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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 — All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

Psalm — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



**Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)
April 23, 2017**

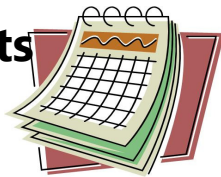
"Blessed are those who have not seen
and have believed."



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Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

- ♦ May 7—Coffee, donuts, hotdogs, chips
- ♦ August 5—PICNIC

Community Events

May 6—Confirmation Retreat

May 5-7 Church in Modern World (at St. Meinrad’s) Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB

June 6-8 —Cultural workshop at Mount St. Joseph

August 25-26 Catholic Women’s Retreat at Kentucky Dam Village State Park

Thank you for your contributions.

April 9— \$727

April 16—\$1209.99

Needed weekly \$818



Thanks to everyone who contributed to the DRF. We received a check for \$718.75 for 50% of what we contributed over our target. Please continue to make your monthly pledge.

National Museum of African American History and Culture Trip

October 5-9, 2017
Cost—2 to room \$485 each
For trip inquiry call McCellus 270-302-6131

Financial Update on recent collections

Thank you.

Seminary: \$45

Rice Bowl: \$279. 58

Holy Land: \$218

Mandeville: \$158

Diocesan Administration: \$80

Catholic Relief Services: \$18

Sick and Infirm Priests: \$61

Congratulations

To Recipients of two diocesan awards

John McRaith Providing Help, Creating Hope Award (engages in works of charity)

- ♦ Marsha Allen

Youth Servant Leader in Ministry

- ♦ Mary Katherine Gough

DOUBT

There lives more faith in honest doubt,
Believe me, than in half the creeds.

—Alfred, Lord Tennyson

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Easter
(or of Divine Mercy)

Monday: Yom Ha-Shoa
(Holocaust Remembrance Day)

Tuesday: St. Mark

Wednesday: Administrative Professionals Day

Friday: St. Peter Chanel;
St. Louis Grignon de Montfort;

Arbor Day

Saturday: St. Catherine of Siena

SAVE UP

When saving for old age, be sure to lay up a few pleasant thoughts.

—Anonymous

Although Easter Sunday was a week ago, Easter is far from over. The Easter season or Eastertide is a 50-day period (counting Easter Sunday) from Easter to Pentecost Sunday (June 4 this year). Pentecost comes at the end of our Easter season, and we often call it the “Birthday of the Church.”

There is a good reason for that. Our First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles relates life in the early Church. In fact, today’s reading from Acts 2 follows immediately after the narrative on what occurred on Pentecost, which is found in Acts 2: 1-41. Acts, of course, follows the Four Gospels as the Fifth Book of the New Testament. It is clear that it is a continuation of the Gospel of Luke. Luke traveled with St. Paul and quite likely may have met many of the original Apostles. Thus, his narratives about Pentecost and the early Church are first hand in many ways.

There is much on which we might concentrate in this reading offering us a glance of the early Christians, but note in particular two things: their sense of joy and satisfaction along with the fact that their numbers kept growing. Both of these facts are demonstrated in this First Reading: “They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.”

A Note of Thanks!

Thank you for the wonderful meal that was prepared for us. It was delicious! Your thoughtfulness was appreciated more than you know. May God bless you richly.

Family of Maggie Howard

MINSTERS

Lectors

April 30: Darlina Etienne
Audrey Mezur

May 7 Layson Brooks
Gloria Adams

Eucharistic Ministers

April 30: C. Meadows
Adaira Hatchett
M.K. Gough

May 7: Greg Gough
Tina Gough
Lori Carman

Ushers:

April 30: Lori Carmen
Nancy Bumm

May 7: Cindy Clark
Barb Hammond

Offertory

April 30. Lori Carman
Nancy Bumm

May 7: Cindy Clark
Barb Hammond

.A huge **thank you** to all the ministers who serve at the liturgies, especially during Holy Week.
Thank you also to Jean Higgs who does the church laundry each week. Much appreciated.

A SEASON OF JOY

“They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers” (Acts 2:42). This first line of today’s first reading sets the tone as this fifty-day celebration of Easter opens before us. Today we listen to the teachings of three apostles—Luke, Peter, and John—who remind us that even though we have not seen Christ, we nonetheless are filled with joy as we place our belief in his saving death and resurrection. Each week during the Easter season we will gather as a community of faith to find strength and support from our God and from one another. Each week we will gather to break bread and offer the great prayer of thanksgiving, actions that will manifest the very presence of the risen Christ in our midst. Let us be open to the wonders of this season of joy.

