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Blessed Sacrament

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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

First Reading — As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David and remained with him from that day forward (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord. Live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8-14).

Gospel — The man who was blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash. When I washed, I was able to see! (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38])



Fourth Sunday of Lent March 26, 2017

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
— Psalm 23:1



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Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

March

- ◆ Weeks of 19th, 26th—Items for Backpack Ministry. (See list page 5)
- ◆ 19, 26—Fish Fry Pre-sale tickets

April

- ◆ 2 Coffee and donuts, hotdogs and chips
- ◆ Weeks of April 2 and 9—Items for Crossroads Women’s Shelter.
- ◆ 7 Fish Fry 5-7 PM

Penance Services

- ◆ March 27 St. Pius Tenth 6 PM
- ◆ March 28 Immaculate 6 PM
- ◆ April 3 Precious Blood 6 PM
- ◆ April 9 St. Stephen 2 PM
- ◆ **Every Wednesday 6:30 –8 PM at St. Stephen’s**
- ◆ Every Saturday after 9 AM Mass at St. Stephen’s

Thank you for your contributions.

March 19 \$1222

Goal: \$818

Candles—\$3



Community Events

April 11 6:30 PM Chrism Mass at the Sports Center.

St. Meinrad’s has several retreat offering:

- ◆ April 7-9 Celebrating the Paschal Mystery (prepare for Holy Week)
- ◆ April 12-16 Holy Week Retreat

Holy Week at Blessed Sacrament

April 13 6 PM Holy Thursday Mass at BSC with Adoration to follow. Foot washing is part of the Holy Thursday ritual. Bring rice bowls.

April 14 7 PM Good Friday. Liturgy of the Word with the reading of the Passion. Adoration of the Cross, Communion. The one day of the year when there is no Mass.

April 15 8 PM Holy Saturday Blessing of Fire, Easter Vigil Liturgy. Reception into the Church of Ruth Coble—Profession of faith, 1st Communion, Confirmation.

April 16 10 AM Easter Sunday. Mass followed by Easter Egg hunt.

Stations of the Cross

St. Stephen’s Cathedral has Stations on Wednesday after noon Mass and on Fridays at 6 PM

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Friday: Abstinence

Saturday: First Saturday

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.

CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT

The future king, David, in today’s first reading, is an example of a type of character present throughout the Hebrew scriptures. He is the child born out of place (not the eldest or most favored) who ends up receiving the promise of the covenant. The spirit of God’s anointing rushes upon him. In this way, he is similar to the man born blind from today’s Gospel. David’s family and the blind man’s community did not expect the miraculous grace of God’s love to work through them. Perhaps they, too, were “blinded” by the expectations and assumptions of those around them. Yet, after being touched by God, they both came to “see” the presence of God’s will for them. Both became messengers of God’s will. That same Spirit of God’s anointing rushed upon us at our baptism; we were given a candle as a sign of our membership in the Body of Christ, the Light from Light. Our vocation, then, is to fulfill that enlightenment, that anointing, as Ephesians tells us, by living as “children of the light.”

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Keep in Prayers

- ◆ **Ruth Coble who will be received into full communion of the Church at the Easter Vigil on April 15th.**
- ◆ **Austin Gough as he continues his journey toward Confirmation on June 4th.**

<u>MINSTERS</u>	
<u>Lectors</u>	
<u>April 2:</u>	Laysn Brooks Austin Gough
<u>April 9:</u>	Diane Hatchett Gloria Adams
Passion—Narrator—L. Brooks Voice: Greg Gough	
<u>April 13</u>	Darlina Etienne Marsha Allen
<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>	
<u>April 2:</u>	Lori Carmen Adaira Hatchett Cindy Clark
<u>April 9:</u>	M.K. Gough Tina Gough Karen Leachman
<u>April 13:</u>	Vivian Higgs Payton Sanford Misty Sanford
<u>Ushers:</u>	
<u>April 2</u>	Fulton Family
<u>April 9:</u>	Robert Hagan Yvonne Mundy
<u>Offertory</u>	
<u>April 2.</u>	Fulton Family
<u>April 9:</u>	Robert Hagan, Y. Mundy

Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls

This year, CRS Rice Bowl provides a path for Catholics in the United States to build, what Pope Francis calls “a culture of encounter”. By following the [daily Lenten calendar](#), sharing the weekly[stories of hope](#), and making the [meatless meals](#), participants will follow a personal journey that leads to us seeing ourselves in the faces of our neighbors, cultivating a spirit of global solidarity and encountering God’s love anew.

Pope Francis told Catholic leaders that the “ability to see yourselves in the faces of others, this daily proximity to their share of troubles and their little acts of heroism: this is what enables you to practice the commandment of love, not on the basis of ideas or concepts, but rather on the basis of genuine interpersonal encounter.”

“We do not love concepts or ideas,” the Pope said. “We love people.”

“CRS Rice Bowl is about people and the hope we have for each other. It’s about our ability to encounter our neighbors no matter where they live, to love them as God loves us.

