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# Blessed Sacrament

602 Sycamore Street • Owensboro, KY 42301 • 270-926-4741

[www.blessedsacramentchapel.org](http://www.blessedsacramentchapel.org) or email at [blessedsac602@gmail.com](mailto: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

St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Office: 270-683-6525

**Rector:** Fr. Jerry Riney, [jerry.riney@pastoral.org](mailto:jerry.riney@pastoral.org)

**Parochial Vicar:** Fr. Sinoj Pynadath HGN  
[sinoj.pynadath@pastoral.org](mailto:sinoj.pynadath@pastoral.org)

**Parish Life Coordinator:** Sr Jeannette Fennewald,  
 SSND [pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org](mailto:pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org)



## Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2021

You are my beloved Son;  
 with you I am well pleased.

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Speak, for your servant is listening (1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19).

**Psalm** — Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will (Psalm 40).

**Second Reading** — Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you? (1 Cor. 6:13c-15a, 17-20).

**Gospel** — Andrew found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus (John 1:35-42).

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## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CIGD

GLP

**Seek the Lord while He may be found,  
Call Him while He is near.**

***From the desk of Father Sinoj***

Dear Friends in Christ,

Wish you all God's abundant blessings on the Feast of the Baptism our Lord! With this Feast on this Sunday we conclude the liturgical season of Christmas. Christ, the Son of God, who manifested Himself through His love for us is to continue to reveal through His presence in us as Love.

John the Baptist gave a baptism of repentance. The Baptism of Jesus who was sinless by John was a moment of identification with us sinners. He identified himself with us in order to give us hope that we can by the grace of God be free from all the clutches of sin and evil. This event was also a moment of conviction. God the Father along with the Holy Spirit directly gives the testimony about the identity and mission of Jesus the Savior.

Let us think about the aspects of identification and conviction that were part of our Baptisms. We are called to identify ourselves - who we are and whose we are. By Baptism, we become sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of His Church, heirs of Heaven, and temples of the Holy Spirit. Therefore this Feast challenges us to live our lives worthy of this identification and conviction that we have received through our Baptism.

(^.^) Always  
(^.^) Keep  
(^.^) Smiling!

God Loves You!!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath HGN

**Congratulations to Fr. Sinoj on the 13th Anniversary  
of his Ordination to the Priesthood.  
January 6, 2021—May God Bless You and Thank you!**

### January Birthdays

3--Parker Malone

7--Jacques Williams II

10--Whitney Williams

14--Burnell Hamilton

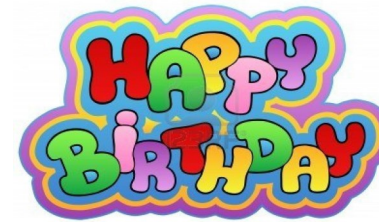
20--Janet Clark

25--Louise Johnson

27--Sarah Malone, Lilly Malone

28--Frank Adams

30--Pam Wilson



### 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

### Mass Intentions

January 3--Mary Ann Calhoun

January 10--Charles E. Thompson

January 17--Kevin Fitzgerald

January 24--Betty Clark

January 31--Ann Denise Ward

*Let us remember to pray for those who have recently died or those in the process of dying. Pray for those dying alone due to Covid. 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: Ruth Coble, Merle Griffith, Tyler Cruppi, Larry Conder, Mike Coakley, Andy Evans, Jason Pierce, Gary Moorman, Pam Wilson, Frank & Gloria Adams, Larry Allen, Shirley Schmidt, Carol Hatchett, Rachel Mattingly, 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 lives in St. Louis but stays active in BSC happenings. Please pray also for all who, because they are vulnerable, cannot attend Mass. A card or phone call can cheer them up.

### Morning Prayer

Giver of Life and Maker of Days, my day is spread before me. I do not get to choose what happens to me. I have little or no choice about who comes into my life and what obstacles I face. I don't know the blessings that will come my way. But today, I choose to look for you in every moment. May I grasp this day like the gift that it is. Amen.