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Liturgically the Easter Octave has *always* been centered on the theme of Divine Mercy and forgiveness. Divine Mercy Sunday, therefore, point us to the merciful love of God that lies behind the whole Paschal Mystery — the whole mystery of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ — made present for us in the Eucharist. In this way, it also sums up the whole Easter Octave. As Pope John Paul II pointed out in his *Regina Caeli* address on Divine Mercy Sunday, 1995: "the whole octave of Easter is like a single day," and the Octave Sunday is meant to be the day of "thanksgiving for the goodness God has shown to man in the whole Easter mystery."

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.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The origins of the custom of burning a lamp before the tabernacle are in Jewish worship, where a lamp called *ner tamid* or “eternal flame” burns before the ark in every synagogue. The ark contains the sacred scrolls of the Torah. The flame represents the menorah in the Temple, and therefore is never extinguished. In fact, the word “tabernacle” itself is derived from Hebrew, as *taber* is the Hebrew word for “tent,” and hearkens back to the forty years of wandering in the desert. The pilgrim people were sustained in hope by an awareness that God was not only in the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night, but had quite literally “pitched his tent with them” in the shelter for the Ark of the Covenant. Some artisans have used this theme of “ark” or “tent” to design a tabernacle for the Blessed Sacrament.

In Christian practice, Anglicans and Catholics use a sanctuary lamp to point toward the presence of the reserved sacrament, and Lutherans use it as a sign of God’s presence in the house of worship, but not necessarily as a clue that the Eucharist is reserved. Why, even in an age of electric light, is the sanctuary lamp an oil light or candle? Perhaps not only to point to Christ, the light of the world, but also to point to sacrifice. For the light to exist, there must be sacrifice. The oil or wax is transformed into light, just as those who pray here, or who will receive viaticum from here, are called to transformation in Christ.

—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, . A phone call or a card can cheer the homebound if you can’t visit.



Ruth Coble as Father Jamie is preparing to confirm her. Congratulations, Ruth.
She will turn 90 on April 27th. Remember her in prayer and maybe a card: 2341 Southeastern Parkway, Owensboro, KY 42303

From the desk of

Father Jamie



Today is the last day of the octave of Easter. We celebrate eight days of Christmas and Easter, as if they were one day. Christmas and Easter are the two most important events in the Christian calendar, with Easter being the more important. The Easter season goes until Pentecost. Now that we are in the Easter season, in the Eastern Orthodox Churches, they will not pray the prayer to the Holy Spirit until Pentecost. They view this time between Easter Sunday and Pentecost as the time of waiting for the Holy Spirit.

God has given us so many good things, and the greatest gift he has given us, is the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thanks to the rising from the dead on the third day, we have hope that all is not lost and that there is redemption for us. We must remember, that we will not always find happiness on earth, but we can have hope and we can have peace. There are a lot of things going on in our world that bother us and make us uncomfortable, such as the looming issue with North Korea this week. Just remember, despite the unrest in the world, we can find peace. We may not feel happiness all of the time, but Jesus brings us peace in a world that is troubled.

May we try our best to take comfort in the hope that Jesus gives. Things may be difficult on earth, but we can find peace and if we look closely, we can see the miracles of God every day. Things could be a lot worse. Even though our world can be difficult, God created this world very good and we need to try and enjoy it to the best of our ability and appreciate its beauty. May we as Christian people bring peace and joy to the world and spread the love of Christ to all that we meet. May we spread the Easter resurrection hope.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations – Called by Name

Sunday May 7th, the Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. It has also been designated a World Day of Prayer for Vocations. This year marks its 54th year. As we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, each parish in the Diocese of Owensboro has been invited to participate in **CALLED BY NAME**, a program of vocations awareness that offers an opportunity for us to pray for priestly vocations; to recognize gifts and potential for leadership and service in members of our parish; and finally, to call forth and encourage these members to share their gifts in priesthood. Perhaps you know a man (high school or older) who would, in your opinion, have the qualities to become a priest. We will follow up with them and offer resources for discernment and personally invite them to participate in our discernment programs such as, Come and See weekends, discernment retreats, and Made for More Camp. Please recommend this person by submitting their name online at <https://owensborodiocese.org/called-by-name/> or by contacting the vocations office: [270-683-1545](tel:270-683-1545) or jason.mcclure@pastoral.org

April Birthdays:

3—Rita Moorman, Ethan Gough,
Robert Hardin
6—Marshall Williams
15—Benjamin (Frank) Adams
20—Shalanda Williams
23—Misty Sanford
25—Charlene Meadows
26—Vivian Higgs



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



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I pray that all the graces of Lent and Easter will continue to live with you as you share your faith and love with others that you meet. Be like the apostles and share with all who are in need of the message of Jesus. Jesus loves you and welcomes all of us. Sister Jeannette, SSND