


Whaylon Coleman
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 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

Today's Readings

First Reading — All peoples called by God will receive the gift of the Spirit if they repent and are baptized

(Acts 2:14a, 36-41).

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — Once we were like straying sheep; but now we have been returned to the shepherd, our guardian (1 Peter 2:20b-25).

Gospel — The shepherd leads the sheep out into pastures of abundant life (John 10:1-



Fourth Sunday of Easter May 3, 2020

He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.



The Lord is my shepherd. There is nothing I shall want.

From the desk of Father Sinoj



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings from your Parish! We live our Easter life amidst the realities of sufferings and sicknesses. The Paschal Mystery, which we have observed with special focus and fervor in these recent weeks, has strengthened us to be Easter People. This Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Easter, presents to us Jesus who revealed Himself as the Good Shepherd. A recollection on the Paschal Mystery shows us the fulfilment of the Psalmist's expression of the Good Shepherd; "Even if I walk through a dark valley, I fear no harm, for you are at my side; your rod and staff give me courage."

Jesus is our Good Shepherd. He has established a personal relationship with each of us, members of His flock. We need to listen to Him. If we do so even when we walk through the dark valley of sickness and death, we will know that our Good Shepherd will be there, protecting us, feeding us, comforting us, and searching for us if we get lost.

Jesus not only knows us personally, but also has laid down His life as the "Gate". His Body and Blood, the Eucharist, is the only Power that keeps us safe in darkness. Let us continue to be in Spiritual Communion with Him. And when the darkness is over, when the day comes, our Shepherd will call us. All we need to do is to listen to Him and follow Him. He will lead us to greener pastures.

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

God Loves You!!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath, HNG

April Birthdays

26--Vivian Higgs

27--Ruth Coble

29--Jeff McCarter

May Birthdays

7--Connie Clary

8--Mary Ann Terry

12--Cindy Clark, Brent Hatchett,
Charles Brown, Jr.

14--Steve Coble



*Thanks to Georgia Holland
who donated for Easter
flowers. We will use the
donation for outdoor flow-
ers or a bouquet in church.*

Only Jesus can offer us the gate of life, and only Jesus as the Good Shepherd can really motivate us to take on the challenges of life. If we don't recognize his voice, we can risk facing destruction.

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: 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

Luke tells us that Peter often testified: "Save yourself from this corrupt generation." How is this message still applicable today?

Second Reading

Peter asserts that the virtue of patience in one's suffering is a grace from God because Jesus modeled patient suffering. How does the exercise of this spiritual disposition help bring peace of mind?

Gospel Reading

Using the metaphor of sheep and gatekeeper, Jesus teaches his disciples the importance of remaining focused on his voice. Why do you think people are so easily distracted from other voices?

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 26--\$1660
Weekly budget: \$933
MTD collection--\$4,165
MTD budget--\$3732
YTD collection--\$37,854.12
YTD budget--\$40,119



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 the sister of Robert Hagan, Gwen Clack, who has recently died. Continue to pray for all people who have died from the virus--especially those who have died alone and away from the comfort of loved ones.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3 3
IPT 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10
Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4
Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5,
6-7 Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3,
5, 6 and 8 Jn 12:44-50
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-
22, 25 and 27 Jn 13:16-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10
-11ab Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab,
3cd-4 Jn 14:7-14

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter; World
Day of Prayer for Vocations
Tuesday: Cinco de Mayo
Thursday: National Day of Prayer
Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter;
Mother’s Day

COUNTING SHEEP

When at night you cannot sleep, talk to the Shepherd and stop counting sheep.

—Anonymous

MUCH-NEEDED LOVE

No one needs love more than someone who doesn’t deserve it.

IN NEED OF A SHEPHERD

For a while it was very fashionable to own pigs as pets. The publicity surrounding these creatures informed us that they were—contrary to their popular image—very clean animals, and also quite smart. Sad to say, sheep will most likely never enjoy this sort of domestic vogue. They are neither clean nor smart and are largely defenseless when left on their own, even in large numbers. The biblical image of us as the flock of sheep is not a particularly flattering one. Sheep without a shepherd are truly sad, because they most likely will perish either from their inability to fend for themselves or from their lack of defenses against predators. Placing ourselves in the heart of this unflattering image can reinforce our faith. Until we come to a profound realization of how much we need a shepherd, we cannot appreciate how deeply blessed we are to have been given a Shepherd, one who laid down his life for us and was raised to life eternal in the Spirit, so he might guide us and we might follow him in faith forever.

