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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 Fennewald,

SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org

#### **TODAY'S READING**

# First Reading:

Ezra read plainly from the book of the law of God, interpreting it so that all could understand what was read. (Neh 8:8)

#### Psalm:

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life. (Ps 19)

## **Second Reading:**

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit. (1 Cor 12:12)

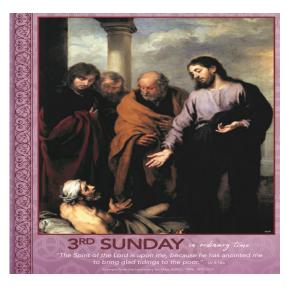
# Gospel:

He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." (Lk 1:21)

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



3rd Sunday Ordinary Time January 23, 2022 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. (Lk 4:18)



# Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

# From the desk of Father Sinoj



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings! First of all I thank and appreciate all of you who have participated in our first listening session of the Synodal process. I understand we had a great discussion. Looking forward to the second listening session.

Today is observed as Word of God Sunday. In 2019 Pope Francis issued an Apostolic Letter, instituting the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as a day devoted specifically to the Word of God in order to enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasure of His Word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world. Let us increase our love for the Word of God in our lives. This also coincides with the week of prayer for Christian Unity (Unity Octave) which is observed from January 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> every year. Pope Francis points out the possibility of being United as believers rooted in the Word of God.

Today's Gospel presents Jesus' "inaugural address" outlining His theology of total liberation as He stood before the people in synagogue and read and interpreted the prophecy of Isaiah. Jesus rooted and grounded His mission and ministry in the written Word of God. Today Christ challenges us to focus on the importance and liberating power of the Word of God. We are called to listen to the Word, accept it into our hearts, and then put it into practice as we live out our lives, thus liberating ourselves and others from all types of bondages.

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

God Loves you!!!

Father Sinoj, HGN

#### Plant Your Works in the Word

One of the things about Scripture is that even the smallest word and shortest phrase can be critical to the overall message. When you take a quiet moment to rest with the Word, you find how quickly the most mundane sentence can reach out and grab you, pulling you into a deeper contemplation of some truth you hadn't even considered until then.

But we often fail to act as the Israelites in the Book of Nehemiah, standing before the Water Gate "listening attentively." Whether it's at Mass during the Liturgy of the Word or at home poring over the Bible, time after time we find ourselves less mindful than we could be. Our ears accept the sounds of the words and our eyes glance over the shape of the letters.

But are we mindful — truly?

The best answer is hopefully at least sometimes. There are always tasks to be completed, problems weighing on our minds that we can't quite give over to God. We lose ourselves in these things instead of in Scripture. We "clock in" with Bible reading instead of "diving in."

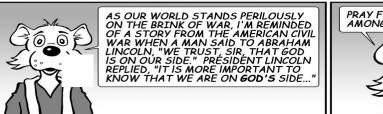
We can never forget that the words of the Lord are spirit and life. They are the soil that quickens the seed of all stewardship. There is no mindfulness, no prayer, no graciousness, no gratitude or accountability or sense of commitment unless there is the Word.

So let us pray today for mindfulness, that our every action will be grounded in the law of God — giving it true spirit and life.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

# Church Mice

Karl Zorowski





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#### 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). To make a report of sexual abuse of a minor and related misconduct by bishops, go to ReportBishopAbuse.org or call 1-800-276-1562.

## **January Birthdays**

20--Janet Clark

22--Vaughn Williams

25--Louise Johnson

26--Frank Adams

27--Sarah Malone, Lilly Malone

30--Pam Wilson

# **February Birthdays**

2--Nancy Bumm

3--Jacques Williams Sr.

6--Philip Moorman

8--Karen Terry

9--Beau Bisel

10--Father Jerry



# **IMP**—Kroger

If you do not have a community reward partner at Kroger, please designate Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Sacrament's # is WX799. We recently received a check for \$154.81. This represents the support of 38 households. Thank you. Go to *krogercommunityrewards.com* to register. Thanks to each of you for your support.

Stephen Hall has ended his earthly journey. Pray for him and all the people who have recently died that they are soon in the loving arms of the Lord

#### Mass Intentions.

January 9--Charles E. Thompson

January 16--Herbert Millay

January 23--Betty and John Clark

January 30--Stephen Hall

February 6--Dorothy Fulton

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: Larry Allen, Shirley Schmidt, Carol Hatchett, Colton Braungardt, Hank Pardon, Doris Smith, Debbie Bellwood, Janice Taul, Merle Griffith, Tyler Cruppi, Pam Wilson, Frank & Gloria Adams, 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 notify the office.

Please remember our home-bound: Ruth Coble at One Park Place and Shirley Schmidt at Hermitage. Georgia Holland lives in St. Louis 1360 Coppergate Ln., St. Louis, MO 63138 but stays active in BSC. A card or phone call can cheer them up.

# **Broken Bridges**

When we cannot forgive, we break the bridge over which we must pass if we would ever reach heaven; for everyone has need to be forgiven.

# Coming Events CALENDAR



# **Blessed Sacrament Chapel**

February 13--Synod Listening Session #2 11 AM

March 2--Ash Wednesday-6 PM Mass

March 11--1st Fish Fry 5-7 PM

April 8--2nd Fish Fry 5-7 PM



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

January 16--\$767

Weekly Budget--\$962

MTD Collection--\$2244

MTD Budget--\$2886

YTD Collection--\$33,189

YTD Budget--\$27,898

Have you thought about donating to BSC online?
It's safe. It's simple. It's convenient. You can use your debit or credit card, checking or saving account.



