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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



3rd Sunday of Lent March 20, 2022

The Lord secures justice and the rights of all the oppressed. (Ps. 103:6)

TODAY'S READING

First Reading:

"This is what you shall tell the Israelites:
I AM sent me to you." (Ex 3:14)

Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

Second Reading:

These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, up on whom the end of the ages has come. (1 Cor 10:11)

Gospel:

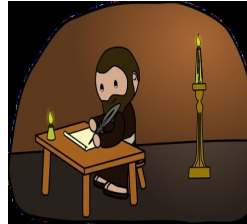
"But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will perish as they did!" (Lk 13:5)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



*He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills.*

From the desk of Father Sinoj



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings! I thank you sincerely for participating in the missions of Heralds of Good News through your contributions and prayers. The Church is sustained by mutual support and communion. Let us continue to grow in our vision Universal Church and cherish our relationship with everyone in the Church.

Today's Gospel explains how God disciplines His people and invites them to repent of their sin to renew their lives. Jesus uses two local tragedies to teach about the need for repentance and a renewal of life. We are invited to be prepared by cleansing our hearts from sin and being in good relationship with God. Thus we shall not be anxious about unexpected tragedies in life.

On the other hand Jesus also speaks of God's patience with us to help us be fruitful in the Holy Spirit. With the parable of the barren fig tree, Jesus reminds us of our Merciful God who is willing to give sinners chance after chance to reform and reconcile. But this kindness of God is given to us in expectation of becoming fruitful. May our Lenten observances help us in repentance and fruitfulness!

😊 Always
😊 Keep
😊 Smiling!

God Loves you!!!

Father Sinoj, HGN

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION.

Hollywood has given us an image of Moses slipping off his shoes before a burning bush. God has just called Moses by name, and so that Moses doesn't miss the meaning of this breakthrough in human history, God requires that all barriers to the experience be eliminated. If you've ever tried to maneuver barefoot across hot and, or pick your way along a rocky beach, you know how sensitive feet can be.

Within the Church, there are religious orders with a custom of going barefoot, not merely to show poverty, but to be an outward sign of a desire for connection with creation, a desire to go through life alert to what God is doing. In early days, when reconciliation was on once-in-a-lifetime possibility, penitent often went barefoot for a long period of time as a sign of their conversion. Even today, people follow an ancient practice of slipping off their shoes to walk in the procession to the cross on Good Friday. It is striking that the first use of our newly-scrubbed feet from Holy Thursday night is to walk resolutely in the footsteps of Christ to the cross.

James Field, Copyright JSPaluch Co.



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Stoking the Lenten Fire

I think we all can acknowledge that there's a certain fatigue that comes over us all as we near the middle of the Lenten season. Maybe you're fatigued — I am, too. Maybe you're doing well in your resolutions and devotions but you're in danger of coasting. Or maybe you don't feel that you have even really begun your Lenten journey. Either way, chances are that the fire that was in your belly on Ash Wednesday is burning a bit low. All fires eventually do, once they consume whatever fuels them. So here we would do well to remember what fuels our Lenten fire. Sometimes we make resolutions that have the appearance of being spiritual, but also have an earthly motive. We give up chocolate hoping to lose weight. We stop gossiping so our friends may like us more. There is nothing wrong with these sacrifices — just with their motivations. As Moses removes his sandals to approach the burning bush, he sees that the fire burns brightly, strongly — but does not consume. It is propelled by something inexhaustible, something which is not of this world. Is your Lenten fire fueled by God? Are you daily surrendering yourself to the same voice that boomed from the bush in Genesis — the voice that commanded the Israelites to do what seemed like the impossible?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

March Birthdays

18--Jean Higgs
19--Dennis Mayfield
25--Carol Hatchett
31--Cameron Malone, Frank Fulton

April Birthdays

3--Rita Moorman, Ethan Gough,
Bobby Hardin
6--Marshall Williams



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.

3rd Week of Lent

How can we fast this week: Try to give up a little screen time to go out and see the glory of God.

How can we pray this week: Pray for our environment. Download Pope Francis prayer at laudatosi.org/pope-francis/a-prayer-for-the-earth

How can we give this week: Donate to an organization that helps protect the glory of God's creation.

Mass Intentions .

March 6--Betty and John Clark
March 13--Shirley Schmidt
March 20--Hugh Moorman
March 27--Stephen Hall

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:
Siji Varghese (Father Paul's sister) **Dorothy Fennewald, Larry Allen, Debbie Moseley, Donna Kaelin, Carol Hatchett, Gina Kirby** (Connie Clary's daughter) **Natalie Clark, Tom Johnson, 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.

SHOUT OUT

A HUGE SHOUT OUT AND THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED MAKE THE FISH FRY A SUCCESS. ON A COLD MARCH NIGHT, YOU BRAVED THE COLD. MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR APRIL 8.

