

TODAY

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are in loving memory of Louis E. Frizelle (Anniv., Nov. 23 & Birthday Anniv., Dec. 25) with love from his family.

FLOWERS IN THE CHAPEL are in loving memory of Jason Haigler (35th Birthday Anniv., Dec. 7) with love from Mom.

SECOND COLLECTION today is for the Retired Religious Fund. Many of the women and men religious have spent their lives serving our Church around the world. Some are frail and elderly; many continue serving today. Most face skyrocketing healthcare expenses while receiving an average Social Security benefit. Please join with Pope Benedict in giving thanks for the gift of religious. Your prayers and donations mean so much.

ADVENT CORNER

The **BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH ADVENT DINNER** will take place Sunday, December 13, after the 11:00 a.m. Mass in the parish hall. Parishioners are asked to bring non-perishable food items for the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry. There is a sign-up sheet in the church.

A **RECONCILIATION SERVICE** is a gathering, with prayer and song to affirm our common need for forgiveness and our sharing in God's forgiveness through Jesus Christ. Reconciliation services during Advent in our area include: December 7, 7 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle; December 10, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph; and December 14, 7 p.m. at Nativity.

The Latino community of our parish invites all parish members to its celebration of the **FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**, patroness of the Americas, on Friday, December 11. Please join them at an 8 p.m. Mass in church. Everyone is welcome!

The **ANGEL TREE** is our way of providing Christmas presents to needy children and adults. Please take a tag from the tree. Buy and wrap a present for the person listed on the tag, attach the tag to the gift and place it under the tree by December 18th. Forms are available at the main entrance to the church to identify families and individuals needing assistance this Christmas. Your information will be kept confidential.

CHRISTMAS MASS REMEMBRANCE ENVELOPES & CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING ENVELOPES have been placed by the doors to the church. Envelopes should be turned in to the parish office (collection basket or mail) by Dec. 21st.

THIS WEEK'S PARISH EVENTS

SUNDAY: December 6
10:00 AM Coffee & Donuts - Parish Hall
 Religious Education
 Bible Group - MR
7:15 PM Outreach - Parish Hall

MONDAY: December 7
7:15 PM Vigil Mass (Immaculate Conception)
7:30 PM Novena and Benediction

TUESDAY: December 8
Holy Day Masses:
6:30 am, 8:45 am (school), 12 Noon
7:00 PM Stewardship Meeting - MR

WEDNESDAY: December 9
6:00 PM Adult Religious Education - MR
6:45 PM Choir Practice
7:00 PM RCIA - Parish Hall
 Spanish RCIA - MR

THURSDAY: December 10
7:00 PM School Christmas Program - Hall
 Pastoral Council
 Bible Study

FRIDAY: December 11
8:00 PM Mass - Our Lady of Guadalupe
 (Spanish)

THIS WEEK

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) PROGRAM: The next RCIA class will be held Wed., December 9th. The topic for this class is "Christ: Light Overcomes Darkness." For more info. about our RCIA program, please call Sr. Colie at 556-0801.

ADVENT FLYERS - "Simple Ways to Prepare for the Birth of Jesus" - may be picked up at the entrances.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to those parishioners having significant birthdays in December: Frank Craven (90 on Dec. 9), Ruth DeSouza, Arnold Piazza, Juanita Hutto and Jessie Liddy. Many blessings to these individuals and to all those celebrating birthdays this month!

Tuesday, December 8 is the **SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**, a holy day of obligation. By a privilege granted to the mother of the redeemer, Mary was preserved from all sin from the first moment of her life. Masses for the feast will be Dec. 7 at 6:15 pm (Vigil Mass) and Dec. 8 at 6:30 am, 8:45 am (school Mass) and Noon.

YOUTH CORNER



CROSSOVER - For 6th-8th Graders

THIS WEEK

Saturday, Dec. 5: Parish Hall - 7:15-8:45 pm

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, Dec. 12: Parish Hall - 7:15-8:45 pm

OUTREACH - For 9th-12th Graders

THIS WEEK

Sunday, Dec. 6: Parish Hall- 7:15-8:45 pm

Wednesday [New Day]: Mass

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

Place: Blessed Sacrament Church

Start your day right with Mass.

