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Blessed Sacrament

602 Sycamore Street • Owensboro, KY 42301 • 270-926-4741

www.blessedsacramentchapel.com or email at blessedsac602@gmail.com

Mission Statement:

Established in the Spirit of Jesus Christ with an Afro-centric focus, Blessed Sacrament Chapel is committed to spreading the "Word" through fellowship and good works.

Sunday Mass: 10:00AM

Reconciliation: 1st Sunday 9:30AM

St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Office: 270-683-6525

Rector: Fr. Jerry Riney, jerry.riney@pastoral.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Jamie Dennis,
james.dennis@pastoral.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr. Jeannette Fennwald, SSND
jeannette.fennwald@pastoral.org

TODAY'S READINGS

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11



Second Sunday of Advent December 4, 2016

The earth shall be filled
with knowledge of the LORD,
as water covers the sea.



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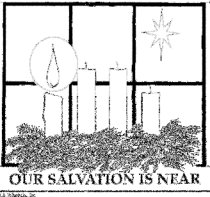
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Contact the Parish Office
If you'd like to see your

<u>Lectors</u>	
<u>Dec. 8</u>	Sylvia Coleman
<u>Dec. 11</u>	Greg Gough
	Marsha Allen
<u>Dec. 18:</u>	Diane Hatchett
	Sylvia Coleman
<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	
<u>Dec. 8:</u>	Marsha Allen
	Diane Hatchett
	Charlene Meadows
<u>Dec. 11:</u>	Lori Carman
	Adaira hatchett
	Cindy Clark
<u>Dec. 18:</u>	Mary Katherine Gough
	Greg Gough
	Misty Sanford
<u>Ushers:</u>	
<u>Dec. 8:</u>	Volunteers
<u>Dec. 11:</u>	Rita Moorman
	Yvonne Mundy
<u>Dec. 18:</u>	Ethan Gough
	Austin Gough
<u>Offertory</u>	
<u>Dec. 11:</u>	Rita Moorman
	Yvonne Mundy
<u>Dec. 18:</u>	Ethan Gough
	Austin Gough

“A voice of one crying out in the desert. ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.’”

Matt 3:1-12

Matthew quotes the passage above from the prophet Isaiah to describe John the Baptist. He was well aware that the land to the east of the River Jordan where John lived a simple life; preached a powerful message; and hid from Jewish leaders and Roman conquerors, was quite barren and harsh. It was an area of inert minerals long before it exposed by earthquake and eroded by the waters that became the Jordan River as it empties into the Dead Sea. John sacrificed much, risked all and was eventually martyred for being “*A voice crying out in the desert . . .*” He called people to acknowledge their sins, repent and be baptized with water. Despite all that he knew, and had the humility to proclaim, “the one who is coming after me is mightier than I.” John came before Jesus but he was one of the greatest imitators of Jesus. We have the example of John, Mary, the Apostles, and two thousand years of people who are imitators of Jesus. Are we learning from them? Advent is a time to grow in our efforts to be more like Jesus.



IMP—Kroger Update

Each August Kroger requires all **supporters to re-enroll.** ..Go to www.Kroger.com Click the blue Sign in tab at the top of the page. Enter your email address and password and click the blue Sign-in tab. From the department menu, click Community and then Community Rewards. From Community Rewards, click on the Edit or Re-enroll button. Find Organization. Select Organization. Save Your selection. Questions call 1-800-KROGERS

