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Blessed Sacrament

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

Pastor: Father John Thomas

john.thomas@pastoral.org

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Sinoj Pynadath HGN

sinoj.pynadath@pastoral.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennwald, SSND
pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



14 Sunday in Ordinary Time July 4, 2021

I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me.

TODAY'S READINGS

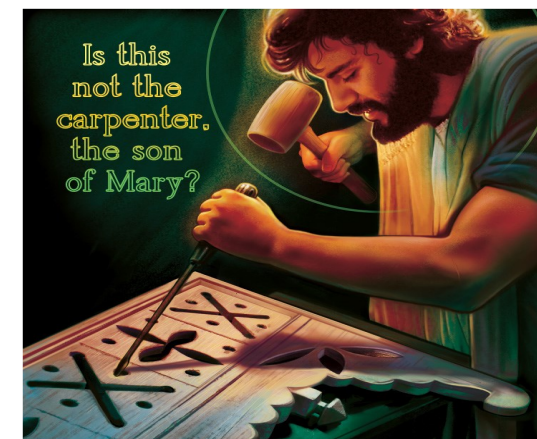
First Reading — They shall know that a prophet has been among them (Ezekiel 2:2-5).

Psalm — Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy (Ps. 123).

Second Reading — I am content with weaknesses and hardships for the sake of Christ (2 Corinthians 12:7-10).

Gospel — The people said: "Where did this man get all this? Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary?"

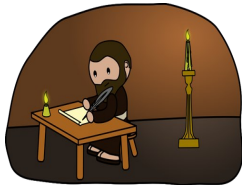
(Mark 6:1-6).



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Our eyes are fixed on the Lord

From the desk of Father Sinoj



Dear Friends in Christ:

Happy Independence Day! As we celebrate freedom and national integration of our nation, let us thank and praise God for the USA, for all the goodness we experience as citizens of this country. Let us be grateful to our ancestors who were part of building this nation and toiled to make this country prosper. Let us also pray for all the leaders of our country that they may work to bring peace and justice to our world in accordance with the will of God.

The Gospel this Sunday speaks of Jesus being rejected by His own countrymen. The people who know Jesus best should have been the first to accept and follow Him. On the contrary, they were the ones who first criticised and even doubted His identity. Their knowledge of Him from His past was the reason for them to reject Him. It calls us to reflect on our attitude towards others. We do know the past of many of our brothers and sisters. Does that knowledge in any way affect our attitude towards them badly?

Even though Jesus was rejected and abandoned by people during His ministry, He did not stop loving and caring for them. He continued His salvific journey. Our life situations can challenge us, but we shall rise above the rejections and disappointments to reach out to others and fulfil our call to share God’s love, mercy and acceptance with our brothers and sisters.

😊 Always
😊 Keep
😊 Smiling!

Father Sinoj, HGN

June Birthdays

30--Father Sinoj, Trent Hatchett

July Birthdays

3--Ray Higgs

8--Alexis Hatchett, Calvin

McHenry

10--Chelis Carmona

13--Francine Epison

15--Georgia Holland

18--Lori Carman

20--Tina Gough

22--Marcia Wilhite

24--Lori Robinson



Picnic Update:

At our parish meeting on May 2, we decided on what seemed feasible for the picnic. We will sell bar-b-q ribs, chicken, and pulled pork. Pre-sale orders will be taken. We will have a drive-through chicken dinner. We also will have a 50-50 raffle drawing. Tickets are on sale now. Please turn in as soon as you sell.

FOUNDATION

The will of the people is the only legitimate foundation of any government, and to protect its free expression should be our first object

Mass Intentions

July 4--Mary Ann Calhoun

July 11--Donald Moorman

July 18--Ann Denise Ward

July 25--Grace Medley Elbeharr

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: Father Jerry, Herbert Millay, Stephen Hall, Doris Smith, Margaret Wilkes, Maddie Forsyth, Debbie Bellwood, Janice Taul, Merle Griffith, Tyler Cruppi, Pam Wilson, Frank & Gloria Adams, Larry Allen, Shirley Schmidt, Carol Hatchett, Shelby Webster, Louise Johnson, Ruth Coble, Larry Conder, Mike Coakley, Andy Evans, Jason Pierce, Gary Moorman, Rachel Mattingly, Camilla Greer, Phillip Moorman, Jr. If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.

