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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:

They called the church together and reported what God had done with them. (Acts 14:27)

Psalm:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. (Ps 146)

Second Reading:

"He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." (Rev 21:4)

Gospel:

I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. (Jn 13:34)



5th Sunday of Easter--May 15, 2022

Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race." Rev. 21:3



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." - Jn 13:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

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My Dear Parishioners:

We may wonder whether this Last-Supper commandment of Jesus to love one another is really all that *new*. After all, he could point to an Old Testament requirement to love my neighbor as myself (Lev 19:18). The clearest new element is that we are to love just as Jesus loved us, and that was totally, to the last drop of his blood, poured out on the hill of Calvary. Another sense in which the Christian commandment to love is new is in the breadth of the definition of who is my neighbor, whom I should love. In the parable of the Good Samaritan it appears that now everyone is my neighbour – even those of different nationality or religion. So now, love for our neighbour is very demanding, and goes beyond all racism or prejudice.

The really hard question is whether such love is possible. While giving a hesitant yes to this as a possibility, it is clear that most of us, most of the time clearly fail to live this new commandment fully. We can only love in this way by cooperating very generously with the grace of God. But the power to do is made possible by the New Covenant set up by Christ, and because we have the living presence of the risen Jesus always with us, to help us love in his way.

Of course there are difficult situations where it is very demanding to love our neighbor as ourselves or even to love our neighbor in any way at all. In the face of Islamic extremism or any other form of terrorism, or in time of war, we are strongly tempted to dehumanise the enemy and regard them as no longer part of the human family, and so unworthy of any kind of love or respect. But Jesus' commandment to love, and his own example of forgiving those who crucified him, constantly call us to reconsider things and seek for reconciliation rather than total victory.

In the end, it is only when working with the grace of God that we can love our neighbor as ourselves in this new way. It is only by living every day with Jesus that we can love our neighbor as ourselves in this new way. Can we live our day in such a way that we are in communion with Jesus in some way all day? It is only by living our day with Jesus that we can love as he loved. It is only by living close to Jesus that we can love as Jesus asked us. If not, we will be relying only on our human efforts alone, and we will love with some other type of love but not the unconditional love Jesus asked for when he said, "I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you."

Blessings, Fr. John

PS – I encourage everyone to read this and replace the word 'neighbor' with 'family'

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Frequent fliers today have many ways to accrue air miles, so one doesn't always have to endure long hours in cramped seats to earn free hours in cramped seats. In St. Paul's day, there were no such perks, nor would there have been any legal system for him to protest the shipwrecks he endured. He had other rewards in mind. The churches that he established in the catalogue of cities from today's first reading must have been very different from one another. Language, culture, customs, religious history, obstacles to community, social challenges, the places where they met, their clothing, their bread and wine, all distinct, particular to the area.

There were social customs as well in a Christian household, the only place where a slave would be able to stand legally as an equal with the master would be at the table of the Lord, because at that table a new world of reconciliation was imaged. While Paul revered local customs, he was relentless about challenging the ways that people lived their Christian lives and how their worship reflected them. It is much the same today, as a global Catholic church seeks to respect local customs and culture, allowing for differences in many things, yet always giving expression to the underlying presence of Christ, who binds us all together into His body. --James Field, Copyright @J.S.Paluch Co.



***Listen to the
Voice of creation***
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

Laudato Si Week May 22-29 calls us to take care of our planet, God's creation.

OPPORTUNITIES

July 1-4 National Conference of Burmese American Catholics

This year the conference is held in Owensboro. We have several volunteer opportunities.

- Sarah Malone is looking for people to serve meals on July 3:
2 shifts 11:30-2:30 and 5:30-8:30.
- The parishes in Daviess County are asked to help at 7 motels on July 1 to welcome the community. They are asking for 2 volunteers to help for each of three hour shifts. 12-3, 3-6, 6-9 pm. Along with a representative of the Burmese community, you will welcome and give a goodie bag which is provided.

May Birthdays

7--Connie Clary
8--Mary Ann Terry
12--Cindy Clark, Brent Hatchett
14--Steve Coble
18--Tina McHenry
19--Lad Ottofy
20--Christian Trevor
22--Charles Brown, SR
23--John Carson Malone
26--Diane Hatchett
30--Karen Leachman
31--Barbara Hammond, Layson
Brooks



IMP—Kroger

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

GARDENING

Kind hearts are the garden
Kind thoughts are the root,
Kind words are the blossoms,
Kind deeds are the fruit.

You are called to be holy where you are, wherever God has put you, right now. Mother St. Teresa

Mass Intentions

May 1--Betty and John Clark
May 8--Shirley Schmidt
May 15--Bernard and Jayne Payne
May 22--Herbert Millay
May 29--Kenny Malone

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, Debbie Moseley, Donna Kaelin, Carol Hatchett, Gina Kirby (Connie Clary's daughter) Tom and June Johnson, Colin Holahan, Doris Smith, 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.

