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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 [pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org](mailto: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](mailto:john.thomas@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)



**Sept. 5, 2021 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time**

Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs to the kingdom? — James 1:21b

## TODAY'S READING

**First Reading** — Be strong, fear not! Here is your God (Isaiah 35:4-7a).

**Psalm** — Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146)

**Second Reading** — Show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ (James 2:1-5).

**Gospel** — Jesus makes the deaf hear and the mute speak (Mark 7:31-37).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, All rights reserved.



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*Be strong, fear not!*

*Here is your God!*

## From the desk of Father Sinoj

Dear Friends in Christ,

Labor Day Greetings! Labor Day gives us an opportunity to think beyond just a holiday and acknowledge and respect the labor of many and us. Human labor is very significant and important for our existence. Thanking God for good health and opportunity to labor, let us pray for wisdom and enthusiasm that we may always honor human labor.

In today's Gospel, Jesus heals a deaf and dumb person. Jesus is never indifferent to the cry of the poor and the afflicted. Being in solidarity with them, he is very sensitive to their brokenness, and ready to help them with mercy and compassion. We are called to open ourselves to let Jesus heal our spiritual deafness caused by habitual sin. We need Jesus command "Ephphatha! Be opened!" upon our hearts that have become hardened by a refusal to hear, and to be changed.

On this Wednesday we celebrate the Birthday of Blessed Virgin Mary, exactly nine months after the Church has celebrated her Immaculate Conception. Mary was born as a shrine for the creator, and through her obedience she fulfilled the purpose for which she was born. This feast calls us to discover the purpose of our lives and be faithful to it.

``..'' Always  
`.,(`..,.'') Keep  
(``..,.''),.' Smiling!

God Loves you!!!

Father Sinoj, HGN



### September Birthdays

- 1--Norwetta Taylor
- 2--Emma Latta
- 3--Venice Higgs
- 6--Shelby Webster
- 7--Aubrey Ottofy
- 8--Mary Hagan
- 16--Luke Bisel
- 20--Mary Katherine Gough



### St. Corona Prayer

Almighty God, you forgive the sins of our people and heal all their faults. You sent your beloved Son to bear our sickness. We stand humbly before You. We pray to You in this time of plague and need, remember our love and kindness that You have always shown to Your people in times of tribulation. Accept today our prayer and sacrifice and show us mercy. Keep the disease away from us, allow those affected to be healed, protect those who have been preserved from it so far by Your goodness, and do not let the plague spread any further. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Mass Intentions

- September 5--Rachel Fulkerson
- September 12--Ann Denise Ward
- September 19--Mary Ann Calhoun
- September 26--Herbert Millay

*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: **Cathy Kramer, Ethan Kramer, Connie Clary, Stephen Hall, Colton Braungardt, Doris Smith, 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, Gary Moorman, Rachel Mattingly, Camilla Greer, Phillip Moorman, Jr.** **If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer or visitation, please noti-**

Please remember our home-bound: Ruth Coble and Shirley Schmidt who are at Heritage Place. Georgia Holland lives in St. Louis but stays active in BSC happenings. **Connie Clary 22 Cleverdale Road, Rochester NY 14616** 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](http://krogercommunityrewards.com) to register. Thanks to each of you for your support.

## Coming Events



## CALENDAR

### Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Sept. 12--Diocesan collection for Haiti

*The Sophia Award Mass held annually recognizes someone who is an example of seeing God as the true owner of everything in their lives. This recognition is awarded to someone 65 or older who not only has true wisdom (Sophia) but demonstrates and shares it. Our nominee is Rita Moorman. The Award ceremony in September is again cancelled, but as a parish we congratulate Rita!*

## Stewardship



August 29--\$1488

Weekly Budget--\$962

MTD collections--\$5516

MTD budget--\$4810

YTD collection--\$10,200

YTD budget--\$8,658

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

## Offering



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### Choosing Deafness

If you're a parent, you know that hearing evaluations are usually done at a child's annual physical exam starting around age four. The little person gets hoisted up onto the exam table, fitted with a pair of special headphones, and then they need raise their hand when they hear a sound.

