

Outreach

The Outreach Commission coordinates the ministries of pastoral care, social services, peace and justice, and evangelization. Its scope includes outreach of both the parish membership and the larger community, either in the neighborhood or beyond. The Outreach Commission coordinates the following subcommittees: Social Services, Social Justice, and Change, Pastoral Care and Evangelization Team.





Addiction & Substance Abuse Support

This resource, for those seeking help for alcoholism and/or substance abuse for themselves or family members, promotes awareness of programs and support resources available in the community.

Contact: Susie Kieffer, 301-765-2294 susiekieffer@yahoo.com



Alternative Giving

Parishioners have the opportunity to celebrate Christmas by giving family and friends the gift of benefiting the poor. Participants can donate money to a variety of social service programs. In return, donors receive personalized Christmas cards inscribed with donor certificates to give to their family and friends.

Contact: Michele Bowe, 301-951-6427



Archdiocese Legislative Network (ALN)

The Archdiocese Legislative Network advocates for the most poor and vulnerable citizens living in the District of Columbia. The Network organizes a yearly DC Lobby Day and Clergy Lobby Day to share Catholic concerns with the District City Council members, Network and Network members.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Blessed Sacrament Soup Kitchen

Each Monday morning Blessed Sacrament Soup Kitchen volunteers prepare and serve a substantial lunch to homeless individuals and families in the District. Supplies are purchased from monies collected from Outreach Sunday collections. Volunteers are needed to pick up food donations from local grocery stores and to work at the Soup Kitchen.

Contact: Kathy Beal, 301-881-7711 malbeal@comcast.net

Ann Cooper, 202-362-9719 oconnora@erols.com

Cathy Nestor, 202-244-2534 canestor@verizon.net



Blood Drive

Blessed Sacrament organizes an annual drive. Give blood and save lives!

Contact: Karen Vittone, 301-585-0592 karen@vittone.com



Capital Interfaith Hospitality Network (CIHN)

CIHN provides emergency shelter to homeless families. Blessed Sacrament, along with other interfaith congregations, supports this program. Volunteers are needed to bring dinners and provide companionship to the families.

Contact: Rosemary Collopy, 202-244-9393 rosemarycollopy@hotmail.com



Christmas Giving Tree

The purpose of this drive, sponsored by Social Concerns and Gym Mass Committee, is to collect gifts for approximately 600 needy children. Stars, with gift requests are offered to Parishioners at Masses. Gifts are purchased and returned on a designated weekend. Volunteers are needed to help distribute the stars, collect gifts and deliver gifts to designated Catholic charities within the communities.

Contact: Christopher & Rebecca Anzidei, 301-229-2866 canzidei@wth.com
Chris & Lisa Capuano, 202-966-8726 c



Christmas Personal Care Gifts / Soup kitchen Christmas Luncheon

Parishioner and School families donate soap, tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant and chap stick. School children stuff items into warm winter socks and distribute to individuals and families that attend the Blessed Sacrament Soup Kitchen Christmas Luncheon.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Christmas Tree Sale

Parishioners and Students work to assist the Christmas Tree Sale at Blessed Sacrament that begins immediately following Thanksgiving. Service hours are offered to high school volunteers. All profits go to charities in the Metropolitan area.

Contact: Ann Cooper, 202-362-9719 aconnora@erols.com
Jim Mullins, 202-362-3792 mymullinsdc@yahoo.com



Community Garden

Blessed Sacrament Outreach Commission invites gardeners of all levels to plant and maintain fruits and vegetables in the "Community Garden" located on the Rectory grounds or in their own gardens in order to donate healthy food to needy individuals and/or local soup kitchens.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org
Lisa Greenberg 301-657-3457 eogreenburg@gmail.com



Companionship/Share Ministry

Volunteers are invited to visit with the homebound and distribute CDs and reading materials.

Contact: Ellen Roth, 202-449-3974 eroth@blessedsacramentdc.org



Disabilities Ministry

This Ministry seeks to promote a greater awareness of and inclusion in activities for disabled individuals in parish life. The Ministry provides guidance on catechesis, outreach and other community building activities. It supports the annual Rupert Liturgy, Blessed Sacrament Special Olympics, Christmas Dance and other events.

