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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

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



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Feb. 14 2021

Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.

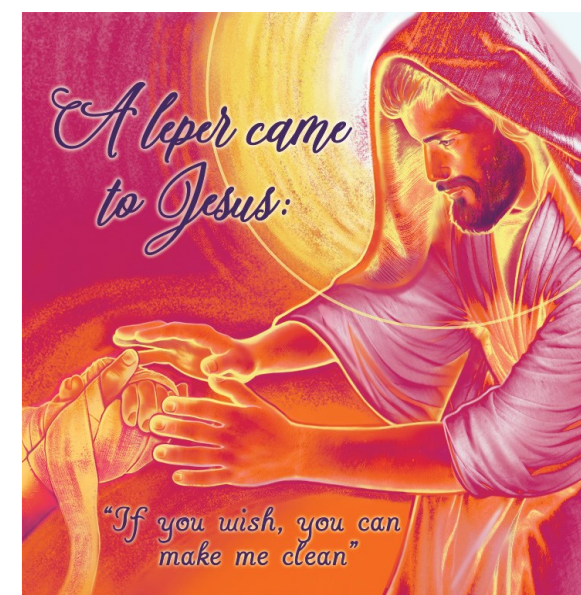
TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The leper will dwell apart, making an abode outside the camp (Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46).

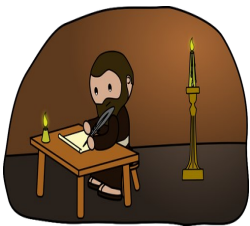
Psalm — I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation (Psalm 32).

Second Reading — Do everything for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31 — 11:1).

Gospel — The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. (Mark 1:40-45).



I turn to you, O Lord, in time of trouble



From the desk of Father Sinoj

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings! We are in the sixth week in the Ordinary Time. The Gospel presents to us the incident of Jesus healing the leper. We see Jesus identifying Himself with the leper when he stretches out His hand and touches him; thus becoming Himself ritually “unclean.” Jesus identified with all of us sinners when He sacrificed Himself on the Cross for our sins and brought us freedom and forgiveness.

Healed and graced by Jesus, we too are compelled to tell our story of redemption, making others know the good news that God saves sinners and welcomes them. This good news shall become our life story of the future. We need to build bridges of loving relationship. Jesus calls all of us to demolish the walls that separate us from each other and to welcome the separated to the communion of the Church.

This Wednesday we observe the Ash Wednesday and begin the Season of Lent. Forty days to reflect on the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus for our sins and make our lives more holy and loving. Let us participate in this Lenten observance with a sincere desire to be closer to God and experience the warmth of His Love and transmit that Love to the world.

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

God Loves You!!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath HGN

February Birthdays

- 2--Nancy Bumm
- 3--Jacques Williams, Sr.
- 6--Philip Moorman
- 9--Beau Bisel
- 10--Father Jerry Riney
- 21--Burnell & Mabel Hamilton
(51 yr. anniversary)
- 23--Larry Allen
- 24--Yasmeen Williams
- 27--Sondra Hibbs



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

- February 7--Hugh Moorman
- February 14--Kenneth Higgs
- February 17--Grace Medley Ebelhar
- February 21--Donald Moorman
- February 28--Charles E. Thompson

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: Janice Taul, Louise Johnson, Ruth Coble, Merle Griffith, Tyler Cruppi, Pam Wilson, Frank & Gloria Adams, Larry Allen, Shirley Schmidt, Carol Hatchett, Larry Conder, Mike Coakley, Andy Evans, Jason Pierce, Gary Moorman Rachel Mattingly, Camilla Greer, 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.

Saint Valentine, is a third-century Roman saint widely celebrated on February 14 and commonly associated with “courtly love.” Al-though not much is known of St. Valentine's life, it is highly agreed that Saint Valentine was martyred and then buried on the Via Flaminia to the north of Rome. Saint Valentine is the Patron Saint of, bee keepers, engaged couples, epilepsy, fainting, greetings, happy marriages, love, lovers, plague, travelers, and young people. He is represented in pictures with birds and roses and his feast day is celebrated on February 14.

