



Church of The  
**Blessed  
Sacrament**  
New York City

# Welcome Package



## MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Welcome to Blessed Sacrament!

I am delighted to have you join Blessed Sacrament and offer you the assurance of our prayers and support as you take your place in this great parish.

For more than 100 years, our parish has provided an environment for worship, varied liturgical events, celebrations and community events.

This guide will provide you with information you need to find your place in ministry and worship.

We look forward to getting to know you in the days ahead.



*Rev. John P. Duffell*

Pastor

## **Hello? It's for you!**

Once you register with our parish, a member of our Welcome Ministry will reach out to formally welcome you to our church community and provide you with some helpful information.

Until then, if you need any assistance or have any questions, please call our office at 212.877.3111 or email

[admin@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:admin@blessedsacramentnyc.org).

## PARISH CULTURE: ALL ARE WELCOME

### **WHO WE ARE:**

#### **A diverse community of believers in Jesus' love**

We are a vibrant and diverse church. We come from different generations, different ethnic backgrounds, different experiences, but we are connected by our Roman Catholic faith and a shared devotion to following and spreading Jesus' love for all people.

### **WHAT WE BELIEVE: All are welcome here**

We believe in Jesus' all-embracing welcome: No matter your race, age, gender, economic status, or sexual orientation, whether new to the faith or returning – you are welcome here.

Here, "All are Welcome" is a practice of inclusion rooted in our service to God and our community. Together, through faith ministries, we grow, pray, help, encourage and strengthen one another through words and deeds.

### **WHERE WE ARE GOING:**

#### **A journey of discipleship**

We know that faith and spiritual growth is a journey for everyone that continues throughout their lives. The goal is to grow ever more spiritual in our faith along the way.

To that end, join us on our journey of discipleship. Together, let us enrich our church with opportunities for people of every background and life situation to become evermore like Jesus.

### **HOW WE GET THERE:**

#### **A shared direction of priorities**

The direction of Blessed Sacrament is to be determined by the things we do on a consistent basis now and into the future. The church has set the following four priorities as its focus of work over the next three to five years

## MASS SCHEDULE

### **SATURDAY**

5:30PM Organ

### **SUNDAY**

8:30 AM Organ

10:00 AM Family Mass/Children's Choir

11:15 AM Spanish Mass/Choir

12:30PM Organ/Choir

5:30PM Piano/Choir

### **Monday to Friday**

7:30 AM

12:10PM

5:30PM

### **Saturday**

7:30 AM

12:10PM

### **Spanish Mass**

Every other Wednesday at 7PM.

### **Holy Days & Eves of Holy Days**

As Announced.

### **Confession Times**

Saturday: 4:30PM to 5:15PM

### **Special Need Mass**

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month at 4:00PM

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### **1. What volunteer opportunities are available at the Parish and how do I sign up?**

Blessed Sacrament encourages parishioners to give of their time, talent, and treasure as a disciple of God. Volunteer opportunities include working at the Soup Kitchen, visiting the elderly, participating in various outreach events with the JoyJ Group. For information on all these opportunities and more, please access the Blessed Sacrament website: [blessedsacramentnyc.org/social-action-outreach](https://blessedsacramentnyc.org/social-action-outreach) or call the Rectory at 212-877-3111.

### **2. I have young children and I would like them to be in Blessed Sacrament School, how do I register?**

Blessed Sacrament School is a parish based Pre-K through Eighth grade Catholic elementary school. Our well-rounded curriculum incorporates love of God, self, and others. Our parish, families, faculty and staff collaborate to educate the heart and mind, and empower the children to embrace challenges in a loving, faith-filled environment. The school celebrates diversity, strong ethical values, and the development of each child's God-given academic potential. We integrate technology, the arts, music and physical education programs to provide a liberal arts education for the whole child. The primary aims of a Blessed Sacrament education are to foster Christian leadership, individual responsibility and service to those in our community and beyond. Visit [sblsnyc.org](https://sblsnyc.org) for more information.

