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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, HGN

suneesh.mathew@pastoral.org

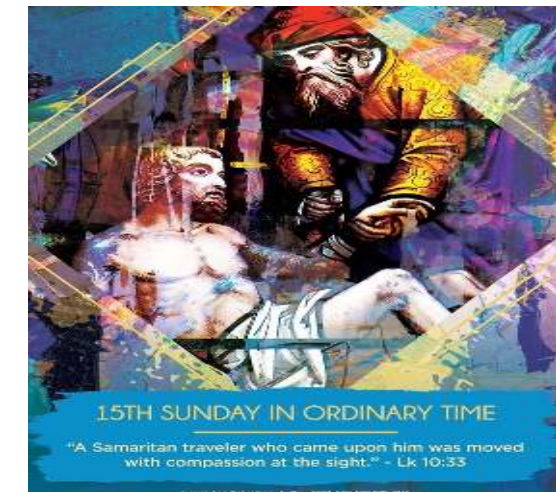
Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennewald, SSND

pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



July 10, 2022 15th Sunday--Ordinary Time

Christ Jesus...is the head of the body, the church. --Col 1:15,18



TODAY'S READING

First Reading:

"No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out." (Dt 50:14)

Psalm:

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live. (Ps 69)

Second Reading:

For in him were created all things in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, (Col 15:15)

Gospel:

"Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?"

He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." (Lk 10:36)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998,

Every once in a while it is valuable to take a parable and turn it upside down. This is particularly true of today's parable of the Good Samaritan, because the meaning of this parable is so well known that it is almost a cliché: we are to act like the Good Samaritan and help others who are in need. The parable has even influenced the English Language. If you were to stop and help someone fix a flat tire, that person could likely call you a "Good Samaritan." We have "Good Samaritan laws" that penalize people who do not help others in certain circumstances. Now there is nothing wrong with reading this parable as an invitation for us to help those in need. But if any parable needed a new twist or a different perspective, it would be this one.

So how can we read the parable differently? We can do so by changing the character in the parable with whom we identify. Instead of seeing ourselves as the character who gives (that is the Samaritan – the good guy) we can see ourselves as the character who receives (the man who fell in with the robbers). Instead of inviting us to give to others, the parable shows us how God gives to us, how salvation comes to us.. We can even change the name of the parable. Instead of calling it the parable of "The Good Samaritan," we can call it the parable of "The Man in the Ditch."

It comes as a surprise and as a gift. The parable is telling us that often God comes into our life as a surprise. The man in the ditch would have expected that the priest and the Levite, good people that they were, would stop to help him. They did not. But who could have thought that a Samaritan would have pity on him? Remember Jews and Samaritans were enemies and would not even greet one another on the street. So who could have guessed that this Samaritan would stop and show him mercy? No one. It was a surprise. In the same way, God surprises us.

God's coming is also a gift. The parable tells us that God sends us life without our ability to earn or merit it. The man in the ditch could have called out to the priest or the Levite, reminding them of their obligation to help him as a fellow Jew. But what claim could he make upon his enemy, the Samaritan? The Samaritan could rightly say to him, "I owe you nothing,." Therefore, his willingness to stop and help was a total gift, a complete grace. That is how God comes into our lives.

The parable of The Man in the Ditch tells us that life comes to us in ways we can never predict or ever deserve. Your own experience of life confirms this. Look at the surprises in your life: the way you met your spouse, the work your children chose to do, the decisions that led you to where you live and with whom you associate. Who could have predicted any of these things? Look at how much in your life is unearned: that you were born in this country, your health, the people who love you. No one owes this to you. Yet it is your life. It comes as a gift.

If God comes to us as a surprise and as a gift, it is clear that there is no way we can control God's presence. We can, however, get ready for it. We can open ourselves to God's will. We should never say to ourselves, "God can not do this for me." God is always surprising us. So we can find someone to love us, we can fight this cancer or this addiction, we can find the strength to understand and forgive. We should never try to limit God's activity to only the things that are due to us. God is always giving us more than our due. Therefore, we should willingly seize whatever opportunity is given, appreciate the relationships that are ours, and be willing to accept help from another.

Blessings! Father John

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

On a summer day, with the windows open, we may hear the sound of church bells. Bells seem to have come into church life in Irish monasteries around the seventh century, and spread around the Christian world by Irish monks on missionary journeys. By the eighth century, bells were standard equipment in even small parish churches. An ancient ceremony, once called the "Baptism of the bells," recognizes that the church bell has a voice to call people to awareness and summon them to worship, and even bestows a name on the bell.

In a world without clocks or watches, the bell had an indispensable role. For calling monks in from the fields for prayer, or alerting far-flung visitors, the bell's voice was enhanced by hoisting it high into a tower. Soon it was learned that the sound of several bells clanging together in harmony imparted a sense of joy to great celebrations, and bell towers prospered, some chock full of bells. Different combinations of rings could indicate a death, a Mass, a wedding, a fast day, the curfew at the end of day, and the Angelus. Before electricity, bell-ringing was hard work indeed: the biggest bell in the Catholic world, in Cologne, Germany, weighs twenty-seven tons! There's no substitute for the resonant roar of a mighty bell; electric chimes are not eligible for blessing!. --James Field J.S. Paluch, Co

St. Kateri, pray for us and our environment. She is patron saint of ecology.