Coming Events
CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Feb. 17--Ash Wednesday Mass 6 PM
Feb. 19--Fish Fry (drive-through)
4:30--6:30 pm



March 26--Fish Fry (drive through)
5-7 pm



February 7--\$970.59
Weekly budget--\$952
MTD collections---\$970.59
MTD budget--\$952
YTD collection--\$34,377.59
YTD budget--\$30,464 Candles--\$3



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.

Blessed Mother Church will have Sacrament of Reconciliation every Monday 5-6 pm starting February 22 thru March 29th.

Ash Wednesday & Valentine’s Day:
Ashes & Love (the cross and Resurrection), a great meld because in order to experience new life for which we yearn, we have to engage the discipline of self-denial. Fasting (what we eat equals no more than one meal) and Abstinence (no meat) that healthy adults observe, is not to look or feel holy, but to invite—through self denial—inner purification by God. We also do this as an act of solidarity with those throughout the world who have less than we do. If we turn our abstinence into a treat (for example having an a lush fish dinner in place of our ordinary fare) we almost defeat the purpose. Simple meals best reflect the purpose of this practice. Today is Valentine’s Day, enjoy! For Wednesday, February 17th, Ash Wednesday, you will be called to make a sacrifice.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday:	Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1,8 16-17, 20-21/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1-4, 9-10/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1- 6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Saints and Special Observances	
Sunday:	World Marriage Day; World Day of the Sick
Monday:	Presidents’ Birthdays
Tuesday:	Mardi Gras; Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday:	Ash Wednesday; Fast & Abstinence
Friday:	Abstinence; Chinese New Year

GIVE GOD THE GLORY

A curious feature of the first half of Mark’s Gospel is the pattern of Jesus working a miracle, then telling the recipient of the miracle to keep still about it. Many theories have been offered: Mark is setting the stage for the great “secret” revealed when Peter will proclaim Jesus the Messiah at Caesarea Philippi; more skeptical commentators offer that Jesus, fully aware of human nature, knew that the way to spread the news was to tell people to keep it secret. The insight into this secret-keeping that serves us well, however, is that Jesus was initiating his public ministry according to the pattern that Paul describes. He was doing it for the glory of God—not for his own benefit, but for that of all. Paul would later write in Philippians that Jesus “humbled” himself to become like us. And we see this humility at work in today’s healing of the leper. Jesus is trying to reveal the presence of God’s reign among the people, not so that he himself might receive the glory, but so that God would be glorified through him. Imitating this pattern, which Paul encourages the Jewish and Greek Christian factions in Corinth to do, still serves us well today.

Our prayers and sympathy are with Marsha Allen whose father Arthur Boarman died recently.

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski

Temptation
Another in a Series of Mice-Sized Sermonettes
by Rev. Cheese

Genesis 3:1-7

The serpent tempted Eve with some fruit upon a tree, but Satan uses other things to tempt both you and me...

Earthly pleasure, wealth and fame, Satan offers us with haste as modern-day forbidden fruit in hopes we'll take a taste...

BUT SATAN CANNOT MAKE YOU SIN... THOUGH HE TEMPTS WITH ALL HIS MIGHT... FOR YOU'LL NEVER TASTE FORBIDDEN FRUIT UNLESS YOU CHOOSE TO TAKE A BITE!

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Lectors

February 14-- Kathi Skidd
Jacques Williams

February 17: Barbara Bisel

February 21: Aubrey Ottofy
Layson Brooks

Black History Month Prayer

God of Mercy and Love we place our African American families before You today.

May we be proud of our history and never forget those who paid a great price for our liberation.

Bless us one by one and keep our hearts and minds fixed on higher ground. Help us to live for you and not for ourselves, and may we cherish an proclaim the gift of life.

Bless our parents, guardians, and grandparents, relatives and friends. Give us the amazing grace to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Help us, as your children, to live in such a way that the beauty and greatness of authentic love is reflected in all that we say and do. Give a healing anointing to those less fortunate, especially the motherless, the fatherless, the broken, the sick, and the lonely.