Contacts: Emma Voelzke, 202-449-3990 evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org Francesca Pellegrino, 301-933-8925 Francesca@ccse-maryland.org



Empty Bowls

Blessed Sacrament Parish hosts SOME (So Others May Eat) a Catholic non-profit agency feeding and helping homeless individuals and families. Local artists donate the ceramic bowls and area merchants donate menu items. Attendees select a bowl for a fee and enjoy a simple supper. All profits go to SOME programs.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.com



Environmental Action Committee

Help “green” the parish and plan educational events for Blessed Sacrament parish and school.

Contact: Kevin Kelly, 301-564-9449 kellyk301@yahoo.com



Free Trade Coffee /Coffee & Doughnut Sunday

Monthly after 9:00 and 10:30 am Masses all are invited to the School Auditorium for coffee and doughnuts. Parishioners have the opportunity to sample and purchase Fair Trade Coffee. Volunteers are needed to assist in preparing and serving Fair Trade Coffee. Literature is available to Parishioners as to the economic opportunity given to coffee growers when consumers purchase Fair Trade products.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org Jeanne Rossomme, 202-257-0663 jeanne@roadmarketing.com



Flu Shots

A Flu Clinic is offered yearly to Parishioners through the Med Star Nurses Association.

Contact: Karen Vittone, 301-585-0952 karen@vittone.com



Food and Clothing Ministry

The Social Concerns Office accepts “gently” used clothing for donation to homeless individuals and local shelters. Donations are accepted Monday - Friday 10:00 am - 1:00pm or by appointment.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive

More than two decades ago the Canned Food Drive was started by Greg Gannon and his wife Maureen. This popular Blessed Sacrament Parish and School tradition takes place on the first Saturday in December when over 600 adults and children collect an estimated 55,000 cans of food for the needy. This is a great family activity! The day begins with instruction and a blessing in the Church and ends with lunch and time for fellowship in the school cafeteria. The committee is looking for individuals and families to continue the tradition that directly supports local food banks.

Contact: Meredith Ficca, 301-654-1871 mzficca@aol.com,
Rick Gannon, 703-725-8804 rickgannon3211@gmail.com



Helping Hands Transportation

The Social Concerns Office invites volunteers to assist Parishioners with rides to Mass, medical appointments and other necessary engagements.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Hunger Mass

The Friday after Ash Wednesday the Social Concerns Office sponsors a speaker at the 5:30pm Mass to address hunger issues in the Metropolitan area. A collection is taken at all Masses and funds are distributed directly to the poor.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Just Faith

This program is both a formation process and spiritual journey. Groups meet weekly to employ books, videos, speakers, discussion, prayer, retreats and experiences in justice education. This is an excellent faith formation program for those hungering for a deeper relationship with God and greater understanding of Catholic Social Teaching. The program begins yearly in the fall. Check late summer bulletins or the web for timely information.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Landings

Landings is an eight-week discussion series that provides a safe “landing” place for returning/inactive Catholics. A small group of active Catholics, often “returnees” themselves, join with returning Catholics to share and explore their Catholic faith together. This supportive community provides a welcoming environment for listening, a place for understanding and healing, and a place to ask questions and update faith issues. Each week someone briefly tells about their own spiritual journey and a different Catholic topic is discussed. Yearly fall and spring sessions are planned. Please consider this opportunity to share your time and faith by participating in this new ministry.

Contact: Karen Vittone, 301-585-0592 karen@vittone.co



Maryland Citizens Against State Executions

The Blessed Sacrament Committee supports the Montgomery County Citizens of Faith Against State Executions. Volunteers work with Maryland C.A.S.E. to eliminate the death penalty in Maryland. For information visit the website: www.mdcase.org.

Contact: Joan Lee, 301-654-8171 JRC20815@aol.com



Maryland Legislative Network

The Network reports on legislative issues in Maryland and on Capitol Hill. Information regarding specific issues is provided through alerts along with addresses and phone numbers of legislators. Network members attend briefings on key issues once or twice a year and join in lobbying efforts in Annapolis and on Capitol Hill.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Mother's Day Carnation Sale

Pro-Life volunteers sell carnations at Masses to help raise funds for the Northwest Pregnancy Center which provides assistance to pregnant women and their families.

Contact: Mary Anne Corr, 202-362-7259



Mount Carmel House

Mount Carmel is a small shelter run by Catholic Charities for women in transition and on designated evenings it serves as a soup kitchen, serving dinner to 30 to 40 homeless women. Blessed Sacrament volunteers prepare (recepices provided) and serve dinner every second Friday of the month. Fully cooked meals are dropped at an address close to Blessed Sacrament Church.

