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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

#### First Reading:

The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds; it does not rest till it reaches its goal, nor will it withdraw till the Most High responds. (Sir 35:21)

#### Psalm:

The Lord hears the cry of the poor. (Ps 34) **Second Reading:** 

From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance. (2 Tm 4:8)

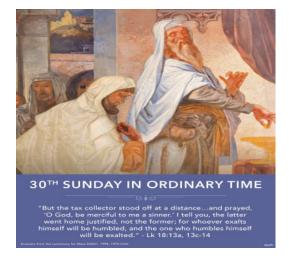
#### Gospel:

"For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Lk 18:14)

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



Oct. 23, 2022 30th Sunday--Ordinary Time The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds; it does not rest until it reaches its goal, nor will it withdraw till the Most High responds. Sir. 35:17



#### My Dear Parishioners:

As we look to the month of November, the Church asks us in a special way to remember the dead. Culturally, this idea is sort of taboo. We avoid looking at death. As a nation we spend billions of dollars each year to 'make ourselves look younger' (cosmetics, hair dye, surgeries, lying about our age . . ). At the same time, we are willing to live in a culture of death (abortion, death penalty, euthanasia) and feel justified in killing someone for various reasons. St. Benedict encourages, even admonishes us, to keep death always before us. Not keep death before us in some morose way, but in a realistic and honest way. When we live knowing we will one day perish, we live differently. When we live realizing our days are numbered, we appreciate, we enjoy, we recognize kindness, and we find meaning in what we choose to do and not do.

During the month of November, you will notice a 'Book of Life' near the altar. I encourage you to inscribe the names of your family members and friends who have died. They will be remembered at each Mass during the month. The month of November begins with the celebration of All Saints on November 1. This is a holy day of obligation (which means we should attend Mass). We recognize the many that lived a life of faith and now live eternally with Christ. Many of these saints we name throughout the year on the calendar. There are countless others, however, who go unnamed (many from our own parish family). These individuals lived simple lives of dedication, sacrifice, and love of God. On November 2, we then recognize The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls). Very clearly here, we remember ALL the faithful departed.

It is customary on this day to visit a cemetery or to remember specifically members of our own family who have died. It is also customary to offer a Mass Intention for someone who has died. Remember during one of my first weekends here I referred to the fact that when we gather around the Altar for Mass heaven and earth are joined. To 'offer a Mass' for a deceased friend or family member is to show them honor.

In this column, today I am writing about the dead, but one can also offer a Mass for the living members of our family. On Tuesday, November 1at 6:00 PM, we will gather to offer Mass in memory of the saints in our lives and to remember those from the parish who have died. Here we specifically remember members of our own parish that have died this past year. However, there will be opportunity to remember others who have died. The Church calls us to remember the dead and pray for them. Our attention is focused during the month of November. I strongly encourage you to take part. Offer a Mass. Visit a cemetery. Send a note to someone who has recently lost a loved one.

Fr. Abbot Lambert Riley, O.S.B., once said, "Each year we walk across the date of our death and don't even realize it." I do believe death is the only thing in this life from which none of us is exempt. *Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.* Blessings, Fr. John

#### .GOSPEL REFLECTION

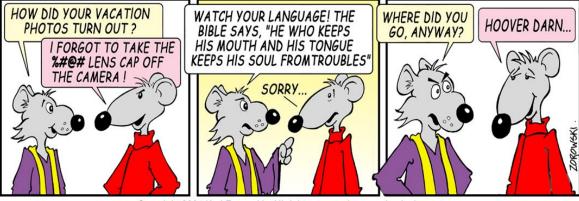
There is a thing called "false piety." It is when we wear a religious disguise of devotion, attend to our obligations, and outwardly abide by rules while being inwardly unkind, uncharitable, and exclusive. Wearing the right clothes, saying the proper prayers, being in sacred places, and reading devotional books, those exhibiting false piety craftily try to control others using the pretense of love. The Pharisees, consistently criticized by Jesus, are prime examples. Thinking they are superior to others, they foolishly believe they are better positioned with God and more worthy of God's attention. Forming an exclusive "club," they divide things between "mine" and "yours" and "us" and "them." They quickly criticize and point out flaws and errors in rituals and thinking. Conformity becomes the first commandment and control is the game's name.

