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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

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July 23, 2022 17th Sunday--Ordinary Time

Everyone who asks, receives
and the one who seeks, finds.

First Reading:

"Please, let not my Lord grow angry if I speak up this last time. What if there are at least ten there?" He replied, "For the sake of those ten, I will not destroy it." (Gn18:32)

Psalm:

Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me. (Ps 138)

Second Reading:

He brought you to life along with him, having forgiven us all our transgressions. (Col 2:13)

Gospel:

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds;



My Dear Parishioners:

It is hard to believe, but summer vacation will soon be ending. Our first day of will be upon us soon (WOW!). Our parish community is blessed to have a Catholic School System school as part of our life. However, with this blessing comes great responsibility. Our goal is simply to encourage our teachers, strengthen our curriculum, and take the resources before us and put them to the best use possible. As the new school year will soon be upon us, I simply ask that you make part of your daily prayer our school principals, teachers, staff, and especially our students. I strongly support Catholic education and ask you to do the same.

- Top Ten Benefits of a Catholic School Education
1. An Incarnational View of the World: *Catholic school students learn that God is present and active in their lives and in the world. They learn to recognize the "footprints of God" in their daily experiences, especially in the midst of life's challenges. They see the signs of God's love around them, and become instruments of God's grace in their own neighborhoods, communities, and the world.*
 2. Immersion in in the Paschal Mystery: *Our lives are a series of small and not so small dyings and risings. In union with the Paschal Mystery, we realize that there is redemptive power in suffering, and in the power of the Cross. In it lies the answer to the mystery of all of life's successes and failures. In the experience of the Paschal Mystery, we also realize the need for community.*
 3. The Value of Relationships as a Reflection of the Divine: *Catholic school students learn to experience God's grace and presence in their lives through their relationships with family, friends, and teachers. The loving and supportive relationships they experience are reflections of the love and life-giving dynamic of the Trinity.*
 4. A Nuanced View of Scripture: *Catholic school students are given the opportunity to explore the beauty and richness of Sacred Scripture seen through the lens of faith and lived out in daily practice. They also come to view the Human Person as created in God's "image and likeness," and destined for eternal life. They learn to apply Scripture to their own lives as a tool for prayer and the true guide for virtuous living*
 5. Civic Engagement: *Catholic schools were ranked #1 in the percentage of graduates who actively participate in civic and community activities such as voting, volunteering, letter writing to legislators, and donations to charity, not just for a tax write-off, but out of a sense of the requirements of justice.*
 6. Service for the Common Good: *Catholic schools promote service as an essential component of their curriculum. Catholic school students learn that they are in fact "their brother's keeper," and have a responsibility to respond to the needs of those around them.*
 7. Discipline as a Faith Expectation: *Catholic schools promote self-discipline through clarity of moral vision based on the Gospel. Students are challenged to be Christ-like in word and action. They are asked to examine their choices and actions in the light of the Ten Commandments and Gospel of Love.*
 8. Centrality of arts, Ritual, Drama, Music to the Life of Faith: *Through Catholic education students are exposed to the richness of the religious Tradition, Music, Art, Literature, Drama, and Ritual.*
 9. The Fullness of Catholic Identity at the Heart of the Church: *Catholic education has always been at the heart of the Catholic Mission. The students are the "greatest work of the Church" and go out and share the gifts they have received as doctors, lawyers, policemen, business people, teachers...*
 10. Personal Excellence as a Spiritual Goal: *Catholic School students learn that excellence is a response to God's blessings. Students learn to make a difference in the world around them.*

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The pilgrim experience of going by foot to Santiago de Compostella, the shrine of St. James, reached its high point this week at the feast of the Apostle, with tens of thousands of pilgrims on the road. Typically, they cover twelve to twenty miles a day through rough territory. The difficult journey and the often primitive lodging facilities are made bearable by the joy of the pilgrims, their songs and prayers. When their journey is documented properly, they receive the scallop shell, a reminder not only of James the fisherman, but also his call to fish for human beings and to baptize the nations. In the Middle Ages, those who wore this badge on their hats were granted lodging and hospitality wherever they wen. Next to the palm, the sign of a .Jerusalem pilgrim, the scallop shell was most highly prized.

In the Middle ages, some people so enjoyed the pilgrim road, although, although it was filled with discomfort and danger, that they spent most of their lives on the road. Today some people take up the route for exercise, but are drawn gradually into the spirituality of the journey. As you make your summer travels, always fold in a element of pilgrimage: a long walk through beautiful countryside, a visit to a church, a prayer of gratitude for your journey through life's hills and valleys. James Field@J.S. Paluch



St. James the Apostle | July 25

Saint James the Apostle is also called James, son of Zebedee, or James the Greater to distinguish him from the other James in Jesus' group of twelve. He and his brother John were collected by Jesus along the sea of Galilee. Matthew 4:18-22 tells the story of Jesus calling first Simon Peter and his brother Andrew and then the sons of Zebedee. In Mark 3:17 the brothers receive a nickname from Jesus who calls them "sons of thunder" because of their many extreme reactions, like that in Luke 9 when they offer to call down fire on a Samaritan village.

Saint James was part of Jesus' intimate circle, a witness to the Transfiguration, the resurrection of Jarius' daughter, and the agony in the garden of Gethsemane. In A.D. 44 Herod Agrippa had "James, the brother of John, killed by the sword." (Acts 12:2) He is the only apostle whose martyrdom is written of in the New Testament.

July Birthdays

- 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



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 to each of you for your support.