Wednesday: Bible Study

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

Place: Joe's office

Bring: A Bible

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, Dec. 13: Parish Hall - 7:15-8:45 pm

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

RESPECT LIFE

The pain of abortion - from one who knows...

“When I found out I was pregnant, I was so scared and felt like I didn’t know where to turn. I felt like I had no other choice. After I had my abortion, I felt relief at first. But after 7 years of denial, it finally hit me. I was so scared when I found out what an abortion really [is]. I was so angry at my family and boyfriend (now husband). I felt like nobody was there for me. I was angry at the clinic personnel for saying everything would be fine. I found Project Rachel, and they helped me start to grieve [for] my child. So many women feel that if they had more support and truth during their crisis pregnancy, many lives would have been saved.” Help is available. Call 1-800-395-HELP. (priestsforlife.org)

Pregnant? Need Help?

Lowcountry Pregnancy Center
225-3010 in West Ashley
553-3505 in North Charleston

Birthright: 556-4403

Nationwide Toll Free: 1-800-395-HELP

www.pregnancycenters.org

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



The **SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** wishes to thank all who contributed to the second collection on November 28 and 29 and the collection on Thanksgiving Day. The total amount collected was \$1,370. Thank you for your generosity.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 13, 2009

Monday	12/07	Isaiah 35:1-10	Luke 5:17-26	St. Ambrose
Tuesday	12/08	Genesis 3:9-15, 20	Luke 1:26-38	Immaculate Conception
Wednesday	12/09	Isaiah 40:25-31	Matthew 11:28-30	
Thursday	12/10	Isaiah 41:13-20	Matthew 11:11-15	
Friday	12/11	Isaiah 48:17-19	Matthew 11:16-19	
Saturday	12/12	Zechariah 2:14-17	Luke 1:39-47	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Sunday	12/13	Zephaniah 3:14-18	Luke 3:10-18	3rd Sunday of Advent



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.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

TABLE 1 <> YEAR-TO-YEAR SUMMARY
FY 2005-2006 through FY 2008-2009

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH

	<u>FY 05 – 06</u>	<u>FY 06 – 07</u>	<u>FY 07 – 08</u>	<u>FY 08 – 09</u>
REVENUES	\$ 1,350,429	\$ 1,251,096	\$ 1,361,836	\$ 1,200,816
LESS:				
EXPENSES	\$ 903,232	\$ 966,946	\$ 1,026,810	\$ 1,089,175
DEBT SERVICE & CAP IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 381,517	\$ 160,661	\$ 464,701	\$ 132,566
NET TO RESERVES	\$ 65,680	\$ 123,489	(\$ 129,675)	(\$ 20,925)

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL

	<u>FY 05 – 06</u>	<u>FY 06 – 07</u>	<u>FY 07-08</u>	<u>FY 08-09</u>
REVENUES	\$ 1,787,585	\$ 1,804,736	\$ 1,910,474	\$ 1,939,409
LESS:				
EXPENSES	\$ 1,588,746	\$ 1,641,426	\$ 1,693,173	\$ 1,817,530
CAP IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 95,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 263,683	\$ 52,588
NET TO RESERVES	\$ 104,050	\$ 153,310	(\$ 46,382)	\$ 69,291

RESERVES – CHURCH & SCHOOL

ANNUAL ADDITION	\$ 169,730	\$ 276,799	(\$ 176,057)	\$ 48,366
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OVERVIEW ... The financial condition of Blessed Sacrament Parish continues to be sound. Despite a significant (11.8%) downturn in Church revenues for FY 08-09, the mortgage debt on the Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC) was reduced by \$132,566 during this year. As of June 30, 2009, the principal balance on the ECDC mortgage was \$654,548.