STAY WITH US, LORD

Walk with us, Lord,
along the road of resurrection!
Explain for us, so slow to believe,
the things that Scripture says of you.
Break the bread of the Eucharist with us
whenever we share our lives
with our brothers and sisters.
Stay with us
each time night approaches
and the daylight fades in our hearts!

—From *Come, Lord Jesus* by Lucien Deiss, CSSp, copyright © 1976, 1981,

Listen to the Voice

“I am the gate for the sheep.” In today’s Gospel, Jesus is telling us, as he told the Pharisees, that He is our gatekeeper, the one whom we should follow when He calls our name: *“...the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice.”* Jesus knows each of us, just as a shepherd knows his sheep.

Do we recognize His voice? Do we listen? Discerning whether what we hear is the voice of Jesus or the voice of a stranger requires that we practice listening, that we pay attention. When we are attuned to His voice, we can hear how the Lord is calling us to use the gifts with which we are blessed. As disciples, we can strive to live mindfully; we can practice listening through quiet time in prayer and reading Sacred Scripture. In daily prayer, we can bring Him all we have—our sorrows, joys, challenges, fears, needs, and gratitude. In these moments we can listen to hear the voice of Jesus.

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.

Recognizing the Voice of Jesus

When my wireless provider introduced HD Voice, the voice I heard on my phone was unbelievably clear, and it felt at times like both the caller and I were in the same room. The best aspect of this feature is that it didn’t cost the customer any additional fees, and it didn’t require any changes to the phone. I could say it was free, but I suspect I was already paying for it in my monthly bill anyway. At least it felt free.

The clearer the voice calling you, the easier it is to recognize who it is on the other end of the line. In John’s Gospel, Jesus speaks of the gatekeeper who opens the gate and calls for his sheep. They respond because they know his voice. Others try to lure the sheep when the gatekeeper is not there, but the sheep find their voices unclear or unfamiliar.

Jesus is our gatekeeper. But unlike receiving something for free from a wireless company, to be able to hear his voice we need to pay attention and practice listening. By developing a stewardship way of life that is mindful and prayerful, we become attuned to his voice and are able to discern when the call is from our Lord and when it is from an imposter. It is great to talk about all the things we can do and all the gifts we can share, but if we are not listening for his call to hear where our offerings are needed, we can end up like a lost sheep searching for the gatekeeper.

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.**

SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES

May 3

Call Philip the gospel’s “Answer Man.” “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Nathaniel asked Philip, who had proclaimed Jesus “the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets” (John 1:45). Jesus asked Philip, “Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?” (John 6:5). Greeks brought Philip their request: “We would like to see Jesus” (John 12:21). Philip’s answer to each question: bring people to Jesus! At the Last Supper, finally, Philip had a request of his own: “Show us the Father!” (John 14:8). Jesus had three last questions for Philip: “You still don’t know me? How can you ask that? Don’t you believe?” And an answer: “I am in the Father and the Father is in me” (John 14:10). Today’s James is not John’s brother, Zebedee’s son, but, tradition says, author of the New Testament Letter of James, who died praying for his murderers in Jesus’ words: “Forgive them, for they know not what they do.” Few historical details for either saint, but lessons aplenty: Bring every question we have and everybody we meet to Jesus; be, as James’ letter challenges, “doers of the word and not hearers only” (James 1:22).

O Holy Spirit, Spirit of wisdom and divine love, impart Your knowledge, understanding, and counsel to youth that they may know the vocation wherein they can best serve God. Give them courage and strength to follow God's holy will. Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their resolutions, shield their chastity, fashion their minds, conquer their hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they will labor in God's holy service.



KTAP: Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program: Temporary cash assistance to help pay bills or rent 502-564-3440

Temporary food Benefits/EBT 877-564-7050