




**Whaylon Coleman**  
Chief Technology Officer

Office : PO BOX 22998  
Owensboro, KY 42304-2998  
Phone : 270-883-1450  
Email : [it@anitconsultant.com](mailto:it@anitconsultant.com)



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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)



## 4th Sunday of Lent March 14, 2021

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The wrath and the mercy of the LORD are revealed in the exile and liberation of the Chosen People (2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23)

**Psalm** — Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you! (Psalm 137).

**Second Reading** — God, who is rich in mercy, brought us to life with Christ (Ephesians 2:4-10)

**Gospel** — The Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14-21)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



# By grace you have been saved through faith; it is the gift of God.

*From the desk of Father Sinoj*



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings! This Sunday, the Fourth Sunday is traditionally known as Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday. This Sunday sets a tone of Easter joy in anticipation. The Suffering, Crucifixion and Death of Jesus are to be reflected in the light of the whole mystery of Salvation. Our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God, given to us through Jesus Christ His Son.

The Gospel this Sunday is the response of Jesus to Nicodemus who meets Jesus for a religious discussion. Jesus explains to him that he must believe Jesus’ words because He is the promised Messiah. Referring to the lifted-up serpent in the desert, Jesus foretells his crucifixion that He must be “lifted up” to bring salvation to humanity. God shows his love, mercy and compassion for us if we are ready to believe in Jesus and repent of our sins.

Today we conclude the Catholic Sisters Week. One week dedicated to shine the spotlight on the women religious in appreciation and encouragement. We thank and praise God for the gift of Sr. Jeannette Fennwald SSND at our parish. We appreciate her for everything she is for us. Let us also remember all the religious women and pray for them.

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

God Loves You!!

Fr. Sinoj Pynadath HGN

## March Birthdays

- 2--Marsha Allen
- 6--Jax Malone,  
Alizabeth Hatchett
- 7--Britney Carmona
- 18--Jean Higgs
- 19--Dennis Mayfield
- 25--Carol Hatchett
- 28--Stephen Hall
- 31--Cameron Malone,  
Frank Fulton



## 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

- 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.

## On a Lighter Note:

A boy came late to Sunday School. Knowing he was usually very prompt, his teacher asked, “Johnny, is there anything wrong?”  
“No, Ma’am, not really,” he said. “I was going to go fishing, but my daddy told me that I needed to get on up and go to church.”  
The teacher was very impressed and asked Johnny if his father had explained to him why it was more important to go to church than to go fishing.  
“Yes Ma’am, he did,” Johnny said. “My daddy said he didn’t have enough bait for both of us.”



## Coming Events CALENDAR



### Blessed Sacrament Chapel

March 14--Collection for Heralds of Good News



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



March 7--\$1057

Weekly budget--\$952

MTD collections---\$1057

MTD budget--\$952

YTD collection--\$39,492

YTD budget--\$34,2272



**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.

Our final tally after the fish fry is \$994.89. We have some food left that we did not open so our expenses should be a little less for the one on March 26. Start promoting it now. That makes a big difference. Many positive comments!!

*Charity begins today. Today someone is suffering; today somebody is in the street; today somebody is hungry. Our work is for today; yesterday has gone; tomorrow is yet to come.*

***Do not wait for tomorrow.***

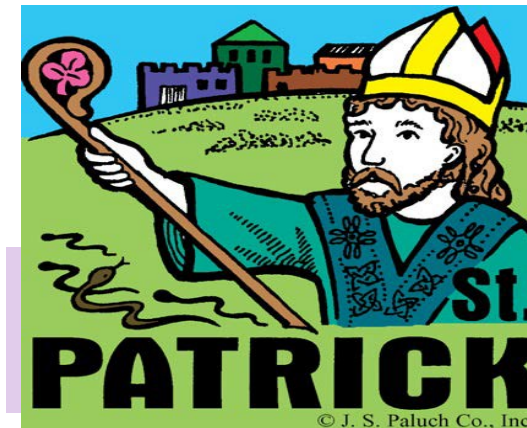
*-- St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta.*

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; Jn 4:43-54  
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16  
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30  
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47  
Friday: Wis 2:1, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9-12; Jn 7:40-53

## Saints and Special Observance

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent; Daylight Saving Time begins  
Wednesday: St. Patrick, Bishop; St. Patrick's Day  
Thursday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor of the Church  
Friday: St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary



## COMMUNAL RESPONSIBILITY

The people of God forgot the covenant and flouted God's laws. They did not listen to the prophets among them, who spoke for God in warning them. Prophets are sent from God to remind us why we are here, but they are often, even in our own time, mocked, disregarded, and mistreated rather than thanked and listened to.

The book of Chronicles tells the results of these sins: the destruction of the temple and all of Jerusalem, murder, mayhem, and finally exile to a foreign land. Why are these stories in the Bible? Just to inform us of what happened to our ancient forebears? What good would that be unless there were a message and a warning for us as well? Are we people who follow the teachings of God, who obey the words of Christ in the second covenant in his blood? Or do we continue to wreak works of darkness and violence? We are reminded by these readings that we will be judged as a people, not just as individuals.

Let us think of St. Joseph, who watched over Mary and Jesus, of his care for the family God had entrusted to him, and of the attentive gaze with which he guided it to avoid the perils on the way.

