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Blessed Sacrament

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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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August 7, 2022 19th Sunday--Ordinary Time

Our souls wait for the Lord,
who is our help and our shield. Ps. 33:20

First Reading:

For when you punished our adversaries, in this you glorified us whom you had summoned. (Wis 18:8)

Psalm:

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own. (Ps 33)

Second Reading:

For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and maker is God. (Heb 11:10)

Gospel:

"You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." (Lk 12:40)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



A few weeks ago I watching TV. I laughed when I realized on the TV was a show about hoarding. It was a show trying to help people that are compulsive hoarders and it goes inside their homes and examines the psychology behind why people have the compulsion to accumulate and store large quantities of goods. I was fascinated by the series because I can tend to be a bit of a hoarder myself when it comes to books and movies, and I watched to see if I could find out causes this need in people.

Apparently there were hoarders in Jesus' time as well, according to our readings today. But we are also given a reason why people hoard: fear. Greed presumes fear. Greed is not simply an issue of power . . . it is more an issue of fear.

My grandparents had the experience of the depression and they seldom threw anything away. They kept rolls of string, rubber bands, and all sorts of things. The fear that the Depression left them with made them want to make sure they would never be without. In a like vein, people a few years ago had no fears. The economy seemed great, banks seemed happy to lend, and people got themselves into great debt because they had no fear of failure. If we get rid of fear, we get this change in attitude.

Jesus often told his disciples not to be afraid. In today's reading he tells them not to be hoarders either. Trust in God and do not be afraid. Instead of storing things up on earth and hoarding for a better day, let God take care of that, and concern yourself with the future in heaven. If you have to hoard, hoard your good deeds and collect as many of them as you can.

In today's readings Jesus takes care of the present first. For the present, get rid of what you don't really need and make gifts to the poor. Then, look to the future. Act in a way that prepares you for the kingdom. Evaluate what you do by thinking whether or not the Master would like it if he returned and saw you doing it. Jesus in this reading is preparing his follows for the future; just as in the first reading today God has prepared the Hebrews for their future. Knowing that God would be true to his word, that he would deliver them, he would lead them to a Promised Land, allowed the Hebrew people to live in joy even when the present was difficult.

Similarly, Jesus promises the kingdom of heaven and wants his followers – those who have been 'in the know' to be joyful, because he is true to his word and it will happen in the future. This changes our attitude to the present then, it changes our behavior, and it changes our need to concentrate on earthly things which pass, and allows us to concentrate on the final goal. And as we know, that final goal is the kingdom of heaven. When everyone acts in accordance with that, we can have a little bit of heaven while we are on earth.

“From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, more will be demanded.” With knowledge comes responsibility. We must gird our loins – fasten our belts – to be ready for action, just as the Hebrews had to do at the Passover, to be ready to journey. Following the Gospel will bring you both freedom and joy. Christ promises us this. But to follow the Good News there is a price – we have to give up those things that pull our hearts and minds away from God – possessions, the inclination to abuse any power we might have, our reliance on having enough time to turn things around before the end comes. In our world today there is still the inequity between the well-off and the poor. We still have time to right this in our own world, in our own neighborhood, and in our own families. We must find ways to be good stewards of the possessions given to us. And it starts with each one of us.

I often quote our previous Bishop McRaith. “No one gets into heaven without a good reference from the poor.” If Jesus should return tomorrow, will we have done all we could to put into practice his message? Blessings, Fr. John

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

When Pope Pius XII died in 1958, there was the usual buzz of speculation about likely successors. Cardinal Agagianian, Patriarch of the Armenians, was highly thought of as a likely choice. This took many Catholics by surprise, since he had never celebrated the same liturgy as Pope Pius, but followed ancient Armenian customs according to the Eastern Church, which veils the Eucharistic liturgy from sight by a series of curtains and in which the priest kneels while the people stand for Communion.

