
AnITConsultant LLC

Whaylon Coleman
 Chief Technology Officer

Office : PO BOX 22998
 Owensboro, KY 42304-2998
 Phone : 270-883-1450
 Email : tl@anitconsultant.com

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Jacques Williams
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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, HGN
sinoj.pynadath@pastoral.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr. Jeannette Fennewald,
 SSND jeannette.fennewald@pastoral.org

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God brought us into this land flowing with milk and honey (Deuteronomy 26:4-10).

Psalm — Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).

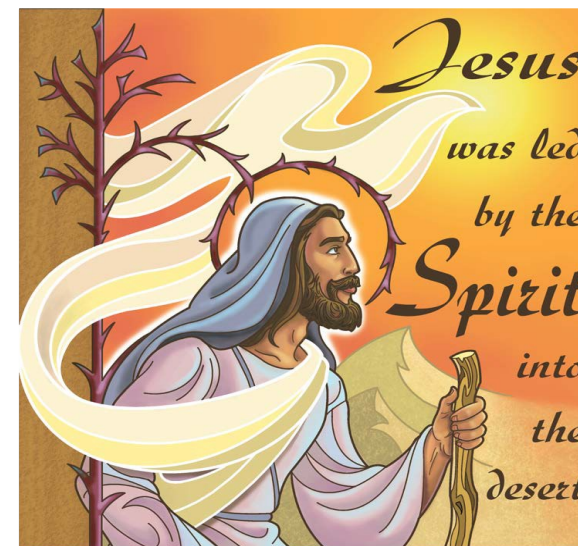
Second Reading — The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (Romans 10:8-13).

Gospel — Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led into the desert for forty days (Luke 4:1-13).



First Sunday of Lent March 10, 2019

The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart. Romans 10:8



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Daniel Dick, Agent
Ph: 270.686.7676
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Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

From the desk of Father Sinoj , HGN



Dear Friends in Christ,

We are already in the season of Lent. I wish you all a fruitful Lent! We are invited by the Church to produce a real conversion and renewal of life during the period of Lent by fasting, penance, reconciliation and generous sharing. Prayer helps us to turn our attention to God and turn away from what keeps us from God. By increasing the quality and the quantity of our prayer, we get strength to fight against our temptations and grow in intimacy or relationship with God. Our prayer life can be enhanced during Lent by participating in the daily Mass, by making the Stations of the Cross, and by reading the Holy Bible every day, applying the message to our lives.

The Gospel this weekend presents Jesus who went in fasting and prayer before his public ministry. Jesus overcame the temptations of the devil with the power of the Spirit with which he took up fasting. We find many instances of fasting in the Bible such as the king and the people of Nineveh (Jon 3:7), Queen Esther (Esth 4:16), the soldiers of Judas Maccabaeus (1Macc 3:17), and St. Paul who observed frequent fastings (2Cor 11:27). Fasting allows us to control our desires rather than let them control us. We need to learn to control a desire that is necessary for survival (eating), and that is not really needed to survive, like drugs, sex or alcohol etc. Bible calls to fast by “tearing one’s heart and returning to God” (Joel 2:13). Let us fast not only from food, but also from foul and dirty language, judging others, gossiping, and verbal negatives.

Fasting is to accompany almsgiving. Pope Francis in his message for Lent this year invites us “to embody the paschal mystery more deeply and concretely.” One of the ways that is made possible is by our almsgiving, “whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us.” Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us concretely welcome Christ’s victory over temptations, sin and death into our lives.

😊 Always

🙏 Keep

😊 Smiling!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath, HGN

March Birthdays

- 2—Marsha Allen
- 6—Alizabeth Hatchett
- 7—Britney Carmona
- 18—Jean Higgs
- 25—Carol Hatchett
- 31—Frank Fulton



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 does not have a designated charity, ask them to sign up for BSC as their charity.

Mass Intentions:

March 3 Kenneth Higgs

March 6—Dorothy Fulton

March 10—Jill Mueller

March 17—Les Bumm

March 24—Sandra Brown

March 31—Jerry Mezur

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 souls in purgatory, especially for those who have no one to pray for them.

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

THE HOMEBOUND:

Ruth Coble is at Heritage Place on Buckland Square. Beverly Chilton and Loretta Wathen 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 can’t visit.

The faith community of St. Anthony in Browns Valleys, Utica is having a parish mission from March 17th to March 20th at 6:30 pm. The theme is: “No Ifs, Ands, or Buts, God is with us. Now what?” What does God’s presence mean for us? Presenter is Fr. John Mark Ettensohn, OMI from the Shrine of Our Lady of Snows in Belleville, IL

Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

March 10, 17— 9:20 Scriptures for Sunday in hall.

April 12 Fish Fry 5-7 PM

Diocesan/Community Happenings

March 16 Precious Blood Parish Steak dinner/reverse raffle 6:30 pm (at Sts. Joseph and Paul Hall) \$70 ticket

March 27-28 Divine Mercy presentation at St. Stephen’s 6 PM



Thank you for your contributions.