Reflection: *St. Joseph is a great model for all of us as we care for and protect the people in our lives. What can we learn from his example of uncomplaining obedience to God's call and his wholehearted readiness to serve?*

<u>March 14</u>	Aubrey Ottofy Kathi Skidd
<u>March 21</u>	Barbara Bisel Jacques Williams
<u>March 28:</u>	Aubrey Ottofy Sarah Malone
<b>Passion:</b>	Kathi Skidd, Jacques Williams

Year of St. Joseph

On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis declared that the Church will be celebrating the Year of St. Joseph. The Year of St. Joseph began on December 8, 2020 and will end on December 8, 2021. This is a historic event for the Church because it is the first time celebrating a Year of St. Joseph. Pope Pius IX declared him as “Patron of the Universal Church.. Saint Joseph is traditionally considered the “Patron of a happy death”. Pope Francis calls him "the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty"; he also considers St. Joseph the "protector of the unfortunate, the needy, exiles, the afflicted, the poor and the dying" . St. Joseph, pray for us!



Celebrate St. Joseph Feast

Friday is the feast of St. Joseph, a solemnity in our church. Even though it is Lent, we should take time to celebrate.

- ♦ **Pray to St. Joseph** (patron of Church, fathers, workers, happy death, craft peoples, refugees, exiles, poor, dying)

**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.**

- ♦ **Attend Mass either in person or livestream.**
- ♦ **Spend quality time with family--** especially dads with their kids
- ♦ **Decorate house with lilies** (traditional symbol of St. Joseph))
- ♦ **Participate in a community service project**
- ♦ **Set a St. Joseph table**

(breads pasta, include donation to the poor)

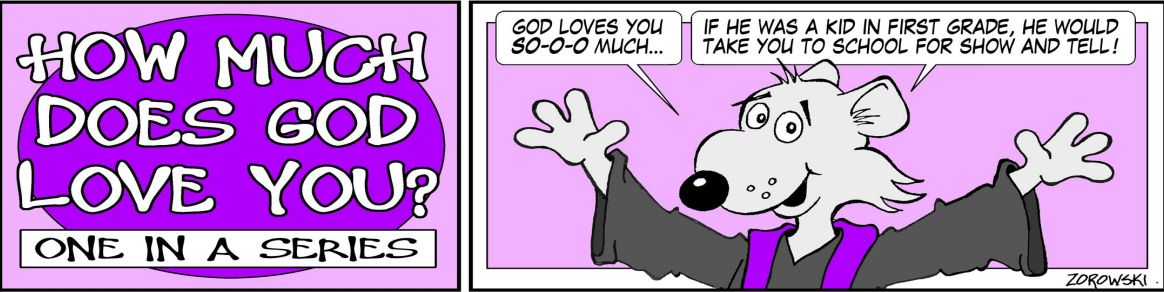
TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Year B of the Lectionary has the Letter to the Ephesians today. Ephesus, today in Turkey, was in the first century a great Greek city, the center for the worship of Diana, the goddess of the hunt. It was a vast city even by modern standards, having nearly half a million people in the time of Paul. Yet that was a time of economic recession and moral decay. No wonder Saint Paul stayed here the longest. It gave him an enormous and religiously curious audience. His preaching stirred up the artisans who depended on the pilgrims who came to honor (and buy mementos of) seventeen gods and goddesses enshrined in the city’s temples. You can still see the open-air theater where Paul’s homily triggered a riot. Paul did have success here, and many conversions among Jews and Gentiles. They seem to have struggled with hope, perhaps because of their suffering from economic woes and isolation.

Some old traditions say that the Apostle John lived out his days here, and that the Blessed Mother was cared for by him. There’s no biblical basis for this, but it is certain that a small house just outside the city has been treasured by Christians and Muslims for centuries as the last dwelling of Mary. Long ago, the harbor silted up and the city was nearly abandoned, becoming a small village. As is so often the case, that accident of history preserved the ancient city, so that archeologists have been very successful in revealing ancient Christian sites. One such site is the Church of Mary, probably the first church to be dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and the site of the Council of Ephesus in 431. Today, a visit to Ephesus is one of the most rewarding journeys for any pilgrim.

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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**Awake, O Sleeper!** This morning came a little earlier than I would have liked — Daylight Savings Time always does. Sometimes that morning sunlight seems more intrusive than illuminating. You’re still half-lost in sleep, and that sun is demanding of you a lot more than you’re ready to give. I’ve said it, and I’m sure you’ve said it, too. “Just five more minutes.” You hit the “snooze” button on your iPhone once (maybe twice?) and turn away from the window. So many kings of the Old Testament were steadfast in their sleepy ways, rejecting the light their God tried to share with them. Likewise, John tells us that, though Light — Christ — was sent into the world, the world preferred darkness. Sometimes it seems, when reading through Scripture, that all throughout salvation history, God has been trying to pull back the curtains, to rouse us from our defiant slumber. And we resist Him. Time and time again, we resist Him. Light brings a certain responsibility with it. It seems to compel productivity. Furthermore, there’s no hiding in the light. As we enter into the fourth week of Lent, we’re getting so close to the main event. Can we handle the light that will come on Easter morning, bursting into the tomb as the stone is rolled away? Can we keep ourselves from hitting the “snooze” button on our souls, and sit up to face the dawn of a new day?