The requirements for "club membership" are clear: do what we do, think what we think, and believe what we believe. Attempting to control others using the lure of "status" or "salvation," they seduce others into thinking that conformity is the only way to holiness. Clinging to "my beliefs," "my parish," "my way of thinking," they fail to see the more significant relationship with God that is veiled in all of these superficial rules and practices. Shallow, hollow, and empty vessels, they gloss over the more important virtues of justice, mercy, faithfulness, and forgiveness. Sparkling clean on the outside, but dirty on the inside. Spiritual arrogance is a grave sin. It alienates and hurts the little ones, those considered "least" in the kingdom.

God knows no favorites. Everyone belongs regardless of whether you are an official, bona fide member. Sometimes membership may be a detriment to actually living the Gospel if you're joining the team for the wrong reasons. The genuinely humble ones may not appear to be overly "pious." They may not know all of the proper prayers or abide by all of the correct rituals, but they know that they are broken and need mercy. There is no shame in being broken. In fact, many things need to be broken in order to be what they truly are! There is a reason Jesus told us to pray in private. It's only between you and God. It is nobody else's business.

## Church Mice

#### Karl Zorowski



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#### **October Birthdays**

- 13--Vicki Leonard
- 20--Dorothea Melton
- 28--Martha Kramer

#### **November Birthdays**

- 1--Father John Thomas, Austin Gough
- 5--Michael Bogdan, Jamie Bisel
- 7--Lennox Williams, Hank and Quinn Fain



### IMP—Kroger

If you do not have a community reward partner at Kroger, please designate Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Sacrament's # is WX799. Go to <u>krogercommunityrewards.com</u> to register. Thanks to each of you for your support.

#### WHAT'S YOUR CATHOLIC IQ?

- What is blessed before its use in Baptism a) candles
   b) water c) incense
- What book in the Bible tells the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments? a ) Genesis b) Exodus c) Leviticus
- According to St. Augustine:

   is twice praying a) going to two

   Masses b) saying the same prayer twice c) singing.

#### **Mass Intentions**

October 23--Betty and John Clark

October 30--Joe Beard

November 1--Herbert Millay

November 6--Stephen Hall

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:
Larry Leachman, Rachel Mattingly, Carol
Hatchett, Sondra Hibbs, Sister Janice Fennewald, Charlie Brown Sr, Doris Smith, John
Thompson, 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.

#### **HEARTFELT JUDGMENT**

When you meet someone, you judge them by their clothes; when you leave them, you judge them by their heart.
--Russian Proverb

# Coming Events CALENDAR



#### **Blessed Sacrament Chapel**

October 23--Parish Meeting

October 30 --10 am Mass
Anointing of the Sick

Nov. 1---Feast of All Saints 6 pm Mass



Oct. 16--\$1327

Weekly Budget--\$1058

MTD Collection--\$4,016

MTD Budget--\$3,174

YTD Collection--\$19,641.49

YTD Budget--\$16,928

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.

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#### More Than a Buzzword

If you roll your eyes at the mention of the term stewardship, it's probably because, in the modern Church, stewardship has become something of a corporate buzzword. It's often used interchangeably with the concepts of financial endowment and volunteerism.

What's wrong with supporting your parish monetarily? What's the issue with giving of your time in service and ministry? Nothing at all, in fact — we should all be doing more of these things.

But as we do them, we should be constantly asking ourselves the all-important questions: Why am I doing this? How am I doing this? For whom am I doing this?

