

Blessed Sacrament St. Charles Borromeo

Roman Catholic Church

MISSION

Faith and Catholic tradition in ministering to the spiritual, material, educational, physical and social needs of the parish community. We accomplish this in our worship, in our programs, and by the example of our daily lives.

610 Clinton Avenue, Newark, NJ 07108 • Parish Center, 19 Van Ness Place

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.; Igbo Mass: 12:30 p.m.

Daily Masses (Chapel), Monday – Saturday: 8 a.m., Saturday: 6:30 p.m.

Special Masses: Each First Friday and Third Thursday: Mass 6:30 pm; Adoration 7 p.m. in church.

PARISH CLERGY AND STAFF

Fr. Albert Nzeh, *Pastor*

Fr. Erasmus Okere, *Parochial Vicar*

Fr. Longinus Ugwuegbulem, *Resident Priest*

Fr. Peter Iwuala, *Resident Priest*

Rev. Fr. Edwin Leahy, *Weekend Assistant*

Mr. John Garner, *Music Director*

Mr. Felix Padia, *Property Manager*

Mrs. Marilyn Smith, *RCIA Director*

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Parish Office: 973-824-6548

Pastor: Fr. Albert Nzeh, Ext. 102

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Erasmus Okere,
Ext: 103

Mary F. Brown, *Office Manager*, Ext. 104

Elizabeth N. Chukwu

Pastoral Associate, Ext. 105

Frederick Hill, *Youth Minister*, Ext. 105

Parish Fax: 973-624-6030

Email: info@bsscbchurch.com

Website: www.bsscb.org

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

By Appointment Only. Call the Parish Office

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents must be registered in the Parish, sponsors must be practicing Catholics. Please call the Parish to register. Call Fr. Erasmus Okere for an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples must contact a priest of the Parish at least six months in advance. At least one of the two to be married must be a member of the Parish.

NIGHTS OF PRAYER FOR FAVORS & RESTORATION

Every first Friday and third Thursday, Mass at 6:30 pm
Adoration, 7 p.m. in the Church.
Every second Tuesday, 11 p.m. –
Midnight Prayer/Adoration (Virtual)



Church Ministries and Chairpersons

ALTAR SERVERS: Solomon Onemheghie
BEREAVEMENT: Janice Champ
BULLETIN: Carol Jenkins
CURSILLO: Merilyn Smith
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Merilyn Smith
FINANCE: Lola Walker
FOOD PANTRY: Blanche Macklin, Helen Brooks
HOLY NAME SOCIETY: Harold Uche
HOMEBOUND: Juanita Moore
HOSPITALITY/KITCHEN: Pat Ross
LECTORS: Fred Hill
LITURGY: Merilyn Smith
MAINTENANCE: Arnie Pinnex
MEDIA: Beverly Mitchell
MUSIC/CHOIR: John Garner, Diane Scott
PARISH COUNCIL: Lionel Leach
PARISH SPECIAL EVENTS: Mary Brown
RCIA: Merilyn Smith
REPAST: Helen Brooks
ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY: Natasha Brown
SANITATION: Alicia E. Alford
TRUSTEES: Stephanie Williams, Homer Mosley
WELCOME: Joan Lowery
WELLNESS: Marleyne Tronchin
YOUTH: Fred Hill

**PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING AND FOR
THE HOMEBOUND OF OUR PARISH**



Alice Tate, Celine Larmony, Deacon Billy Moore, Beverly Ashmon, Lila Dixon, Faye Gaskins, Virginia Perry, Mary Tate, Patricia Tinley, Kim Nestbitt, Jamillah Billings, Sharon Burgwyn, Karen Barrett, Pat Wilson, Charlie Howard, Vivian Ededey, Yvette Hall, Alicia Alford, Delores Guyton, Victoria Hall, Marion Gabriel, Patricia Ross, Merilyn Smith

Ministry Outreach

EVANGELISM/OUTREACH

Please use the church invitation cards located in the foyer to minister to loved ones, friends, co-workers and neighbors. Also, become a friend of BSSCB on Facebook and post your prayer requests, suggestions and comments. You can also use it to invite others to our church. Let's be on Fire for God and do the work of an evangelist! Anyone desiring to make a difference in the lives of others by the giving of their time and treasure is welcome to do so. Please submit the names of any member who is sick or hospitalized so they may be visited and ministered to by one of our priests.

