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# Blessed Sacrament

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

[www.blessedsacramentchapel.org](http://www.blessedsacramentchapel.org) 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 com-  
mitted 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 Fennwald, SSND  
[jeannette.fennwald@pastoral.org](mailto:jeannette.fennwald@pastoral.org)

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The wrath and the mercy of the  
LORD are revealed in the exile and liberation of the  
Chosen People (2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23) or 1  
Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

**Psalm** — Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget  
you! (Psalm 137) or Psalm 23.

**Second Reading** — God, who is rich in mercy,  
brought us to life with Christ (Ephesians 2:4-10) or  
Ephesians 5:8-14.

**Gospel** — The Son of Man must be lifted up, so  
that everyone who believes in him may have eter-  
nal life (John 3:14-21) or John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-  
17, 34-38].

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997,  
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**Fourth Sunday of Lent March 11, 2018**

God did not send his Son into the world  
to condemn the world, but that the world  
might be saved through him.



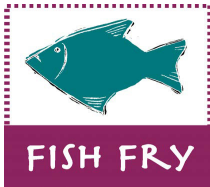
# Coming Events

## CALENDAR



### Blessed Sacrament Chapel

- ♦ March 11 Ladies of Wisdom Tea
- ♦ March 23 Fish Fry 5-7 PM
- ♦ March 25 Raffle drawing
- ♦ March 29 Holy Thursday Mass 7 PM followed by Adoration.
- ♦ March 30 Good Friday Service 7 PM
- ♦ April 1 Easter Sunday Mass 10 AM followed by Easter egg hunt on front lawn



### Upcoming Diocesan/Community Events

- ♦ March 17 OCS Auction 6 PM at Brescia
- ♦ March 27 Chrism Mass 6:30 PM
- ♦ April 21 Annual Black Catholic Gathering 10 AM at Precious Blood

Thank you for your contributions..

Candles —\$8

March 4— \$1132  
Weekly Budget —\$865  
Year to date —\$30,245.06  
YTD budget—\$31,140  
**-\$(\$894.94)**



## Holy Week

Holy Week will begin on March 25th. Some of the important services that week are

- ♦ Chrism Mass 6:30 PM at Sportscenter **(Need 2 people to accept oils)**
- ♦ Holy Thursday 7 PM Mass with foot washing. This is followed by Adoration in the hall. **(Need volunteers to have their feet washed during Mass.) Rice Bowls will be collected.**
- ♦ Good Friday Service 7 PM. This is the one time during the year when there is no Mass. Altar bare. Tabernacle empty. We have Veneration of the Cross, liturgy of the Word (Passion read) and Communion. Day of fast and abstinence.
- ♦ Holy Saturday. We will not have the liturgy at Blessed Sacrament. Saint Stephen's Easter Vigil is 8 PM.
- ♦ Easter Sunday. 10 AM Mass followed by an Easter Egg hunt for the young people.

**Spring Break begins on Good Friday. If you are a minister of the Word or a Eucharistic Minister and will not be here for Good Friday or Easter Sunday, please let me know by Sunday, March 11th. We will be needing extra readers for the Passion on March 25th.**

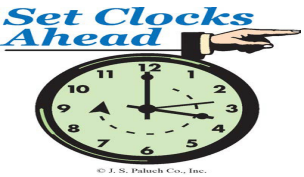
**Please volunteer for foot washing . Christ did it as an act of humility and service.**

### 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: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent; Second Scrutiny; Daylight Saving Time begins; Girl Scouting Sunday  
Friday: Abstinence  
Saturday: Saint Patrick



### Help Needed

St. Stephen's Cathedral is in need of two people to do Child Care during the 9 AM Mass. They need someone who can be there every Sunday-starting April 8th from 8:45-10:15. Safe Environment and background check must be completed. I know that is during our Mass but if you know anyone who might be interested, call Beni at St. Stephen's 270-683-6525.

