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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: 9:00AM

St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Office: 270-683-6525

Pastor: Father John Thomas

john.thomas@pastoral.org

Sacramental Minister: Father Suneesh Mathew

suneesh.mathew@pastoral.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennewald,
SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



TODAY'S READING

First Reading:

Then Elisha left and followed Elijah as his attendant. (1 Kgs 19:21)

Psalm:

You are my inheritance, O Lord. (Ps 16)

Second Reading:

For you were called for freedom, brothers and sisters. (Gal 5:13)

Gospel:

As they were proceeding on their journey someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." (Lk 9:57)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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June 26, 2022 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God. Luke 9:62



Several years ago, I was contacted by a pastor in Owensboro and asked to speak to his liturgical ministers about 'hospitality'. My presentation was named: "Hospitality and the Eucharist".

The pastor asked that I address the fact that we do have 'greeters' and they are indeed Ministers of Hospitality. However, every liturgical minister is a 'minister of hospitality'. Each of us in our own way must be hospitable as we gather around the altar of God.

What can we do to show that the Eucharist is a communal activity? Greeting people at the door is a start. It alerts us to the fact that we are going to do something with others. "Welcome" implies "I am happy that you have come." The first impression a visitor receives is extremely important. But hospitality is everybody's ministry. We practice hospitality in choosing where we sit. Do we take the aisle seat and block access to the rest of the pew or chairs? Are those who come after us forced to crawl over us to find a place? What does it say to latecomers when the only open places are way up front? And how do we acknowledge the presence of those who come in and sit next to us? Hospitality is not restricted to the ministers at the church door.

It is also helpful if we think of the first part of the Mass as "gathering rites" rather than "introductory rites" or "entrance rites," because "gathering" names the purpose of these actions and prayers: "to ensure that the faithful who come together as one establish communion" (*G.I.R.M.*, 46). We exercise the ministry of hospitality when we pick up the service book and sing the gathering hymn. If we are actually doing something together, we should look like it.

We also practice hospitality when we open our minds and hearts to the proclamation of the Scriptures. When we listen to the psalm refrain and repeat it back as best we can, even if the melody is new, we are honing our listening skills and training our ears to hear the Word of God. And this word, received in the Holy Spirit, broadens our understanding of whom we must welcome into our parish assembly. The General Intercessions expand the horizons of our prayer; understanding the Eucharist as sharing a meal together rather than "receiving Holy Communion" lies at the heart of this communal understanding of the Mass.

A stranger should be able to enter a church and feel perfectly at home. If you wish to invite a guest into your home, you must "make room." The enemy of reverence is not hospitality but arrogance. If we wish to worship in an atmosphere of reverence, we must rid our churches, our congregations and our hearts of any superfluous self-importance, pride and ambition that might be filling up our "guest spaces." This is the difficult part of hospitality. Arrogance and all that goes with it need to be "sacrificed" at the Eucharist. When we are weighed down with pride and self-importance, it is difficult to mount the cross with Jesus, who "humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross" (Phil 2:8). Emptying ourselves of arrogance is the key to experiencing reverence. One of my favorite people, Blessed Mother Theresa said: "The biggest disease is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted."

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Processions are life's journey distilled. We move with companions, aware that Christ accompanies us, as we move to the altar for Communion or to the font for baptism or carry a loved one to a place of rest. In Europe the season of pilgrimage is beginning now, and tens of thousands of people are moving by foot on well-worn paths. Some take as long as six weeks to walk the last few hundred miles of the medieval pilgrimage route to the Shrine of St. James the Apostle in Compostella, in northern Spain.

Those who make the journey by foot, hiking, or by bicycle, have a kind of passport stamped at villages and monasteries on the road. When they present this document at the cathedral, they are given the emblem of a pilgrim, the scallop shell of St. James. High over their heads at Mass, a huge *botafumero* twirls clouds of sweet incense through the cathedral. Cynics say it is to mask the odor of smelly feet. The pilgrims know better. Seeing through the clouds the happy faces of those they met along the road, they recognize a foretaste of the welcome into heaven, and the joy of meeting loved ones in the Kingdom of God.

--James Field J.S. Paluch, Co



Blessed Sacrament Chapel applied to be part of the Lilly Endowment Grant which Brescia University is utilizing to help area places during a Mission Week: Eucharistic Life. We were so blessed to have teenagers and adults volunteer their time and giving spirit for 4 days this past week. They painted the hall, three side rooms, and outside doors, and power washed outside overhangs. All materials are paid for through the grant. Please say a prayer of thanks for the team that gave of their time and talents so cheerfully to help us and the Lilly Endowment.



June Birthdays

16--Sister Jeannette
23--Michelle Jones, Pam McCarter
27--Leland Herzog
30--Father Sinoj, Trent Hatchett

July Birthdays

3--Ray Higgs
8--Alexis Hatchett, Calvin McHenry
10--Chelis Carmona



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. Our last contribution from your purchases March through may was for \$153.44. Thanks to each of you for your support.