Contact: Rosemary Collopy, 202-244-9393 rosemarycolloy@hotmail.com



Operation Rice Bowl

Catholic Relief Service's Operation Rice Bowl makes a concrete difference in the lives of those living in poverty. During the Lenten season Blessed Sacrament joins millions of Catholics by reaching out to assist our brothers and sisters around the world. More than just a fund raiser, Operation Rice Bowl is an "awareness raiser" utilizing traditional Lenten practices of prayers, fasting, and giving in solidarity with the poor. Materials are provided to all participants and funds go directly to Catholic Relief Services.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org Jeanne Rossomme, 202-257-0663 jeanne@roadmapmarketing.com



Outreach Sunday Weekend

On the first Sunday of each month, outside of church entrances, volunteers collect donations to support Blessed Sacrament Soup Kitchen which serves meals to homeless individuals and marginalized families.

Parish Mini-Walk for the Homeless

The Fannie Mae "Help for the Homeless MINI Walkathon" (note: Blessed Sacrament School holds a separate mini-walk) is held each fall. This fun event is where Parishioners gather to raise money to stop homelessness. A reception follows in the Duffy Parish Center.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Poor Box Ministry

The groups chosen each year to receive the parish poor box donations reflect the broad range of need within our community –at-risk youth, people with disabilities, the homeless, disadvantaged children, the sick and the dying, people coming out suggestions for the future recipients, please contact us.

Contact: Ann Cooper, 202-362-9719 aconnora@erols.com



Project Baby Bottle Campaign

Baby bottles are provided to Blessed Sacrament students who perform services and donate the profits to fill the baby bottles. Funds are donated to both the Gabriel Network and Gabriel Project.

Contact: Anne Colevas, 202-362-1065 colevas1@verizon.com



Pro- Life

Volunteers work in Parish life programs and support the following local agencies:

*Birthing and Care Program provides pre/ post natal care to expectant mothers.

contact; Michelle Williams 301-853-5318

*Damien Ministries serves those living with HIV/AIDS.

contact: Otis Sutson 202-526-3020 ext. 11

* Gabriel Network assists women facing crisis pregnancies.

contact: Paul Mulligan 301-262-9011

*Northwest Pregnancy Center and Maternity Home provides assistance and transitional housing to pregnant women.

contact: Susan Gallucci 202-483-2857

*Project Rachael provides counseling to expectant mothers

contact: Julia Shelava 301-982-2008

Blessed Sacrament Coordinator Contact: Mary Anne Corr, 202-362-7259



Birthing and Care Program

Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington, this program provides pre- and post-natal care to expectant mothers, as well as emotional and spiritual support and crisis pregnancy counseling. This outreach program needs assistance with clerical duties and answering and prioritizing phone calls (Spanish speaking a plus).

Contact: Michelle Williams, 301-853-5343



Damian Ministries

This ministry serves those living with HIV/AIDS. Volunteers are needed to bag and/or deliver food from the Capital Area Food Bank.

Contact: Otis Sutson, 202-526-3020, ext. 11



Gabriel Network Ministry

An ecumenical movement of churches, this ministry assists women in crisis pregnancies through various support: prayer, transportation, layettes, baby products, and furnishings. Volunteer time varies according to assignment and need; orientation and training provided (sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington).

Contact: Anthony Diluvio,, 301-262-9011



Northwest Pregnancy Center and Maternity Home

This center provides assistance and transitional housing to pregnant women in need and their families. Volunteers are needed as mentors or babysitters.

Contacts: Kimberly Rogers, 202-483-7008 or Susan Gallucci, 202-483-2857



Rachel's Women Center

On the second or third Tuesday of every month, parishioners provide casseroles (recipes supplied) to a shelter for homeless women. Casseroles are taken to a drop off point in Chevy Chase, DC or can be picked up. Also needed are hotel-size shampoo, soap, hand lotion and deodorants for bingo prizes.

Contact: Cathy Nestor, 202-244-2534 canestor@verizon.net



School Supply Drive For Sister School Thomas More

Each fall, Parishioners and School Families donate school supplies to St. Thomas More School, located in Ward 8, Washington DC.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Secret Santa

Parishioners and School Families become “Secret Santa's” and donate money to the Social Concerns Office to purchase bulk discounted grocery gift cards for individuals and families at *Sister School* and Parish, St. Thomas More in SE Washington, DC.