### COMMUNAL RESPONSIBILITY

The people of God forgot the covenant and flouted God's laws. They did not listen to the prophets among them, who spoke for God in warning them. Prophets are sent from God to remind us why we are here, but they are often, even in our own time, mocked, disregarded, and mistreated rather than thanked and listened to.

The book of Chronicles tells the results of these sins: the destruction of the temple and all of Jerusalem, murder, mayhem, and finally exile to a foreign land. Why are these stories in the Bible? Just to inform us of what happened to our ancient forebears? What good would that be unless there were a message and a warning for us as well? Are we people who follow the teachings of God, who obey the words of Christ in the second covenant in his blood? Or do we continue to wreak works of darkness and violence? We are reminded by these readings that we will be judged as a people, not just as individuals.

### Lenten Reconciliation Seives

- ♦ March 14, 21— 6:30-8:30 Lourdes, Blessed Mother, Sts. Joseph and Paul
- ♦ March 11 St. Martin, Rome 7 PM
- ♦ March 20 Immaculate, 6 PM
- ♦ March 22 Precious Blood 6 PM
- ♦ March 25 St. Stephen Cathedral 2 PM



## Father Jamie's Reflection



We are about to come in on the home stretch of Lent. I hope this Lent has been as lovely for you all as it has been for me. I will admit that last year was not as good for me as it could have been, since as a new priest, I was so concerned about making sure I did everything right, instead of focusing on my own Lent.

God has his ways of making things work out how they need to. The thing is though, are we willing to work with God? This is exactly what I had to remind myself of this Lent. It just takes a little bit of effort and cooperation with divine providence. If we open ourselves up to God and his actions in our lives, amazing things can happen. May we remind ourselves to be open.

One of my practices that I had slacked in, which I am working on getting back into the habit of again, is praying the Jesus prayer as I walk from place to place. That has made my Lent much better. Sometimes it is still a struggle, but hey, some effort is better than none. Every little bit helps.

May we most of all prepare ourselves for the great holy days to come. The most important and amazing week in history is about to be reflected on and played out, may we not let it just pass us by. Holy Week is what we have been preparing for through Lent. May we hold close to these 3 days and allow ourselves to be immersed in the great events.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro has contracted with Amend Psychological Services for Joy Navan, a licensed psychological associate, to provide diocesan counseling services in English and Spanish. Working under the supervision of Dr. Edward Amend, Joy has experience working with children, adolescents, and adults. Although not a native speaker, Joy is fluent in Spanish and has a depth of understanding of Hispanic cultural values. Joy is available to provide face-to-face services in Paducah or online tele-mental health services to parishioners in need of counseling throughout the Diocese. Contact information: call [\(877\) 732-8683](tel:(877)732-8683) or [\(859\) 269-6465](tel:(859)269-6465), or email her at [jnavan@amendpsych.com](mailto:jnavan@amendpsych.com) to schedule a confidential appointment.

### March Birthdays

2—Marsha Allen  
6—Elizabeth Hatchett  
7—Britney Carmona  
18—Jean Higgs  
21—Tracy Hunter  
25—Carol Hatchett  
31—Frank Fulton



### E-Giving is Alive!!

You can go to [www.blessedsacramentchapel.org](http://www.blessedsacramentchapel.org) and click on "E-giving".

### NOT ENOUGH

It is not enough for me to love God, if my neighbor does not love God.