### **3. What opportunities exist at Blessed Sacrament for fellowship and camaraderie outside of Church services?**

Blessed Sacrament believes in fostering fellowship and camaraderie as parishioners encourage and support each other during their Faith Journey. Regular gatherings with the Family Ministry, the Blessed Sacrament Families Group, the Gay Fellowship Group, as well as Spirit Sunday and others, are open to the whole Parish. Please visit the Blessed Sacrament website at [blessedsacramentnyc.org/ministries](https://blessedsacramentnyc.org/ministries)

### **4. Where can I get information about the Sacraments?**

Blessed Sacrament Church supports all wishing to receive the Sacraments, especially of initiation, working with those seeking a relationship with God. Infant Baptisms are held throughout the year except during Lent. Information on all the Sacraments including timing and prerequisites can be found on the website at [blessedsacramentnyc.org/sacraments](https://blessedsacramentnyc.org/sacraments)

### **5. I am interested in working with the homeless. Does the Parish have outreach programs to the poor and homeless?**

Blessed Sacrament works with the homeless in our area which is an answer to our call to discipleship. JoyJ, the Social Action Committee, and the Soup Kitchen all serve our neighbors providing meals, delivering care packages, and advocating for their civil rights.)

### **6. I am interested in Adult Faith Formation. What options do I have as a parishioner of Blessed Sacrament to further grow in the Faith?**

In addition to RCIA, Blessed Sacrament offers several programs of speakers, films, authors, and teachers examining aspects of our shared faith in an effort to encourage a dialogue and to mature spiritually.

### **7. Does Blessed Sacrament work for social justice? What programs does the Parish offer?**

Blessed Sacrament has a dedicated Social Action Committee that leads the parish in a number of initiatives ensuring that all citizens are treated with justice, and that we all take care of the Earth our common home.

## STAY CONNECTED

Blessed Sacrament has a number of ways for you and your family to stay connected with parish life. From the weekly bulletins to social media, we want you to be in the know when it comes to all parish news, events, and special announcements.

Please sign up, like us, follow us or subscribe.

### **Parish Main Office**

212.877.3111

[admin@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:admin@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### **School Office**

[sblsnyc.org](http://sblsnyc.org)

(212) 724-7561

### **Website**

[blessedsacramentnyc.org](http://blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### **Parish Bulletin**

[blessedsacramentnyc.org/bulletin](http://blessedsacramentnyc.org/bulletin)



### **Facebook**

[facebook.com/Blessed-Sacrament-Church-1532829363423045](https://facebook.com/Blessed-Sacrament-Church-1532829363423045)



### **Twitter**

[twitter.com/blssdsacramntnyc](https://twitter.com/blssdsacramntnyc)



### **Instagram**

[instagram.com/blessedsacramentnyc](https://instagram.com/blessedsacramentnyc)



### **FlockNote**

Get important updates from the parish (and Archdiocese) in a timely and convenient way. This new tool we're using lets you choose what info you'd like to receive | via email or text message | from the various ministries and groups in the parish. You can unsubscribe any time.

Text BSC to **84576** or visit [flocknote.com/BSC](http://flocknote.com/BSC) to subscribe

## GET INVOLVED: PARISH MINISTRIES & ACTIVITIES

From various ministry activities to some of our special events, there is always something available for you and your family to participate in with fellow parishioners. If you are not already involved with one of these great groups, we invite you to consider learning more about any of them that may spark your interest. A contact is listed with each Ministry.

### LITURGY AND MUSIC

#### **Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors**

Adult men and women are invited to take part in the Liturgical Ministry of our Parish as Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors. Lectors do the readings (except for the Gospel) at Sunday Mass. Eucharistic Ministers distribute Holy Communion at all masses.

