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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 Fennwald,
 SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



2nd Sunday of Lent Feb. 28, 2021

If God is for us, who can be against us?
 — *Romans 8:31b*

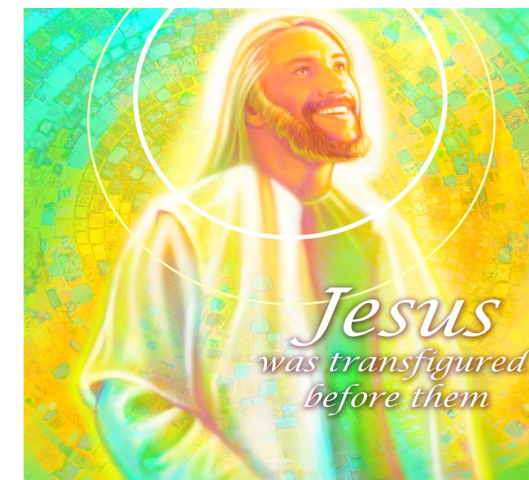
TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith (Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18).

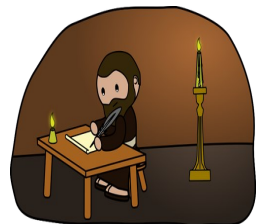
Psalm — I walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading — God did not spare his own Son (Romans 8:31b-34).

Gospel — This is my beloved Son (Mark 9:2-10).



I am your servant; You have loosed my bonds.



From the desk of Father Sinoj

Greetings! Thank you and congratulations to all of you who participated in our fish fry event. Let us continue to do our best to participate in the life of the parish. Hope you all remember to pray for the world suffering from the pandemic and other difficulties. This week the Liturgy of the Word focuses on the vocation we all have to transform our dull spiritual life into dynamic Christian life during Lent.

Through the Transfiguration event in this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus, with the testifying presence of Moses and Elijah, reveals Himself in His Heavenly glory. He is identified by the Heavenly Voice as the Son of God. Thus the Gospel shows us a glimpse of the Heavenly glory awaiting those who do God's will by putting their trusting Faith in Him.

Every Sacrament we receive, every effort we make to renew our relationship with God transforms us. Every time we encounter Jesus, not only through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, but also by our very attitude, openness, forgiveness, peace, etc., we are given the opportunity to bring the "Transfiguration" in our lives. May our faithful Christian living be the channel of Jesus to reveal His glory among us!

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

God Loves You!!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath HGN

February Birthdays

21--Burnell & Mabel Hamilton
(51 yr. anniversary)

23--Larry Allen

24--Yasmeen Williams

27--Sondra Hibbs

March Birthdays

2--Marsha Allen

6--Jax Malone,
Alizabeth Hatchett

7--Britney Carmona

18--Jean Higgs



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 28--Charles E. Thompson

March 7--Mary Ann Calhoun

March 14--Mary Joyce Christian

March 21--Betty Clark

March 28--Debbie Bellwood

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: Debbie Bellwood, Janice Taul, Louise Johnson, Ruth Coble, Merle Griffith, Tyler Cruppi, Pam Wilson, Frank & Gloria Adams, Larry Allen, Shirley Schmidt, Carol Hatchett, Shelby Webster, 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.

Thanks to each of you who contributed to the success of our fish fry. We had donations of fryers so we no longer have to rely on people bringing them up for the day. We couldn't have served a nice meal without the donations of desserts, beans, and cornbread--AND ALL THE WORKERS--THE BREADERS, FRYERS, SERVERS, CLEANER-UPPERS!!

Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Feb. 26--Fish Fry (drive-through)
4:30--6:30 pm



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



February 21--\$800

Weekly budget--\$952

MTD collections---\$3242

MTD budget--\$2856

YTD collection--\$36,649

YTD budget--\$32,368 Candles--\$2



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.

Rend your Hearts

The words of the prophet Joel are strong and challenging : Rend your hearts, and not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God. These words are an invitation to all people; they exclude no one. Rend your hearts and your garments of a penance that is not sincere and that does not guarantee an eternal future. Rend your hearts and not your garments of any fast that is merely a formality which serves to make us feel satisfied. Rend your hearts and not your garments of superficial and self-centered prayer that does not reach the innermost being of your life so that God may touch it. Rend your hearts so that you may say along with the Psalmist, "We have sinned."

--Pope Francis

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13
Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16;
Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6;
Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13; 17-28; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-46,

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 ; Ps 19:8-11;
1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent
Wednesday: St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Thursday: St. Casimir
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent

Laugh of the Week

Ever notice all the words that are in the word "Stewardship"? First, there's "Stew." That's what a congregation can get into after a sermon on tithing. Then there's "war," which is what can take place in a church board discussion of the church budget. "Ship" is the third syllable. Like the Titanic, if there's a hole in church giving, it can sink pretty fast. Finally the word "hip," a reminder that total stewardship is about the whole body.

THE OBEDIENCE OF ABRAHAM AND JESUS

God tested Abraham by asking not for an ordinary sacrifice, which would have been a partial burning with the meat divided between God and the people and eaten by those who sacrificed, but for a holocaust, a total burning of the sacrificial animal. This type of sacrifice consecrated the entire offering to God alone. This is what God was asking of Abraham in offering his only son, Isaac. When Abraham demonstrated his obedience, that was enough. This story from today's scriptures foretells the completion of the blood sacrifices of the old covenant in the new covenant: the blood of God's own Son, offered to us on the cross and in the Eucharist. Abraham's obedience foreshadows the obedience of Jesus to God's promise of salvation. The obedience of Abraham is rewarded in the birth to him, through Isaac, of many nations. The obedience of Jesus is rewarded in the salvation of all people for all time.

