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# Blessed Sacrament

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[www.blessedsacramentchapel.com](http://www.blessedsacramentchapel.com) or email at [blessedsac602@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:jerry.riney@pastoral.org)

**Parochial Vicar:** Fr. Jamie Dennis,

[james.dennis@pastoral.org](mailto:james.dennis@pastoral.org)

**Parish Life Coordinator:** Sr. Jeannette Fennewald, SSND

[jeannette.fennewald@pastoral.org](mailto:jeannette.fennewald@pastoral.org)



### Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**February 12, 2017**

What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love [God],

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness

(Sirach 15:15-20).

**Psalms** — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).

**Second Reading** — God's wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).

**Gospel** — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37).

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**MINSTERS**

**Lectors**

Feb. 19: Diane Hatchett  
Marsha Allen

Feb. 26: Gloria Adams  
Sylvia Coleman

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Feb. 19: Karen Leachman  
Payton Sanford  
Misty Sanford

Feb. 26: Charlene Meadows  
Vivian Higgs  
Greg Gough

**Ushers:**

Feb. 19: Burnell Hamilton  
Lori Carman

Feb. 26: Robert Hagan  
Austin Gough

**Offertory**

Feb. 19: Burnell Hamilton  
Lori Carman  
Feb. 26: Robert Hagan  
Austin Gough

**WEIGHTY**

An ounce of practice is worth a pound of preaching.

—John Ray

**CHOICE**

“If you choose you can keep the commandments,” Sirach tells us. God “has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand” (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

In today’s reading from Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well.

**IMP—Kroger Update**

Each August Kroger requires all **supporters to re-enroll.** ..Go to [www.Kroger.com](http://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  
Blessed Sacrament’s # is 30623

**Do you shop at Kroger? Are you signed up?  
Your contribution which costs you nothing is greatly appreciated.**

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

By the early 1950s some scholars were calling for the restoration of Communion of the faithful on Good Friday, since by then only a priest received, consuming the host from the Holy Thursday repository. In 1955 the new Good Friday liturgy was timed to begin at three o’clock everywhere, and included the option of Holy Communion, but without the Precious Blood that had originally been part of the liturgy. Today, there is increasing debate among theologians. Some feel that it would be better to fast from the Eucharist on Good Friday, focusing on the mystery of the cross and highlighting the Easter Communion. Others say that this Communion infuses the sadness of the day with awareness of Christ’s victory. It is not a day of mourning, of course, and the Passion according to John grounds the liturgy in a sense of Christ’s victory over death and the triumph of the cross. The tradition is rich and varied, and we are still in the early stages of recovering an ancient way of doing things.

Why do we call the day “good”? The English and Dutch languages share this name, and its origin stems from the name “God’s Friday.” The traditional name for the day in Latin is *Feria VI in Parasceve*, which translates as “The Sixth Day of the Week of Preparation.” Other languages make do with “Holy Friday.” In another part of England, as in Denmark, the people used to call it “Long Friday,” a good description for a quiet day without work and no chance for play or a good meal!

***Our thoughts and prayers are with:***

**SICK:** Georgia Holland, Rita Moorman, Beverly Chilton, Larry Leachman, Carol Hatchett, Philip Moorman, Sr., Martha Bellew, Jim Moorman, Bernice Williams, Charlene Meadows, Sarah Bumm, Yvonne Hatchett, Birdie Coleman, 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**

Our next Cursillo Weekends are: March 9-12 (Men); March 23-26 (Women) at Immaculate Conception, Hawesville. Cost is only \$75. Interested candidates can contact the Parish Office to find a Cursillo Sponsor or contact: Men's Weekend- Kelley Wheatley, [270.316.5609](tel:270.316.5609), [wheatleysdd@att.net](mailto:wheatleysdd@att.net); Women's Weekend-Julie Tiell, [270-962-7109](tel:270-962-7109), [j.a.ritzheimer@j.a.ritzheimer@gmail.com](mailto:j.a.ritzheimer@j.a.ritzheimer@gmail.com). Come and See!"

**Youth 2000**

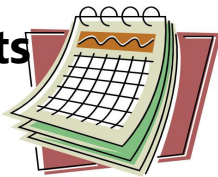
Will be held at the Owensboro Convention Center March 10-12. Please get registrations in to Sister Jeannette by Feb. 12th.

T-shirts are available online for \$10 <https://owensborodiocese.org/youth>

**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



Coming Events  
CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel:

February

- ♦
- ♦ **12** Ladies of Wisdom Tea
- ♦ **19** Gospel Explosion 2 PM

March

- ♦ **1** Ash Wednesday 6 PM Mass

April

- ♦ **7** Fish Fry 5-7 PM

God our creator and guide, each week you invite us to a day of rest and special presence to you and to one another. Bless those who cannot rest—whose needs demand overwork. Bless those who cannot work. Show us effective ways to distribute the fruits of the earth for the good of all. Remind us that true unity means the good of all. Remind us that true unity means noticing, caring, and sharing when others have less than they need. Give us the wisdom and courage to be poor in spirit and to serve those who are poor indeed.

Thank you for your contributions.

Feb. 5—. \$1219

Goal: \$818

Donuts \$2



Arts at the Cathedral

Feb. 19 Owensboro Symphony Chamber Orchestra 4 PM

Community Events

- Feb. 13 Preschool registration at St Stephen’s
- Feb. 18 OCS Annual Auction and Dinner

All the readings on this Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time seem to address from one perspective or another the idea of “free will” as it goes hand in hand with “God’s wisdom.” St. Paul points out in our Second Reading from his First Letter to the Corinthians, “We speak God’s wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined for our glory.”