—St. Vincent de Paul

### Mass Intentions:

March 4—Bernice Williams

March 11—Jerry Mezur

March 18—Kenneth Higgs

March 25—Les Bumm

March 29—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.*

Prayer for Evangelization

Diocese of Owensboro

***Our good and gracious God  
through your Son Jesus Christ,  
pour forth your Holy Spirit upon  
the Church of Western Kentucky,  
the Diocese of Owensboro.***

***Open our hearts to hear the Word of God  
and make fruitful the work of evangelization.***

***Through our encounter with Christ  
deepen our relationship with your Son  
so that we may accompany the pilgrims on  
their faith journeys.***

***Transform our parishes,  
make them places of joy and hope  
that welcome the stranger  
and search out the lost.***

***May the Word of God  
be always in our thoughts, words and deeds  
so that all we encounter may find in your Son,  
Jesus; the Way, the Truth the Life Amen***

**MINSTERS**

**Lectors**

March 18: Gloria Adams  
Kathi Skidd

March 25 Von Williams  
Martha Kramer

**Eucharistic Ministers**

March 18: Charlene Meadows  
Payton Sanford  
Cathy Kramer

March 25: Tina Gough  
Karen Leachman  
Rita Moorman

**Ushers/Offertory**

March 18: Jeff Sanford  
Ethan Gough  
March 25: Ethan Ashby  
Burnell Hamilton

**Outreach**

**Lent is a time of almsgiving and seeing how we can reach out to our brothers and sisters who have less. Thanks for your donations to Backpack Ministry for Faust School and Birthright. The next two weeks we will take up a collection for local special needs.**

**Now you Are the Body of Christ**

**And each one of you is a part of it.**

**(1 Corinthians 12:27)**

Our parish is composed of people like me. Help make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am. It will be holy if I am; its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will be prayerful, if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver. It will bring others into its worship if I invite and bring them. It will be a parish of loyalty and love, of fearless and faith, of compassion, charity, and mercy, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things! Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want our parish to be. Amen.

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Thanks to Darnell Fenderson  
THIS FAST, I WANTED TO FAST BY GIVING UP SOMETHING THAT I TRULY LOVE, AND I AM A HUGE FAN OF FASTING  
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**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Year B of the Lectionary has the Letter to the Ephesians today. Ephesus, today in Turkey, was in the first century a great Greek city, the center for the worship of Diana, the goddess of the hunt. It was a vast city even by modern standards, having nearly half a million people in the time of Paul. Yet that was a time of economic recession and moral decay. No wonder Saint Paul stayed here the longest. It gave him an enormous and religiously curious audience. His preaching stirred up the artisans who depended on the pilgrims who came to honor (and buy mementos of) seventeen gods and goddesses enshrined in the city’s temples. You can still see the open-air theater where Paul’s homily triggered a riot. Paul did have success here, and many conversions among Jews and Gentiles. They seem to have struggled with hope, perhaps because of their suffering from economic woes and isolation.

Some old traditions say that the Apostle John lived out his days here, and that the Blessed Mother was cared for by him. There’s no biblical basis for this, but it is certain that a small just outside the city has been treasured by Christians and Muslims for centuries as the last dwelling of Mary. Long ago, the harbor silted up and the city was nearly abandoned, becoming a small village. As is so often the case, that accident of history preserved the ancient city, so that archeologists have been very successful in revealing ancient Christian sites. One such site is the Church of Mary, probably the first church to be dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and the site of the Council of Ephesus in 431. Today, a visit to Ephesus is one of the most rewarding journeys for any pilgrim.

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

**SICK:** Frank Adams, Dorothy Fulton, Sister Janice Fennewald, Ruth Coble, Carol Hatchett, Loretta Wathen, Beverly Chilton, Rose Chapman, Denise Higgs, Father Pat Ryan, Charlene Meadows, Larry Leachman, Blythe Nantz, Philip Moorman, Sr., Camilla Greer, Jim Moorman, 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:**

Ruth Coble is at Heritage Place on Buckland Square. A phone call or a card can cheer the homebound if you can’t visit.

**Laetare Sunday**

Today, the 4th Sunday of Lent, the opening prayer begins with “Rejoice” (Laetare in Latin). The priest has the option of wearing pink or violet vestments. The actual midpoint of lent occurred this past Thursday. This day has traditionally been viewed as a day of celebration. This day should provide us with encouragement in the midst of our penitential seasons. If we have faltered, we still have time to pick ourselves up and keep moving.