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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. Sinoj Pynadath,
sinoj.pynadath@pastoral.org

Parish Life Coordinator:
Sr. Jeannette Fennwald, SSND
jeannette.fennwald@pastoral.org



**Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 2, 2018**

Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls.

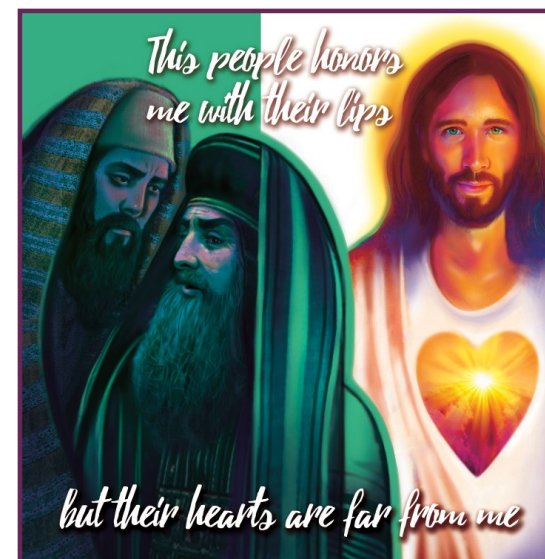
TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — For what great nation is there that has gods so close to it as the LORD, our God, is to us? (Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8).

Psalm — The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord (Psalm 15).

Second Reading — Religion that is pure is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction (James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27).

Gospel — This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me (Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23).



“Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.”
John 6:53

From the desk of Father Sinoj



Greetings! Once again thank you for the expression of solidarity with the people who suffer because of flood. May all our good works which is the expression of our Faith, be rewarded by God. May we grow closer to the heart of Jesus through our works of mercy. That is the message Jesus gives us this weekend. Jesus is critical about people who are just concerned about following the law but not caring about the meaning of it. He calls them hypocrites.

A hypocrite is one whose whole life is a piece of acting without any sincerity behind it at all. Anyone to whom religion is a legal thing, anyone to whom religion means carrying out certain external rules and regulations, anyone to whom religion is entirely connected with the observation of a certain ritual and the keeping of a certain number of taboos is in the end bound to be, in this sense, a hypocrite. The reason is this—he believes that he is a good man if he carries out the correct acts and practices, no matter what his heart and his thoughts are like. Legalism takes account of a man’s outward actions; but it takes no account at all of his inward feelings. He may well be meticulously serving God in outward things, and bluntly disobeying God in inward things—and that is hypocrisy.

There is no greater religious peril than that of identifying religion with outward observance. There is no commoner religious mistake than to identify goodness with certain so-called religious acts. Church-going, bible-reading, careful financial giving, even time-tabled prayer, do not make a man a good man. The fundamental question is, how is a man’s heart towards God and towards his fellow-men? And if in his heart there are enmity, bitterness, grudges, pride, not all the outward religious observances in the world will make him anything other than a hypocrite. Let not our hearts be far from God...

(☺) Always
(☺) Keep
(☺) Smiling!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath, HGN

September Birthdays

- 1—Norwetta Taylor
- 2—Emma Latta
- 3—Joseph Johnson, Venice Higgs, Father Suneesh
- 6—Shelby Webster
- 16—Matthew Brown
- 20—Mary Katherine Gough
- 26—April Moorman



IMP—Kroger

Blessed Sacrament’s # is
WX799

Blessed Sacrament would appreciate being named as your community reward recipient. Thank you for your support. You can enroll at www.kroger.com or call 1-800-KROGERS

If you know anyone who is not enrolled, please encourage them. Thanks.

Mass Intentions:

- September 2—Les Bumm
- September 9—Kenneth Higgs
- September 16—Sandra Brown
- September 23—Barbara Horsley

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.