**Role of Lector:** The ministry of the Lector is vital to the life of our parish because it is through the Lector that the Word of God, delivering both the Old and New Testament readings, are proclaimed. Lectors also minister the Prayers of the Faithful to Blessed Sacrament parishioners. A love for the Scriptures and their meaning in the life of the parish is central to this role.

**Role of Eucharistic Minister:** Eucharistic Ministers are called upon to assist the priest and deacons in the distribution of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ to Blessed Sacrament parishioners. They may also volunteer to take Holy Communion in our local hospitals and nursing homes, and to those who are bound to their homes. Ministry is never self-seeking but giving, and it is the kind of giving in which one loves the persons one gives to.

Kimberley LaMarque Orman or Thomas Davis

[Lectors@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:Lectors@blessedsacramentnyc.org), [EMs@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:EMs@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

#### **Altar Servers**

Parishioners of any age who have made their First Communion are invited to participate as Altar Servers to assist the priest in the celebration of Sunday Mass.

Chris Miller | [Cmiller2925@aol.com](mailto:Cmiller2925@aol.com) | 917-612-7833

Marlon Hosang | [Marlon.hosang@gmail.com](mailto:Marlon.hosang@gmail.com)

#### **Arts at Blessed Sacrament**

The Arts at Blessed Sacrament is the foundation that supports the arts and cultural life at The Church of the Blessed Sacrament both in liturgy and in concert. The Arts at Blessed Sacrament concert series which gives the opportunity for artists to program what they are passionate about most by revealing to the audience their most passionate and creative voice. The artists at the Church of Blessed Sacrament strive to program innovative and engaging concerts which can appeal to a wide variety of audience. Utilizing various spaces within the Church's building, various works can be created to enhance the experience of performer and listener alike.

Alessandro Pittorino, Director of Music Ministry | [apittorino@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:apittorino@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

#### **Contemporary Choir-Sunday 5:30PM**

Adult Choir has weekly rehearsals before mass. New members are always welcome.

Jim Trainor | [jtbaritone@gmail.com](mailto:jtbaritone@gmail.com) | 646-319-0987

Rectory office 212-877-3111

### **Children's Choir-Sunday 10:00AM**

Children's Choir and Instrumental Ensemble meet Sunday mornings at 9:15 before 10AM Family Mass to rehearse with Music Minister and piano. September through May.

Rob McClimans | [rmcclimans@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:rmcclimans@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

Rectory office 212-877-3111

### **Traditional Choir-Sunday 12:30PM**

Parish choir to provide choral music to the weekly mass as well as other special masses and occasions.

Alessandro Pittorino | [apittorino@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:apittorino@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### **Ushers and Greeters**

We are always in need of ushers and greeters to welcome parishioners, take up the collection and distribute bulletins.

Rectory Office 212-877-3111

### **Special Needs Mass**

1st and 3rd Sunday of every month

Rectory Office 212-877-3111

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

### **Religious Education for Children and Teens**

Classes in Religion for Catholic children/teenagers, Prekindergarten -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. First Communion and Confirmation require a two year program.

Tina Silvestro, Director of Religious Education | [tina@blessedsacramentsundayschool.org](mailto:tina@blessedsacramentsundayschool.org)

Rectory office 212-877-3111

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

RCIA is the process designed by the Church for adults to receive the sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Communion). The goals are to give a complete overview of Catholic teaching and practice and to begin to deepen a Christian spiritual life centered in the Sunday Scripture readings. The sacraments are received at the Easter Vigil Mass.

Tina Silvestro, Director of Religious Education | [tina@blessedsacramentsundayschool.org](mailto:tina@blessedsacramentsundayschool.org)

Rectory office 212-877-3111

### **School of the Blessed Sacrament (pre-k | 8th)**

The School of the Blessed Sacrament is a parish-based Pre-K through eighth grade Catholic elementary school that aims to foster Christian leadership, individual responsibility and service to those in our community and beyond.