Coming Events CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

March 21--Listening Session with Bishop @Blessed Mother 6-8 PM
March 24--Scripture Sharing 5:30
March 25--SSC Fish Fry 5-7:00 PM
March 27--Parish meeting in hall



March 13--\$1067

Weekly Budget--\$962

MTD Collection--\$3,002

MTD Budget--\$1,924

YTD Collection--\$43,029

YTD Budget--\$35,594

Herald of Good News Collect: \$332

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

Reconciliation:

At Cathedral: Each week

Saturdays 9:30-11 a.m.

March 23: St. Joe and Paul 6 p.m.

March 27: Lourdes 2 p.m.

March 29: St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho 6 p.m.

April 7: Immaculate 6:30 p.m.

April 10: St. Stephen 2 p.m.

Chrism Mass

April 12 6:30 pm

Sportscenter

As you might be aware we are looking at ways to move our parish forward. We are looking at renovations and soon will have an illustration to show you better what is being planned. Part of any moving forward has to be to invite people to join us and to pray. We will begin a Scripture Sharing group on Thursday, March 25, praying over the Sunday readings. Put it on your calendar. Thursdays at 5:30.

	Lectors
<u>March 20:</u>	Jacques Williams Sarah Malone
<u>March 27:</u>	Barbara Bisel Kathi Skidd
<u>April 3:</u>	Layson Brooks Alexis Hatchett
Eucharistic Minister	
<u>March 20:</u>	Cindy Clark
<u>March 27:</u>	Misty Sanford
<u>April 3:</u>	Barbara Bisel

Lent Offers Us Chances to Change.

How’s your Lenten journey going? Are your efforts bearing fruit, or has your path been paved so far with only good intentions? Like the barren fig tree in today’s Gospel, God’s mercy provides us with opportunities to make changes to help us bear fruit, even when our efforts feel fruitless and the Lenten path feels like it’s all uphill. We can begin anew to cultivate positive habits, prune away negative ones, and enrich our hearts in preparation for Easter joy. It’s not too late to start. The Church gives us a roadmap to use along our journey:

PRAY: Pray for those bearing a heavy cross such as the loss of a loved one, illness, a broken relationship, or a difficult financial situation. Take advantage of opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Spend time reading Scripture.

FAST: Fast from negativity; try finding the positive in challenging situations. Fast from wanting; focus on gratitude. Fast from comparing yourself to others; pray to recognize the gifts with which you are blessed. We are all blessed differently!

GIVE: Donate to the needy. Rice Bowl donation help the poor. Give of your time and talents in ministry service.

A PRAYER FOR PEACE BY POPE FRANCIS

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!
We have tried so many times and over so many years
to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms.
How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced?
how much blood has been shed?
how many lives have been shattered?
how many hopes have been buried?
But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid!
Grant us peace, teach us peace;
guide our steps in the way of peace.
Open our eyes and our hearts,
and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost".
Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love,
you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters.
Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister.
Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace,
our trepidation into confident trust,
and our quarreling into forgiveness.
Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation.
In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division," "hatred," and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman.

Readings for the Week

Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25: 4-9/ Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15 -16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/ Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-11/ Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21/Lk 18:9-14

Observances for the week of March 20

Wednesday:	St. Turibius of Mogrovejo,
Thursday:	St. Oscar Romero
Friday:	The Annunciation of Jesus

St. Oscar Romero | March 24

When St. Oscar Romero was appointed Archbishop of San Salvador in 1977, his country was in chaos. Many people in El Salvador were living in poverty, while a smaller elite group controlled all political and economic power. In 1980, El Salvador broke out in a 12-year civil war that left over 75,000 people dead. St. Oscar Romero set up pastoral programs to assist the victims of oppression. He also became an outspoken advocate for human rights, appealing to the Salvadoran military to stop killing their own citizens.

On March 24, 1980, St. Oscar Romero was murdered while celebrating Mass in El Salvador. A car pulled up outside, and a gunman fired a single shot straight into St. Oscar Romero’s heart.

Calling him a “a martyr for the faith” nearly 40 years later, Pope Francis canonized him in 2018. For the occasion, Pope Francis wore the same blood-stained belt that Romero was wearing at the altar when he died.

MID-LENT CHECK-IN

God said to Moses, “This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you... The Lord, the God of your (ancestors), the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.” (Exodus 3:14, 15). As Jesus would later say, God is not a God of the dead, but of the living, and so we believe that the dead will one day rise. At this midpoint of Lent, we pause to consider how our repentance is leading us to the Resurrection, to our reunion with the great “I AM.” Part of our repentance involves working to secure justice for all and helping our neighbor to live in God’s ways. We encourage each other, like the compassionate gardener of today’s Gospel, who tells the owner of the orchard that he will nurture the tree, fertilize it, and perhaps it will bear fruit. copyright@JS Paluch. Co.



Relive Her “Yes”

In this regard, we must learn from Mary; we must relive her “yes,” her unreserved readiness to receive the Son of God in her life, which was then transformed. Through the Holy Spirit, the Father and the Son take up their abode with you. Yet is our life truly inspired by God? How many things do I put before God?