As you might be aware we are looking at ways to Growing Forward in Christ. We are looking at renovations. Part of any moving forward has to be to invite people to join us and to pray. We usually have a Scripture Sharing group on Thursdays, praying over the Sunday readings and praying for you. Next one is May 19 at 5:30. Put it on your calendar.

Coming Events CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

May 15--Parish meeting 11 AM

May 18--Scripture Sharing

May 21--???Clean-up day

June 19---Farewell Potluck meal to honor Father Paul (11 AM)

June 24--Sunday Mass at 9 AM



May 8--\$1655

Weekly Budget--\$962

MTD Collection--\$2,889

MTD Budget--\$1924

YTD Collection--\$53,370

YTD Budget--\$43,290

Fish Fry profit \$2286.17

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.

Loving as New Creations

“There’s something different about you.”

Think about the times in your life when this has been said to you. Maybe it was after someone complimented you on a job well done, and you realized that you were walking through life with a little more confidence. Maybe it was after meeting someone special, as you carried the glow of that relationship wherever you went. Chances are, if someone has noticed something different about you, it's because, inwardly, you've been changed by the loving or respectful actions of another person.

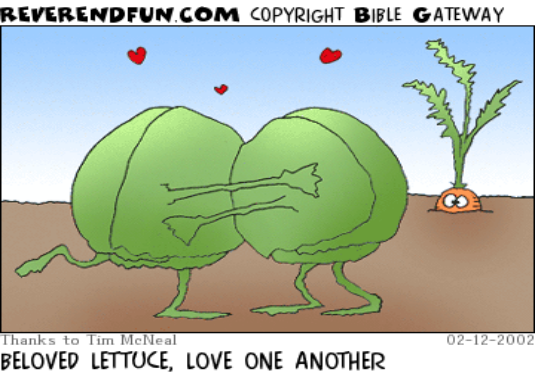
Love, you see, can make us into new creations. From the love of God flows the grace to tackle any challenge, including the biggest challenge of all: loving each other well. Christ knows what a big request this is. He was human, too. He came and lived among us. He knew intimately what it was to love people in the chaos of their own flaws. He knew what he was asking of us when he said, “As I have loved you, so you should also love one another.”

In essence, this is the call to stewardship: loving as Christ loves, amidst the messiness of everyday reality. Loving with accountability, challenging ourselves and our brothers and sisters to be faithful even when it is hard. Loving with an unflinching sense of hospitality that welcomes even those we do not agree with or understand. Loving with gratitude, giving thanks for the great variety of ways that Christ can make himself known to us through others.

It isn't easy — we all know that. But if we ask God for the grace to remain steadfast in this greatest commandment, we will be given what we need to live as new creations.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

	Lectors
<u>May 15:</u>	Connie Clary Jacques Williams
<u>May 22:</u>	Alexis Hatchett Kathi Skidd
<u>May 29:</u>	Barbara Bisel Sarah Malone
	Eucharistic Minister
<u>May 15:</u>	Cindy Clark
<u>May 22:</u>	Vivian Higgs
<u>May 29:</u>	Rita Moorman



Outpouring of Spirit

The teachings of Jesus are not easy. In fact, the commandment that Jesus offered in today’s reading is extremely difficult, “love one another.” It is only when we receive God’s love personally, that we are then transformed to be bearers of God’s love to others! Look for ways this week to spend time with God and look around you to see people that need to experience God’s love through you.

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:	Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-13, 21/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122-5/ Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-3, 10/ Jn 15:9-11
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17

Observances for the Week of May 15

Wednesday:	St. John I, Pope and Martyr
Friday:	St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
Saturday:	St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs; Armed Forces Day

Riddle Me This

- 1) At what time of day was Adam created?
- 2) Why did Noah have to punish the chickens on the Ark?
- 3) Where was Solomon’s temple located?
- 4) Who was the biggest sinner in the Old Testament?
- 5) How do you make holy water (See answers below.)
- 1) A little before Eve.
- 2) Because they were using fowl language.
- 3) On the side of his head.
- 4) Moses. He broke all Ten Commandments at the same time.
- 5) Get regular water and boil the hell out of it.

MISSIONARIES OF MERCY

Paul’s back! After last week’s “violent abuse,” opponents organized a lynch mob that beat Paul nearly to death. But call Paul the “energizing evangelist,” transforming deadly cruelty into life-giving zeal! Paul’s past courage should inspire our commitment. Revelation’s future “new heaven, new earth” should inspire our optimism. But Revelation’s present assurance, “Behold God’s dwelling is with the human race,” should challenge us to become “missionaries of mercy.” Because Pope Francis declared that the church’s credibility is completely dependent on our showing unconditional mercy. Mercy, said Francis, makes the Church, the world, and everyone young again, reawakened to life’s noblest virtues. Fittingly, in today’s Gospel Jesus reinforces that theme: “This is how all will know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” J.S.PaluchCO

Commitment Sunday

Stewardship campaign of

Honoring our past and Growing our Future.

If you have not turned in your commitment form, please do so this week. We would like to hear from everyone by next Sunday, May 15. Thank you.

IMPENETRABLE

The same fence that shuts others out
shuts us in. --Anonymus