In the years that followed, the Second Vatican Council would affirm the dignity and independence of the Eastern churches, in complete union with Rome, yet different in patterns of life and worship. We have the same faith, the same sacraments, and the same pope. Yet everywhere in the world our separate Churches are combined into families held together by the ministry of bishops. All of this serves as warning: If you ever say, “But we've always done it this way, you are on very thin ice indeed!

James Field@J.S. Paluch



Feast of St. Lawrence: Little is known about Lawrence other than he was a deacon during the reign of Emperor Valerian from 253–259. In 258, Valerian began a persecution of the Roman Church. Lawrence was in charge of the purse for the Church of Rome. Roman officials demanded that the riches of the church be handed over to them. Lawrence asked for a few days to gather them.

Lawrence took the money he had charge over and distributed it to the poor of Rome. Then he gathered all the homeless and poor together. When the officials came again demanding the riches of the church, Lawrence pointed to the destitute and homeless, saying that these were the true riches of the church. For this he was imprisoned and tortured, and put to death by burning on a gridiron. It is said that as he was dying, he told his executioners to turn him over because he was done on one side and needed to be fully cooked for the Lord.

Lawrence continues to be a model for us today. The church needs continual reminders that its riches are the people. The primary purpose and mission of the church is to be continually sensitive to the needs of all God's people, most especially the least of our brothers and sisters.

July Birthdays

29--Hugh Joseph Moorman
30--Yvonne Mundy
31--Gloria Adams

August Birthdays

21--Kyler Carmona
24--Celena Hagan
30--Hank Pardon



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What is the most important thing?

What is the most important thing? JESUS! If we forge ahead with our own arrangements, with other things but without Jesus, we make no headways; it does not work. Jesus is more important.

---Pope Francis

Mass Intentions

August 7--Herbert Millay
August 14--Mary Lou Miller
August 21--Stephen Hall
August 28--Paul Bender

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: Doris Smith, John Thompson, (Cindy Clark's brother) Dorothy Fennewald, Teresa Woods, Robert Johnson, Larry Allen, Jordan Gertisen, Buddy Adcock, Ka'Mya Morton, Debbie Moseley, Donna Kaelin, Carol Hatchett, Gina Kirby (Connie Clary's daughter) Colin Holahan, 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

August--Sunday Mass at 9 am
August 14--50-50 drawing 10 am

Faith makes all things possible--not easy.



July 31--\$653
Weekly Budget--\$1058
MTD Collection--\$4568
MTD Budget--\$5290
YTD Collection--\$4568
YTD Budget--\$5290

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Caught in the Rising Action

Think of some of your favorite iconic movies. I'm not talking about the feel-good comedies or the offbeat coming-of-age flicks. I'm talking about the movies that you found had a profound impact on you or made you go "Hmmm."

I'm willing to bet that the plot of this film features some tough moments and difficult scenarios. However happy the ending, at some point, the situation for the protagonist might look awfully hopeless. The script speaks some truth to you about what it is to be human in difficult circumstances. What it means to persevere.

We're attracted to the tension that exists when the hero is besieged. We're captivated by the decisions he makes in the darkest hour of the night when it seems like the dawn will never come. Why? Because we know that feeling so well. This is the essence of our human life on earth: waiting, hoping, doubting — and enduring.

We know the ending to our story, but we don't know when it's coming. We live our whole lives in the rising action of the narrative. Sure, it gets old. Tiresome, even dull. We may start to despair that the climactic scene is coming at all.

