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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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First Reading:
 As long as Moses kept his hands raised up, Israel had the better of the fight. (Ex 17:11)
Psalm:
 Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. (Ps 121)
Second Reading:
 So that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work. (2 Tm 3:17)
Gospel:
 "Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night?" (Lk 18:7)

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

Oct. 16, 2022 29th Sunday--Ordinary Time
I lift up my eyes toward the mountains; whence shall help come to me? My help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Ps. 121:1-2



My Dear Parishioners:

Today's Gospel speaks about prayer and two essential characteristics of prayer. Obviously God hears every prayer. There is no prayer that God does not hear. It is impossible for us to live out of range of God. Prayer is not like talking into a cell phone and saying, "God, can you hear me now?" God knows all, God sees all, and God hears all. Try as we might (and all of us try), there is no God free zone in our lives nor can there ever be a God free zone in our lives.

In this parable as he teaches us about prayer Jesus give us the example of a widow, the poorest of the poor and the weakest of the weak. Jesus reminds us that like the widow in the story we are called to pray constantly and not grow weary. All of us must strive to live in a state of constant prayer.

The unjust judge says that the widow's petition was answered because she would not give up. If even an unjust judge will answer a petitioner if they ask long enough and hard enough...how much more will God who is not an unjust judge but a loving father answer our prayers. So you see the first characteristic of prayer is constancy. We must pray always. Our lives must become prayer.

The widow's example also gives us another characteristic of prayer and that is trust. She trusted that eventually her petition would be answered. Like her we have to learn to trust. We have to learn to trust. We have to learn to trust the very God who gives us life and gives us breath, and gives us the ability and privilege to love. I have often said this of people who struggle with trust (and often for good reason). Every time we breathe we are exercising trust. There is no promise that once we exhale there will be oxygen to inhale. Yet, we can only hold our breathe for so long. Eventually we must 'let it out'. The same is true of prayer. We must trust that once we 'let it out' there will be something in return.

Not only must our prayer be constant, but we also have to have complete trust that it will be answered in the best possible way no matter what. Sometimes we fool ourselves into thinking that we know more than God. Sometimes we fool ourselves into thinking that our prayer was not answered because it was not answered in the way we desired. In other words we really don't trust God.

Dear friends each and every prayer we offer should end something like this, "Father I think this is what I need, and this is what I ask, but I know and I trust that you know best and you love me. Father your will be done. Your will be done O God. That's how Jesus finished his most fervent prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane and that is how we need to finish our prayers each and every one.

If you look at the first reading the message is the same. As long as Moses kept his hands in the air the battle with Amalek went well. Whenever he gave up, whenever his prayer was not constant things went poorly. Finally it was only with the assistance of Aaron and Hur that Moses was able to keep his hands up and remain in prayer.

We all know that it is not easy to hold our arms in the air for long periods of time. And we all know that it is not easy to pray constantly and trust constantly that our prayer will be answered. So, you see, the last message of today's readings is simply this. Like Moses needed Aaron and Hur to sustain his prayer during battle, we need each other, and we need the Church to sustain ourselves in our prayer.

If our prayer is constant, and if we trust God completely, then when the Son of Man comes he will indeed find faith on the earth. He will find our faith. Blessings, Fr. John

.TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Although the hours of daylight are rapidly dwindling, many people would say that these October days bring the year's most splendid weather. Americans are riders and joggers, not strollers, and so the pleasures of the season are often lost on us. This is not the case with any Jewish people, who observe an ancient rule in walking to synagogue on the Sabbath. On city streets and suburban sidewalks in many cities, we may notice around sunset the nicely dressed families walking and chatting on Friday afternoon. After a short prayer at dusk, the families stroll home again for a relaxing and festive meal. They return to synagogue in the morning, and then spend an afternoon in family leisure until three stars appear in the night sky and Sabbath ends.

Catholics, on the other hand, pile into the car and drive even a short distance to Mass; some even divide the family to participate at different hours. For Jews, the leisurely walk marks a dividing line between hectic life commitments and a day of abundant joy and enrichment. Before we became an automobile culture, Catholics embraced a similar pace, and in most places walked to church. These lovely days of fall invite us to tap into an old and life-giving tradition. If you live within a mile of your church, walk next week. If you must drive, park at a good distance, and walk the rest of the way. Talk about your life, greet strangers, notice the crunch of leaves under your shoes. You may be surprised at how different Sunday Mass feels when it is framed by leisure.