FOOD PANTRY

The Blessed Sacrament St. Charles Borromeo Church Food Pantry was started in 1984 by Fr. Jack Martin. Our Food Pantry serves families, senior citizens, veterans, disabled and anyone in need food assistance. Most of our clients reside in the Newark area and we serve approximately 300 to 350 people a month. Our Pantry hours are 3rd and 4th Saturdays for singles 8 AM – 10 AM and 3rd and 4th Wednesdays for families 11 AM – 1 PM. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to: BSSCB Food Pantry and give to any staff member in the Parish office. We are a pantry where our clients find hope and help with dignity and respect.

MEDIA

Tech Savvy? The media ministry needs you for recording our Mass and uploading to the website, assistance with the PowerPoint slides also needed. Speak with Beverly Mitchell after Mass or call the parish office.

MUSIC

Stop singing in the shower! If you are interested in joining the music ministry come out and audition with our music director John Garner for our Gospel choir. Choir rehearsals are every Thursday at 7 pm. Speak with Mr. Garner at the 8 or 10 am Mass.

PARISH SPECIAL EVENTS (PSE)

Vibrant, creative, enthusiastic, hardworking individuals are needed for the Parish Special Events committee please speak with Mary Brown or call the parish office if you are willing to be a part of this team.

RCIA

Instruction classes are available for adults 18 and over who want to know more about the Catholic Church or want to be prepared for the sacraments. Contact Merilyn Smith.

WEEKLY READINGS & MASS INTENTIONS

DECEMBER 17, 2023

Sunday, December 17

Third Sunday of Advent

Readings: Is 61:12a, 10–11

1 Th 5:16–24

Gospel: Jn 1:6–8, 19–28

6:30 PM Mass

8:00 AM Mass

All living and deceased Holy Name members requested by the Holy Name Society; Repose of the soul of Thomas Russo requested by Kevin Callaghan and Erin Sweeny; Repose of the soul of Sheila Saddow requested by Noreen Cordice

10:00 AM Mass

Repose of the soul of Sheila Saddow requested by Eileen Daly; Repose of the soul of Ann Efeurhobo requested by the church family; Repose of the soul of Deacon Joe Pruitt requested by the church family; Mass of Thanksgiving for healing mercies requested by Merilyn Smith; Thanking God for the gift of Arabella's baptism requested by Jennifer Eteng family; Birthday blessings for Godwin Kounde requested by Veronique Kounde family; All living and deceased Holy Name members requested by the Holy Name Society

12:30 PM ICC MASS

Monday, December 18

Reading: Is Jr 23:5–8

Gospel: Mt 1:18–25

Tuesday, December 19

Reading: Rev Jd 13:2–7, 24–25a

Gospel: Lk 1:5–25

Wednesday, December 20

Reading: Is 7:10–14

Gospel: Lk 1:26–38

Thursday, December 21

Reading: Sg 2:8–14

Gospel: Lk 1:35–49

Friday, December 22

Reading: Sm 1:24–28

Gospel: Lk 1:46–56

Saturday, December 23

Reading: MI 3:1–4, 23–24

Gospel: Lk 1:57–66

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings: 2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16

Rm 16:25–27

Gospel: Lk 1:26–38



Proclaim the Year of the Lord's Favor

Today's First Reading, [Is. 61:1-2a, 10-11] recognizes God's prophetic and symbolic language that was being spoken through the great Prophet Isaiah. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me." In these Words, we hear those of the Lord Jesus who was sent by God the Father for the salvation of mankind. "He, God the Father, has sent Jesus to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." The Heavenly Father sent His only begotten Son Jesus to bring the good news regarding the approach of the eternal Kingdom. Through Christ, the invisible Kingdom of God was about to be instituted on earth and in Heaven.

The glorious Kingdom of God which Jesus, the King of kings, reigns over at present, had its beginning in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples on Pentecost Day. The invisible Kingdom of God that has its Divine Throne in Jerusalem is manifested through the Sacraments of the visible Holy Catholic and apostolic Church that has its seat in Rome and that possesses the Keys to the Kingdom of God. Both, the invisible Kingdom of God and the visible Catholic Church form the glorious Mystical Body of Christ that includes all the past and present saints who are found in Heaven and on earth.

During today's Second Reading, [1 Thess. 5:16-24] we were told to always rejoice, to pray without ceasing, to give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for us. We should always rejoice because God has done great things for us as previously mentioned. We should always pray to secure our daily communion with the Lord God. We should always give thanks because all things come from God for the purpose of our sanctification as His children. We should do this in the Name of Jesus because it is through Christ, the only Mediator between God and man, that we receive our salvation.

