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Blessed Sacrament

602 Sycamore Street • Owensboro, KY 42301 • 270-926-4741
www.blessedsacramentchapel.org or email at blessedsac602@gmail.com

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 Fennewald, SSND
jeannette.fennewald@pastoral.org



Second Sunday of Advent December 9, 2018

God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low. *Baruch 5:7*

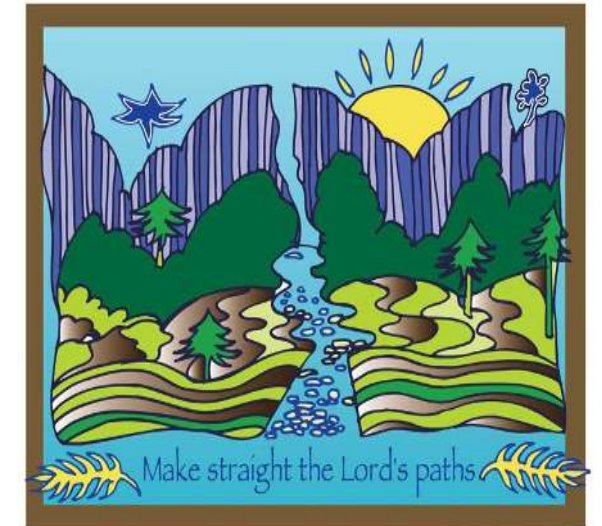
TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God (Baruch 5:1-9).

Psalms — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

Second Reading — I am confident that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

Gospel — The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth (Luke 3:1-6).



Prepare the way of the Lord;



From the desk of Father Sinoj

Greetings!!

I hope and pray that you are all blessed during this season of Advent. May this season help us grow little more in our holiness, peace and communion. I am praying for you all.

Each year, the second and the third Sundays in Advent center on John the Baptist, reminding us that if we want to prepare properly for the coming of Jesus we need to listen to the Baptizer's message. The Evangelists realized the importance of John's message. Hence, all four of them wrote about John's preaching, while only two of them described the nativity of Christ. The 'coming of the word of God' to someone is a standard formula for a prophetic call. In this case, the prophet was John, as he prepared the way for Jesus. The Baptizer proclaimed the coming of God's Kingdom and preached a ceremony (a "baptism"), of immersion, as a response that was to symbolize the interior repentance that leads to forgiveness. The passage reminds us that we need not be somebody well known and of great influence to be used by God. God uses you and me, not the most prominent or popular. Let us just get on our knees, in prayer, with the Word of God before us, and take hope. God will use us.

John called people to repent as a way of preparing their hearts and lives for the Lord's visit. He is calling us, too, to get ready for something so great that it fills our emptiness with expectation. Hence, the truly important goal for us is to prepare our hearts to receive the Lord. By emphasizing the last line of the quotation "All flesh will see the salvation of God," Luke stresses the universal aspect of God's salvation. For salvation, we have to look to Jesus - Jesus present in Scripture, Jesus present in the Sacraments, Jesus present in our coming together in his name, Jesus present in the lives of his followers. Perhaps if we began to see Jesus in each other and in ourselves, and started to treat one another (and ourselves), as we would treat Jesus, more of the world might come to see God's salvation. Greetings!!! Hope and pray that you are all blessed during this season of Advent. May this season help us grow little more in our holiness, peace and communion. I am praying for you all.

☺☺☺ Always

☺☺☺☺ Keep

☺☺☺☺☺ Smiling!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath,

December Birthdays

- 14—Linda McDonald
- 16—Yulanda Williams
- 18—Robert Johnson
- 20—Cathy Kramer
- 24—Susan Mutter



IMP—Kroger

Blessed Sacrament's # is WX799

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

If you know anyone who is not enrolled, please encourage them. December would be a good month to get credits. Thanks.

Mass Intentions:

- December 7—Michael Carrico
- December 9—Donald Moorman
- December 16—Jerry Mezur
- December 23—Bernice Williams
- Dec. 24 (PM)—Sandra Brown

Let us remember to pray for those who have recently died or those who are in the process of dying. Remember to pray for the poor souls in purgatory.

Our thoughts and prayers are with: **SICK** Martha Kramer, Ruth Coble, Carol Hatchett, Loretta Wathen, Beverly Chilton, Kathi Skidd, Larry Clark, Greta Beal, 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.**

THE HOMEBOUND:

Ruth Coble is at Heritage Place on Buckland Square. Beverly Chilton are in their homes but can no longer join us for Sunday Mass and activities. A phone call or a card can cheer the homebound if you

Thanks!

To Greg Gough, Bob Johnson, and Layson Brooks for getting the new tables from Precious Blood and setting them up.

To: Jean Higgs, Marcia Wilhite, Pam Wilson, Sondra Hibbs, Marsha Allen, Gloria Adams, Rita Moorman, Audrey Mezur, Carol Hatchett, Veronica Wilhite, Sister Jeannette for bringing food for the funeral meal for Dorothy Fullton

To Sondra Hibbs and Rita Moorman for serving and cleaning up the funeral meal.

Coming Events CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Dec. 16 Christmas Soulful Concert 2 PM
March 2 Italian Dinner

Diocesan Happenings

Dec. 13 Advent with Bishop Medley
5-7 PM at the Mount Cost \$20 includes
meal and program
Jan. 11-13 Retrouvaille (for cold marriages)
at Mount
Feb. 2 Diocesan Men's Conference



Thank you for your contributions.