Caroline Sliney, Principal | [sblsnyc.org](http://sblsnyc.org)

## FAMILIES

### Family Ministry

The Family Ministry is organized through a committee of parents that represent the diversity of our parish and is designed to strengthen our faith community through participation in the sacraments, prayer and service. All service projects are designed for family participation.

Thu Nguyen | [familyministry@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:familyministry@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### Sunday Family Mass (10AM)

The Sunday 10AM mass is designed for families, with worship aids and a children's choir to encourage participation. Children of all ages actively serve in liturgical and hospitality roles.

Thu Nguyen | [familyministry@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:familyministry@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### Catholic Families–Monthly Mom's Night

The group hosts a range of events designed to help each other raise our children as Catholics and improve the practice of our own faith. A monthly mom's group is also held.

[meetup.com/nyc-catholic-families](https://meetup.com/nyc-catholic-families)

### Archdiocesan Family/Respect Life

The archdiocese of NY provides programs in Marriage Preparation, Natural Family Planning, Marriage Enrichment, Parenting Education, Respect Life, Post Abortion, Spanish programs, Bereavement, Separated and Divorced, Young Adult.

Archdiocese of New York | [nyfamilylife.org](http://nyfamilylife.org)

## FELLOWSHIP

### Monthly Coffee Hour (Sundays after 8:30 thru 12:30 Masses)

The monthly Coffee Hour is hosted after the Sunday morning masses. Typically held in the rectory, all are welcome to meet other parishioners at this casual social hour. Please contact James if you are interested in helping organize and/or bake for the event.

James Palazza | [jamespalazza@yahoo.com](mailto:jamespalazza@yahoo.com) | 646-456-8878

Rectory office 212-877-3111

### Monthly Spirit Sunday (Sundays after 5:30PM)

Once a month, a social gathering is held after the Sunday 5:30 Mass. It is a light-hearted evening with light appetizers, beer, wine and soda. John Gasdaska | [john.gasdaska@corcoran.com](mailto:john.gasdaska@corcoran.com)

### Gay Fellowship

Regular meetings to provide a safe and comfortable place to meet and share with LGBT Catholics. All are welcome. John Gasdaska | [john.gasdaska@corcoran.com](mailto:john.gasdaska@corcoran.com)

## PASTORAL CARE

### Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound

Bring Communion to the homebound. Rectory Office 212-877-3111

### Bereavement Group

A supportive group for those experiencing grief over the death of a loved one.

Eileen Schmidt | Rectory office 212-877-3111

## DEVOTIONS AND PRAYERS

### **Miraculous Medal Devotions**

Monday before 12:10 and 5:30PM Masses

### **Fatima Devotions**

Daily Rosary before 12:10PM Mass. Holy Hour, Fridays 6-7PM

### **Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

First Friday Exposition: 12:35PM, Adoration: All Day, Benediction: 5:15PM

## SOCIAL ACTION OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

### **Social Action Committee**

The Social Action Committee meets monthly, reviewing and discussing various social and economic issues that face our Parish, neighborhood, city and world communities. The committee serves to advise and educate parishioners on selected issues throughout the year by providing educational materials and ways to get involved and engaged.

Luke Mayville | [lukegmayville@gmail.com](mailto:lukegmayville@gmail.com)

### **Visiting Friends for the Homebound**

Volunteers visit the homebound (elderly, disabled, ill) in the neighborhood to provide the comfort of company and social interaction. If you would like to be a Visiting Friend or you know of someone who would benefit from and welcome this service, please contact us through email at [joyj.blessed.sacrament@aol.com](mailto:joyj.blessed.sacrament@aol.com). Be sure to put "Visiting Friends Program" in the subject box. Or leave your information at the rectory 212-877-3111.