I bet all of us parents who have sat through one of these tests with a preschooler — especially a particularly strong-willed one — have experienced a moment where we ask ourselves: I wonder if there's something wrong with her hearing. Is that why she doesn't listen to me? 'Come here, put on your shoes, pick up your toys, finish your carrots, don't touch that' — she isn't being naughty, she just can't hear it!

And then that moment, for those of us whose kids passed the hearing test with flying colors, comes crashing down into a realization that, yep, they can hear just fine. They're just choosing deafness.

But how can we really get mad when we remember that we do the same thing to God day in and day out? I often wonder if God, sitting in His Heaven, tires of calling to us in the same way young parents tire of calling out unheeded directions to their small children. Help that person. Hear My voice. Open your heart. Give of yourself here. Talk to Me.

What is the call He wishes you to hear today? Can you hear it? Are you listening?

*Sometimes people are hungry for more than bread. It is possible that our children, our husband, our wife do not hunger for bread, do not need clothes, do not lack a house. But are we equally sure that they do not feel alone, abandoned, neglected, or in need of some affection?*

--St. Teresa of Calcutta

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9 / Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday:	Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1-2, 8-11 /Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday:	Mi 5:1-4, Ps 13:6 [Is 61:10]/ Mt 1:1-16, 18-23
Thursday:	Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1-6 Lk 6:27-38
Friday:	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1-2 and 5, 7-8, 11,/Lk 6:39-42
Saturday:	1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1-7,/ Lk 6:43-49

### Observances for the week of Sept. 5, 2021

Monday:	Labor Day
Wednesday:	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday:	St. Peter Claver, Priest
Saturday:	BVM; Patriot Day

### Diocesan Covid Guidelines

There is a growing concern in our medical communities that the Delta variant could begin to overwhelm local health care facilities, as it is in other parts of the state, country and world. Due to the strong recommendation of the healthcare community:

There is **an expectation that unvaccinated people be masked** at all indoor parish functions (e.g. parish meetings, religious education, parish social events, weddings, funerals, receptions, etc...) including the Celebration of the Mass. We would also **recommend and strongly encourage all vaccinated parishioners to mask**, because there is growing evidence that vaccinated transmissions can still take place. We are asking these things out of an abundance of caution and out of charity for our neighbor.

### SEE BEYOND OUTWARD APPEARANCES

The phrase "Sunday best" has lost much of its meaning in our society today. Some lament the loss of people dressing up for church on Sunday; others think it's a healthy sign that we're as casual in attire gathered before the Lord as we are elsewhere. No matter which school of thought on this topic we belong to, James would probably chastise us. In either case, we are still focused on external appearance, mistaking it for some sort of favored position before God. True, James criticizes the community that favors the rich and well-dressed while ostracizing the poorly clothed, but even more he criticizes the making of distinctions, making choices based on criteria that having nothing to do with the reign of God. James might turn our attention to the reign of God described by Isaiah, in which people are healed and the earth becomes ripe to bear fruit. Jesus today is focused on this reign of God, healing a Gentile man in a region hostile to his Jewish faith, not mindful of the man's origins or clothing or status or ability to repay. Isaiah, James, and Jesus in Mark's Gospel all call us to look more deeply to find where the will of God needs to be done, and has been done, on earth as in heaven.



### EDUCATION

The things taught in schools and colleges are not an education, but the means of an education.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Lector**

Sept. 5: Barbara Bisel  
Veronica Wilhite

Sept. 12: Alexis Hatchett  
Aubrey Ottofy

Sept. 19: Jacques Williams  
Kathi Skidd

**Eucharistic Minister**

Sept. 5: Vivian Higgs

Sept. 12: Cindy Clark

Sept. 19: Misty Sanford

**.Picnic Recap**

*Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to the success of the picnic. The sale of the 50-50 tickets was phenomenal. Workers gave of their time, but most importantly shared the beautiful people you are both to each other and our guests. We couldn't have a picnic or any other event without parishioners like you (and non-parishioners like Kitty Board and Elmer Clay Roberts). God asks us to give of our time, talent, and treasure and serving others in the way that you did is a living demonstration of that. May God bless you abundantly.*

Meat and Dinner Profit \$1408

50-50 Raffle profits \$2822.50

Donations \$450

**Total: \$4680.50**

For having a number of unknown, the day went very well.

