graders

THIS WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 3: NO MEETING - Happy New Year!

Wednesday: Mass, Adoration & Breakfast

Time: 6:30-7:00 a.m.

Place: Blessed Sacrament Church

Join us for Mass & Adoration, followed by breakfast.

Wednesday: Bible Study

Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Place: Joe’s office

Bring: A Bible

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, Jan. 10: 7:15-8:45 pm - Parish Hall

For any questions or comments about youth ministry, contact Joe Burgess. **766-3633**.

RESPECT LIFE

The “epiphany” most needed in our time is the ability to see beyond the appearances of those who are smaller and weaker, and beyond the illusion created when some are declared “non-persons” under the law. Breaking through all this darkness and blurriness is the clear light of Christ, which shines on every human life without exception, bringing those lives God’s love and giving us the sacred obligation to love them as well.

The universal offer of God’s salvation extends to those still in the womb. Epiphany not only tells us that there are no national or ethnic boundaries to God’s call, but that there are no artificial boundaries between “born” and “unborn,” “wanted” or “unwanted,” “convenient” or “inconvenient.”

PREGNANT? NEED HELP?

Lowcountry Pregnancy Center:

553-3505 (N. Chas.) or 225-3010 (West Ashley)

Birthright of Charleston: 556-4403

Nationwide Toll Free: 1-800-395-HELP

www.pregnancycenters.org

SCHOOL CORNER



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 4 - JANUARY 10, 2010

Monday	01/04	1 John 3:22-4:6	Matthew 4:12-25	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Tuesday	01/05	1 John 4:7-10	Mark 6:34-44	St. John Neumann
Wednesday	01/06	1 John 4:11-18	Mark 6:45-52	
Thursday	01/07	1 John 4:19-5:4	Luke 4:14-22	
Friday	01/08	1 John 5:5-13	Luke 5:12-16	
Saturday	01/09	1 John 5:14-21	John 3:22-30	
Sunday	01/10	Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7	Luke 3:15-16, 21-22	Baptism of the Lord

BLESSED SACRAMENT

A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

The Mission of Blessed Sacrament Church is to form and sustain a Catholic community in which all are welcomed and provided with the opportunities and means to know Christ better, to grow in faith and love, and to give witness jointly to the Kingdom of God by their lives.



ATTITUDE ... GRATITUDE
2009 ... 2010 ... THE CHOICE

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than success, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company ... a church ... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we embrace for that day. We cannot change our past ... we cannot change the fact that people act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you ... we are in charge of our ATTITUDES.

Chuck Swindol, Author of "Attitude"

2009 HAS ENDED! For some, it was just another year ending with the rhetorical, "I wonder where the time went?" question. For others, it didn't end soon enough. Looking back, there seems to be no end to the bad news. Unemployment ... a reality for some ... threatening for many others. Pensions wiped out and retirement in danger or put on hold. Mortgages facing possible foreclosure. Uncertainty is everywhere. Add to these financial fears the ever-present life tragedies ... death or illness of a loved one ... a child headed to or already in trouble of one kind or another ... etc., etc., etc., ... and it's no wonder that many are worried and fed up these days. No matter where they turn, they find another reason to lose sleep.

As we start this new year, it's time to take a collective deep breath and consider Chuck Swindol's words, "... life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it." Whether his 90/10% formula is correct or it is only 50/50%, there is no doubt that attitude shapes individual reactions to adversity. At one extreme, there is the anxiety-filled "Why me, God?" reaction. On the other, there is the faith-filled "Your will be done" trust in God. In the words of Albert Einstein, "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." Our attitude in face of adversity reflects our response to the question, "Do you believe in miracles?"

"You say grace before meals. All right. But I say grace before the concert and the opera, and grace before the play and pantomime, and grace before I open a book, and grace before sketching, painting, swimming, fencing, boxing, walking, playing, dancing and grace before I dip the pen in the ink."

G. K. Chesterton

RECOGNIZING MIRACLES ... Remember when recognizing God's gift of nourishment by saying grace (thanking God) before meals was standard practice? Think about the miracle of God's creation of our food and drink. Think about the many, many miracles that are too often taken for granted ... life ... love ... family ... friends ... the beauty of the beach and the ocean ... our church ... our school ... the list is endless if we take the time to recognize these gifts in our lives. G.K. Chesterton's saying of grace (thanksgiving)

before the most ordinary of events of everyday life is the wake-up call to find God's miracles everywhere.

