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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



7th Sunday Ordinary Time February 20, 2022

Merciful and gracious is the Lord,
 slow to anger and abounding in kindness. Ps. 103:8

TODAY'S READING

First Reading:

"Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the LORD's anointed." (1 Sm 26:23)

Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

Second Reading:

Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one. (1 Cor 15:49)

Gospel:

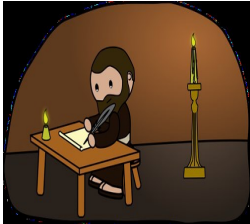
"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Jn Lk 6:36)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass*
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The measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.

From the desk of Father Sinoj



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings! Today's Gospel presents Jesus' revolutionary moral teaching of the "Golden Rule." This teaching is about correct choices in our human relationships. Jesus amplifies the golden rule by giving additional commands for us to follow. It demands our obligation to behave like the children of a loving, forgiving, merciful, and compassionate Heavenly Father. Jesus commands us to love our enemies and to be merciful and compassionate to everyone as God our Father is loving, merciful, and compassionate.

Christian morality shall not be limited to refraining from evil, but rather actively doing good, not only to those who are friends, but also to those who hate us or do evil against us. In other words, Jesus expects us to rise above our human instincts and imitate the goodness and generosity of God. The observance of the golden rule makes us like God whose love and mercy embrace saints and sinners alike.

Our challenge is to overcome our natural inclination to hate. To meet that challenge we need to ask God for the strength to forgive each other. With His grace, let us start forgiving right now by curbing the sharp tongue of criticism, suppressing the revenge instinct, and patiently bearing the irritating behavior of a neighbor. Thus we shall shine as God's children.

😊 Always
😊 Keep
😊 Smiling!

God Loves you!!!

Father Sinoj, HGN

Discipleship: The Measure with Which You Measure

Today's Gospel speaks of the overflowing abundance of gifts along with a reminder, "*the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.*" That's an excellent point on which to reflect as we consider how to best share our gifts. The Gospel is packed with advice about treating others with kindness (even when they are unkind), giving freely without expecting rewards, and showing mercy "*just as your Father is merciful.*" Embracing life as a disciple challenges us. How are we called to show mercy? How are we called to share our gifts? Here are a few ideas, based on the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.

Corporal Works of Mercy: *Feed the Hungry:* Support food pantry collections; give up a restaurant meal and donate the savings. *Give Drink to the Thirsty:* Donate to Catholic Charities or the Red Cross for disaster relief; participate in fresh water projects. *Clothe the Naked:* Donate your unused clothing; give up a new purchase and donate to charity instead. *Shelter the Homeless:* Participate in parish collections that benefit homeless shelters. *Visit the Sick:* Call or visit someone who is sick. *Visit the Imprisoned:* Pray for those in prison or juvenile detention. *Bury the Dead:* Volunteer in our Funeral Meal ministry, Pray for the dead. Have a Mass offered for someone who has died. Check on the sorrowing who have recently lost a loved one.

Spiritual Works of Mercy: *Instruct the Ignorant:* Join a Scripture study or take advantage of spiritual enrichment opportunities. *Counsel the Doubtful:* Call or send a card to someone who is struggling; remember them in your prayers. *Forgive all Injuries:* Pray for the grace to forgive; forgive people before they ask. *Bear Wrongs Patiently:* Pray to let go of grudges; unite your suffering with Jesus and his patient suffering of wrongs. *Comfort the Sorrowful:* Visit, call, or send a card to someone who is grieving. *Admonish Sinners:* Lead by example; read Scriptures of how Jesus corrected sinners (firmly, gently, with love). *Pray for the Living and the Dead:* Pray for all those on our bulletin prayer lists..