--James Field copyright J.S. Paluch Co.

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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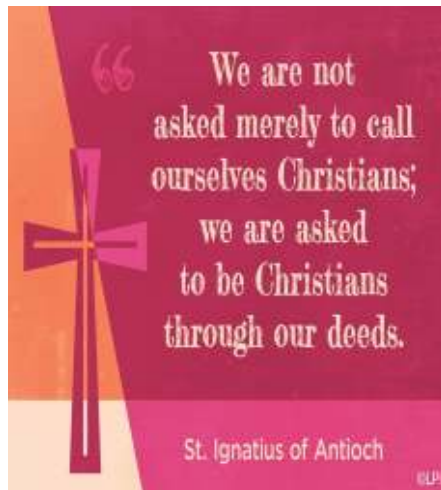
October Birthdays

6---Jarrod Malone
 10--Jacques Williams III
 13--Vicki Leonard
 20--Dorothea Melton
 28--Martha Kramer



IMP—Kroger

We have just received a donation of \$138.32 from Kroger, thanks to 38 households who have signed up to contribute through the community rewards program. 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.



Mass Intentions

.October 9--Stephen Hall
 October 16--Herbert Millay
 October 23--Betty and John Clark
 October 30--Joe Beard
 November 1--Herbert Millay

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: Rachel Mattingly, Carol Hatchett, Sondra Hibbs, Sister Janice Fennewald, Charlie Brown Sr, Doris Smith, John Thompson, Dorothy Fennewald, Kate Quinn, Mike Lewis, Teresa Woods, Larry Allen, Jordan Gertisen, Buddy Adcock, Ka'Mya Morton, Debbie Moseley, Donna Kaelin, 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, Camilla Greer, Philip 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.

NOTHING BUT GOD
I need nothing but God,
and to lose myself in the heart of God.
 --St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Coming Events CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

October--Sunday Mass at 9 am
 October 23--Parish Meeting
 Nov. 1 Feast of All Saints
 6 pm Mass



Oct. 9--NA
 Weekly Budget--\$1058
 MTD Collection--NA
 MTD Budget--NA
 YTD Collection--NA
 YTD Budget--NA

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)

Sparking Holiness

As the seasons change, a lot of us like to clean out our homes and unload some of the junk we've acquired over the summer. One trendy approach to decluttering is the Marie Kondo method, named after the author who popularized it. Overly simplified, it's a process that compels you to go through your closets, your garage, your basement — all the places you collect the dreaded "stuff." As you do so, you hold up the items and ask yourself: "Does it spark joy?"

It's a question that is bold in its simplicity. In answering, you're supposed to go with your gut. If it's a quick "Yes, it sparks joy," the item should be kept. If the answer is no, it gets tossed.

There are people in life who will support our efforts to do God's will. There are those who will, as Paul says, "convince, reprimand, (and) encourage," unafraid of the reaction we give them. There are those who will shore up our defenses when the battle goes longer than we thought.

The same goes for hobbies and pastimes. There are those that will ennoble our minds and bring us closer to God. And there are also those that will drain our funds and our free time, with nothing to show for it.

During these autumn months, don't just declutter your basement in preparation for the hauling out of the Christmas ornaments. Take stock of the people and pursuits that make up your life. With each one, ask yourself: "Does it spark holiness?"

If the answer is yes, thank God that our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. If the answer is no, maybe it's time to declutter.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Brendan wouldn't stop. He continued nagging his mom to let him have a little more time with his phone. He knew the rules but wanted to finish a game and text a few more friends. He begged, had a temper tantrum, pleaded, screamed, pouted, and used every means he could think of to get Mom to change her mind. Mom had a busy day and was tired. At first, she held her ground. Then, her son's persistence got the best of her, and she caved. "Brendan, you can have 30 more minutes and no more!" she retorted. Brendan's determination paid off. He won.