# Coming Events CALENDAR



## Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Jan. 10--Blessing of sacramental candidates at Mass  
--Take down Christmas decorations after Mass

**Thanks to all who helped put up or take down Christmas decorations. A huge shout-out to Hugh Joseph Moorman for his decorative touch.**



January 3--\$700

Weekly budget: \$952

MTD collections--\$700

MTD budget--\$952

YTD collection--\$30,063

YTD budget-- \$25,704

**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 glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

### When God Whispers

"You don't need to shout. My hearing works just fine." Are you a parent that has used that one on your kids? I'm not sure at what age they realize that the volume of their voice doesn't correlate to the likelihood of receiving a favorable reply — it might be sometime in the teenage years, when the talking slows down altogether.

But I've got to admit, it would be nice if God always gave us a loud and dramatic sign when He wanted something — the booming voice and the torn-open heavens ("This is my beloved Son!") really get the message across. Sometimes I find myself envious of the Apostles, who were able to witness such things.

The fact of the matter is, in the year 2021, God is more likely to speak in a whisper than in a shout. The prophet Isaiah forewarns that Christ himself will not be a noisemaker — for all his preaching, he will not cry out or shout to bring forth justice to the nations. His way is altogether different than that.

We are not the Apostles, and we do not have the privilege of seeing the Holy Spirit descend on Christ like a dove. But: God doesn't need to shout. Our spiritual hearing works just fine. We just have to be listening.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday:	Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3])/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11
Monday:	Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9/ Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday:	Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2,5, 6-7, 8-9 / Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-4, 6--9 / Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7, 8-11 / Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3-4, 6-8/ Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8,-10, 15 / Mk 2:13-17

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Sunday:	The Baptism of the Lord
Wednesday:	St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday:	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Laugh of the Week

**The Christening :** After the christening of his baby brother in church, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally the boy replied, "That pastor said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with you guys."

## THE LAMB OF GOD

"Behold the Lamb of God!" We hear this phrase every Sunday at Mass, but there's a good chance that many Roman Catholics do not know who in the Bible originally spoke it. The phrase appears only in the Gospel of John, on the lips of John the Baptist, who utters it twice. In today's Gospel reading, John proclaims Jesus as the Lamb of God, and two of John's own disciples then follow Christ. A little bit later Andrew, who heard John and then followed Jesus, brings his brother Simon to be re-named Cephas, or Peter. A careful look at these Bible verses shows us the mission of everyone baptized into the Body of Christ: we must always proclaim our faith in Christ, so that others will follow him. We may not know how the will of God might work through those we bring to Christ; that is not the point. The point is that our ongoing mission as a church is to bring others to Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

### Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and the princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart.

<u>January 10:</u>	Jacques Williams Kathi Skidd
<u>January 17:</u>	Layson Brooks Sarah Malone
<u>January 24:</u>	Barbara Bsel Kathi Skidd
<u>January 31:</u>	Jacques Williams Sarah Malone

### Comfort, Hope Courage

After such a challenging 2020, we could really use some reassurance to sustain us as we transition into 2021. The scriptures on this Feast of the Baptism of the Lord offer us that hope, comfort, and reassurance. Reflect on the beautiful words of the Responsorial Psalm: *“God indeed is my savior; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my savior. With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation.”*

We are praying that this new year will be one that brings easing of the effects of the pandemic, improvement of conditions for those suffering in so many ways, and a return to some semblance of a “normal” way of life. In this new year, why not make daily prayer a resolution, a healthy habit for your spiritual life? God is inviting each of us to draw near and nourish our relationship with Him. This week, in quiet prayer, bring your joys, sorrows, and longings to the Lord and ask for strength, hope, and courage as 2021 unfolds.

“Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John.” We heard of the Baptism of the Lord by John from the Gospel of Mark on the Second Sunday of Advent and again on the Third Sunday of Advent from the Gospel of John. Today we have the rest of the story from St. Mark. This was clearly an important event in the life of Jesus and the salvation history of mankind. The humble submission of Jesus to John’s public baptism by water, understood as an act of repentance and reform, made that event very important to the men who were writing the Gospels many years after the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. The humility of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity is an example for us. Are we humble like Jesus? Are we willing to repent and reform for the times we fail to acknowledge that everything we have and everything we ever will be is a gift from God that He wants us to use for our own benefit and the benefit of others? Can we be humble like Jesus, particularly in difficulty times?