Deception

Indeed, it is not in human nature to deceive others for any long time, without in a measure deceiving ourselves too. J.H. Newman

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, Ka'Mya Morton, Danny Clark, 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 23/24 Raffle ticket sale SSC

August 6--BSC Picnic 11:30-2
(BBQ for sale, drive-through diners, 50-50 raffle)



July 17--\$1052

Weekly Budget--\$1058

MTD Collection--\$3478

MTD Budget--\$3174

YTD Collection--\$3478

YTD Budget--\$3174

May each give according to what the Lord has blessed us with.

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Meister Eckhart asks, "Who is the man whose prayers God always hears?" He answers, "God hears the man who appeals to God as God. When, however, man appeals to God, hoping for some worldly good, he is not appealing to God at all, but to what he is asking of God. He is trying to make God his servant. On this point, St. Augustine says: 'You pray to what you love, for true whole prayer is nothing but love!' Thus, we pray to what we love, and no one rightly prays to God but he who prays for God and has nothing on his mind but God." We struggle with what we want God to do and how we want our prayer validated. Meister Eckhart is correct. We often want God to be our servant. We further struggle with trusting that God knows what we need and that His will is best.

God's will is not some predetermined outcome of events that we must simply suggest. "Thy will be done" is not an invocation beckoning us to accept a particular state of affairs passively. Rather, it is the humble and confident placement of ourselves in the presence of the God we seek, whom we call "Father." We must remember that God is the God of life and light. It is from nothing that God brings something and from the darkness that God brings life. Prayer allows us to seek the One we love with the assurance that all will be well regardless of what course the events of our lives take. God is not about passive submission but the humble trust of love.

That's what makes the Lord's Prayer the perfect prayer. It provides us with proper disposition and focus, putting in line all of the essential relationships of our lives. It celebrates and fosters the ever-deepening relationship of trust we have with our Creator. It also calls us to keep open the doors of love between our brothers and sisters with the power that comes with forgiveness. If in one's darkest hour they can find the resolve to fervently pray this perfect prayer of Jesus' conviction, then there is no doubt that God will hear their plea, and bring them ever closer to His heart. What more does one need to weather the storms of life besides faith, hope, and love? These are God's most perfect gifts and all we really need.

	Lectors
<u>July 24:</u>	Sarah Malone Jacques Williams
<u>July 31:</u>	Misty Sanford Connie Clary
<u>August 7:</u>	Layson Brooks Sarah Malone
	Eucharistic Minister
<u>July 24:</u>	Greg Gough, Vivian Higgs, Charlene Meadows
<u>July 31:</u>	Cindy Clark, Sarah Malone Kathi Skidd
<u>August 7:</u>	Janet Clark, Rita Moorman, Lori Robinson
	Collection & Gifts
<u>July 24:</u>	Alexis and Alizabeth Hatchett
<u>July 31:</u>	Barbara Hammond, Sondra Hibbs
<u>August 7:</u>	Jacques, Whitney Williams

Picnic--2022

We need your support and participation at our picnic on August 6. There will be a drive-through dinner 11:30-2 pm, Pre-sale Bar-b-q meat and a 50-50 raffle. How can you help?

- Sell 50-50 raffle tickets. Last year we gave the winner \$2822. Let's top that
- Get pre-sales for bar-b-q. Orders due by August 1.
- Donate a pork butt, other items for dinner.
- Help on Friday afternoon to prepare meat
- Bar-b-q
- Saturday help--wrap pre-sold meat, serve lunch, **Clean-up**

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 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1-6/ Mt 20:20-28
Tuesday:	Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday:	Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 59:2-4, 10 -11, 17-18/Mt 13:44-46
Thursday:	Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2-6/ Mt 13:47-53
Friday:	Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14/ Jn 11:19-27
Saturday:	Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 14:1-12

Observances for the Week of July 24

Monday:	St. James, Apostle
Tuesday:	Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin
Friday:	St. Martha
Saturday:	St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Fall of Pride. A turtle who was very talkative once overheard the plan of two hunters who schemed to catch turtles the next day. The turtle turned to two cranes for help to elude the conspiracy of the hunters. It weaved a plan where in the cranes were to hold a long stick at their ends between their beaks. The turtle was to close its mouth tightly in the middle of the stick so it could be carried to a safe distance. The cranes agreed to the idea. The cranes took off with the turtle dangling in the middle of the stick. When the birds were high up in the air, people below were awe struck and exclaimed, "What clever birds! What a brilliant idea!" The proud turtle shouted out, "The idea is mine!", only to tumble to land on earth. Pride cannot escape the price that it has to pay. Pride goes before the fall. Those whom the gods want to destroy, they first make them proud.

ASKING FOR HELP

The Beatitudes praise the poor in spirit. One characteristic of those who are poor in spirit is their ability to ask for help; they know when others can provide what they lack. Today's readings encourage us to practice poverty in spirit by asking God for what we need. What could be more natural than to ask God for good things? God is, after all, the inventor of goodness and the giver of all good things.

Asking God for help puts us in conversation with God. These conversations take many forms. The reading from Genesis shows Abraham bantering with God like a skilled negotiator, while Saint Paul's letter to the Colossians praises God for answering us even when we don't deserve it. In St. Luke's Gospel, Jesus not only gives us words to use in our conversations with God (the Our Father), but also promises that God always listens to our prayer.

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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

Laugh of the Week

There was a well-meaning lady mailing a box of Bibles for her church to missionaries over seas. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk. "Only the Ten Commandments," answered the lady