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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

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Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennewald, SSND

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Oct. 2, 2022 27th Sunday--Ordinary Time

.Come let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the Lord who made us. Ps. 95:6

First Reading

The rash one has no integrity; but the just one, because of his faith, shall live. (Hab 2:4)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

Second Reading:

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord. (2 Tm 1:7-8)

Gospel:

If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.' (Lk 17: 6)

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



Faith. This is a word that we throw around a lot in religion. What does it mean? Before we look at today's readings, let's review its meaning. Faith is about the future. It is about belief, and it is about trust and loyalty. If we look at faith as belief, it means that we accept things that don't have any real evidence or logical proof. For example, belief in God or belief in an afterlife. People have come up with proofs for God's existence, but in reality most people believe it in faith. If we look at faith as trusting in something, we believe in the truth of something and are loyal to that belief. The faith of our parent that we talk about is our trust that the religion we accept, the path that Jesus taught, is truthful and right. We accept it, live it and believe in it. But, it is not always easy in our culture to have faith in something, to have faith in anything. Faith, we say, is a gift. When the apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith, they are asking for something that most humans have felt in their lifetimes. We want to believe in something. But we have doubts. So how can we increase our faith? The Apostles were with Jesus and still had to ask the question: how can we increase our faith? The prophet Habakkuk was asking the same question. He had faith – he was addressing God, but he didn't think God was listening. How long did he have to see violence, destruction and misery before he lost his faith in God and was no longer loyal to the one God. How many times can we be depressed and alone and unanswered before we give up? The answer to Habakkuk was that if you are a just person, and act justly to others with integrity, your faith will be strengthened as a result of your living, and even though the rewards are delayed, you can be sure they will come. In this case, faith seems to be increased by living morally and honestly which is being loyal to God's commands. Here God puts the cart before the horse and says that by living morally and truthfully, you will increase your faith. You become more loyal to God by acting loyally to God. Paul, in the second reading to Timothy, tells Timothy that his faith will be increased by his ordination, in which the spirit increases the gifts we have of power, love and self-control. This is what we normally think of – that faith leads to integrity. So at this point it seems that we are developing a circle here of being moral leading to faith and loyalty to Jesus, leading us to be more moral.

When the Apostles ask Jesus how they can be more faithful, what they are asking in the context of what has just gone before, is how they can be more loyal to Christ, how they can strengthen their belief and trust in Christ and all that Christ demands. Jesus has made it very clear to his close followers that he demanded loyalty from them. As we have seen recently, he demanded that even that they put Jesus ahead of their families. Jesus was demanding a lot from his twelve apostles. Their question, then, was one of asking for help in making that commitment.

With his metaphor of the mustard seed, a very tiny seed, Jesus tells them that even with a small amount of faith, God will hear them and answer their needs, even if it was something that needed a miracle. But Jesus also tells them that their faith at this point is very weak. Jesus explains that the Apostles do have faith and that with the amount of faith they already have, they can do impossible things.

Then Jesus tells a short parable about a man who has only one servant. And that servant is expected to do not only the outside work, but also the inside work or preparing meals. A servant is hired and expected to do what an employer asks. Some tasks will be more difficult and time consuming than others. We shouldn't expect the employer to do the servant's task of making supper and having the servant sit down to eat with him. It doesn't work that way. Do we give special favors to a person who is just doing his or her job adequately? The end of the parable simply means that a good servant is expected to just do his or her job. This is similar to the Habakkuk reading in that by doing what you are supposed to do, your faith will increase. The Twelve, to increase their faith, have to do the work of Jesus has taught and expects them to do. Faith is a gift! We don't get it by working harder for it.

So what can this mean for us this week? I am sure we all struggle with our faith at some time or another. First of all we need to recognize that it is a gift to us. It is a grace. We sing "Amazing Grace" often because the word grace means 'gift'. Faith is our gift – it has been given to each of us here. Some of us might have the faith of a mustard seed, others might have been given a greater faith. But we can use what we are given and do amazing things with it – move mountains! All we need to do is to accept and come to grips with this gift of faith. We need to do the things Jesus asks us to do – love our neighbor, love God. To work to bring an end to injustice in the world and to work toward making the kingdom of heaven happen here on earth is what we must do as Christians. It is expected of us. So let us think this week about how we are doing: Have we shown love to our God and neighbor? In what little ways? Have we fought to bring justice to all people? In what little ways? Have we tried to transform the world and make it a little better place? In what little ways? If we are not using our gift, it will not grow. From the littlest seeds, great trees can grow. And even a tiny mustard seed bears much fruit! Blessings, Fr. John

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Sometimes human relationships go awry, but Christ's choice for us is irrevocable. In marriage celebrations, the church always recalls God's faithfulness to help prepare married couples for enduring the inevitable rough spots. The Byzantine liturgy does this by adorning the couple with crowns that remind them of the martyr's crown. They couple therefore takes on a vocation of witnessing to the sacredness of life in all of its suffering and joy, and of keeping their eyes fixed on the banquet of heaven.

In Eastern theology, people have a liturgical vocation to give God praise and marriage fits within that plan. It is not so much saying prayers that counts, but becoming prayer. Interestingly, in this liturgy the couple never utters a word other than joining in the community's chants; there are no marriage vows as such. There is therefore not a hint of our Western Christian sense that marriage is a legal contract. Rather, it is all about living out one's baptismal vocation, embracing the cross, pouring oneself out in love, and opening to the grace of the Holy Spirit.

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



The movie **Mother Teresa No Greater Love** is coming to Owensboro this October. The movie will be shown only at select theaters on October 3 and 4 and Owensboro's Malco Theater has been chosen. There will only be one showing each night at 7 pm so seating is limited.