Please remember our home-bound: Herbert Millau who is at Hermitage, Ruth Coble and Shirley Schmidt who are at Heritage Place. Georgia Holland lives in St. Louis but stays active in BSC happenings. A card or phone call can cheer them up.

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. Thanks to each of you for your support.

Thanks to the 37 households that have registered for Blessed Sacrament, we will receive \$152.89;

Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

July 13--Father John Thomas arrives

August 7--Picnic (Drive-through)
50-50 raffle ends



June 27--NA

Weekly budget--\$952

MTD collections---NA

MTD budget--\$3808

YTD collection-- NA

YTD budget--\$49,504



May each of us give according to what the Lord has blessed us with.



Gratitude for our Faith and Freedoms

Today's Gospel tells us that the people of Jesus' hometown had difficulty believing in his wisdom and ability to perform powerful deeds because he had grown up among them. The Gospel says they "were *astonished* and "took offense at him." Perhaps their familiarity created blind spots that prevented them from believing. Because of their lack of faith, "he was not able to perform any mighty deed there...He was amazed at their lack of faith." These words give us pause to consider the depth of our own faith! This week, in prayer, ask the Lord to help you recognize and overcome any "blind spots" that hinder your faith.

As we celebrate the Fourth of July, we give thanks for the many freedoms we enjoy. In what ways can we exercise our faith, in gratitude for the freedom to worship freely? We can **pray**, in gratitude for the blessings we receive, and for the needs of our world, our country, our community, our parish, and our families. We can **give** through acts of generosity and charity. The possibilities are endless—donating food, clothing, or money to assist those in need are just a few suggestions. We can **serve**, giving of our time and skills for the benefit of our parish and our greater community. Christ calls us to live lives of discipleship. Exercising our faith makes it stronger!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-4, 14-15 /Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday:	Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1-3, 6-7, 8 and 15 /Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday:	Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7, 17-24/ Ps 33:2-3, 10-11 /Mt 10:1-7
Thursday:	Gn 44:18-21, 23-29; 45:1-5/ Ps 105:16-21 /Mt 10:7-15
Friday:	Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, /Mt 10:16-23
Saturday:	Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26/Ps 105:1-4, 6-7 /Mt 10:24-33

Observances for the week of July 4, 2021

Monday:	St. Anthony Zaccaria, ; St. Elizabeth of Portugal
Tuesday:	St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr
Friday:	St. Augustine Zhao Rong, and Companions, Martyrs
Saturday:	BVM



Freedom is given to us so that we know how to make good decisions in life. Freedom does not mean throwing everything that you don't like out of the window.

Freedom isn't freedom from something, but freedom for something.

OBSTACLES

The prophet Ezekiel, Saint Paul, and the Lord Jesus share something in common in today's scripture readings. They all experience obstacles to their ministry. Ezekiel is summoned to prophesy to the Israelites, who are "[h]ard of face and obstinate of heart" (Ezekiel 2:4). Saint Paul recounts how he has been given a "thorn in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12:7). The Lord Jesus is unable to perform many signs in his native place. The Gospel tells us that "[he] was amazed at their lack of faith" (Mark 6:6). We too sometimes encounter obstacles as we travel along the journey of faith. So often we experience weakness on this journey. Let the words of the Lord to Saint Paul encourage us today: "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9).



We look forward to meeting our new pastor, Father John Thomas, who will arrive on July 13th. Please pray that together we spread the Word and love of God.

Lectors	
<u>July 4:</u>	Veronica Wilhite Barbara Bisel
<u>July 11:</u>	Jacques Williams Aubrey Ottofy
<u>July 18:</u>	Layson Brooks Kathi Skidd
Eucharistic Minister	
<u>July 4:</u>	Vivian Higgs
<u>July 11:</u>	Barbara Bisel
<u>July 18:</u>	Misty Sanford

PICNIC NOTES

Our picnic is only a month away. You should have received your 50-50 tickets. Please sell them and return the ticket stub and money ASAP as we want to update our FB every few days. Money will go toward updates in church.