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Did St. Francis of Assisi invent the Christmas crib? Not exactly, but his devotion to the Incarnation and his love for the poverty of the Christ Child certainly popularized this beloved custom. Long before Francis, it was a custom at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome to enshrine a rich image of Mary, gilded and bejewelled, embracing the child Jesus. This church was founded as a kind of home for the feast of Christmas in the fourth century. In 1223, Francis was ready to celebrate this feast in a new way. In the tiny city of Greccio, he asked friends to prepare a place where they could experience the poverty and suffering embraced by Christ in his birth. It was a living scene: an ox from the barn, an ass from the stable, and peasants standing in for shepherds and kings. The night of the celebration was beautiful, the weather was warm, and people came in crowds, bearing candles and singing hymns that echoed through the forest. Francis himself chanted the Gospel and preached. The custom spread quickly, and by the sixteenth century cribs were seasonal features not only in church, but in the home. On December 17, the liturgy begins to unfold the Lord’s birth before us, and it’s the right time to follow this beautiful tradition. In Germany, each night throughout Advent children prepare a bedding for the manger. At bedtime prayer, a child places a single straw in the manger for each act of devotion or virtue performed during the day. If the children are good, then the Christ child will have plenty of soft bedding when he is placed in the manger on Christmas.

Our thoughts and prayers are with:

SICK: Beverly Chilton, Carol Hatchett, Philip Moorman, Sr., . Eric Holder, Martha Bellew, Jim Moorman, Bernice Williams, Charlene Meadows, Sarah Bumm, Yvonne Hatchett, Birdie Coleman, Camilla Washington Greer (*niece of Joyce Moorman*), Dorothy Fulton, Louise Johnson, Larry Allen, Betty Clark, Phillip Moorman, Jr., Linda McDonald **If you know of anyone seriously ill who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.**

THE HOMEBOUND: Stan Howard at Bishop Soennecker Home, Knottsville, Donald Moorman room 40 at Wellington Park, 2885 New Hartford Rd, Maggie Howard at Twin River Nursing Center, A phone call or a card can cheer the homebound if you can’t visit.

Men, Mark Your Calendars

Diocesan Men’s Conference at River Park Center February 11, 2017.

Cardinal Dolan is the speaker—excellent! Entertaining and inspirational.

“Prepare the way of the Lord...”

John the Baptist was called to lead others to Jesus by challenging them to “repent!” Each of us is uniquely called to prepare the way of the Lord and lead others to Him by faithfully and courageously living out our own vocations

Mark Your Calendar

Youth 2000 will be held at the Owensboro Convention Center March 10-12.

Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel:

December

- ♦ 8 Mass in honor of the Immaculate Conception (holyday) 6 PM at BSC
- ♦ 18 Christmas gathering (after Mass) Church decorating. ??Caroling,
- ♦ 24 Christmas Mass 7 PM

January

- ♦ 1 10 AM Mass followed by Kwanzaa

February

- ♦ 12 Ladies of Wisdom Tea

Arts at the Cathedral

Dec. 5 7:30 PM Owensboro Community College Chorus

Dec. 9 7:00 PM Kentucky Youth Choral Christmas Concert -

Thank you for your contributions.

Nov. 27—
\$367.94

Goal: \$818

Candles: \$13



Community Events:

Dec. 4 Handel Messiah at 3rd Baptist Church 2:30

Dec. 10 Dr. Scott Hahn 8 AM at Blessed Mother.

Register online www.blessedmotherchurch.com

Free but space is limited.

Mount St. Joseph has enrichment offerings.

December 10

Advent Day of Prayer 9 AM—2 PM

\$25 includes program and lunch

December 13

Advent Evening with Bishop Medley 5-7 PM

\$20 includes meal and program

Call Kathy 270-229-0206 to register

Confessions in December

4—Blessed Mother 2 PM

6—St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho 7 PM

14—Our lady of Lourdes 6:30 PM

18—St. Stephens Cathedral 2 PM

19—Precious Blood 6:30 PM

20—Immaculate 6 PM

Just to call your attention to two envelopes that are in your box of envelopes

1. There is an envelope for Flowers for Christmas so you can remember/honor your loved ones. Please put the name of the loved one on the envelope and have it in by December 18th. Thank you.
2. Each year during Advent the Church takes up a collection for the retired sisters and brothers. They have given their life in prayer and service, often working for less than a dollar a day. Many of these religious are retired with fewer members of their community working. Your gift helps provide prescription medications, nursing care, and other needs that they have.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent

Tuesday: St. Nicholas

Wednesday: St. Ambrose; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Thursday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday: St. Juan Diego

Saturday: International Human Rights Day

WORDS OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE TO JUAN DIEGO

“Let not your heart be disturbed. Do not fear that sickness, nor any other sickness or anguish. Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything.”