Go online early and order your tickets in advance. A great opportunity to see a movie about a modern day saint..

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
The young Francis abandoned riches and comforts to become a poor man among the poor. He understood that true joy and riches do not come from the idols of the world--material things and the possession of them--but are only found in following Christ and serving others. Less well known is the moment when this understanding took concrete form in his own life. It was when Francis embraced a leper. This was because in every suffering brother we embrace we embrace the suffering Body of Christ.

--Pope Francis

September Birthdays

- 8--Mary Hagan, Mamie Farish
- 9--Luke Bisel
- 20--Mary Katherine Gough

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.

You and I are called to do very humble work. There are many people who can do big things, but there are very few people who will do the small things. --Mother St.. Teresa

Mass Intentions

- October 2--Sandy Dyer
- October 9--Stephen Hall
- October 16--Herbert Millay
- October 23--Betty and John Clark

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, Kingston Lane, Carol Hatchett, Sondra Hibbs, Joyce Springer, Sister Janice Fennewald, Charlie Brown Sr, Doris Smith, John Thompson, Dorothy Fennewald, Kate Quinn, 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.

*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 early October***

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



- Sept. 25--\$755
- Weekly Budget--\$1058
- MTD Collection--\$4,377.05
- MTD Budget--\$4232
- YTD Collection--\$14,289.49
- YTD Budget--\$13,754

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)

Be Careful What You Wish For

You've probably heard the phrase "Be careful what you wish for." In my experience, it's not often utilized with a lot of charity. You usually hear it said as a warning. The unspoken sentiment behind it is this: *You're not as strong as you think you are.*

As Christians we shouldn't be surprised to look ourselves in the mirror and own that reality. We are not as strong as we may think. We are time and time again shocked and dismayed by our own weaknesses, our own fears, our own shortcomings.

Should we be careful what we wish for? The apostles asked Jesus to increase their faith, and He told them it would take work. It would take suffering. It would take patience. But He didn't say it was impossible.

As everyday stewards, we need to continue wishing recklessly. Ask God for anything and everything, come to Him with all your needs. Beg Him for grace without limit.

When we hear God's voice, it does not always say what we want to hear. But it always speaks the perfect truth. If it tells us of a hardship that we think we cannot bear, let us take solace in the knowledge that we are the stewards — not the landlord.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Lectors	
<u>Oct. 2:</u>	Greg Gough Misty Sanford
<u>Oct. 9:</u>	Layson Brooks Sarah Malone
<u>Oct. 16 :</u>	Alexis Hatchett Barbara Bisel
Eucharistic Minister	
<u>Oct. 2</u>	Janet Clark, Vivian Higgs, Barbara Bisel
<u>Oct. 9:</u>	Greg Gough,, Cindy Clark, Charlene Meadows
<u>Oct. 16:</u>	Vivian Higgs, Rita Moorman, Misty Sanford
Collection & Gifts	
<u>Oct. 2:</u>	Fain Family
<u>Oct. 9:</u>	Aubrey and Lad Ottofy
<u>Oct. 16:</u>	Joyce and Ron Moorman

LAUGH OF THE WEEK

Two old men had been best friends for years, when one of them suddenly fell deathly ill. His friend comes to visit him on his death bed and they're reminiscing about their long friendship, when the dying man's friend asks, "Listen, when you die, do me a favor, I want to know if there's baseball in heaven." The dying man said, "We've been friends for years, this I'll do for you." Then he dies. A couple of days later, his surviving friend is sleeping when he hears his friends voice, "I've got good news and bad news. The good news is there is baseball in heaven, the bad news is you're pitching on Wednesday."

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.

Things To Ponder

Why do you have to 'put your two cents in'... but it's only 'a penny for your thoughts?'

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up like every two hours?

Why are you "IN" a movie, but your "ON" TV?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1-2, 7-10/
Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1-3, 13-15/
Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1 2/
Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71--75/
Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1-6/
Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-7/
Lk 11:27-28

Observances for the Week of Oct. 2

Sunday: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Respect Life Sunday;
The Holy Guardian Angels

Tuesday: St. Francis of Assisi

Wednesday: Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos,
Priest

Thursday: St. Bruno, Priest; Blessed
Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin

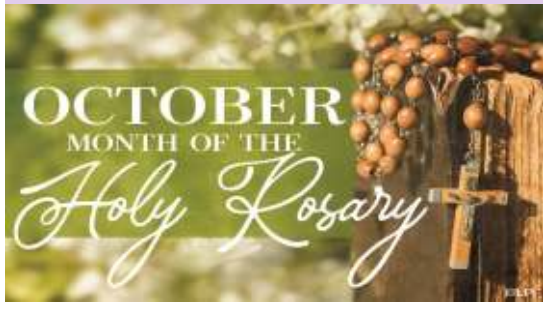
Friday: Our Lady of the Rosary

October--Respect Life Month



A LITTLE FAITH

Today our readings are about faith, frustration, and how much is enough. Habakkuk is a complainer having an argument with God. Timothy is encouraging a community challenged by cowardice and the apostles want more faith that they have. Things aren't happening fast enough for an off them or for us. All of them and we want God to do something sooner rather than later and we want God to give us reason to believe that it will all work out. What does God do? God put it back on them--and us--telling Habakkuk to describe he world he wants; telling the apostles to do more than the expected. Doing more with less is a familiar phrase today and a reminder that a little faith may be enough even for the most difficult times. Copyright J.S.Paluch, Co



According to Catholic tradition, **the rosary was instituted by the Blessed Virgin Mary herself.** In the 13th century, she is said to have appeared to St. Dominic (founder of the Dominicans), given him a rosary, and asked that Christians pray the Hail Mary, Our Father and Glory Be prayers instead of the Psalms.