March 3—\$1032

Weekly budget \$875

MTD budget \$875

MTD collection \$1032

YTD budget—\$31,500

YTD Collection \$32,761.82

Candles \$8

May each of us give according to what we have been blessed with.



We are called to **Prayer, Fast, Almsgiving.**

The Church asks us to **fast** two days in Lent—Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. That means one main meal, two smaller meals and nothing in between the meals. Everyone between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

Abstinence is denying ourselves meat. This is our obligation on Ash Wednesday and every Friday during Lent. This is asked of everyone the ages of 14 and up.

A Simple Plan could be 1-1-1 Plan

Concentrate on one sin or fault that is getting in your relationship to God. Try to get rid of it.

Add one positive action (Bible reading, visit the lonely, say kind things instead of gossip..)

Deny yourself something that you really like or are attached to. (Critical tongue, impulse purchases, time in front of TV or internet, fast food and donate money to poor)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Friday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17 — 4:1; Lk 9:28-36

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election; Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending; Daylight Saving Time begins;

Friday: Abstinence

Raffle basket winners:

Richard Simon and Louis Travis. Thanks to all who bought and sold tickets.

Ill Habits

Ill habits gather by unseen degrees—As brooks make rivers, rivers run to seas.

ALMSGIVING, PRAYER, FASTING, AND TEMPTATION

As we begin our season of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving, the reading from Deuteronomy reminds us of our duty of almsgiving, that we “set [our offerings] before the Lord, [our] God, [and] shall bow down in [God’s] presence” (Deuteronomy 26:10). The reading from Romans refers us to our prayer, reminding us that “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart . . . For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (Romans 10:8, 13). These are comforting words, and encourage us to ask God for what we need and to aid us in our prayer. Finally, the Gospel of Luke shows us a fasting Jesus, who was tempted as we are, and who knows what it means to be human. Someone once said that temptation arises when you’re tired and weary, and the devil comes along and makes a perfectly reasonable suggestion. Jesus shows us that, with his help, we too can overcome our temptations, reasonable as they may sound.

Lent is here and area fish fries

Precious Blood Fish Fry will be held on Friday, March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5 and 12. Serving time 5:30.

Menu: Fried tilapia, French fries, hush puppies, coleslaw, white beans, baked beans, cornbread, dessert, lemonade or tea. All you can eat! Prices: Adults \$11. Carry-outs available.

Lectors

March 17: Austin Gough

Greg Gough

March 24: Barbara Bisel

Gloria Adams

Eucharistic Ministers

March 17: Marsha Allen

Misty Sanford

Vivian Higgs

March 24: Karen Leachman

Rita Moorman

Cindy Clark

Ushers/Offertory

March 17: Lori Robinson and

Family

March 24: Burnell Hamilton

Michelle Hamilton

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



What will you offer to God throughout these weeks of Lent? Today's 1st reading from speaks of giving thanks to God for abundant blessings. *"Therefore, I have now brought you the firstfruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given me."* Everything we have comes from God! In gratitude, we can make our Lenten efforts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving our offering of "firstfruits." What are some ways to put these pillars of Lent into practice? We can **Pray**. Offer prayers of thanksgiving for the blessings in your life; attend daily Mass; devote quiet time each day with the Lord in prayer. We can **Fast**. Embrace discipline and self-denial by giving up habits that need pruning from your life or beginning new, positive habits (it's not about giving up chocolate, unless you overindulge!); create a gratitude journal by writing down 3 things each day for which you are grateful. We can **Give**. Check the bulletin for parish outreach to benefit those in need;

Lenten Opportunities

Rice Bowls: Eat a simpler meal one time a week or don't eat out and donate the money to help the poor. 25% of donations go to poverty alleviation in our community. .

Scripture Reflection: Each Sunday at 9:20 you have the opportunity to gather in the hall to reflect on the Sunday's readings.

Outreach Opportunities:

Weeks 1 and 2: Donate items for the people who live at the homeless shelters.

Weeks 3 and 4: Donate items for the Backpack Ministry. Ravioli, Spaghetti O's, individual fruit cups....

Weeks 5 and 6: St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Faith Life Enrichment

Formed: Free Online resource giving access to quality Catholic audio talks, movies, e-books.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Often, when a family keeps vigil around a person who is preparing for death, they may notice three interwoven activities. First, the dying person may become more prayerful and reflective than ever before, reviewing life's journey in gratitude to God, or seeking forgiveness and making amends for wrongs. Second, as death approaches, the need to eat and drink is lessened until even an ice cube brushed against the lips is satisfying. Third, persons who are dying often make plans to give their possessions away, making bequests, handing treasures down, providing for favorite charities.

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving: with these three "pillars" of Lent, we rehearse our death every year in this season, and anticipate the final work we will do in this life. And every year, at the end of our journey, is the joy of Easter and the experience of the victory of Christ over death's darkness and power. Annually, we remind ourselves that the Christian experiences the same power and presence at the end of life's journey: Christ to the rescue and the lasting joy of heaven.

A few snapshots from set-up and evening. More to come.