PREPARE THE WAY

Saint John the Baptist appears on the scene today as Advent enters its second week. The mysterious consumer of locusts and wild honey, John echoes the words of the prophet Isaiah as he calls for repentance in the face of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven. The rhythms of the Christian life are often confounding. Each year we meet the Baptist and hear his calls for repentance. Each year we see him pointing to the one who is coming after him, the Lord Jesus. Yet each year the words and actions of John the Baptist echo anew in our hearts, because we have fallen into old sinful traps again and again. Advent gives us the opportunity once again to turn away from our sinful ways and embrace the gospel way of life. John the Baptist invites us to prepare the way for the Lord, in whom we place our hope.

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Do you know that you can help raise money for Blessed Sacrament (or an OCS family) when you buy SCRIP gift card?

Scrip is a great stocking stuffer or you can use them to buy gifts. One of the perks for doing this besides raising money is that you don't have to fight crowds at the stores! Scrip is sold at OCHS on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. Just mention Blessed Sacrament (or the name of an OCS family) when you purchase. If you have any questions, call 270-852-8033 or ask me and I will be happy to help with the answer.

Please drop off any food items or toiletries in the boxes at the entrance. If you are in need or know someone who is, please let me know.

From the desk of Father Jamie



I don't know about you all, but the first reading we have for today freaks me out a little bit. It seems as though the whole order of things, the natural world is simply turned up-side-down. We hear talk of a child playing by the cobra's den and all sorts of craziness. What does all of this mean?

I think what the first reading is pointing to, is how totally beyond our understanding the power and love of God really are. Our little minds can only stretch so far. To show us how beyond our minds the reality of God is, we are presented with these images of things that make no sense to us. Maybe these things make more sense than we give them credit for. I think the overlying message is peace. Peace is not understandable for some people in our world.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist is preaching away. His message is not taken well by some. This is just another unfortunate look at how hard so many hearts had become by the point of John the Baptist. I think we still see this today. Some people apparently don't like good news of love and peace and the preparation for that love and peace. Having peace requires effort. Why is it that we would rather get worked up and violent instead of working towards peace and doing what is right? I guess it all comes down to our humanity and sinfulness.

May we have the will to help prepare the way of the Lord and proclaim his peace and love. May we strive to work for good and that outlandish peace that God wants to give us. May we all repent and be what God has called us to be. May we share this love and truth to the ends of the earth. God's love goes beyond all violence, all pain, all sadness.

Father Jamie leads Vespers on Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 PM at St. Stephen's Cathedral. Please join him in this official prayer of the Church that is prayed by priests and religious

The feast of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated in the Eastern Church in the 7th century. It was officially proclaimed by Pope Pius IX in 1854 that Mary, from the first instant of her conception "was preserved free from all stain of Original Sin." Our Mass for this holyday will be at 6 PM on the 8th.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 5—Hunter Gough
- 14—Linda McDonald
- 16—Yulanda Williams
- 18—Robert Johnson
- 24—Susan Mutter



Mass Intentions:

- December 4—Frances Johnson
- December 8—Michael Carrico
- December— 11—Les Bumm
- December 18—Jerry Mezur
- December 24—Kenneth Higgs/Sandra Brown

Let us remember to pray for those who have recently died or those who are in the process of dying. Always remember to pray for the poor souls in purgatory.

Advent is a time for renewal; it is especially a time for forgiveness because God brings his forgiveness to us in the shape of His Son.

—Catherine Doherty



Thanks to each and everyone one of you for your contributions to the Thanksgiving feast. I know many people left Blessed Sacrament refreshed in body and mind.