Jack Going | [jegoing@aol.com](mailto:jegoing@aol.com)

### **Feeding Our Neighbors (Catholic Charities)**

Every January, Blessed Sacrament participates in Feeding Our Neighbors, an Archdiocesan-Wide Drive to replenish Food Pantries in our community. As an interfaith response, and managed by Catholic Charities, 100% of contributions will support local food pantries. At Blessed Sacrament, volunteers distribute flyers and collect food at weekend Masses, we stock our parish pantry and deliver food to our sister pantry in Harlem.

Pia Ferrario | [pferrario2@icloud.com](mailto:pferrario2@icloud.com)

### **CRS Rice Bowl (Catholic Relief Services)**

In the season of Lent, Blessed Sacrament participates in CRS Rice Bowl which invites Catholics to live in solidarity with our poorest brothers and sisters through the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Parishioners put their sacrificial donations in their Rice Bowl. Volunteers will organize the blessing of the Rice Bowls at Mass, distribute flyers, Rice Bowls and Lenten calendars, and collect Rice Bowls on Palm Sunday.

Pia Ferrario | [pferrario2@icloud.com](mailto:pferrario2@icloud.com)

### **Coat Drive**

Every December, on behalf of the needy within our local community, volunteers accept and pack gently used coat donations (including laundered baby/children's coats) at Mass, and bring them to a nearby New York Cares donation center.

Ria Blom | [riablom1216@gmail.com](mailto:riablom1216@gmail.com)

### **Metro NY Catholic Climate Movement (local chapter of the Global Catholic Movement, GCCM)**

The Metro New York Catholic Climate Movement, MNY CCM, is coordinated by a team of Catholic leaders from parishes and Catholic organizations in the New York City metro area to network, engage, organize and sustain one another spiritually while addressing climate change, integral ecology, and care of creation. Blessed Sacrament plays a key role as one of several NY parishes that participates in MNY CCM. Volunteers organize events and campaigns with MNY CCM. Metro NY Catholic Climate Movement is a chapter of the Global Catholic Climate Movement, GCCM, which was formed with the support of Pope Francis to integrate Laudato Si into our lives.

Terry Michaud | [terryatCCM@gmail.com](mailto:terryatCCM@gmail.com)

### **Soup Kitchen**

Blessed Sacrament's Soup Kitchen provides the poor and homeless in our community a nourishing meal each Sunday in the School Cafeteria. Volunteers work every six weeks helping to prepare 75+ meals. A willingness to work on a team and a cheerful, caring attitude are required.

Matt Collins | [soupkitchen@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:soupkitchen@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### **JoyJ Homeless Outreach**

JoyJ Initiative at Blessed Sacrament organizes Outreaches for the homeless. Volunteers assemble and distribute comfort bags for the homeless in the neighborhood and throughout the city. Volunteers of all ages including entire families find the Homeless Outreach very rewarding as they can directly help the less fortunate and experience their appreciation and gratitude.

Find more information at [joyj.org](http://joyj.org)

Louise Ulman | [joyj.blessed.sacrament@aol.com](mailto:joyj.blessed.sacrament@aol.com) | [info@joyj.org](mailto:info@joyj.org)

### **Escort the Visually Impaired to Mass**

Volunteers escort visually impaired parishioners to weekend Mass from Joselow House, 46 W. 74th St.

Tina Eisenblas/Joselow House | 212-724-6652

### **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)**

The Dominican Sisters deliver organic vegetables to the City and invite people from the City to visit the land. The program runs from April through November. For more information contact Karen or Sean.

[karen@benincasa.org](mailto:karen@benincasa.org) | [sean@benincasa.org](mailto:sean@benincasa.org)

### **Parish Food Pantry**

Neighborhood individuals and families in need of food rely on Blessed Sacrament's Food Pantry. Parishioners are invited to donate non-perishable foods to keep the pantry stocked (must be unopened and not expired). A once a month Food Drop-Off is held. Financial donations and/or food can be dropped off at the rectory at any time.

Rectory Office 212-877-3111

### **St. Vincent DePaul Society**

With the start of 2018, the parish has begun to reestablish the St. Vincent DePaul Society to support the community's outreach to the poor.

