


AnITConsultant LLC

Whaylon Coleman
 Chief Technology Officer

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

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Blessed Sacrament Chapel

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

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

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 pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



5th Sunday of Lent March 29, 2020

With the Lord there is mercy
 and fullness of redemption.

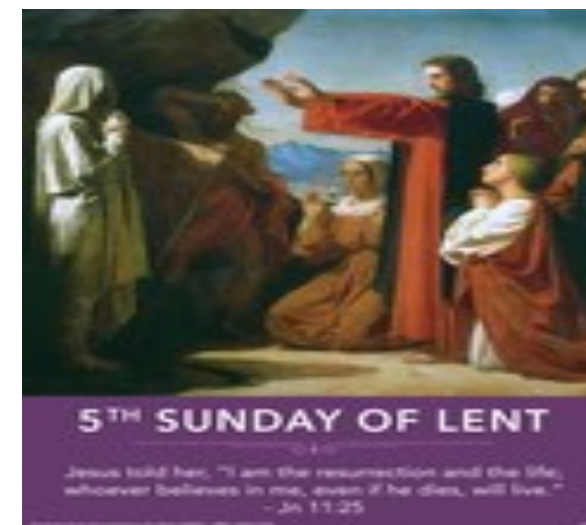
TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: You shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people! (Ezekiel 37)

Psalm: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption. (Ps. 130)

Second Reading: But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness. (Rom 8:10)

Gospel: Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." (Jn 11:25)



I have promised and I will do it.

From the desk of Father Sinoj



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings! Hope and pray that you are strengthened by the Holy Spirit to continue in peace to care for yourself and others by keeping due physical distance and refraining from unnecessary travels. Whatever the inconveniences let us try to recognize the messages that God communicates to us through this situation. We the human beings, who have conquered the universe in many spheres, are now bound to our homes fearing a small, invisible creature. Let us humble ourselves before God and cry for His Mercy.

The Gospel this weekend presents the account of Jesus resuscitating Lazarus. In the Gospel of John this is the final and greatest sign of Jesus, as a symbolic narrative of His final victory over death and a sign of anticipating His resurrection. This is also an invitation to us God's children to rely on the hope of Resurrection to overcome the experiences of darkness and death in our lives.

The present situation of Covid19 shall be faced with the strength of this hope. As Jesus called Lazarus, he calls us to "come out" of the dark caves of our despair, sorrow, and negativity and face this challenge with the strength of hope that He has won for us through His death and Resurrection. As Lazarus was freed from the burial bands, let us, with the help of the Lord; "untie" ourselves from all evil that curtail our freedom to be in Peace as Children of God.

(☺☺☺) Always
(☺☺☺) Keep
(☺☺☺), ☺ Smiling!

God Loves You!!!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath, HGN

March Birthdays

25--Carol Hatchett

31--Frank Fulton

April Birthdays

3--Rita Moorman, Ethan Gough,
Bobby Hardin

6--Marshall Williams

21--Kathi Skidd

23--Misty Sanford

25--Charlene Meadows



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 Our quarterly donation is \$142.29

Thank you for your support.

Mass Intentions

March 8--Kenneth Higgs

March 15--Mary Ann Calhoun

March 22--Grace Medley Ebelhar

March 29--Mary Henry

April 5--Hugh Moorman

Let us remember to pray for those who have recently died or those 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: the sick: Stephen Hall, Ruth Coble, Charlene Meadows, Frank and Gloria Adams, Carol Hatchett, Kathy Gebhard, Larry Allen, Camilla Greer, Louise Johnson, Phillip Moorman, Jr. If you know of anyone seriously ill who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.

Please remember our home-bound: Ruth Coble and Shirley Schmidt who are at Heritage Park. Georgia Holland who has moved to St. Louis stays in touch with BSC. A phone call or a card can cheer them up.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

First Reading: During the dark days of Israel's exile in Babylon, the prophet Ezekiel foresaw God's resurrection and restoration of his people. As the season of Lent comes to a close, what parts of your life are still in need of God's restorative power?

Second Reading: Paul assured the believers in Rome that "the Spirit of God dwells in you" and that this same Spirit will raise you from the dead. What gives you confidence in Paul's words?

Gospel Reading: John tells us that after Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, many "began to believe in him." On what grounds do you believe in Jesus as our Lord and Savior?

Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Diocesan Community Happenings

Pray for this space soon to be filled with Church activities. Remember in your prayers all who are affected through this pandemic--either with health issues or financial issues.