# **Church Unity Week**

 The cause of church unity is commended to Christians for prayer and action every year around this time; this week is not so much • to focus on the many divisions within the Christian family, but on bonds of faith and mission. Even though Christians have always shown an inclination to fracture, spin off, and mutate into new expressions, recent history shows some new points of convergence and agreement. Catholics are more firmly rooted in the word of God, for example, and many Protestants are more likely to celebrate Communion than in years past. Some denominations are merging and pooling resources, and people from various traditions are collaborating on projects.

The call of this week is to be mindful I of the diversity of our traditions and customs while treasuring what we hold in common. The old advice to "lighten up" is good medicine, because sometimes our differences are delightful and amusing. If someone says, "let l us pray," a Catholic might close the eyes, I bow the head and fold hands; a Protestant reach out and clasp hands with the person in the next chair, and someone belonging to an Orthodox tradition might stand up with eyes wide open. Each has taken a different path, but the goal is always the same. This is a week not for focusing on the well-worn paths of divergence, but for mutual delight in a common goal.

--James Field@JS Paluch Co

#### Lector

.January 23: Layson Brooks

Barbara Bisel

January 30 Alexis Hatchett

Wayne Stephens

February 6: Greg Gough

Jacques Williams

#### **Eucharistic Minister**

January 23: Cindy Clark

January 30: Barbara Bisel

February 6: Rita Moorman

## Laugh of the Week Youth Sunday

As a special youth week project, Ted Montgomery of Campus United Methodist asked his university group to list the ways the Bible would have been different if it had been written by fellow students. These are a few they came up with:

Loaves and fishes would have been replaced by pizza and chips. Ten Commandments are actually five, but because they are double-spaced and written in large font, they look like ten. Paul's letter to the Romans would become Paul's Email to the Romans. Place where the end of the world occurs— not the Plains of Armageddon, but Finals. Reason why Moses and followers wandered in the desert for forty years— they didn't want to ask directions and look like freshmen. Reason Cain killed Abel— they were roommates.

# What is My Role in the Body of Christ?

Today's Second Reading teaches us that each of us is a part of the Body of Christ. "You are Christ's body, and individually parts of it." (1 Cor. 12:27). As disciples, and as good stewards, we can reflect on this in several ways. We are not on our faith journey alone but "baptized into one body," yet each of us is loved and valued by God. In this same way, we should value one another.

We should also strive to recognize and be grateful for our gifts as well as recognize the giftedness of the members of our parish family. No one has all the gifts (but we are all blessed, though differently), and no one person can do it all. God calls each of us to share our blessings, to do our part. He will accept our offerings, along with those of our fellow members in the Body of Christ, and bless and multiply them for the benefit of our parish and greater community. As we reflect on our role in the Body of Christ, we can ask: how might I contribute in my own way?

## SYNOD LISTENING SESSION #1

Last Sunday we had 23 people engaged as they joined together in listening to one another and discerning where the Holly Spirit is leading us as a parish, diocese, and universal Church.

The group was alive as they talked about what they treasure in the Church and what their dreams are for the Church. Where is the Spirit leading us in the 21st century?

Hopefully some who weren't able to join us will be able to be part of the next one on February 13.

## **Readings for the Week**

Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20-22,

25-26/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Acts 22:3-16/Ps 117: 1-2/

Mk 16:15-18

Wednesday: 2 Tm 1:1-8/Ps 89:4-5, 27-

30 /Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps

132:1-5, 11-14/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-10, 13-17/Ps 51:3

-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7, 10-17/Ps 51:

12-17/Mk 4:35-41

#### Observances for the week of Jan. 23

Monday: St. Francis de Sales, Bish

op, Doctor of the Church

Tuesday: The Conversion of St.

Paul the Apostle

Wednesday: Sts. Timothy and Titus,

**Bishops** 

Thursday: St. Angela Merici, Virgin Friday: St. Thomas Aquinas,

Priest, Doctor of Church

# Love in our Works

Our Lord does not care so much for the importance of our works as for the love with which they are done.

--St Teresa of Avila

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PLEASE BE WITH ME AS I PRAY TODAY, AND GIVE ME GUIDANCE TO PRAY FOR THE THINGS THAT REALLY MATTER

#### TIME

The holidays are well behind us, the year stretches out ahead. And what sort of year will it be? To judge by the words of Jesus in today's Gospel, it will be "a year acceptable to the Lord." And Jesus surely didn't mean only the next three hundred sixty-five days facing his listeners at that time.

When Jesus announced the "arrival" of God's favor, it was a message for all time, for every year. Similarly, we rad today in Nehemiah how the people gathered with solemnity to hear God's word as though for the first time. They listened, and then fell to the ground and wept. But the prophet said, "Today is holy...do not be sad, and do not weep."

The "year acceptable to the Lord" is this year. The day that is "holy" is this day. The time to listen is now. What sort of year will you have? What sort of day? God's help is always here. What you do with each day can be holy and acceptable to the Lord if you but listen to and act on God's word.

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# St. Angela Merici

Thursday is the Feast of St. Angela Merici, the foundress of the Ursuline Sisters. Most Catholics (and others) in Western KY especially have been enriched by contact in schools or parishes by the Mount St. Joseph Ursulines Sisters. Say an extra prayer for them, especially for any that you personally know or sent her a note letting her know how she has influenced your life.