Candles \$6
Flowers \$70
Dec. 2—\$820
Debt Reduction \$45

Weekly Budget —
\$875

Nov. \$1661.25

Nov.. budget
\$1750

Year to date—
\$16,149.19



DISCIPLESHIP:

PRAYING. GIVING. SERVING.

Today's Gospel reminds us, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low." During Advent we are called to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. What steps can we take to make the paths straight and make level the mountains and valleys? We can set aside quiet time each day for prayer; we can examine our habits and sins and ask for forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We can consider our blessings and discern whether we are sharing our gifts of time, talent, and treasure proportionately. In these ways we, as disciples, are cultivating a closer relationship with Christ, not only to celebrate His birth, but to prepare our lives and hearts for eternal life.

If you have not turned in your Time, Treasure, and Talent form, please do so as soon as possible. Please pray over how you can best serve the Lord at Blessed Sacrament.

YET TO DO

One never notices what has been done; one can only see what remains to be done.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14;
Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10, 11-13;
Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent

Monday: International Human Rights Day

Tuesday: St. Damasus I

Wednesday: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Thursday: St. Lucy

Friday: St. John of the Cross

RICHES

Riches are the instrument of all vices, because they render us capable of putting even our worst desires into execution.

—St. Ambrose

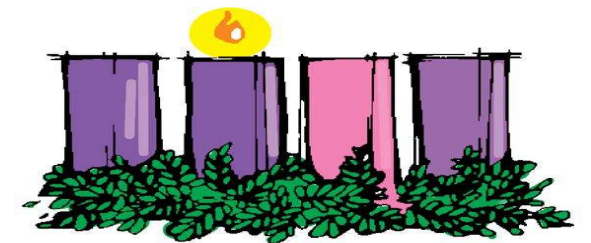
AWAITING THE SALVATION OF GOD

The world does not seem big enough to contain the jubilation of the first reading. In the Gospel reading, the Roman empire isn't big enough, either. The great powers of Rome are named and made to stand waiting for the arrival of God's salvation. And we find Paul meditating joyfully on what really matters.

According to Baruch, the city of Jerusalem is like a person standing on tiptoe looking for God's salvation, which is coming from the east. Those who were led away on foot, heads down, now come back, a proud people. Why, the very way is smoothed out. The path is lined with fragrant, lush trees.

It can't get any better than this, can it? Well, yes, it can. For a voice calls out in the desert. Here is the beginning of the salvation of God.

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THE THREE COMINGS OF ADVENT

There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know: His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and His coming against humankind.

—St. Bernard: *Third Sermon for Advent*

Lectors

Dec. 16: Austin Gough

Von Williams

Dec. 23: Audrey Mezur

Marsha Allen

Dec. 24: Mary K. Gough

Layson Brooks

Eucharistic Ministers

Dec. 16: Charlene Meadows

Misty Sanford

Karen Leachman

Dec. 23: Greg Gough

Yvonne Hatchett

M.K. Gough

Dec. 24: Cindy Clark

Tina Gough

Payton Sanford

Ushers/Offertory

Dec. 16: Cindy Clark

Wonet Taylor

Dec. 23: Bisel Family

Dec. 24:



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We have just celebrated Thanksgiving when we count our many blessings. During Advent we have a chance to share those blessings. There are boxes in the back of church where you may put items that we can donate to the homeless shelters (hats, gloves, socks, umbrellas...) and food items for families in need. Thank you for your outreach.

Advent Penance Services

There seems to be a hundred things to do in December as we get ready for the holidays—plan, shop for gifts and food, entertain..... Please put time in for getting closer to God by going to Reconciliation.

December 10—Our Lady of Lourdes 6 PM

December 16—Blessed Mother 2 PM

St. Mary Magdalene 6 PM

December 18 Immaculate 6 PM

December 19 Sts. Joseph and Paul 6:30 PM

December 20 Precious Blood 6 PM

December 23 St. Stephen's 2 PM

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Look around most Catholic churches, and you will discover an image of John the Baptist, often in the old baptistery, or in a window near where the font is or was located. He has two feast days in the calendar: one commemorating his birth, and the other his death. There are only three nativities in our calendar: for Jesus, for Mary, and for the Baptist. John's birthday is reckoned according to the schedule given in Luke's Gospel of the angel's announcement to Mary. The angel tells her that her cousin Elizabeth is in the sixth month of pregnancy, and so Mary hastens to help her. Reckoning Christmas as December 25, we count backwards nine months to March 25 for the Feast of the Annunciation. Then we count forward three months to June 24 for John the Baptist's birth. Halfway to Christmas, his nativity gives ample reason for rejoicing in the summer, and his symbols of fire and water are used playfully in bonfires and dives into the sea. Even at the polar opposite of Christmas in the calendar, the energy of Christ's birth in the Incarnation provides cause for rejoicing.

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

Mark your calendar: Sunday December 16 2 PM

We will have a Soulful Concert here. There will be religious Christmas music and the younger members of our parish portraying the nativity scene. Invite your neighbors to join us. There will be fellowship following the gathering in church. We will need cookies to serve during our fellowship time following the concert. Please plan to stay and welcome our guests.



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Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the Americas.

In 1531 Our Lady appeared to Juan Diego and told him to go to the Bishop and ask for a chapel to be built. The Bishop refused and asked for a sign. Our Lady had Juan Diego pick roses on a cold December day. When his cloak (tilma) was opened, the picture that we now know as Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared. The tilma still hangs in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

“Am I not here? I who am your mother “ These were words spoken to Juan Diego. They can be her words to us also.