GRATITUDE - THE CHOICE ... God's miracles (gifts) are everywhere every day. Will they be recognized? If the choice is to ignore God's gifts or take them for granted then the result is dissatisfaction, leading to resentment, ending in self-pity. The old saw about "the cup of milk being half empty or half full" comes to mind. The miracle is the gift of the milk not the amount in the cup. Problems will enter our lives. But we have God's promise that with His help, they won't be more than we can bear. God's gift of time and His gift of grace will overcome. Gratitude is the natural result of the choice to recognize God's loving hand in our lives that will allow us to overcome current concerns or tragedies. Someone once said, "I never knew a grateful person who was unhappy, or an ungrateful person who was happy." Which will you choose in 2010?

"He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has."

Epictetus

Notes from OUR SCHOOL



As a Roman Catholic school, we are a community of parents, educators and students who value solid educational principles, opportunities for enrichment and the development of each child's unique God-given gifts.

We are the primary educational ministry of Blessed Sacrament and St. Joseph parishes, serving children in grades K4-8. We welcome students and their families of all faiths and cultural backgrounds who seek a nurturing, faith-based education in an environment of security and mutual respect.

In the spirit of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, who have guided our school since its founding in 1948, we prepare children academically, spiritually, morally and socially for an effective future as citizens and servants of God.

Ratified January 9, 2006

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL earns the "honor of collecting the MOST canned goods."



Our Lady of Mercy

Community Outreach Services, Inc. P.O. Box 607 Johns Island, South Carolina 29457

Telephone 843-559-4109 Telefax 843-559-8819 info@olmoutreach.org

We are located at 1684 Brownswood Road, Johns Island

November 24, 2009

Mrs. Roseann Tracy
Blessed Sacrament School
7 St. Teresa Drive
Charleston, SC 29407

Dear Mrs. Tracy, Faculty and Students,

On behalf of the staff of Our Lady of Mercy Community Outreach I want to thank you for your participation in the Thanksgiving Food Drive organized by the Diocese. I congratulate you on your honor of collecting the MOST canned goods! Your efforts and the efforts of your students in collecting food for families seeking food assistance are greatly appreciated by all of us.

Our Staff and volunteers helped stock our food pantry with the food your school contributed. They were amazed at the amount of food donated by all of the schools participating in the Challenge! Our food pantry is once again well stocked and we will be able to provide adequate emergency food to families in need.

We have enjoyed sharing in the Food Collection project with you this year. We hope it has been a good experience for your students and we look forward to working with you again next year. May your entire school community continue to experience a happy and fruitful school year. May God's blessing be with all of you !

Sincerely,

Sister Mary Joseph

Sister Mary Joseph
Director

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Louis Lempesis, brother of Terry Williamson of Blessed Sacrament Church

Theresa Ore, mother of Anne-Mary Nash-Haruna of Blessed Sacrament Church

MASS INTENTIONS

Betty Albenesius, Stephen Albenesius, M/M J. Hampton M. Beckmann, Henry "Bunt" Beckmann, Robert Bissey, Kevin Blanchard, Mary Agnes Cannon, M/M Thomas R. Cotten, Joseph Walter Cotten, Thomas R. Cotton, Jr., John Coulter, Arsenio Domingo, Jr. (4th Anniv., Jan. 7), Leona Domingo (1st Anniv., Jan. 1), Camellia (Mamie) Figliorelli, Thomas Figliorelli, Louis Frizelle, Helen Garrett, Eugene L. Halsey, A. Patrick Hiott, Donald Hiott, William Kenneth Johnson, Arthur P. Jones, Rebecca L. Jones, Karen Joseph, Daniel F. Kennerty, Sr., Lawrence J. Kennerty, Sr., Louis Lempesis, Norma Lighthart, Victor Lighthart, Sr., Victor Lighthart, Jr., Mary Schachte Linder, R.T. Linder, Rendall T. Linder, Jr., R. Tommy Linder, III, Bernard Maginn, Neola Beckmann McAndrews, Caroline D. McDermott, Charles W. McDermott, Willard Oldmixon, MD, Theresa Ore, Robert Register, Anne Scandalios, Nicholas Scandalios, Joseph Soffera, Mary Soffera, Caronell Thomy, Lee & Ella Nora Welcker, Ron L. Welcker, and Frank Wilson.

