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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 Fennewald, SSND jeannette.fennewald@pastoral.org

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Thus says the LORD GOD: I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and settle you on your land. (Ezekiel 37:12-14).

Psalm — With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption (Psalm 130).

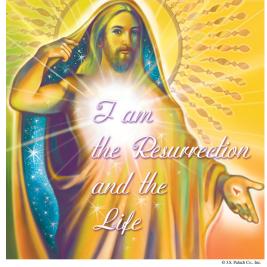
Second Reading — If Christ is in you, the spirit is alive even if the body is dead because of sin (Romans 8:8-11).

Gospel — Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name. Many of those who had seen what had happened began to believe in Jesus (John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).



Fifth Sunday of Lent April 2, 2017

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice!



Coming Events CALENDAR

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

April

- ♦ 2 Coffee and donuts, hotdogs and chips
- Weeks of April 2 and 9—Items for Crossroads Women's Shelter.
- ◆ <u>7</u> Fish Fry 5-7 PM

The Church asks us to avail ourselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year during this time of the year.

Penance Services

- April 3 Precious Blood 6 PM
- ♦ April 9 St. Stephen 2 PM
- Every Wednesday 6:30 –8 PM and every Saturday after 9 AM Mass at St. Stephen's

Thank you for your contributions.

March 26—\$452.25

Goal: \$818



Diocesan Response Fund

Thank you for your generous response. Our target was \$967.51; you pledged \$2865. To date \$1990 has been paid. Please keep the payments coming. In March we will receive a check for 50% of the amount we are over the target.

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: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62

[41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn

8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56;

Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9: Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-

42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn

11:45-56

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (procession); Is 50:4-

7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt

26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Tuesday: St. Isidore

Wednesday: St. Vincent Ferrer

Friday: St. John Baptist de la Salle; Absti-

nence;

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.

JESUS' MINISTRY SUMMARIZED

The story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead is the single longest story (apart from the Passion) in the Gospel of John. In it we find a summary of most of Jesus' ministry. We see his very human nature as he is moved by Martha and Mary's sorrows and as he himself weeps at the tomb of Lazarus. He is the wisdom of God's Word made flesh as he explains to his followers that the death of Lazarus will serve as a sign of the glory of God. He crowns the miracles he works in John's Gospel (which began with the most "human" miracle of making new wine at Cana's wedding) by raising Lazarus from the dead—a "preview," if you will, of his own death and resurrection to come. This portrait of Jesus reminds us, as we near the end of our Lenten journey, that he is with us, knows us, understands us in every moment of our lives. He knows the joy of our human feasting, he knows the sorrow of our weeping. As we prepare to walk with him through the days of Holy Week, we are filled with faith that—through Christ— God's glory will be with us in every moment of our lives and—with Christ—in our life everlasting.

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.

MINSTERS

Lectors

April 2: Laysn Brooks

Austin Gough

April 9: Diane Hatchett

Gloria Adams

Passion—Narrator—L. Brooks

Voice: Greg Gough

April 13 Darlina Etienne

Marsha Allen

Eucharistic Ministers

April 2: Lori Carmen

Adaira Hatchett

Cindy Clark

April 9: M.K. Gough

Tina Gough

Karen Leachman

April 13: Vivian Higgs

Payton Sanford

Misty Sanford

Ushers:

<u>April 2</u> Fulton Family

April 9: Robert Hagan

Yvonne Mundy

Offertory

April 2. Fulton Family

April 9: 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 <u>daily Lenten calendar</u>, sharing the weekly<u>stories of hope</u>, and making the <u>meatless meals</u>, 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)

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Not until the thirteenth century do we find a mention of a locked tabernacle. There's some evidence for eucharistic towers also, but often these were in an obscure corner of the church, or even in the off-limits sacristy. Many of us grew up "making visits" to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, but it's clear this would raise some medieval eyebrows in confusion! To the present day, the Eucharist is always reserved only in a side chapel in many cathedrals. The principal focus in a cathedral is always on the altar, symbol of Christ, and on the cathedra, symbol of the pastoral ministry of the bishop.

In your parish church there is probably a "sanctuary lamp," a permanently lit candle or oil lamp indicating the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Sometimes it's in a red glass, not for any particular reason except that it's easy to find. There is a story of a bishop missioned to Papua New Guinea who was distressed to find no sanctuary lamps burning in his new diocese. The people patiently explained that their churches were woven of grass, and that they decided to place a chief's standard, a trident, in front of the tabernacle. That was a sign in their culture that the "chief" was at home, like raising the flag over Buckingham Palace. The bishop, an Irish import, didn't appreciate the British reference, so he ordered the candles back. The first church to burn to the ground was the cathedral, and after two more, the chief's tridents returned.

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.

LOOK

Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, faith looks up.

—Anonymous

From the desk of

Father Jamie _



Today we see in the Gospel, the powerful story of Jesus raising his friend Lazarus from the dead. It is quite the dramatic scene. In the gospel of John, we have what is known as the signs. The gospel of John is known as the book of signs. The 7 signs are the great miracles that Jesus performs.

All of the signs we see in the Gospel of John all prefigure and point to the resurrection. These signs are to prepare us for the greatest work of all that Jesus does, which is to secure our salvation. The raising of Lazarus is another step toward the journey that Jesus makes to the cross. The raising of Lazarus is just a foretaste of what Jesus will eventually do for all of us.

Lazarus, Mary, and Martha did not fully understand what Jesus meant by his coming resurrection. It was not until the resurrection that they finally got it. Resurrection was something a little beyond what the Jews understood. Many of the Jews did not even believe in an afterlife.

As we continue on toward Easter, may we hold onto the hope of the resurrection that Jesus has in store for us at the end of the age. Death is ugly business. Even Jesus cried at the sight of his dead friend, since he knew what death involved and how death came about to begin with. Now however, we have every reason to rejoice and be glad for the hope of the Resurrection.

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

Belief in Jesus is the Way to truly living in this world, even if it takes dying from our current beliefs and ways of life. Far too often, people look elsewhere for joy and never consider the Lord as the means to the fullness of life and happiness.

April Birthdays:

3—Rita Moorman, Ethan Gough,
Robert Hardin

6—Marshall Williams

15—Benjamin (Frank) Adams

20—Shalanda Williams

21—Maggie Howard

23—Misty Sanford

25—Charlene Meadows

26-Vivian Higgs



Please remember in your thoughts and prayers the mother of Becky Coble who died last week. Also continue to remember Bishop John McRaith. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Mass Intentions:

April 2—Les Bumm

April 9—Sandra Brown

April 13—Michael Carrico

April 15—Jerry Mezur

April 16—Frances Johnson

April 23—Kenneth Higgs

April 30—Les Bumm

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.

Coming Soon

E-giving. You will be able to use credit card or automatic withdrawals.

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 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.

Thank you for your generous response for the Backpack Ministry. "When I was hungry you fed me."

[&]quot;I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."