A donation to the parish school is a great thing. But ideally, the donor would have made the gift regardless of the ability to name the school gym. A tireless volunteer who always finds time for her parish certainly glorifies God with her commitment. But hopefully, her commitment would be just as enthusiastic if she knew there was no prospect of being written up in the bulletin as Volunteer of the Month.

God knows no favorites. The prayer of the Pharisee in the temple did not justify him because the Pharisee didn't really mean it as a prayer. His intent wasn't to thank God, his intent was to draw attention to his gifts. God did not reject the Pharisee's fasting and his tithes, he rejected the spirit in which they were offered.

God desires to transform us — our hearts, our souls, our communities. When we give of ourselves — either through money or through time — he is honored by the act of giving, not the gift itself. We should never make the mistake of thinking that stewardship is "time, talent, and treasure." Stewardship is the spirit of offering these gifts freely. — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS* 

Lectors

Oct. 23: Jacques Williams

Kathi Skidd

Oct. 30: Misty Sanford

Connie Clary

Nov. 6: Alexis Hatchett

Sarah Malone

**Eucharistic Minister** 

Oct. 23: Sarah Malone, Cindy Clark,

Lori Robinson

Oct. 30: Vivian Higgs, Greg Gough,

Kathi Skidd

Nov. 6: Barbara Bisel, Janet Clark,

Rita Moorman

**Collection & Gifts** 

Oct. 23: Fain Family

Oct. 30: Jacques and Yulanda Williams

Nov. 6: Cathy Kramer, Yvonne Mundy

#### 30" SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





## YES FOR LIFE

The Catholic conference of KY is calling upon all citizens to thoughtfully and prayerfully consider and vote "Yes for Life" this November by supporting Amendment #2. This proposed constitutional amendment is very simple and will prevent our state courts from ever issuing a decision like Roe v. Wade. It adds one sentence to the Kentucky Constitution: "To protect human life, nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to secure or protect right to abortion or require the funding of abortion." Learn more by visiting: yesforlifekyk.com

#### Laugh of the Week

St. Peter and St. Paul are at the Pearly Gates. Paul is looking through The Book of Names, and he says to Peter, "There are more people in heaven than there is supposed to be! Go find out what has happened!" Peter runs off, and some time later he returns to Paul. Paul says, "Did you find out why there are too many people here?" Peter says, "It's Jesus. He's helping people in over the back fence."

October 30

10 am Mass resumes

#### **Readings for the Week**

Monday: Eph 4:32—5:8/Ps 1:1-4 and

6/Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Eph 5:21-33/Ps 128:1-5/

Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Eph 6:1-9/Ps 145:10-14/

Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Eph 6:10-20/Ps 144:1-2, 9-10/

Lk 13:31-35

Friday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/

Lk 6:12-16

Saturday: Phil 1:18-26/Ps 42:2, 3, 5/

Lk 14:1, 7-11

#### Observances for the Week of Oct. 23

Sunday: 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time;

World Mission Sunday;

Monday: St. Anthony Mary Claret,

Bishop

Friday: Sts. Simon and Jude,

**Apostles** 





#### **RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**

Today's readings invite us into prayer, into relationship with God. Because relationships feel more natural when we know one another well, Sirach encourages us to know God better. In his wisdom Sirach tells us what God is like: fair. open-minded, compassionate, and attentive. "The Lord will not delay," he says. Knowing that God's help comes right on time, whenever we need it, calms our hearts and helps us trust the Lord. In his second letter to Timothy, Saint Paul demonstrates his own trust in God. Despite the grueling struggles Saint Paul has faced because of his Christian faith, he praises the Lord for rescuing him time and again. Today's Gospel draws us close to Jesus too, revealing his special love for the poor and humble. As Jesus tells his parable about the prayer habits of a Pharisee and a tax collector, our hearts long to become as gentle as Christ's

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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 Luminous Mysteries are usually prayed on Thursday

1--The Baptism of Jesus

2--The Wedding at Cana

3--The Proclamation of the Kingdom

4--The Transfiguration

5--The Institution of the Eucharist