Our thoughts and prayers are with: SICK Martha Kramer, Dorothy Fulton, Ruth Coble, Carol Hatchett, Loretta Wathen, Beverly Chilton, Larry Clark, Shelby Webster, Frank Adams, Rose Chapman, Father Pat Ryan, Charlene Meadows, Larry Leachman, Philip Moorman, Sr., Camilla Greer, Jim Moorman, Louise Johnson, Larry Allen, Phillip Moorman, Jr., Linda McDonald **If you know of anyone seriously ill who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.**

Mark the Date

The Diocesan Youth Conference will be Nov. 9 and 10 at the Convention Center. It is for youths grades 6-12. Deadline September 30th.



Marian Conference | “Mary, Mother of the Church”
The Marian Shrine Committee is sponsoring a Marian Conference on Saturday, September 29 at the Owensboro Convention Center. Speakers are Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC and Teresa Tomeo. Music by Maria Spears. Tickets are available at the Owensboro Convention Center box office. Call 270-297-9932 or stop at the box office Monday through Friday from 8-5 PM. Tickets are \$30 per person. Students and children 21 and under are free.

Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

September 9 Picnic update after Mass

September 13 Fundraiser Night at Freddy’s 5-9 PM

September 19 Finance Mt. 4:30 PM

Diocesan Happenings

September 9 Sophia Award 2 PM at St. Stephen’s Cathedral **Carol Hatchett**

September 8-9 Eastbridge Arts Festival/ OSU festival at Mount St. Joseph

September 14 Vocare 6 PM at Convention Center

September 29 Marian Conference at Owensboro Convention Center

Upcoming Bar-B-Q

September 15 Blessed Mother 4 PM

Thank you for your contributions.

- August 26—\$531
- Weekly Budget —\$875
- August \$1186.10
- August Budget \$1750
- Indian flood collection— \$346.09



Invite family and friends to visit and dine at Freddy’s on Frederica on September 13 from 5-9 PM. You must mention Blessed Sacrament for us to get our 15%.

Register now for Branson Christmas Extravaganza!

The Diocese of Owensboro’s Office of Stewardship presents Branson “Christmas Extravaganza” featuring Daniel O’Donnell on Nov 1-4, 2018. \$799/person. This tour is sure to bring out the magic of Christmas with five Christmas shows: Haygoods, Christmas Show at Dolly Parton’s Stampede, Raiding the Country Vault, Sight and Sound Samson, and the famous Daniel O’Donnell “Christmas with Daniel”! Enjoy your chartered comfortable bus ride, beautiful hotel accommodations and nine delicious meals! (Includes an extra surprise top attraction). Payment will be due Sept 17. Call early to hold your reservation-these tours will fill up fast! Insurance is available for \$44. For more information, contact Faith in Travel at 270-389-1002

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97-102; Lk 4:16-30, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass “For the Blessings of Human Labor,” nos. 907-911
- Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-14; Lk 4:31-37
- Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44
- Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11
- Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39
- Saturday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]
- Sunday: Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7-10; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: St. Gregory the Great; Labor Day
- Friday: First Friday
- Saturday: Blessed Mother

THE ORIGINAL CURRENCY

Labor was the first price, the original purchase-money that was paid for all things. It was not by gold or by silver, but by labor, that all wealth of the world was originally purchased.

—Adam Smith

THE HIGHEST LAW

From time to time, newspapers and magazines will offer, as an item of “filler,” various laws that are still on the books but seem silly to us in our day and age. In one California city, it is illegal to have two indoor bathtubs in one house. Clean water, a precious commodity when the law was written, is now readily available, so the law seems silly. But the human value of protecting and preserving precious resources is still around, evident in many conservation laws that seem sensible to us. So it is with the laws of religious tradition. What Jesus scorns today is others’ attitude toward ritual laws, an attitude that becomes nearly idolatrous when laws are observed for their own sake. Jesus teaches that observation of external ritual laws is of value only when they are emblems of our internal disposition toward the will of God. Our whole lives must follow the one ultimate law of God: to love God completely and to love neighbor entirely. Roman Catholicism is a tradition rich with customs, traditions, and even laws. As we continue to listen to the voice of Christ, we must always look into our own hearts and underneath our ritual practices to make sure that love of God and love of neighbor are what we prize above all.