St. Kateri Tekakwitha is the first Native American to be recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church. She was born in 1656, in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon. Her mother was an Algonquin, who was captured by the Mohawks and who took a Mohawk chief for her husband. She contracted smallpox as a four-year-old child which scarred her skin. The scars were a source of humiliation in her youth. She was commonly seen wearing a blanket to hide her face. Worse, her entire family died during the outbreak. Kateri Tekakwitha was subsequently raised by her uncle, who was the chief of a Mohawk clan. Kateri was known as a skilled worker, who was diligent and patient. However, she refused to marry. When her adoptive parents proposed a suitor to her, she refused to entertain the proposal. They punished her by giving her more work to do, but she did not give in. Instead, she remained quiet and diligent. Eventually they were forced to relent and accept that she had no interest in marriage.

At age 19, Kateri Tekakwitha converted to Catholicism. Her decision was very unpopular with her adoptive parents and their neighbors. To avoid persecution, she traveled to a Christian native community south of Montreal. Sadly, just five years after her conversion to Catholicism, she became ill and passed away at age 24, on April 17, 1680.

July Birthdays

- 3--Ray Higgs
- 8--Alexis Hatchett, Calvin McHenry
- 10--Chelis Carmona
- 12--Darlina Etienne
- 13--Francine Epison
- 15--Georgia Holland
- 17--Wayne Stephens
- 18--Lori Carmen
- 20--Tina Gough
- 22--Marcia Wilhite
- 24--Lori Robinson
- 27--Robert Hagan
- 28--Dylan Sanford
- 29--Hugh Joseph Moorman
- 30--Yvonne Mundy
- 31--Gloria Adams



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Wisdom

Wisdom has been defined as knowing the difference between pulling your weight and throwing it around.

Mass Intentions

- July 3--Betty and John Clark
- July 10--Robert Prather
- July 17--Stephen Hall
- July 24--Herbert Millay
- July 31--Dan Harding

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: Burnell Hamilton, Robert Johnson, Larry Allen, Jordan Gertisen, Buddy Adcock, 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

- July--Sunday Mass at **9 AM**
- July 3--50-50 raffle tickets pick-up
- August 6--BSC Picnic 12-2 (BBQ for sale, drive-through dinners, 50-50 raffle)



- July 3--\$1176
- Weekly Budget--\$1058
- MTD Collection--\$1176
- MTD Budget--\$1058
- YTD Collection--\$1176
- YTD Budget--\$1058

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.
- WeShare (on website)

Safe Environment

The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian. Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities (800-422-4453); local law enforcement (800-752-6200); or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-597-2331). To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church (paid or volunteer), call Louanne Payne, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) on the confidential phone line: 270-852-8380, or Susan Montalvo-Gesser/Miguel Quintanilla, Pastoral Assistance Coordinators (Spanish): 270-880-8360. The Diocese of Owensboro's sexual abuse policy is available at this parish (in the bookshelf in back of the church), in the parish office, and also on the diocesan website (<https://owensborodiocese.org/safe>). To make a report of sexual abuse of a minor and related misconduct by bishops, go to ReportBishopAbuse.org or call 1-800-276-1562.

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(See Luke 10:30-36) 09-10-1998
 DON'T GET TOO EXCITED FELLA, I'M THE MEDIOCRE SAMARITAN ... I ONLY GIVE YOU A BAND-AID AND THEN I'M OFF

	Lectors
<u>July 10:</u>	Alexis Hatchett Connie Clary
<u>July 17:</u>	Aubrey Ottofy Greg Gough
<u>July 24:</u>	Sarah Malone Jacques Williams
	Eucharistic Minister
<u>July 10:</u>	Kathi Skidd, Rita Moorman, Barbara Bisel
<u>July 17:</u>	Cindy Clark, Janet Clark, Misty Sanford
<u>July 24:</u>	Greg Gough, Vivian Higgs, Sarah Malone
	Collection & Gifts
<u>July 10:</u>	Jax Malone, Cathy Kramer
<u>July 17:</u>	Joyce & Ron Moorman
<u>July 24:</u>	Alexis and Alizabeth Hatchett

Laugh of the Week

A Penny Saved!

Hoping to help his church save money, Pastor Jones decided to paint the church exterior himself, but all he had on hand was one bucket of paint. So he collected a bunch of empty buckets and some water, which he used to thin the paint enough to cover the building. Then he spent the whole day painting. That night it rained and washed off all the paint. The pastor was so discouraged and asked God, "Why...why Lord, did you let it rain and wash away all my hard work?" To which God replied, "Repaint and thin no more."

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: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21 and 23/Mt 10:34—11:1
Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-8/
Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13-16/Ps 94:5-10, 14-15/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, --16/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14/
Mt 12:14-21

Observances for the Week of July 10

Monday: St. Benedict, Abbot
Wednesday: St. Henry
Thursday: St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
Friday: St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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.

2022 Barbecue Schedule

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

GOD WANTS TO BE KNOWN

The Old Testament reading from Deuteronomy praises God for inscribing the commandments in our very bodies. God's law is not distant or foreign, but a natural part of us. In his letter to the Colossians, Saint Paul echoes Moses, praising God for becoming one of us. The truly human, flesh-and-blood Jesus reminds us that God always wants to be recognizable and familiar to us. Jesus, who is also truly God, wants to be on intimate terms with each of us.

God's passionate desire to be known by us is almost too wonderful to take in. Luke's gospel helps us understand how to respond. The Good Samaritan parable provides practical advice for those who believe in God's intimate love for them and want to share that love with others.

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