Rectory Office 212-877-3111 or Maureen Altman

## PARISH ADMINISTRATION

### Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council, through Pastoral Planning, proposes policies that further the mission of the parish. Together with the Pastor, the council consults on pastoral matters. After studying, reflecting and evaluating, the council makes conclusions and recommendations to policies for the pastor's approval. Meetings are monthly from September through May. There are 16 members with 2-year renewable terms.

Luke Mayville | [lukegmayville@gmail.com](mailto:lukegmayville@gmail.com)

### Finance Council

The Finance Council seeks to provide expertise and consultation through financial analysis, planning, and policy development to aid the pastor in the administration of parish goods, including parish financial resources, facilities, and property. The council meets monthly to review the financial position of the parish and make recommendations when needed. The Finance Council regularly communicates to parishioners the financial position of the parish.

Maura McGrath | [mauramcg1@yahoo.com](mailto:mauramcg1@yahoo.com)

Brendan Contant | [brendan.contant@gmail.com](mailto:brendan.contant@gmail.com)

### Buildings and Grounds

The Buildings and Grounds Committee meets monthly and acts in an advisory capacity to assess and determine the near and long term physical needs of the parish facilities and properties. The committee consults with the Finance Council, Pastor, and Business Manager regarding suggested renovations and improvements, costs, and budget. Members serve a 3 year term.

Pia Ferrario | [pferrario2@icloud.com](mailto:pferrario2@icloud.com)

## WE SHARE

We share is an on-line and automated means for parishioners to support our parish financially through one-time or recurring contributions in an efficient and secure way.

Visit [blessedsacramentnyc.churchgiving.com](http://blessedsacramentnyc.churchgiving.com) and click on Make a Donation or call 1800-950-9952.

Your designated amount will be debited from your account and go directly to Blessed Sacrament.

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

### 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 first Tuesday of every month at 7:30PM in 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.

# THE SCHOOL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

A parish based Pre-K through Eighth grade Catholic elementary school. Our well-rounded curriculum incorporates love of God, self, and others. Our parish, families, faculty and staff collaborate to educate the heart and mind, and empower the children to embrace challenges in a loving, faith-filled environment.

The school celebrates diversity, strong ethical values, and the development of each child's God-given academic potential. We integrate technology, the arts, music and physical education programs to provide a liberal arts education for the whole child.

The primary aims of a Blessed Sacrament education are to foster Christian leadership, individual responsibility and service to those in our community and beyond.

Visit [sblysnyc.org](http://sblysnyc.org) for more information.

## PARISH STAFF

### **Rev. John P. Duffell**

Pastor

[jpduffell@aol.com](mailto:jpduffell@aol.com)

### **Rev. D'Angelo Jimenez**

Parochial Vicar

[mensajeroec@yahoo.com](mailto:mensajeroec@yahoo.com)

### **Msgr. Michael Crimmins**

### **Friar Santo Cricchio, OFM Conv.**

In Residence

### **Rev. James O'Shea, CP**

### **Deacon Scott Reisinger**

Sunday Associate

### **Daniel Champoli**

Business Manager

[dchampoli@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:dchampoli@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### **William Moran**

Communications Coordinator (Contact for bulletin, website or social media inquiries)

212-877-3111

[wmoran@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:wmoran@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### **Parish Main Office**

212-877-3111

[admin@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:admin@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### **Tina Silvestro**

Director of Religious Education

[tina@blessedsacramentsundayschool.org](mailto:tina@blessedsacramentsundayschool.org)

### **Alessandro Pittorino**

Director of Music Ministry

[apittorino@blessedsacramentnyc.org](mailto:apittorino@blessedsacramentnyc.org)

### **Caroline Sliney**

School Principal

[csliney@sblysnyc.org](mailto:csliney@sblysnyc.org)



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(212) 877-3111