Contact: Andi Bottner, 202-362- 7337 abottner@gmail.com

Pat Kavanaugh 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



SHARE Food Co-op

SHARE's major goal is to harness its buying power and cadre of volunteers to distribute affordable and nutritious food on a cost-effective basis to poor and marginalized individuals. For \$20 receive approximately \$45 worth of fresh vegetables, fruits and groceries. Many program participants order a monthly “ Share package” and purchase another to donate to a needy family. To view monthly items to be distributed and to retrieve the monthly order form. go to: [http //www.blessedsacramentdc.org](http://www.blessedsacramentdc.org) (click on Community and then SHARE)

Contact: Tim Gorman, 301-652-3222 timothy.gorman@verizon.net



Social Concerns Day of Recollection

During the Lenten Season the Social Concerns Office organizes a Day of Recollection to focus on a particular aspect or current issue of Catholic Social Teaching. The day begins with Mass followed by a speaker and concludes with lunch.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



SOME and Christ House “Provide-A-Meal “ Group

Prepare a casserole, make telephone calls, or pick up and deliver meals to SOME (So Others May Eat) an interfaith center and/ or Christ House Medical Shelter, a health care facility for the homeless. The group delivers the main meal to SOME on the second Friday of the month and to Christ House on the third Friday of the month. This rewarding ministry always needs more cooks and folks to pick up and deliver meals.

Contact: Emily Swartz, 202-244-1697 Emily.swartz@comcast.net



Thanksgiving Baskets

Blessed Sacrament students donate non-perishable food and money to buy certificates for turkeys and other fresh foods. These donations are organized into Thanksgiving dinner baskets for needy families. Other parishioners are also invited to donate groceries and money for this purpose.

Contact: Michele Bowe, 301-951-6427 james.f.bowe@verizon.net



Title Giving Project

Yearly, Blessed Sacrament allocates gross revenues to selected charities. In the spring, the parish solicits proposals from community groups. Proposals must be sponsored by a member of the parish and may only be submitted to the committee every three years. Volunteers are needed to review proposals and select organizations to receive funds.

Contact: Pat Kavanaugh, 202-449-3987 pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org



Twinning Program

Inspired by the late Pope Paul II, repeated call to parishes in the “developed world” to adopt or “twin” with parishes in “developing countries” Blessed Sacrament and Sister Parish, St. John the Baptist in Haiti established a “Twinning Program to build a maternity clinic serving several communities in Northwest Haiti. The land has been dedicated and architectural plans completed. Donations are needed. Please help the Parish Twinning Program help Haiti.

Contact; Anne Devereux, 301-652-9344 ardevereux@verizon.net

Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)

The Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) is an interfaith, non- partisan politically active grassroots organization consisting of 48 dues paying congregations and other organizations, including Blessed Sacrament, working to improve life in the District of Columbia for all residents. Through community action meetings and get out the vote drives, WIN holds elected officials accountable for permanent housing for the homeless, affordable housing, youth programs, and neighborhood revitalization efforts.

Contact: Margaret Ahmann, 202-966-1983 mahmanann@mindspring.com
Joan Lee, 301-654-8171 jrc208152@aol.com



Wellness Committee

The Wellness Committee is comprised of a group of parishioners working to focus time and talent towards educating and assisting our fellow parish members in the areas of spirituality, health and wellness. The objectives of the Wellness Committee are to promote the physical, social, mental and spiritual well being of parishioners and also to promote a healthy and healing community within Blessed Sacrament.

Contacts: Pat O'Hare, 301-654-5777 ohare@georgetown.edu
Carol Kaplun , 202-895-9477 ckaplun@IONA.org



Youth Ministry: Service/Outreach Leaders/Helpers

Members assist with the development of service, spiritual and social activities for the high school youth of the parish. Volunteers meet various weekends and evenings throughout the school year.

Contact: Mark McCaffrey, 202-449-3978 mmccaffrey@blessedsacramentdc.org

Young Adult Bible Study (Single & Married, 20s - 40s)

Meet new people and apply your Catholic Faith to everyday life! Single and married men and women come together the first and third Tuesday from September -May from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. in the Duffy Center Main Level for prayer, fellowship, and a study of the Sunday Mass readings. Periodically throughout the year, the group takes part in a variety of fun activities, service projects, and pilgrimages. There is no cost or registration and all young adults are welcome to check it out at any time.

Contact: Therese Recinella, 202-449-3989 trecinella@blessedsacramentdc.org