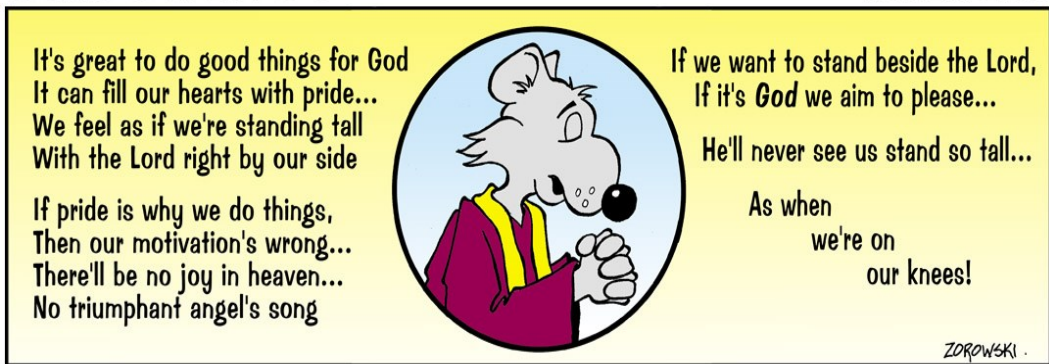
--Donna Taratino

PRAYING. GIVING. SERVING.

Lent is coming soon. March 2nd. What are you planning to help make
your Lent meaningful? Prayer, penance, almsgiving!!

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski

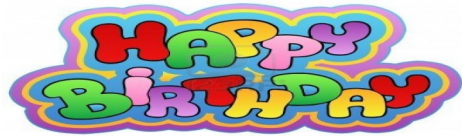


February Birthdays

8--Karen Terry
9--Beau Bisel
10--Father Jerry
23--Larry Allen
24--Yasmeen Williams
27--Sondra Hibbs

March Birthdays

2--Marsha Allen
6--Alizabeth Hatchett, Jax Malone



IMP—Kroger

If you do not have a community reward partner at Kroger, please designate Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Sacrament's # is WX799. Thank you. Go to krogercommunityrewards.com to register. Thanks to each of you for your support.

Eternal Rest

Please remember in your prayer Shirley Schmidt who completed her earthly journey last Sunday. Shirley served her Lord for 97 years and has been a member of Blessed Sacrament for over 2 years. She loved our faith community and missed being able to join us for Sunday Mass. She will be buried next to her husband in Minnesota. Our prayers are with Barbara Bisel, her daughter and the family.

Mass Intentions .

February 13--Dorothy Fulton
February 20--Dorothy Fulton
February 27--Donald Moorman
March 2--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:
Larry Allen, Carol Hatchett, Gina Kirby (Connie Clary's daughter) **Paul Groner, Larry Clark, Colin Holahan,** Colton Braungardt, Hank Pardon, Doris Smith, Debbie Bellwood, Janice Taul, Merle Griffith, 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. Georgia Holland lives in St. Louis but stays active in BSC. A card or phone call can cheer them up.

Confession

En route to church to make his first confession, my nervous seven-year-old grandson asked me what he could expect.

"Confession is where you tell all the bad things you've done to the priest," I told him.

He looked relieved. "Good. I haven't done anything bad to the priest."

Coming Events CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

February 20--Anointing of the Sick
March 2--Ash Wednesday-6 PM Mass
Day of Fast and Abstinence
March 11--1st Fish Fry 5-7 PM
April 8--2nd Fish Fry 5-7 PM



February 13-\$1019
Weekly Budget--\$962
MTD Collection--\$2,169
MTD Budget--\$1,924
YTD Collection--\$37,596
YTD Budget--\$31,746

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

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.



LENT OPPORTUNITIES

Ash Wednesday:

Mass at Cathedral 7 AM and Noon At BSC 6 PM

Reconciliation:

At Cathedral:

Saturdays 9:30-11 AM

Online Devotionals

Best Lent Ever

www.dynamiccatholic/bestlentever

Living Faith Daily

www.livingfaith.com

February--Black History Month

There are 6 African Americans on the road to Sainthood:

Venerable (one step away from Beatification) Pierre Toussaint, Sr. Henriette Delille, Fr. Augustus Tolton.
Servant of God (Life and works investigated for possible sainthood) Mother Mary Lange, Julia Greeley, Sr. Thea Bowman.

Lectors	
<u>February 20:</u>	Jacques Williams Kathi Skidd
<u>February 27:</u>	Layson Brooks Barbara Bisel
<u>March 2</u>	Kathi Skidd
Eucharistic Minister	
<u>February 20:</u>	Priests
<u>February 27</u>	Rita Moorman
<u>March 2:</u>	Vivian Higgs

Let those souls who think their work has no value recognize that by fulfilling their insignificant tasks out of a love of God, those tasks assume a supernatural worth.