The Church decrease in reserves (FY 08-09 = \$20,925) was offset by the School's increase (FY 08-09 = \$69,291) resulting in a total net addition to reserves of \$48,366 for the fiscal year. Over the past four years, the combined Church and School reserves was increased by \$318,838. During the same time period, the major renovation and modernization of the Technology and Fine Arts Wing of the school (\$537,000) and paving of one-half of the parking lot (\$67,486) were completed; and, the mortgage debt was reduced by \$345,452 without a separate dedicated capital campaign to raise the funds. This cumulative addition (\$318,838) over the last four years provided the major funds necessary to proceed with the renovation and modernization of the school's 3rd and 4th Grade Wing during the summer of 2009.

TABLE 2 <> CHURCH DETAILS

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>FY 07-08</u>	<u>FY 08 - 09</u>
Offertory & Designated	\$1,211,262	\$1,094,009
Bequests, Religious Education, etc.	\$ 100,038	\$ 60,370
<u>Diocesan Collections</u>	<u>\$ 50,536</u>	<u>\$ 46,437</u>
TOTAL	\$1,361,836	\$1,200,816
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Clergy, Administrative & Music	\$ 458,333	\$ 475,893
Church & Rectory	\$ 148,542	\$ 183,005
Operating & Maintenance	\$ 262,571	\$ 282,987
Religious Education	\$ 57,003	\$ 59,138
ECDC Mortgage Interest	\$ 49,825	\$ 41,715
<u>Diocesan Collections</u>	<u>\$ 50,536</u>	<u>\$ 46,437</u>
TOTAL	\$1,026,810	\$1,089,175
<u>OTHER OUTLAYS</u>		
ECDC Mort (Principle Reduction)	\$ 124,456	\$ 132,566
<u>Capital Improvements</u>	<u>\$ 340,245</u>	<u>\$ - 0 -</u>
TOTAL	\$ 464,701	\$ 132,566
NET to RESERVES	(\$ 129,675)	(\$ 20,925)

REVENUES ... The downturn in the national economy had a negative impact on Church revenues in FY 08 - 09. Overall Church Revenues were down by 11.8% (\$161,020). Revenue decreases were experienced in all categories: Offertory & Designated (-\$9.7% = 117,253); Bequests, Religious Education, etc. (-39.7% = \$39,668); and, Diocesan Collections (-8.1% = \$4,099).

EXPENSES ... To partially offset the impact of the revenue decreases, overall expense increases were held to 6.1% through budget management controls implemented throughout the year. Despite the decrease in Church revenues, the mortgage debt on the Early Childhood Development Center was further reduced by \$132,566 leaving a balance of \$654,548.

TABLE 3 <> SCHOOL DETAILS

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>FY 07 – 08</u>	<u>FY 08 - 09</u>
Tuition & Fees	\$1,639,589	\$1,694,355
Extended Care Program	\$ 164,715	\$ 169,673
Donations & Fund Raising	\$ 55,357	\$ 32,087
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$ 50,813</u>	<u>\$ 43,294</u>
TOTAL	\$1,910,474	\$1,939,409
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Administrative	\$ 283,391	\$ 267,973
Instructional	\$1,039,602	\$1,146,178
Operating & Maintenance	\$ 232,172	\$ 258,516
Extended Care Program	\$ 116,684	\$ 120,309
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$ 21,324</u>	<u>\$ 24,554</u>
TOTAL	\$1,693,173	\$1,817,530
<u>OTHER OUTLAYS</u>		
<u>Capital Improvements</u>	<u>\$ 263,683</u>	<u>\$ 52,588</u>
NET to RESERVES	(\$ 46,382)	\$ 69,291

REVENUES ... Revenues rose slightly (+1.5%) despite a slight decrease in enrollment and reduction in the miscellaneous Donations & Fund Raising category.

EXPENSES ... Expenses increased by \$124,357 (+12.0%) due in large part to the addition of the SmartBoard's hardware and technology into the school. Funds raised by the Annual Fund were used to provide faculty workshop training to incorporate the SmartBoards into the classrooms.