How can you be involved?

- ⇒ **Sell, Sell, Sell 50-50 raffle tickets and get more**
- ⇒ **Donate a pork butt for pulled pork sales**
- ⇒ **Make another donation since you will not be asked for donations of cakes, and drinks.**

WE NEED YOU!

It’s all so ordinary that we can easily miss it. The seagulls hunting and diving for mollusks at the beach offer a display of determination and precision as they gather their food for the day. There’s a magical artfulness and skill to their work that speaks volumes about the One who breathed life into their being. This is pretty much the way it is with God’s presence. God comes in common ways through common things and ordinary people. Sadly, we are so engulfed in our little worlds of order and ideas to notice the beauty and wonder of it all. Many have numbed themselves to the Divine spark at the essence of all life because that’s just the way it is. What’s so special about it? A sunset is a sunset and a seagull is a seagull. That’s precisely what they thought about Jesus too. After all, isn’t he just the carpenter’s son? What merit can his words possibly have?

If we’re looking for God to come in an event that is so dramatic and intense that it knocks our socks off, then think again. When pondering God’s relationship with His people and God’s action in our lives, we have to go back to the stable. It was a quiet, run of the mill kind of night. There was nothing spectacular. To the naked eye, a woman gave birth to a child and there wasn’t anything extraordinary to see. We have a hard time understanding God’s ordinary-ness. Jesus grew up in an ordinary town, had neighbors and did normal human things. Perhaps that’s why we don’t always like the Gospel. It doesn’t dazzle us with extraordinary things but simply challenges us to take a different look at our ordinary stuff. That makes us uncomfortable. We prefer things as they are. Our lack of faith can even cause us to take offense at what Jesus says and does, dismissing it as folly. The blinders we wear and the expectations we bring to life can often prevent us from seeing graced moments that radiate with God’s graceful presence.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

As we celebrate July 4th, we reflect on the “Nuns of the Battlefield,” religious sisters from several communities who served as nurses in the Civil War. Florence Nightingale had only instituted female nurses a decade before in the Crimean War, so the idea of women tending to wounded soldiers was extraordinary. The medical and sanitary conditions on the battlefields were appalling, and the sisters were nearly all teachers. Few had any medical training beyond what they had learned as youngsters in the family. Anti-Catholic prejudice was so deeply entrenched in America that sisters could not wear their habits in public. These sisters were the first, and people on both the Union and Confederate sides soon began to marvel at their bravery, efficiency, and respect for Protestant soldiers. More than six hundred sisters from twenty-one communities went to war, serving in wretched conditions. They were tough and single-minded, efficient and fearless.

After the war, sisters could appear in public everywhere in the reunited nation, and often received the praise and gratitude of grateful soldiers and family members on behalf of their sister nurses. An outdoor monument to the “Nuns of the Battlefield” stands in Washington at M Street and Rhode Island Avenue. The inscription reads: “They comforted the dying, nursed the wounded, carried hope to the imprisoned, gave in His name a drink of water to the thirsty.”

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Church Mice



Laugh of the Week

Jesus and Moses are golfing. Jesus says, “Watch this drive. It’ll be just like Tiger Woods.” He hits the ball and it lands in the lake. Moses says, “I’ll get it.” He goes down to the lake, parts the water and retrieves the ball. “Okay,” Jesus says, “This time, it WILL be just like Tiger Woods.” He hits the ball and again, it lands in the lake. Moses goes down, parts the lake and retrieves the ball. “Third time is a charm,” Jesus says. “Watch, just like Tiger Woods.” And for the third time he hits the ball into the lake. Moses says, “This time, you can get it yourself!” As Jesus is down walking on the water looking for the ball, a crowd has formed. One guy says, “Who does he think he is, Jesus Christ?” “No,” Moses says. “He thinks he’s Tiger Woods.”