Bless our departed family members and friends. May they be led into the light of Your dwelling place where we will never grow old, where we will share the fullness of redemption and shout the victory for all eternity. Amen.

Healing Touch of Jesus

There are several themes to explore in today’s Gospel, such as the isolation that can result from illness (or maybe a pandemic?), or society’s response—or lack thereof—to those suffering among us who feel shunned or forgotten for a number of reasons. But there’s another theme to consider, the hope of the leper in the Gospel who said to Jesus, *“If you wish, you can make me clean.”* We can only imagine the joy of the leper who received Jesus’ healing touch.

Lent begins Wednesday, February 17. Instead of “enduring” Lent, we can embrace it as an opportunity for us, as disciples, to cleanse our hearts through increased time in prayer, sacrifice, penance, and offering our talents and treasure for the good of those in need. Like the leper who felt excluded because of his condition, we can feel distant from the Lord due to the burden of sin. But Jesus welcomes all sinners to receive His healing compassion, available to us through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Today’s Psalm offers a beautiful prayer, *“I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.”* If we ask, we too can experience the joy of the healing touch of Jesus.

For Reflection: Who are the isolated, shunned, or forgotten among us? Perhaps they are those suffering from loneliness, physical illness, mental illness, addiction, or poverty. This Lent, we can challenge ourselves to discern how we can we share our time, talents, and resources to benefit the suffering.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today’s Gospel centers on the plight of a leper and Jesus’ response of healing. In Hawaii, the bacterium that causes leprosy probably entered from China in the mid-1800s, and the native islanders were susceptible to the dreaded disease. In 1866, the government literally dumped the sufferers on a remote and virtually inaccessible island peninsula with towering cliffs. Thrown off ships into the sea, the sick people were told to swim for the beach and head for caves, and for seven years the only supplies were similarly cast into the sea to drift ashore. It was then, 1873, that a thirty-three-year-old Belgian priest, Damien de Veuster, went voluntarily to Kalaupapa. Before long, heajoled the government into funding his mission and its hospital, built a village with proper homes and sanitation, and recruited Mother Marianne Cope to bring sisters from Syracuse, New York, to nurse the sick. Damien, who eventually died of leprosy, has been canonized, and Mother Marianne as well.

Although leprosy has been curable since the 1940s, today a few patients remain in their lifelong home, now a national historic site. The peninsula is still utterly isolated from the outside world, and the speed limit for the few cars there is 5 mph since there’s nowhere to go! The hospital is still well-staffed and equipped, but access is regulated and visitors must take an official tour, often involving a descent down the cliffs by “Molakai mule.” There are few places on earth that evoke the healing power of Jesus, or our call to follow the Healer, more than Damien’s beloved island mission.

Lent: a Time for Transformation

In New Orleans and Quebec and many other cities around the world, there has been Mardi Gras or “Carnival” week. “Carnival” celebrations go back centuries before Christ. Like many customs and celebrations, the early church “adopted” them and made them celebrations of their young faith. In fact, one of the merriest and funniest parts of Carnival makes a very important and sobering point about Lent. The end of Carnival and the beginning of Lent are celebrated by putting “death to death.” Carnival celebrants depict death as an ugly devil or a grumpy old-man winter or the “king of fools.” On the last night of Carnival, this figure of death is tossed into a lake or chased into exile or reduced to ashes during a mid-night bonfire. When death “dies,” Carnival comes to an immediate halt. Masks are removed, greasepaint is wiped off. The past is left behind in ashes. Everything that is false or deceiving has been destroyed or exiled. The symbols of destruction are destroyed.

The most important—and difficult—dimension of Lent is laying aside the masks we wear, not only to hide from others but from ourselves as well. Lent demands painful self-honesty: to acknowledge that, yes, we are sinners; but, yes, we want to change, we want to transform our lives into becoming what God has called us to be.

In her wisdom, Mother Church gives us the three ancient pathways of discipline: FASTING—for the good of our body; ALMSGIVING—for the good of our neighbor; PRAYER—for the good of our soul. These pathways of discipline aid in humbly stripping us of sin, habits of sin, and that which is not of God; they aid in grounding us in mercy, grace, and God.