Is this how it works with God too? If we want something enough and feel it is our due, does our persistence allow us to eventually get our way? Judging God by human standards, it would seem so. But is this the way God works? It gets a bit confusing when Jesus tells his disciples to "pray always without becoming weary" and then further tells them how God will "secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night." If we catch God at the right time, when he's having a weak moment, then our tenacity ought to pay off. What we want, we will get. Really? Sadly, the way many approach prayer suggests that this is precisely how it goes.

Good parents set boundaries and offer proper discipline. They learn the art of being steadfast when presented with determined minds and wills. They know what is best and, at times, have to say "no." God is always there with His full attention and unconditional love showering itself upon us. God also knows what is best. And, as with any good parent, the one constant that is always available and never withheld is love. We can be as persistent and determined as we want if what we are seeking is God's love. We are never a bother and requests for God's love are never denied. Desiring God alone and not only what we want God to do for us places this love relationship foremost in our minds, hearts, and souls. God is never bothered by this prayer.

C.LPi

Readings for the Week

Monday: Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2-5/
Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-13,
17-18/Lk 10:1-9
Wednesday: Eph 3:2-12/Is 12:2-6/
Lk 12:39-48
Thursday: Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5,
11-12, 18-19/Lk 12:49-53
Friday: Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-6/
Lk 12:54-59
Saturday: Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-5/
Lk 13:1-9

Observances for the Week of Oct. 16

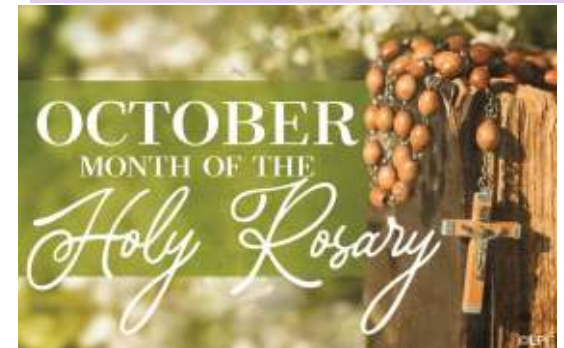
Sunday: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret
Mary Alacoque, Virgin
Monday: St. Ignatius of Antioch,
Tuesday: St. Luke, Evangelist
Wednesday: Sts. John de Brébeuf and
Isaac Jogues, & Companions,
Thursday: St. Paul of the Cross, Priest
Saturday: St. John Paul II, Pope

October--Respect Life Month



PERSISTENCE

Today's readings are about persistence, passionate persistence. Exodus tells of a battle won despite weariness because Moses, with help from Aaron and Hur, held his hands raised. Timothy asks that same persistence of his community and us. Luke tells of a court case won by a widow, despite the dishonesty of the judge, because she will not leave him alone. The psalm reminds us that God is everywhere, guarding us from harm day and night, coming and going, now and forever. The readings are about persistence, the relentless, unwavering pursuit of what must not be lost. The readings are about God's passionate persistence in pursuing us, seeking to win our hearts.
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There are 4 sets of mysteries of the Rosary. Each one focuses on events in the life of Mary and Christ; we can meditate on these as we pray the Hail Marys. The Sorrowful Mysteries are usually prayed on Tuesdays and Fridays.

- 1--The Agony in the Garden
- 2--The Scourging at the Pillar
- 3--The Crowning with Thorns
- 4--The Carrying of the Cross
- 5--The Crucifixion

Lectors

Oct. 16: Alexis Hatchett
Barbara Bisel
Oct. 23: Jacques Williams
Kathi Skidd
Oct. 30: Misty Sanford
Connie Clary

Eucharistic Minister

Oct. 16: Vivian Higgs, Rita Moorman,
Misty Sanford
Oct. 23: Sarah Malone, Janet Clark,
Lori Robinson
Oct. 30: Cindy Clark, Greg Gough,
Kathi Skidd

Collection & Gifts

Oct. 16: Joyce and Ron Moorman
Oct. 23: Yvonne Mundy, Cathy Kramer
Oct. 30: Jacques and Yulanda Williams

LAUGH OF THE WEEK

Helpful Prayer

Billy had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while he emerged and informed his mother that he had thought it over and then said a prayer.

"Fine," said the pleased mother.
"If you ask God to help you not misbehave, He will help you."
"Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me not misbehave," said Johnny. "I asked Him to help you put up with me."