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Mandeville, Jamaica

A mission trip to Mandeville is being planned for the week of October 7th. If interested , call Deacon Richard Murphy. Deadline to register is September 10th.

MINSTERS

Lectors

Sept. 9: Greg Gough
Austin Gough
Sept. 16: Jacques Williams
Audrey Mezur

Eucharistic Ministers

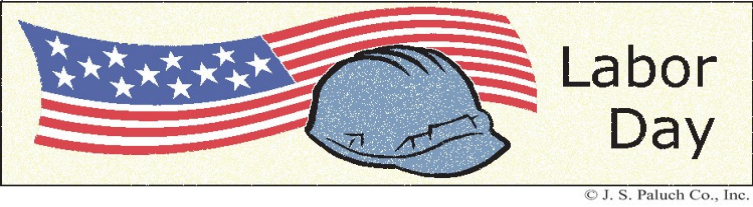
Sept. 9: Barbara Bisel
Tina Gough
Gloria Adams
Sept. 16: Karen Leachman
Cindy Clark
Rita Moorman

Offertory/ Ushers

Sept. 9: Robert Johnson
Wonet Taylor
Sept. 16: Burnell Hamilton
Barbara Hammond

“Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites.”

When the Pharisees questioned Jesus about why He and his disciples did not follow tradition about diet and washing, He called them *hypocrites* and quoted Isaiah, “*This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts.*” It was a stinging rebuke of the religious leaders of His day who claimed superior knowledge of God and imposed requirements on the People of God that caused them to fear God more than love Him. Jesus challenged the Pharisees to be better stewards of their influence with the people to help them grow in their relationship with God. We live in an age of incredible access to Scripture and the teaching of our Church that can help us learn about the greatness of our God and His unconditional love for us. Do we honor God with our lips, but keep our hearts far from Him? If we fail to take advantage of all that is available to help us learn what God truly expects of us, are we hypocrites?



Lord on this Labor Day, we thank You for the blessing of work. We ask for strength to complete each day. We ask for rest when we are weary. We ask Your guidance for everyone seeking employment, and we ask that You be with those whose faces we might never see but who work tirelessly each day for the good of us

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.

FORGIVERS

A happy marriage is a union of two good forgivers.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

When an altar is dedicated, the Rite of Dedication directs that, if possible, the relics of a martyr be mortared into the church floor under the *mensa*, or “altar table.” Up until this revised rite, the general practice was to include small relics of saints in an altar stone, a slab of marble that was normally set in the altar itself. Today’s rite states a clear preference for “martyr,” and for a substantial part of the body, in accord with our tradition’s desire for substantial symbols. Martyr, of course, means “witness” in Greek, and was the title given early on to the people who by their death imaged the death of Christ.

From the beginning, there has never been a shortage of such people, although it took a while for the Church to develop a process to declare someone a martyr. Saint Augustine tells how it was done in the fifth century. By then, popular opinion didn’t count as much as an official tribunal set up by the bishop of the place where the martyr suffered. After the inquiry established that the person did indeed die for the faith, a metropolitan bishop had to ratify the decision before a shrine could be built or an altar set up over the martyr’s tomb. For the most part, the honor paid to a martyr (called a “cult”) was restricted to that diocese, although the fame of some heroes spread so much that they were celebrated elsewhere. The age of the martyrs is now, and more people died for the faith in the twentieth century than ever before, witnessing to Christ to the end. Their sacrifice remains “the seed of the Church.”

We are frequently tempted to think that **holiness** is only for those who can withdraw from ordinary affairs to spend much time in prayer. We are called to be holy *by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves*. Holiness will grow with small gestures: an avoidance of gossip, a patient act of kindness, a prayer for faith during a difficult time. For every Christian, our mission on earth is to discover our path to holiness.