Honoring Our Past and Growing Our Future

We continue to move forward with our Renovations. If you have not sent in your commitment form, please do so. It is important for you to pray about what Blessed Sacrament has meant to you and what you think our future holds.

Mass Intentions

June 19--Louie Moorman
June 26--Stephen Hall
July 3--Betty and John Clark
July 10--Robert Prather
July 17--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: Robert Johnson, Larry Allen, Kitty Board, Debbie Moseley, Donna Kaelin, Carol Hatchett, Gina Kirby (Connie Clary's daughter) 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: Robert Johnson at his home. 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. Our Scripture sharing time will resume mid-September.

Coming Events CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

June 24--Sunday Mass at **9 AM**
July 2--Father Martin's ordination.
August 6--BSC Picnic 12-2
(BBQ for sale, drive-through diners, 50-50 raffle)



June 19--\$1619

Weekly Budget--\$962

MTD Collection--\$3314

MTD Budget--\$2886

YTD Collection--\$59,989

YTD Budget--\$49,062

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.

Guided by the spirit

There will always be something behind us and before us. Time moves on and the world continues to rotate. Will we miss that which exists right before our eyes because they are shut while we are consumed by the past or worried about the future?

When we go about whatever work God has set for us this day, large or small, we cannot get it done if we are looking behind us. Being mindful means to live for the present. It sounds like the simplest thing in the world, but we forget it (I forget it at least once every day). We must be guided by the Spirit.

What I'm talking about here is a radical abandonment of ourselves to God — over, and over, and over again. We cannot put our hand to the plough, while our eyes are looking backward at what is left behind. We cannot turn back if we are to move forward.

When we take up the yoke of stewardship, we will never be able to bear it if we rely on our own strength. When we put our hands to the plough, we will never get the job done if we look backwards at our own track record for inspiration. There is no inspiration there. Let the dead bury their dead.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



"If I send my prayer as a text message, will I get a faster reply?"

	Lectors
<u>June 26:</u>	Sarah Malone Barbara Bisel
<u>July 3:</u>	Layson Brooks Kathi Skidd
<u>July 10:</u>	Aubrey Ottofy Connie Clary
	Eucharistic Minister
<u>June 26:</u>	Cindy Clark, Greg Gough, Misty Sanford
<u>July 3:</u>	Vivian Higgs, Janet Clark, Charlene Meadows
<u>July 10:</u>	Karen Leachman, Barbara Bisel, Rita Moorman

2022 Barbecue Schedule
7/9 St. Alphonsus 3:00 PM
8/2 St. Martin (Drive Thru) 4:00 PM
8/6 Blessed Sacrament 12:00-2:00 PM
9/17 Blessed Mother (Drive Thru) 4:00 PM
9/18 St. Lawrence/ St. William 11:00 AM
9/24 Immaculate 1:00-3:00 PM
9/25 St. Mary of the Woods 11:00 AM

Our Lord gave the Church the great gift of the Holy Eucharist to feed us spiritually and give us the strength we need to follow Him faithfully. The bread and wine become His Body and Blood. It is not just a symbol of Christ but, in a profound and holy transformation, the elements actually become the Lord's Body and Blood. As Catholics we have a tremendous treasure in our ability to physically receive Jesus Christ. We must respond with faith and reverence to this gift that Jesus has given us.

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:	Am 2:6-10, 13-16/Ps 50: 16-23/Mt 8:18-22
Tuesday:	Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4-8/Mt 8:23-27
Wednesday:	Acts 12:1-11/ Ps 34:2-9/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19
Thursday:	Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 9:1-8
Friday:	Am 8:4-6, 9-12/Ps 119:2, 10, 20, 30, 40, 131/Mt 9:9-13
Saturday:	Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9-14 /Mt 9:14-17

	Observances for the Week of June 26
Monday:	St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
Wednesday:	Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles
Thursday:	The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
Friday:	St. Junipero Serra, Priest
Next Sunday:	14 th Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Thomas, Apostle

Picnic--2022
At the parish meeting recently, decisions were made about the annual picnic which will be August 6th, There will be a drive-through dinner 12-2 pm, Pre-sale Bar-b-q meat and a 50-50 raffle. Please plan to support this in the best way that you can.

Fantasy
It is certainly true that a popular government cannot flourish without virtue in the people
--Richard Henry Lee

RADICAL TRANSFORMATION
On this Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, the readings describe anything but an ordinary time. They are disturbing and they leave us disturbed. The Old Testament reading recounts a young man's radical break with the past to follow a new path. The Gospel describes how life as we know it is abruptly changed if we follow the call of Christ. The psalm and Paul assure us that such life-altering change is possible only because of the power of God's love. We are presented with a stark choice. To love as God loves, we must leave our old lives behind. We must leave behind not just the bad, the selfish, and the evil, but the ordinary, our daily work, and the important, our families, our lives. Loving as God loves requires a radical transformation, not a smooth transition.....
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Prayers go with Father Sinoj



On Sunday, we had the opportunity to send Father Paul to his new ministry as pastor of St. Joseph in Leitchfield and St. John in Sunfish.

