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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



2nd Sunday of Easter April 19, 2020
"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." --John 20:29

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. (Acts 2:46b-47a)

Psalm:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love is everlasting. (Ps 118) or Alleluia

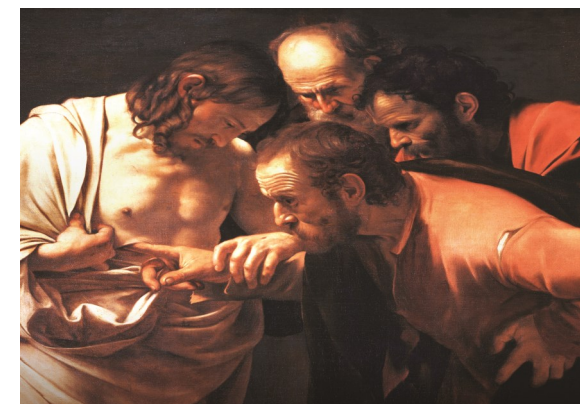
Second Reading:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Pt 1:3-9)

Gospel:

Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me?"

Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." (Jn 20:19-31)



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." - Jn 20:29

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

CLP

Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.

From the desk of Father Sinoj



Dear Friends in Christ

Greetings! Hope you all had a Blessed Easter! The Second Sunday of Easter is celebrated as the Divine Mercy Sunday. The opening prayer at the Mass addresses the Father as “God of everlasting Mercy.” The readings are about God’s Divine Mercy given to us, our need for trusting Faith, and our need for the forgiveness of our sins.

God revealed His mercy, first and foremost, by sending His only begotten Son to become our Savior and Lord by His suffering, death, and Resurrection. The Church celebrates the Mercy of God in the Sacraments. At the same time we are called to celebrate the Mercy of God through our corporal and spiritual works of Mercy. The present challenging time needs it very much.

St. Thomas in today’s Gospel makes the great profession of Faith: “My Lord and my God.” Here, the most outrageous doubter of the Resurrection of Jesus utters the greatest confession of the belief in the Lord Who rose from the dead. This declaration is very significant because it is the foundation of our Christian Faith, the Resurrection. Thomas’ faith culminated in his self surrender to Jesus, his heroic missionary expedition to India in AD 52, his fearless preaching, and the powerful testimony given by his martyrdom in AD 72. Does our Faith help us make a complete surrender to our Lord in this time! Peace!

(“.””) Always
\ (“.””) Keep
 (“.””), “ Smiling!
 “

God Loves You!!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath, HGN

April Birthdays

3--Rita Moorman, Ethan Gough,
Bobby Hardin

6--Marshall Williams

21--Kathi Skidd

23--Misty Sanford

25--Charlene Meadows

26--Vivian Higgs

27--Ruth Coble

29--Jeff McCarter



Disciples Response Fund

We have received a check for \$674.32 from the DRF. This is 50% of what was paid over our target amount. Thank you so much for your generosity. Please continue to make your pledges.

Everything is Not Locked Down

Sunrise is not locked down Love is not locked down. Family is not locked down. Kindness is not locked down. Creativity is not locked down. Learning is not locked down. Conversations is not locked down. Imagining is not locked down. Reading is not locked down. Relationship is not locked down. Praying is not locked down-

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: Coronavirus patients, Nancy Bumm, Stephen Hall, Ruth Coble, Frank and Gloria Adams, Carol Hatchett, Mary Hagan, Lori Robinson, Larry Allen, Kathy Gebhard, Camilla Greer, Louise Johnson, Phillip Moorman, Jr. Charlene Meadows
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
According to Luke, the original community of believers in Jerusalem met daily to pray, break bread, and commit themselves to the teaching of the Apostles. When have you experienced a similar level of communal harmony?

Second Reading
The First Letter of Peter opens with a prayer of thanksgiving for the blessings received from the resurrection of Jesus. In what ways do you show gratitude for Jesus’ resurrection from the dead?

Gospel Reading
John is the only evangelist to record the episode of Thomas’ initial doubt in Jesus’ resurrection. What role does doubt have in your spiritual journey?

Coming Events CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

August 1--Picnic
October 17--Oktoberfest

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.



April 12--\$910

Weekly budget: \$933

MTD collection--\$1,975

MTD budget--\$1,866

YTD collection--\$35,664.12

YTD budget \$38,253



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



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 glorius and blessed Virgin. glo-

Please remember in your prayers:

Perry Washington, brother of Joyce Moorman and Billy Johnson, brother of Robert Johnson. Both of them died during Holy Week.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9/Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, /Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 /Jn 3:16-21
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2, 9, 17-18, 19-20 /Jn 3:31-36
Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Jn 6:1-15
Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 /Mk 16:15-20
Next Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11
1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday
Monday:
Tuesday: St. Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday: Earth Day
Thursday: St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop, Martyr
Friday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr; Arbor Day
Saturday: St. Mark, Evangelist
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Easter

FIRE

Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.

—St. Catherine of Siena

GOSPEL MEDITATION

A person was going through a very dark time, questioning the meaning of life, not feeling very purposeful or worthwhile, and feeling disconnected and unappreciated. Suddenly, they gazed up at the night sky, found themselves in awe of all the stars and constellations, and exclaimed, "I am here on purpose and I am loved!" Having been brought by God to this moment of intense connection and awareness, his life changed from that moment on.