During today's Gospel Reading, [Jn. 1:6-8, 19-28] we heard that God had sent John the Baptist as a witness to announce the coming of the Light that is found in Jesus Christ. John the Baptist testified that he was the voice crying in the wilderness, telling all to prepare themselves for the coming of the Lord. Proclaiming a baptism of repentance by water, John testified that the year of the Lord's favour had now arrived.

Word Of Life

"O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free."
USCCB, "Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP WITH ALTAR CHANGING: Janice Champ needs your help in changing the altar for Sundays. Call her at 973-868-4178 to make arrangements with you.

CHURCH DECORATING: We will be decorating the church for Christmas. See Janice Champ for further details and with your availability. If you can't come during the week, she will meet you on Saturday.

CHURCH WEBSITE: We need someone to update and upload information to the church's website. Please contact the office for further details.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATION box is on the Blessed Mother Altar. Please be generous so our church can be beautiful for the Christmas season.

MASS INTENTIONS: In order to facilitate correct information and a timely entry for Mass intentions in the bulletin, please call the parish office and submit your request one week before the date you wish. A donation of \$10 is suggested.

MASS REMEMBRANCE AND FLOWER ENVELOPES are in your Tithing package. Please place them in the boxes in front of the Blessed Mother altar.

WELCOME MINISTRY needs members. Please see Janice Champ (8am) and Marilyn Smith (10am).

ILL PARISHIONERS: If you are ill or know of any ill parishioners, please contact the office so the priest and homebound team can arrange a visit

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Your church needs you! Please see the bulletin listing of ministries available to join. Our Bereavement and Repast, Media, Youth, and Church Maintenance need help. If you have a skill or trade in Carpentry, Electrical, Masonry, Plumbing and IT, we welcome your help. Please call the office if you are interested in volunteering your time and talent.

TUESDAY NIGHT FAMILY PRAYER and Fasting at 10 pm on YouTube Live Stream.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Arrangements should be made two months in advance. A Baptism Preparation Session is required for all parents. Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE: Couples contemplating marriage should be registered and attending weekly Mass. Couples should make initial arrangements one year in advance by contacting the Parish Office.

VIEWING OUR SUNDAY MASS

Option 1- YOUTUBE: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGM3EVxhKOb2gHpA1eEhivw>

Option 2- FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/100270185333720/live/> Facebook account not required to view. You can view uploaded clips of Sunday Mass on Facebook. Type in the search column: Blessed Sacrament St. Charles Borromeo.

Option 3- ZOOM: ID 886 0650 9047 Password 07108

We have an open line on **WHAT'SAPP** for those who do not have email or Facebook. Please send your name, cell phone number and email address to our Church media Cellphone # 973-280-0651 to be connected to our What'sApp platform. <https://chat.whatsapp.com/HTTejmw2jl23mcpaNE2qxV>.

BIBLE STUDY is every Wednesday at 7:45 pm via Zoom.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY MASS: Children's Liturgy of the Word will take place every Sunday during the 10 am liturgy. On the 4th Sunday all children are invited to sit in the first three front pews facing the Blessed mother. Volunteers needed. Interested persons must be certified in Protecting God's Children in order to facilitate this liturgy. To register for this workshop, contact Elizabeth at the Parish office, 973-824- 6548 ext 104.

CONTACT INFORMATION: It is important for us to have your updated contact information, if you have changed your address, phone number or email, please inform the office. This will assist us in ensuring you receive accurate information in a timely manner, and reduce the chance that important mail does not get lost. Your information is confidential and will not be shared with any anyone, this is for church records only. If your information has changed please call parish office at 973-824-6548 or email: info@bsscchurch.com to update; your address, phone number and email.

DONATIONS AND GIFTS: We are thankful to all our parishioners who give of their Time, Talent and Treasure to our parish. If you would like to make a donation or do the offertory as part of your Mass request, here is a list of items to consider. Sacramental Wine – \$110 per case, Sacramental Host – \$30 per box, Perpetual Light Candles – \$73.75 per case, Perpetual Light Candle (singular) – \$10 and Flowers are \$50 per arrangement. Please call the parish office to arrange for the orders.

NO MONEY FOR MASS INTENTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON SUNDAY. PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE.

THERE WILL BE NO RENTAL OF THE CHURCH HALL AFTER OCTOBER 15 DUE TO RENOVATION.

REMEMBER! THERE IS NO EATING OR DRINKING IN THE CHURCH.

Any information to go in the bulletin, must come directly from the church office only.