**Am I Open to the Lord**

*Ephphatha!" Today's Gospel tells us of the miracle Jesus performed to heal the deaf and mute man. Those who witnessed this were no doubt, as the Gospel says, "astonished." I wonder what the Lord must think about the constant noise we live with in today's world—cell phones, internet, social media, television, or video games. Are we open to listening to God, or do we listen for His voice only at Sunday Mass? Are we deaf to those in need in our community, or even our family? Spend some quiet time each day with the Lord in prayer, being open to His promptings. Take a break from noise; go outdoors to appreciate God's gift of nature, write a note to someone who could use encouragement, or simply enjoy some silence. Consider also how we can encounter and hear the Lord speak to us through our interactions with others.*

**Hearing Problem**

Mr. Morris, an elderly man, went to the doctor to get a physical. A few days later the doctor saw him walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm. A couple of days later the doctor called him to follow up and said, "You appear to be doing great." How are you feeling? Mr. Morris replied, "Just doing what you said, doctor. Get a hot mamma and be cheerful." The doctor replied, "I didn't say that. I said you have got a heart murmur, be careful."

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Back to work we go! Summer break is over and there is much to accomplish in school and in the workplace. It's a venerable Catholic custom to assign patron saints to the trades and occupations of life. This is largely in the realm of popular devotion, and although from time to time the Vatican declares a saint to be patron of this or that, the process is free-wheeling and just about uncontrollable. Still, there is a saint for almost any purpose, whether you are on death row (Dismas), having eye trouble (Lucy), or pursued by poisonous toads (Hubert). Medieval guilds would often associate themselves with heavenly patrons, so Saint Joseph has the carpenters, Thomas More the lawyers, and physicians get Saint Luke. If you're stuck in the airport, St. Joseph of Cupertino is on call since he was said to rise off the floor when he prayed, and if you're in a long line at the ATM, Saint Anthony Claret is for you.

In recent years, the Vatican has from time to time assigned a new patronage, as when Saint Aloysius Gonzaga was named the patron of HIV-AIDS patients, since as a young Jesuit novice he had cared for his fellow novices during a terrible plague. Anything that matters to us—nation, parish church, occupation, illness—can have a patron, and it is an aspect of Catholicism that has enormous appeal. To believe in the "communion of saints" is to know that the ties that bind us as a communion do not unravel with death, and that when we stand before life's struggles, we do not stand alone. Who is your patron saint?

**Church Mice**

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Karl Zorowski

**Escape to the Mount** Trivia and Quilt Bingo Sept. 11-12 "Escape to the Mount" returns! On Saturday, Sept. 11, we will play Trivia from 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Blessed Mother Parish Hall. Get your team together and join us for a fun evening. Register for \$25 per person, up to 10 people per team. Snacks and adult beverages will be served. Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. On Sunday, Sept. 12, we will play Quilt Bingo (where you can win quilts!) from 1-4 p.m. in the Mount Saint Joseph Gym, Maple Mount. Tickets for Quilt Bingo are \$25 per person, which includes lunch and your first bingo game card. Extra cards are \$1 per game for smaller quilt prizes and \$2 per game for larger quilt prizes. Seating is limited, so register for Trivia and/or Quilt Bingo and pay in advance by Sept. 8. You can sign up online at <https://ursulinesmsj.org/escape-to-the-mount-weekend/> Also, Mount Raffle tickets can be purchased for just \$5 for your chance to win \$10,000, \$5,000, \$2,500, \$1,000, \$750, \$500 and \$250, or a handmade quilt! We will do the raffle drawing on Sun., Sept. 12, at 4 p.m. again this year.