If we are always preoccupied with the challenges, obligations, and stuff of daily life, we can easily miss the wonderful opportunities when the resurrected Christ is knocking at our door. If we open ourselves to the fullness of experience, we will find ourselves listening and embracing all that is around us, being caught up in the magnificence of creation's grandeur and knowing in our heart and soul that God is and I am.

While that sounds like a simple, tell-me-something-I don't-know kind of revelation, it is life changing when it takes root in the depth of a person's soul. Stumbling upon this awesome truth and internalizing it doesn't require an assent of the mind. It beckons for a claim on our soul. We find ourselves knowing something profound that cannot be explained or reasoned, but purely is. When we are caught up in an experience

God is mystery, one who is beyond our grasp but at the same time within our reach, knowable yet unknowable. And when in the presence of mystery, there comes an intense experience of mercy. We know deep within the essence of ourselves — and in the very life of creation — this beating, unconditionally accepting, life-sustaining, profound, mysterious yet familiar presence of love. We have found our peace.

"Peace be with you." Breathe in and breathe out. Peace.

Home in Heaven

A pastor and a taxi driver both died and went to heaven. St. Peter was at the pearly gates waiting for them.

“Come with me,” said St. Peter to the taxi driver.

The taxi driver did as he was told and followed St. Peter to a mansion. It had everything you could imagine, from a bowling alley to an Olympic-sized swimming pool. “Wow, thank you,” said the taxi driver.

Next, St. Peter led the pastor to a rugged old shack with a bunk bed and a little old television set.

“Wait, I think you are a little mixed up,” said the pastor. “Shouldn’t I be the one who gets the mansion? After all, I was a pastor, went to church every day, and preached God’s word.”

“Yes, that’s true,” said St. Peter. “But during your sermons, people slept. When the taxi driver drove, everyone prayed.”

Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Give Yourself Completely

The early days of the first Christian community were not easy by any measurement. Jesus had been executed, and his disciples had to be discreet so as not to meet a similar fate. Jesus was now risen, but the truth of his resurrection was not accepted by all. However, the depiction of that early community in Acts 2:42-47 would lead someone to believe it was the opposite situation. We are told of community life where people lean on each other and share great joy. They ate and prayed together, and many wonders and signs were occurring to lift the community and bear witness to the power of Jesus Christ. They were disciples living out their faith, and it was their strong sense of stewardship that made all this possible in the face of threatening Roman and Jewish powers.

Today, we find the Church in a new turmoil. Increasing secularism, abuse scandals, and a lack of true fidelity place us once again in a time that is not easy. A friend of mine likes to say that any challenge of sin we encounter in the Church has its origin in a lack or misunderstanding of the stewardship way of life. We create our burdens by not using our gifts wisely and by turning inward selfishly.

Could we use the story in Acts of the early Church to help us today? If we begin with the decision to give of ourselves completely to God and His people, will we become agents of change? There is only one way to find out.

RiverValley Behavioral Health offers a Crisis Line which is fully operational 24 hours/7 days a week. Clinicians are available to provide needed and timely support. If you know someone who needs help at these difficult times, please share this number. Texting and TDD capacity are also available. **Crisis Line: 1-800-433-7291. Available 24 Hours a Day.**

LIVE THE LITURGY

Have you ever experienced awe? Awe is commonly defined as a feeling of reverential respect mixed with fear or wonder. A moment of awe has the ability to lift us up out of ourselves and immerse us into something that causes us to wonder about ourselves, the meaning of life, and truth. Awe is an experience of connection that links us to something that is beyond the normal happenings of life. For us who believe that the resurrected Christ is present in all of life and the totality of the universe, being touched by awe can lead us to exclaim, “My Lord and my God!” Pondering the vastness of God’s presence also brings us to a profound sense of God’s mercy, which is the showering of His unconditional love on each of His daughters and sons. When we internalize this mystery, we may find ourselves standing in awe once again and feeling an intense sense of peace.



Laugh of the Week

A little boy and his mother, shopping for Easter candy and decorations, ran into their pastor in the store. Mom and the pastor exchanged a little chit chat. Then the pastor looked at the little boy and asked, “So, what are you up to today?” “Oh,” the boy said, “We’re getting ready for Easter.” Seeing a pedagogical opportunity, the pastor replied, “Oh really?” Hey, just what exactly is Easter anyway?” “Do you know what happened on Easter?” The boy looked at the pastor a little offended. “Of course I know what Easter is. It’s when Jesus went to Jerusalem, and rode a donkey, and they waved palms at him.” “That’s right, go on.” Said the pastor. “And he got in trouble and he was beat up and yelled at and then they nailed him on cross and then he died.” “Very good! What happened next?” “well, then they put him in a tomb and they put a big rock in front of it. But three days later, he got raised and got out of there.” “That’s great,” said the pastor, pleased to know his Sunday School program worked so well. “But that’s not all,” said the boy. “Oh”, said the pastor, “what else?” “Well the rock got rolled back, and he stepped out, and he looked around, and if he sees his shadow there’s six more weeks of winter.”

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