IMPRESSION

When we try to make an impression, that's the impression we make.

If you are looking for a daily Lenten reflection, one place to go to is www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent/best-lent-ever

February 28: Jacques Williams
Barbara Bisel

March 7: Layson Brooks
Sarah Malone

March 14: Kathi Skidd
Aubrey Ottofy

Safe Environment

The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian. Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities (800-422-4453); local law enforcement (800-752-6200); or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-597- 2331). To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church (paid or volunteer), call Louanne Payne, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) on the confidential phone line: 270-852-8380, or Susan Montalvo-Gesser/ Miguel Quintanilla, Pastoral Assistance Coordinators (Spanish): 270-880-8360. The Diocese of Owensboro's sexual abuse policy is available at this parish (in the bookshelf in back of the church), in the parish office, and also on the diocesan website (<https://owensborodiocese.org/safe>).

Transforming our Minds and Hearts

Today's Gospel recounts the Transfiguration according to Mark. During Lent we are called to a type of transformation as well—God asks us to try to seek conversion of mind and heart. Only God can truly cause this type of conversion; however, we can place our trust in God and be open for change to occur. This transformation journey can present challenges, but also offers extreme joy! Discipleship challenges us to make mindful, thoughtful decisions about our lives. Each of us is called to account for what God has given us, not only to become aware of how much God has blessed us, but also to listen to how we are called to share those blessings. The Lenten season offers opportunities to grow closer to Jesus and become aware of our blessings through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

PRAY: Come to church and pray the Stations of the Cross during Lent. And remember to set aside time each day to spend quiet time in prayer with the Lord. He's waiting!

FAST: Trade fast-food lunches for something simple from home. Take time away from TV, computers, and phones; spend time with your family or call a friend who might need a kind word. Give up the worries or annoyances of the day; instead, write down three things for which you are grateful.

GIVE: Check all the places where you keep spare change and use it for a Rice Bowl offering. Give of your time and talents.

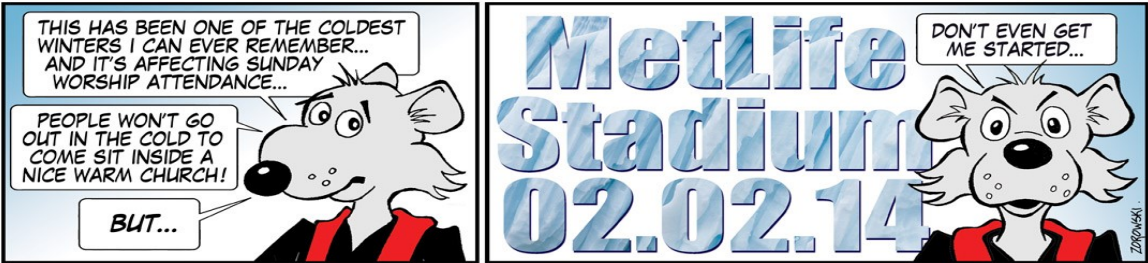
DEBT REDUCTION As I think most of you are aware, Blessed Sacrament has a debt of \$106,000 owed to the diocese on the hall. Thanks to paying some off every year through our budget and use of the Debt Reduction envelopes, we have been chipping away at it. An anonymous friend of the parish donated \$600 recently. We have also applied \$6000 from the PPP funds we received.
We are now below \$100,000.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The second Sunday of Lent every year recalls the Transfiguration of the Lord. Since the fourth century, Mount Tabor has been the focus of devotion to this event. As mountains go, it is not particularly lofty, rising about fifteen hundred feet, within view of the Sea of Galilee and very close to Nazareth. Scripture doesn't identify the mountain, but in the year 348 Saint Cyril of Jerusalem said he preferred Mount Tabor to Mount Hermon as the site of the Transfiguration, and his opinion won. It has long been a strategic military site, and ancient fortresses are visible on the heights. Over the centuries, churches and fortified monasteries rose on the mountaintop, only to be destroyed by various invaders. Six hundred years ago, local Christians started to decorate the ruins with flags and banners on the Feast of the Transfiguration. In 1631, the Sultan granted permission to the Franciscans to live on Mount Tabor, and they have been there ever since, discovering the ruins of an old Crusader church and constructing the present church on the site in 1924.

The top of the mountain is divided into Greek Orthodox and Latin (that's us) zones. At one time, tourists arrived on the summit by bus, but this is no longer permitted. Some ride bicycles up a challenging and winding path, while others take the four thousand three hundred steps constructed for Christian pilgrims in the fourth century. It's hard to imagine the fishermen following Jesus up this craggy mountain without complaint. Visitors will sympathize with Peter's plan to construct booths and stay put with Jesus, Moses, and Elijah for a while, enjoying the view, and planning the trip back down.

Church Mice



Wealthy and Worldly Heiress Gives to the Poor: due to her financial means, **Katherine Drexel** (1858-1955), had the privilege of traveling to various parts of the country where she became keenly aware of the oppression of Native Americans and African-Americans. She dedicated her entire life, including the founding of a religious community known as the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, to the empowerment of these groups through education (that is, launching the first Catholic college for African-Americans, and starting 145 Catholic missions and 12 schools for Native Americans). Katherine did not spend her fortune on herself, but on others—establishing institutions and missions dedicated to the marginalized. Katherine Drexel shocked the social circles of Philadelphia when she joined the convent, to fight vicious racial prejudice and minister to the poor. She died in 1955 at the age of 97 and was officially canonized a saint in 2000.