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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:

While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the Passover. (Jos 5:10)

Psalm:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 34)

Second Reading:

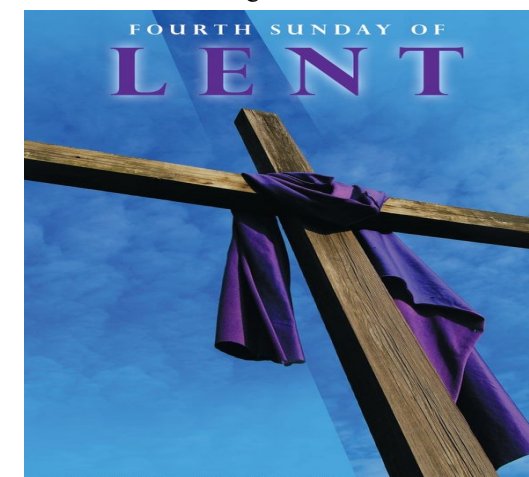
And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation. (2 Cor 5:18)

Gospel:

"But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found." (Lk 15:32)

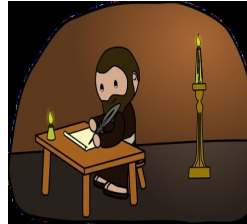
4th Sunday of Lent March 27, 2022

Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold new things have come. 2 Cor. 5:17



*You are here with me always;
everything I have is yours.*

From the desk of Father Sinoj



Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings! Today, the fourth Sunday of Lent is called *Laetare Sunday* – Rejoice Sunday – anticipating Easter joy by being reconciled with God through repentance and the confession of our sins. The thoughts and efforts of repentance and reconciliation shall lead us to the joy that we have renewed our communion with God and His Church.

Today’s Gospel celebrates the joy of the prodigal son and his father on his “homecoming.” The Son rejoices as he experiences his father’s forgiving and overflowing love. The father rejoices over the return of his prodigal son, celebrating the reconciliation of the son with his father, his family, his community, and his God.

Our Lenten observances are aimed at reconciliation and renewal of our relationship with our God and His people. The reflections on the sufferings of Jesus shall lead us to the sorrow of our sins and repentance. And this repentance shall not be sober; rather it shall lead us to the joy of being united with God and His Church. Let us not forget the unifying and communion aspect of Lent as we are past halfway through the Season.

😊 Always
😊 Keep
😊 Smiling!

God Loves you!!!

Father Sinoj, HGN

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION.

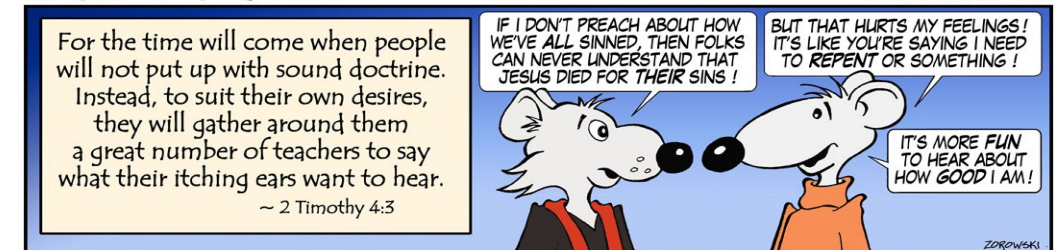
Today, “Laetare Sunday,” breaks the somberness of Lent for a little rejoicing, and the readings all summon us to an awareness of reconciliation. One of the best-loved stories of our tradition is today’s Gospel story of the runaway son and the prodigal father. Prodigal, of course, is an adjective meaning “spendthrift or extravagant to a degree bordering on recklessness” and although the boy maxes out the credit cards, it is really the father who is prodigal with forgiveness.

Part of the excitement of this Laetare Sunday is rooted in the ancient catechumene. Long ago, midway through Lent, the “elect” were focusing more and more on the gift of reconciliation accomplished for them by Christ and about to be realized in the Easter sacraments they were preparing to celebrate. In some places, the elect were even bedecked with roses on this day. A person bedecked with roses sticks out in a crowd; a person formed by the Eucharist and committed to living a life of reconciliation does too. That’s you!

James Field, Copyright JSPaluch Co.

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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The Face on God’s Brochure

When a church is raising funds for a new building or a diocese is launching a stewardship appeal, there is usually someone — or several someone’s — who serves as the face of the campaign. Maybe it’s a married couple, or a family, or a group of folks who have been particularly active in the community and can speak to the worthiness of whatever endeavor is being undertaken.

Oftentimes, for better or worse, we fill that role for God. We are the face on the front of His promotional brochure. If we call ourselves Christians, that means that people will meet Christ through us. That’s what being an Everyday Steward is — a steward, everyday; someone who conducts his Master’s business when the Master is not seen.

It can be intimidating because we have so much baggage and no capabilities of our own. But then we remember that we are offered reconciliation through Christ — that “the old things have passed away, (and) new things have come” (2 Corinthians 5:17). We remember that we are the prodigal sons, and the fattened calf has been slaughtered on our behalf.