It is global in its reach, bringing tangible goods and services to people in need around the world. Twenty-five percent of all contributions stay in local dioceses to support hunger and poverty prevention programs such as community gardens, food pantries, soup kitchens, support groups, and job centers. The remaining 75% goes to support CRS’ humanitarian and development programs overseas, providing life-saving assistance and hope to impoverished and vulnerable communities.

IMP—Kroger Update

Blessed Sacrament’s # is 30623

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

2nd Quarter Earnings: \$152.77 (12-1 to 2-28)

The church slowly developed customs of reserving some portion of the eucharistic sacrifice for the sake of the dying. Today’s custom of placing this portion in a tabernacle for prayer and adoration by the faithful cannot be traced back much beyond the year 1,000, much to almost everyone’s surprise. There is simply no historical evidence of the Blessed Sacrament being present in a church for the purpose of having the faithful visit it or pray before it earlier in the church’s history. People did visit, of course, but the center of their attention was the altar, symbol of Christ’s sacrifice and the touchpoint between heaven and earth. Shrines and devotional altars abounded in medieval churches, but anything we might describe as a Blessed Sacrament chapel would be hard to find.

Amazingly, the Eucharist was first kept in private houses for the purpose of Holy Communion at home. As for church, the custom gradually developed of suspending a vessel shaped like a dove somewhere in the church, often over the altar. In the hovering bird, a few hosts, enough to satisfy the pastoral needs of the dying, would be secreted. The priest would lower the dove on a pulley as needed, but it wasn’t a focus of devotion by visitors to the church. It was simply a way of reassuring bishops who were nervous about safeguarding the Eucharist. The dove solution caught on in England and France after Crusaders came in contact with the custom in their travels in the Orthodox East.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Our thoughts and prayers are with:
SICK: Loretta Wathen, Rita Moorman, Beverly Chilton, Larry Leachman, Otha Holbrook, Georgia Holland, Carol Hatchett, Philip Moorman, Sr., Jim Moorman, Bernice Williams, Sarah Bumm, 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.

Holy Week Ministries are being assigned. Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, please let me know if you are not available for any of the days. Mass times are on the calendar page of bulletin.

Thank you.

APRIL 1

This is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three hundred and sixty-four.

—Mark Twain

From the desk of Father Jamie



Today I would like to focus on the first reading from Mass. We see David being selected at king. As they say, we don't judge the book by its cover. The one who was not even invited turns out to be king, little David. We never know what kind of surprises God will hit us with.

As you all know, our beloved former Bishop, John McRaith, was laid to rest on Friday. I am sure he was just as shocked as David was when Bishop found out he would be a bishop of Owensboro. A good bishop usually is not expecting to be a bishop. As we said in seminary, if you are looking to be Bishop someday, then you probably should not be a bishop. God chooses, not us.

Of course, anytime there is a change in king, bishop or whatever, it causes a lot of distress, for both the one elected and for the people. In all of this though, we rely on God to make things happen how they need to be. There is a lot of trust involved. Sometimes our leaders are not very good and some are amazing.

May we be thankful for the many years that Bishop John served our diocese of Owensboro. He was the first bishop I ever met. I met him while I was attending college at Brescia. Eventually Bishop John would start spreading word to certain priests how he wanted me in seminary. I thank God for Bishop John and may we continue to pray for him and us and we remember his full life.

Father Jamie leads Vespers each Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 in the Cathedral.

LIGHT AND SHADOW

In faith there is enough light for those who want to believe and enough shadows to blind those who don't.. —Blaise Pascal

Don't cry over the past; it is gone. Don't stress about the future; it hasn't arrived. Live in the present and make it beautiful.

March Birthdays

18—Jean Higgs

21—Tracy Hunter

25—Carol Hatchett

31—Frank Fulton

April Birthdays:

3—Rita Moorman,

Ethan Gough,

Robert Hardin



(Picture)

Mass Intentions:

March 19—Kenneth Higgs

March 26—Jerry Mezur

April 2—Les Bumm

April 9—Sandra Brown

April 13—Michael Carrico

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.

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of Bishop John McRaith. He was Bishop of the Owensboro Diocese from 1982 to 2009 and was instrumental in keeping Blessed Sacrament Chapel open. **Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen.**

Each year during Lent we reach out to help others. (One of the pillars of Lent is Almsgiving). We have chosen three: local needs, backpack ministry, and Crossroads Women Shelter...

The weeks of March 19 and 26 we will collect for the Backpack ministry. (canned pasta, Vienna sausage, fruit cups, crackers with peanut butter or cheese) No macaroni and cheese. Bring an items or two so that children can leave on Friday afternoon with food so they have something to eat over the weekend.

The weeks of April 2 and 9, we will collect for Crossroads Women Shelter. (umbrellas, bus passes, blankets {good thickness at Wal-Mart for \$10}, sheets, pillow cases, gift cards to McDonald's or Wal-Mart), coloring books. These ladies have to travel to take showers and to do laundry so they often have to take the bus just for daily necessities.