**Pope Francis has designated 2021 as the Year of St. Joseph. May he be our model in a special way.**

### IMP—Kroger

If you do not have a community reward partner at Kroger, please designate Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Sacrament’s # is WX799 Thank you. It does not affect your fuel point or any other rewards. Go to [krogercommunityrewards.com](https://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) to register.

For the past quarter this year (end of August to end of November) we will receive a check for \$146.21. We have 3 new families that have BSC as their Community Reward partner. Thanks to each of you for your support.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

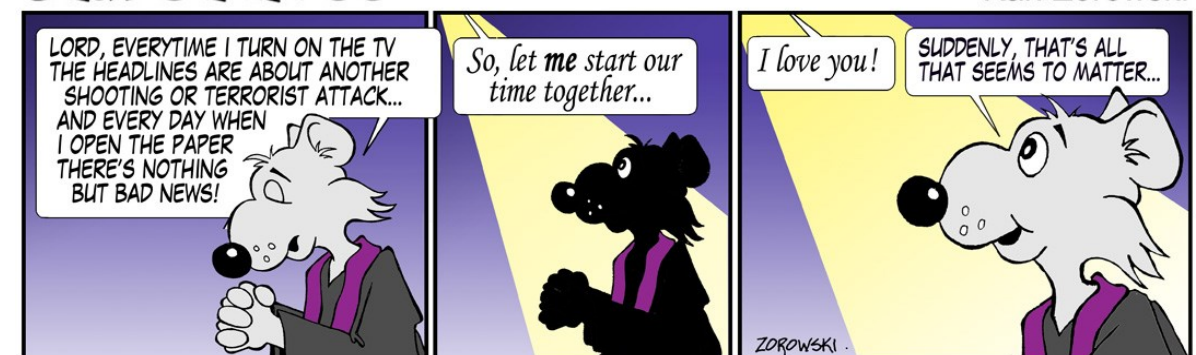
“Ordinary Time” began for us this week. On the old calendar, the feast of the Presentation, still more than two weeks away, was the last day of the Christmas season. Sadly, Bethlehem is hardly a place of peace on earth these days. The ancient Christian community has been largely uprooted by political strife. The Church of the Nativity stands (barely) in remarkable disrepair and disorder in Manger Square. The roof is crumbling, the major doorways are blocked, the wiring is faulty, and the worship life is disrupted by quarrels among Eastern Christians.

The church was founded by the Emperor Constantine in 325, destroyed in a Samaritan revolt in 539, and rebuilt by the Emperor Justinian. When the area came under Muslim control in 638, the holiness of the church was respected, and in return Christians allowed Muslims to pray in the south aisle, a right still upheld. Earlier in that century, invading Persians were ordered to destroy all churches, but when they saw the magi carved over the doorway of the Church of the Nativity, they spared it out of respect for their ancestors who bore gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the same city. The Crusaders restored and redecorated the church by the twelfth century, and it is their plan that survives. Down a few stone steps is a stone grotto with a silver star marking the place of Christ’s birth: when the star was stolen in 1847 it triggered an international crisis that exploded into the Crimean War.

Since 1852, the church has been shared by the Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and Armenian Churches. The Greeks are in charge of the grotto, but don’t enjoy the best of friendships with the Armenians. Catholics have the care of the Chapel of the Manger, and avoid the squabbles by a separate entrance to the Franciscan monastery church of St. Catherine. Pray for peace in Bethlehem!

### Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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### A Gift from God

In the Gospel, Jesus tells Nicodemus that he needs to be born from on high, from water and from the Spirit in order to enter the Kingdom of God. It is through Baptism that we are introduced into this people, through faith in Christ, a gift from God that must be nourished and cultivated throughout our life.

--Pope Francis

*In Baptism the Lord gives us an abundant amount of grace, but we must receive and use this grace. How can you cultivate God’s gift to you?*