But faith is the realization of things hoped for, and evidence of things not seen. We feel it watching a great movie, because we recognize it intuitively: it is faith which earns the happy ending. No one is drawn to the story when the hero gives up or gets tired of waiting for the payoff. Everyday stewardship is the collection of choices we make while we're waiting, because we are called to action, not idleness, even in our perpetual state of expectation.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Lectors	
<u>August 7:</u>	Layson Brooks Sarah Malone
<u>August 14:</u>	Alexis Hatchett Kathi Skidd
<u>August 21:</u>	Connie Clary Jacques Williams
Eucharistic Minister	
<u>August 7:</u>	Janet Clark, Rita Moorman, Greg Gough
<u>August 14:</u>	Vivian Higgs, Misty San ford, Charlene Meadows
<u>August 21:</u>	Sarah Malone, Barbara Bisel, Kathi Skidd
Collection & Gifts	
<u>August 7:</u>	Jacques, Whitney Williams and sons
<u>August 14:</u>	Janet Clark, Michelle Jones
<u>August 21:</u>	Cathy Kramer, Wonet Taylor

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Thanks to Sheryl Rayner 08-03-2012
WHEN HOARDERS LAY UP TREASURES IN HEAVEN

A PRAYER FOR PEACE BY POPE FRANCIS

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!
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.
Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen.

LAUGH OF THE WEEK

Jesus and Moses are golfing.
Jesus says, "Watch this drive. It'll be just like
Tiger Woods." He hits the ball and it lands in
the lake.
Moses says, "I'll get it." He goes down to the
lake, parts the water and retrieves the ball.
"Okay," Jesus says, "This time, it WILL be
just like Tiger Woods." He hits the ball and
again, it lands in the lake. Moses goes down,
parts the water and retrieves the ball.
"Third time is charm," Jesus says. "Watch, just
like Tiger Woods." And for the third time he
hits the ball into the lake.
Moses says, "This time you can get it your-
self!"
As Jesus is walking on the water looking for the
ball, a crowd has formed. One guy says, "Who
does he think he is, Jesus Christ?"
"No," Moses says. "He thinks he's Tiger
Woods"

POSSIBILITIES

All things are possible for one who believes,
more to one who hopes, even more to one who
loves.
--St. Lawrence

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Ez 1:2-5, 24-28/Ps 148:1-2, 11 -14/Mt 17:22-27
Tuesday:	Ez 2:8—3:4/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111/Mt 18:1-5, 10-14
Wednesday:	2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-9,/ Jn 12:24-26
Thursday:	Ez 12:1-12/Ps 78:56-59, 61- 62/Mt 18:21—19:1
Friday:	Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 /Is 12:2-6/ Mt 19:3-12
Saturday:	Ez 18:1-10, 13, 30-32/Ps 51:12-15, 18-19/Mt 19:13-15

Observances for the Week of August 7

Monday:	St. Dominic, Priest
Tuesday:	St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr
Wednesday:	St. Lawrence, Deacon
Thursday:	St. Clare, Virgin
Friday:	St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious
Saturday:	Sts. Pontian, Pope, and Hip polytus, Priest, Martyrs

Shout Out

**Thank you to each and everyone for
helping to make the picnic a success.
You sold and bought tickets and
meat; you shopped for needed items;
you supplied food, you barbecued,
you served and worked the day off!!!**

FAITH AND HOPE

Faith and hope are closely united in
today's readings. The Israelites knew the
Passover was coming and so were not in
fear, but had faith and courage, "putting into
effect with one accord the divine Institu-
tion." In this we can see a foretelling of the
Eucharist that we celebrate according to
Christ's command, "Do this in memory of
me."

We see that Abraham, Sarah, Isaac,
and Jacob died in faith, although they did
not see fulfilment of the promise. We live
in hope that our faith will be fulfilled every
time we celebrate this sacrament. We too
are not to be afraid, but to have hope that
our faith will be fulfilled in the coming of
Christ.

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2022 Barbecue Schedule

- 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

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

St. Thomas Aquinas reminds us that, "Three
things are necessary for the salvation of
man: to know what he ought to believe, to
know what he ought to desire, and to know
what he ought to do." Everyone is called to
work toward their salvation, which is ulti-
mately union with God. Those who take this
call seriously must embark upon a journey
inward to the deepest recesses of their soul.
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