So let us think to ourselves each day, “Whoever I encounter will meet Christ’s ambassador. I was dead and have come to life again. How can I speak to the worthiness of that reconciliation? How can I make others desire it?”

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.

4th Week of Lent

How can we fast this week: Fast from all bitterness toward anyone—family, friends, strangers or the Church.

How can we pray this week: Let us pray for those who are grieving, lonely, sick, suffering from addictions or just angry at God.

How can we give this week: Give forgiveness and acceptance to those who have been alienated from us.

Mass Intentions .

March 20--Hugh Moorman
March 27--Stephen Hall
April 3--Helen Miles
April 10--Richard Clouse

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) **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.

HAPPINESS

Happiness will never be ours if we do not recognize to some degree that God's blessings were given us for the well-being of all.

Coming Events CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

March 31--Scripture Sharing 5:30 PM
April 8--2nd Fish Fry 5-7 PM
April 14--Holy Thursday Mass--7 PM
April 15--Good Friday Service 6 PM



March 20--\$796

Weekly Budget--\$962

MTD Collection--\$3,798

MTD Budget--\$2,886

YTD Collection--\$43,825

YTD Budget--\$36,556

Candles \$1

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 27: Lourdes 2 P.M..

March 29: St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho 6 P.M.

April 7: Carmel Home 3 P.M..

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 have a Scripture Sharing group on Thursday, March 31, praying over the Sunday readings. Put it on your calendar. Thursdays at 5:30.***

	Lectors
<u>March 27:</u>	Barbara Bisel Kathi Skidd
<u>April 3:</u>	Layson Brooks Alexis Hatchett
<u>April 10:</u>	Aubrey Ottofy Greg Gough
	Eucharistic Minister
<u>March 27:</u>	Misty Sanford
<u>April 3:</u>	Cindy Clark
<u>April 10:</u>	Vivian Higgs

BE GRACIOUS

There are several themes that can be explored in today’s Gospel, one of which is the gracious response of the father. “Gracious” can be defined as a response characterized by kindness, courtesy, compassion, generosity of spirit, or even mercy. While the father surely had reasons to feel hurt and angry, he instead welcomed his son with a gracious response of forgiveness and boundless love.

What a powerful example. If we strive to develop this demeanor, we—as disciples—can respond graciously to life’s many challenging situations (or sometimes people!) instead of displaying annoyance, resentment, or judgment. It may take practice, but responding graciously can serve as a wonderful example to those around us. It’s worth noting that there will likely be situations in which we also need to *receive* a gracious response as well. Lent is a great opportunity to begin practicing graciousness!

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.
Amen.

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-13/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1, 12-22/Ps 34:17-21, 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9-12/Jn 7:40-53

Observances for the week of March 27

Friday:	April Fools’ Day, Abstinence
Saturday:	St. Francis of Paola, Hermit

GOD FORGIVES

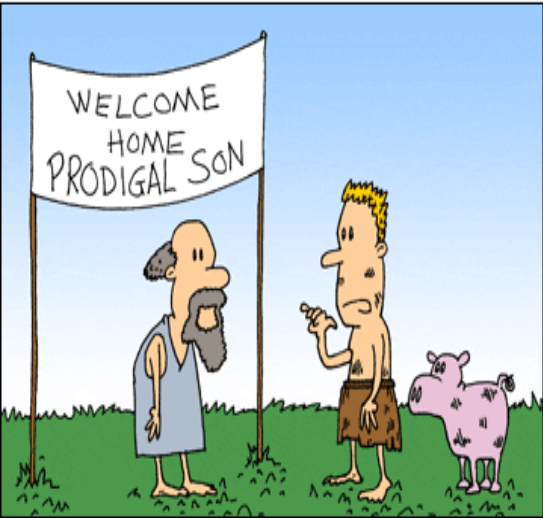
The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you.” After forty years of wandering in the desert, this hard-headed people have finally reached the Promised land. No more do they eat the manna in the desert, but they partake of the fruits of their new homeland. God has kept the promise to their parents in Egypt. Even though they were a sinful people, many times questioning God and even worshiping false gods, God has forgiven them and fulfilled the promise. The “take-away” for us is that there is no sin that is unforgivable. We may have offended our neighbors, given a bad example to someone, even worshipped the false gods of money and power. But God is a merciful God, true to the words spoken to us. God forgives all and calls us back to love.

Smile of the Week

The Robber and the Priest

The story is told of a priest who was coming back to his parish house one evening in the dark only to be accosted by a robber who pulled a gun at him and demanded, “Your money or your life!” As the priest reached his hand into his coat pocket the robber saw his Roman collar and said, “So you are a priest? Then you can go.” The priest was rather surprised at this unexpected show of piety and so tried to reciprocate by offering the robber his packet of cigarettes, to which the robber replied, “No. Father, I don’t smoke during Lent.”

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(See Luke 15) 06-04-2003

I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY NEW FRIEND
... OL' SMELLY AND I SPENT A LOT OF
TIME TOGETHER