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

James Luhrs, parishioner of Blessed Sacrament Church

MASS INTENTIONS



† Betty Albenesius, Stephen Albenesius, M/M J. Hampton M. Beckmann, Henry "Bunt" Beckmann, Robert Bissey, Mary Agnes Cannon, M/M Thomas R. Cotten, Joseph Walter Cotten, John Coulter, Camellia (Mamie) Figliorelli, Thomas Figliorelli, Edward Finnerty, Sr., Theresa Diyorio Francese (28th Anniv., Dec. 11), Kay Pace Fricke (Birthday Anniv., Nov. 22), 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., Norma Lighthart, Victor Lighthart, Sr., Victor Lighthart, Jr., Mary Schachte Linder, Bernard Maginn, Neola Beckmann McAndrews, Caroline D. McDermott, Charles W. McDermott, Kitty Mitchell, Willard Oldmixon, MD, Carl O'Leksy, Theresa Oru (living), Harvey Pace (22nd Anniv., Nov. 20), Robert Register, Marlene Sigler (living), 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, Lori Khouri, Sally LaTorre, Albert Lutrario, Jero Lutrario, Emmalee Lyman, Sharon McCabe, Kim McConnell, Lydia McConnell, Donald McEwan, Laurence Montano, Edson Moya, Christina Nolen, Theresa Oru, Delmar Raymer, Jeaneane B. Raymond, Barbara Robinson, Betsy Robinson, Margaret Shieder, Gary Sullivan, Mark Taylor, Raymond "Bud" Thompson, 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, Richard Lynch, Krystal Mason, Stanley Morgan (son of John Morgan), Stephen Pursley, Anthony Schmit (Afghanistan, nephew of Bob & Barb Nicolai) and Erin Sutton.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A BEQUEST has been received from the estate of Beatrice White of our parish, who died on July 30, 2008. Please remember Mrs. White in your prayers.

Your help will make a difference in our **CHRISTMAS CLEANING** of the church on Friday evening, December 17, and Saturday, December 18, at 8 a.m. Please call Donna Poyer to volunteer or for more information (571-5941 home or 792-3294 work).

Congratulations to **MARIE and JOHN PINTO**, who celebrated their 60 year wedding anniversary on December 2nd. Many blessings to you both!

The **WOMEN'S GUILD** will hold their **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY** on Dec. 15 at 6:00 pm at Grindz on Sam Rittenberg Blvd. All women and spouses are invited to attend. This year there will be no prepay. You can order and pay for what you want. Bring an unwrapped baby gift for Birthright. To RSVP, please call Maria Stephens at 763-7948 by Dec. 13.

Every year the Women's Guild elects a woman from within the organization who exemplifies what it is to be a Catholic Woman— a woman willing to give of her time, talent and treasures. This year's winner will go on to compete with the winners from the other parishes within the Diocese of Charleston for the State "**WOMAN OF THE YEAR.**" Blessed Sacrament Women's Guild is proud to congratulate **JEWEL DELMAS!**

The K of C Council 12472 will be making available the **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CAR MAGNETS** at the entrance to the Church. A minimum \$5 donation is requested. All proceeds go to Operation HOPE, a non-profit corporation operated by the S.C. K of C, which is dedicated to increasing the self-reliance and dignity of our challenged citizens.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society has reopened the **FURNITURE WAREHOUSE** located adjacent to St. Johns Catholic School (3927 St. Johns Avenue, N. Charleston). The facility will be open to serve pre-qualified needy clients from 10 a.m. until 12 Noon on the second Saturday of each month. Potential clients can contact the SVDP helpline at 727-3943. Donations of furniture (other than large appliances) and household items such as linens, towels and kitchenware are also welcomed at the SVDP warehouse during operating hours.

PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY: Please sign up if you still need to be photographed and call AccuPhoto Lab (571-4817) directly to set an appointment for your family. We have holiday hours!



**Grateful Sacrificial Giving
Offertory
Week 48 <> Nov. 29, 2009**

1st OFFERTORY

BUDGET:

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

ACTUAL **\$14,657**

OUTREACH:

SVDP	\$ 240
Human Dev.	\$ 157
Other	\$ 135

TOTAL OFFERTORY: **\$15,189**

Stewardship

“For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood.”

Mark 12:44

1st Offertory <> Total Year-to-Year

Nov. 23, 2008	\$ 936,213
Nov. 29, 2009	<u>\$ 879,844</u>
	-\$ (56,369)

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

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|---------------|----------|-----------|
| 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 | |