March 22--\$100

Weekly budget: \$933

MTD collection--\$2777

MTD budget--\$3732

YTD collection--\$33,409.12

YTD budget \$35,454



May each of us give according to what the Lord has blessed us with.



Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable

May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country
Let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen.

April 3 Fish Fry

Due to uncertainty of day-to-day situations, the fish fry will be cancelled.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, Jn 11:45-56

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Wednesday: April Fools' Day

Thursday: St. Francis of Paola, Hermit

Saturday: St. Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

For us Christians, wherever the Cross is, there is hope. If there is no hope, we are not Christian. ----Pope Francis

DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Even though we say that we believe, there is a part of us that doesn't. There are many times in our lives when we experience death, whether it be the physical death of someone we love, a failed relationship, the loss of a job, or a broken dream. As we are going through these death experiences, we can easily find ourselves reaching out to God to make it better and fix it! We think that the proper order of life is to maintain the things of this world, especially those things that are essential to our sense of well-being and security. We do not like change. The grieving that comes from our death experiences can keep us stuck and in despair. If we have lost something or someone of great value, the very meaning and essence of life is lost with them. We need gentle companions to lift us from despair and that is precisely who God desires to be in our life as well.

God calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, "Come out!" He desperately wants to show us the path to hope and the new life that is possible after loss and death. But our faith can be weak, and we still prefer to cling to the memory of what we had rather than the joyful possibilities of tomorrow. We sometimes live as if God is not real and that the transformative power of His resurrected presence is a story found in the Bible rather than a narrative unfolding in our lives.

God is the God of surprises, not our demise. God opens new be replaced by another. They don't cancel each other out. God truly has tended to every detail of our lives, and if we listen to each detail, we find that they all lead us back to Him. Jesus wants us to come out of our closed-up tombs. Are we going to listen this time?



I think of you often and pray for you. I miss seeing you but know you are very much a part of my daily life as I am still at the office and try to do things that I usually don't have time for. If there is anything that I can do, please don't hesitate to call and, if I am not in the office, leave a message.

I hope that you have found extra time to pray and especially participate in the Sunday liturgy via Facebook, TV, or YouTube. The St. Stephen Cathedral Sunday liturgy is livestreamed at 9 AM Hugs from a distance. Prayers and much love.

Sister Jeannette

I Arise

I arise with gratitude for life.

I arise with hope that all will be well.

I arise with courage to meet what will be difficult

I arise with conviction to do what is life-giving.

I arise with eyes ever alert for beauty.

I arise with compassion for hurting ones.

I arise with willingness to help those who need my care.

I arise with love for the Holy One, my Intimate Companion.

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent – Committed

I remember Jim Valvano, Jimmy V to many, saying the iconic words, "Don't give up; you can never give up." The former coach of the NC State men's basketball team was dying of cancer, yet he refused to throw in the towel and give in to his disease. His words exemplified the best of the human spirit we all share. Sometimes, living out those words seem much more difficult than saying them.

These words are also important for our faith life. The life Jesus calls us to is not easy. When working toward a life of greater generosity and surrender of all to God, we are prone to fall flat on our face many times. We are not called to this life only when we are strong. It is how we respond when times are the most difficult that truly defines us as disciples and stewards. The world may think we are down for the count, but rising again gives testimony that in Christ we are stronger.

Commitment takes a willingness to do the things needed to get stronger and build our spiritual muscles. We cannot expect to find success in the spiritual life unless we continue to work on our resolve and grow in our knowledge of the faith. A marathon runner would never be able to make it to the finish line unless they have trained and prepared in advance. We must work hard to stay the course and prepare for the race at hand. No matter what this life may have in store for us, we are called to not give up. God will never give up on us.

Only 2 weeks left in this Lenten season.

LIVE THE LITURGY

We face death every day. Whether it comes with the actual death of someone we love (or someone we don't even know), a failed relationship, the loss of a job, a broken dream, or pondering our own mortality, death is always around us. What does death say to us? What we believe about our death experiences is going to say volumes about how we live our lives. Jesus comes to us today just as he did many years ago to people who were struggling with loss and death and wondering what to do. He calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, "Come out!" Jesus leads us out of death and gives us hope. There is always hope. There is always transformation. Although we may not always see where the road of life is taking us or see God's presence with us on our journey, we will be brought to a new place and be given new life. Walk with God and listen to Him call you. Tomorrow, there awaits another surprise.

Pope Francis's Prayer to Mary During Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen. Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Church Mice