On the one hand we are gifted with free will, but we must accept the reality that making the wrong moral decision has consequences. In our First Reading from the Prophet Sirach, we hear “Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him.”

We do have choices throughout our lives. One of those choices is pursuing stewardship as a way of life. One can choose to be a steward or choose not to. Nevertheless, if we look at it from the point of view of God’s wisdom rather than ours, it really is not a choice at all. It is something we should and must practice. In a homily this past June, Pope Francis said, “You cannot love God without loving your brothers and sisters; in fact, you cannot love God without being an active participant in the Church.”

—the catholicsteward.com

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13
- Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21
- Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Ps 116:12-15, 18-19; Mk 8:22-26
- Thursday: Gn 9:1-13; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Mk 8:27-33
- Friday: Gn 11:1-9; Ps 33:10-15; Mk 8:34 — 9:1
- Saturday: Heb 11:1-7; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Mk 9:2-13
- Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day
- Tuesday: Ss. Cyril and Methodius; Valentine’s Day
- Friday: The Seven Founders of the Order of Servites
- Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

When you have the blues, read Psalm 34  
When you worry, read Matthew 6: 19-34  
When you are discouraged, read Isaiah 40  
When you are lonely or fearful, read Psalm 23

Jesus invites us to be a reflection of His light through the testimony of good works. He says: “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). These words underline that we are recognizable as true disciples of Him who is Light of the world, not in words, but by our works. In fact, it is above all our behavior that — in the good and in the Jesus invites us to be a reflection of His light, through bad — leaves a sign in others. Hence we have a task and a responsibility for the gift received: the light of faith, which is in us through Christ and the action of the Holy Spirit, we must not keep as if it were our property. Instead, we are called to make it shine in the world, to give it to others through good works. And how much the world needs the light of the Gospel, which transforms, heals and guarantees salvation to those who receive it! We must take this light with our good works. By giving itself, the light of our faith is not extinguished but reinforced. Instead, it can fail if we do not nourish it with love and with works of charity. Pope Francis

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

THE CURE

The only known cure for fear is faith.

# From the desk of

## Father Jamie



Today in the readings for Mass, we have a lot of talk about laws. Sometimes this can be confusing. Jesus says that he did not come to get rid of the law, but at the same time, he does not have us to follow the Jewish laws to the exact letter. There were some in the early Church who thought one still had to practice the Jewish laws exactly and still be Christian at the same time. Eventually the Church had to have a council about these issues.

The Church came to the agreement that no, not every dish had to be cleaned exactly to the Jewish requirement, but things like adultery, killing and the like were to be fully observed. Issues of morality were to be held high, while some of the physical customs were not to be followed as strictly. If anything, Jesus expects even more in the moral code than Jewish customs push.

We must remember that laws have their place and their times. Some of the strict laws of purification and the like from the Jewish tradition had physical, natural reasons of their existence. Pork was not eaten by Jews since it was known that pork had certain worms, and other health risks involved with eating it. These laws were not just handed down because God said so, but because God wants his people to be okay. However, we have our free will and Jesus wants a loving heart to follow him freely, instead of just a person who is following the law to get to God for the law's sake.

I know that today some of us tend to see laws from the Church as out of date and not helpful. Again, laws have natural reasons for being put in place. One issue that keeps coming up today is the topic of divorce. The reason the Catholic Church asks so much of us in regarding marriage is because there is a lot more involved than just the couple. The Church is strict about marriage because of the belief that marriage is forever. Divorce harms children and families. We have a lot of broken homes and families in our age. These laws have reasons that they are in place, not just because God said so.

Following laws and trying to live a good Christian life is not easy. It can be done though. May we have the courage to continue to strive to follow God and his commandments, which are for our good. If any of you are having struggles with a situation revolving around divorce or remarriage, feel free to come see me. I know that there is a lot of paper work around annulments and things of that nature, but it is there for a reason. We can work through these things

*“Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”*  
By our baptism, we are all called to hand on the truths of our faith. Greatness in discipleship is loving God with our whole heart, mind and soul and our neighbor as ourselves. How is God calling you to reflect his great love for us? How is God calling you to love your neighbor?

### February Birthdays

- 2—Nancy Bumm
- 3—Jacques Williams, SR
- 4—Diana Wells
- 17—Dorothy Fulton
- 23—Larry Allen
- 24—Yasmeen Williams
- 25—Donald Moorman
- 27—Sondra Hibbs



### Mass Intentions:

- February 5—Kenneth Higgs
- February 12—Les Bumm
- February 19—Jerry Mezur
- February 26—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.*

*I choose gentleness...Nothing is won by force. I choose to be gentle. If I raise my voice, may it be only in praise. If I clench my fist, may it be only in prayer. If I make a demand, may it be only of myself.*  
—Max Lucado

### Prayer for African American and African Family

**God of mercy and love, we place our African American and African families before you today. May we be proud of our history and never forget those who paid a great price for our liberation. Bless us one by one and keep our hearts and minds fixed on higher ground. Help us to live for you and not for ourselves, and may we cherish and proclaim the gift of life. Bless our parents, guardians, and grandparents, relatives and friends. Give us the amazing grace to be the salt of the earth, and the light of the world. Help us, as Your children, to live in such a way that the beauty and greatness of authentic love is reflected in all that we say and do. Give a healing anointing to those less fortunate especially the motherless, the fatherless, the broken, the sick, and the lonely. Bless our departed family members and friends. May they be led into the light of your dwelling place where we will never grow old, where we will share the fullness of redemption and shout the victory for all eternity.**  
  
**This we ask in the Precious Name of Jesus, our Savior and Blessed Assurance. Amen. Holy Mary, Mother of our Families, pray for us.**