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS: Eva Marie Baird, Patrick Birt, Marguerite Bishop, Charles Blanchard, Les Blyth, Gary Broughton, Vera Buckland, Susan Burnet, Al Cannon, Stacy Casserly, Rosemary Cook, Myrtice Couturier, Harper Drolet, Terri Dunbar, Kit Dunlap, Jane Finnerty, Joan Finnerty, Sally Fosberry, Gaetano Francese, Vincenza Francese, Barbara Gregorie, Kerry Jacques, Paula Johnson, Richard L. Jones, Michael Justin, Abe Keating, Cathy Kemmerer, Mildred "Tunkey" Kennerty, Frank Kerr, Lori Khouri, Sally LaTorre, Albert Lutrario, Jero Lutrario, Emmalee Lyman, Sharon McCabe, Kim McConnell, Lydia McConnell, Donald McEwan, Charlie Meyer, Laurence Montano, Edson Moya, Christina Nolen, Delmar Raymer, Jeaneane B. Raymond, Barbara Robinson, Betsy Robinson, Margaret Shieder, Gary Sullivan, Mark Taylor, Frank White, Bryan Wilson, Evelyn Witham, and all members of our parish who are sick or homebound.

PLEASE PRAY for parishioners and their family members who are in the missionary, military, or support services and stationed in hazardous locations overseas. Sr. Mary Bernard (Vietnam), Brian Cummings (son of M/M Ronald E. Smith), Abby Ford (granddaughter of Gertrude Heuer), Dodger Jeffcott, Brian Noel Kellahan, Jordon Kirk, Krystal Mason, Stanley Morgan (son of John Morgan), and Anthony Schmit (Afghanistan, nephew of Bob & Barb Nicolai).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR SERVERS: If you are a new altar server, have been to at least two practices and have not received a schedule, please call Deacon James at 901-9496.

The Diocese of Charleston and the Oratory are sponsoring a **DISCERNMENT RETREAT** January 28-31, 2010 at the Oratory in Rock Hill. The retreat will allow participants to discern a possible vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life. Men and women ages 18-55 are eligible. For more information or for an application, please call the Vocations Office at 843-402-9115, ext. 22.

DIOCESAN PHYSICIAN'S GUILD: Are you a Catholic Doctor? Do changes in research and health care practices raise ethical questions in your mind? Would you like to join with other Catholic doctors in serving the Church? Bishop Robert Guglielmone invites you to the inaugural meeting of a diocesan physician's guild to be held January 30, 2010 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Columbia. The event will begin with lunch at 12 o'clock noon and conclude with Mass at 5:30 p.m. For more information, please call 843-853-2130.



You are invited to the **THIRTEENTH ANNUAL PRAYER SERVICE COMMEMORATING THE DREAM OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.** on Monday, January 18, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Nativity Church, James Island. Dr. Jack Bass, Professor, Historian, Author and Civil Rights Activist, will be the speaker. A reception will immediately follow in the parish hall.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to those parishioners having significant birthdays in January: Mary Elizabeth Halsey, Van Kerr, Lillian Millings and William Welborn. Many blessings to these individuals and to all those celebrating birthdays this month!

STAND UP FOR LIFE MARCH AND RALLY is January 16, 2010 in Columbia. The line up for the March begins at 11 a.m. at the USC Russell House on Greene Street. At 11:30 a.m. the Knights of Columbus will lead the march to the S.C. State House. The rally begins at 12 Noon at the State House, Gervais Street side. The keynote speaker is Damon Owens, New Jersey Director for the National Organization for Marriage and spokesman for L.E.A.R.N., the independent network of African-American Pro-Life organizations. For more information, please call 803-252-5433 or go to www.sccl@sclife.org.



**Grateful Sacrificial Giving
Offertory
Week 51 <> Dec. 20, 2009**

1st OFFERTORY

BUDGET:

Operating	\$15,000
ECDC Mortgage	\$ 4,500
TOTAL	\$19,500

Christmas	\$ 7,537
<u>Regular</u>	<u>\$22,190</u>
	29,727

OUTREACH:

St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 400
Other	\$ 122
BSA	\$ 537
<u>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</u>	<u>\$30,786</u>

**Stewardship ... Sharing God's Gifts
Time in Prayer
Time & Talent in Ministry & Service
Time, Talent & Treasure
Gratefully Given**

1st Offertory <> Total Year-to-Year

Dec. 14, 2008	\$ 993,350
Dec. 20, 2009	<u>\$ 950,274</u>
	<u>-\$ (43,076)</u>

For more information or questions, contact our
parish Finance Council:

Henry Wilson	266-5400	Chairman
Rosie Cochran	766-1661	Secretary
Joe Bolchoz	556-1606	
Danny Condon	571-6118	
Tony Daniel	556-4241	
John Grisillo	270-3692	