The aged who bear the taunts of the young, the sick crucified to their beds, the ignorant immigrant in the steel mill, the street cleaner and the garbage collector, the wardrobe mistress in the theater and the chorus girl who never had a line, the unemployed carpenter and the ash collector--all these will be enthroned above dictators, presidents, kings, and cardinals if a greater love of God inspires their humbler tasks than inspires those who play nobler roles with less love.

--Fulton J. Sheen

Peace begins with a smile. I will never understand all the good that a simple smile can accomplish.
--St. Teresa of Calcutta

Love Your Enemies, Turn Your Other Cheek!

Sometimes, Jesus’ teachings don’t seem to make practical sense. When we hear things like love your enemies and do good to them, turn the other cheek when struck, give to anyone who asks, do to others as you would have them do to you, be merciful, stop judging, forgive, and give to others, we get a bit unsettled. After all, it’s okay for God to do all of these things, but does He really want us to do them, too? Many good-hearted Christians really draw the line with some of these ideals and say, “No way!” They even remark that if someone did something hurtful to someone they loved, they would have no reservations seeking severe retribution. There is still this persistent thinking, even among those who consider themselves Christian, that a violent action deserves a violent response. Somehow, we continue to justify this.

Yet, it is most clearly against the very grain of the Gospel. Part of our difficulty has more to do with understanding God’s love. We wrongly think that sinful or hurtful actions and evil people somehow are seen as lesser in God’s eyes. They are not. God loves the sinner as much as He does the saint. And, both of these inclinations exist in every human being, even those who consider themselves holy. Both the capacity for good and the disposition toward evil exist in every one of us. Viktor Frankl has this to say when reflecting on the Holocaust: “Our generation is a realistic generation because we have learned what a human being really is. When all is said and done, man is that same creature who invented the gas-chambers of Auschwitz; but he is also that being who walked upright into those chambers with the prayer ‘Shema Yisrael’ on his lips.”If we believe in God, we have to act like God. Whether we like that idea is another issue. If we don’t then perhaps, we need to reconsider our faith and whether we really believe in Jesus Christ. We are made in the image of God, not the image of ourselves. The Christian must, at all costs, leave resentment and the need for retaliation behind.

Readings for the Week	
Monday:	Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8-10, 15/ Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-6/ Mt 16:13-19
Wednesday:	Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6.- 11/Mk 9:38-40
Thursday:	Jas 5:1-6/Ps 49:14--20/ Mk 9:41-50
Friday:	Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12/Mk 10:1-12
Saturday:	Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-3 and 8/Mk 10:13-16
Observances for the week of Feb. 20	
Monday:	Presidents’ Day; St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Tuesday:	The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
Wednesday:	St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

The Feast of the Chair of St. Peter is a **commemoration of the contributions of the Apostle to the Christian Church**. It celebrates his authority and endless efforts to build a strong community around the teachings of Christ and has been celebrated since the earliest times in the Christian era.



Do No Harm

We listen quite a while before we get to the “punch line” of the first reading today, even though it would be an easy thing to do. David will to harm the anointed one of the Lord. We, of course, know that Jesus is the Messiah, the anointed one of God, but the Bible uses this term for many different people. It is Scripture’s way of indicating who has been chosen by God for a special place and mission in salvation history.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus presents greatly enlarged list of those who, as children of God, we should not harm, but love instead: our enemies, those who curse us or do us harm, those who owe us money, the ungrateful, the wicked. The point of Jesus’ teaching is not to encourage these kinds of behaviors in others, but rather to for us in the image of our heavenly Father by increasing our opportunities to love unconditionally, expecting no return; to be merciful and forgiving, even when it would be easier not to.

--James Field,, Copyright@JS Paluch, Co.

It’s time to register your preschooler for the 2022-2023 school year! **Cathedral Preschool** is a ministry of St. Stephen Cathedral, and offers a faith-based preschool curriculum as well as After School Childcare for children ages 3,4, and 5. To register or to learn more abut what we can offer your child, please visit our website:
<http://www.cathedralpreschool.com>