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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

pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



Oct. 9, 2022 28th Sunday--Ordinary Time

If we have died with Christ Jesus, we shall also live with him. --2 Timothy 2:11-12

First Reading:

Naaman returned with his whole retinue to the man of God. On his arrival he stood before Elisha and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel. (2 Kgs 5:15)

Psalm:

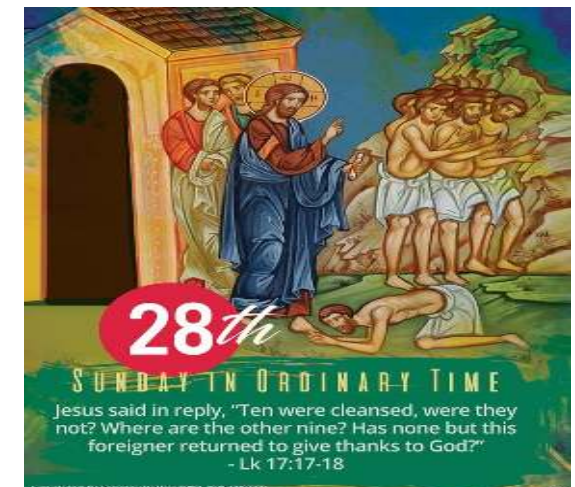
The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (Ps 98)

Second Reading:

If we have died with him we shall also live with him; if we persevere we shall also reign with him. (2 Tm 2:11-12)

Gospel:

"Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" (Lk 17:17-18)



Today the first reading and the Gospel talk about the same experience. They both speak of the journey to a faith that can save. Both the Samaritan and Naaman came to a new found faith. They are both different people at the end of their stories. In both readings both Naaman and the Samaritan Leper realize that they needed to be healed. They also realize that only God can do it.

So Naaman travels a long way to see the Prophet Elisha. And the Samaritan and the other lepers in his company reach out to Jesus who many considered a prophet. They went to these holy men to ask God for help. Their encounter with Elisha the Prophet and Jesus was less than memorable. Elisha said go wash in the river and closed the door. Jesus simply told them to go to Jerusalem show themselves to the priests. Neither invoked God, or uttered a prayer or touched or medicated the lesions or offered any kind of sacrifice.

Next both Naaman and the Samaritan had to trust that God would hear and answer their prayer. In other words they had to do what they were told even if it didn't make sense. If you know the story Naaman needed some convincing to go and wash in the river but he finally went. When they were healed both Naaman and the Samaritan made a profession of faith. Naaman returned to Elisha and declared his faith in the God of Israel. The Samaritan returned to Jesus, prostrated himself before Him, thanked Him. Jesus to him, "your faith has saved you." Wow! What an incredible statement... not only was he healed physically but more importantly he was brought to faith. Jesus lamented that the others even though they were healed did not come to faith.

They failed to realize that God had given them an incredible gift. Let's look at those four moments a little closer. First we must know we are in need of God and are dependent on him. Second we must ask His help. Third we must trust He will give it. Finally we must thank him for the gift received. What do these four steps have to do with us?

Brothers and sisters, lots of people today simply don't turn to God. Many are lost in despair believing that no one can help them or they don't realize how ill they really are. So many of us are in denial about how ill we really are spiritually or physically. So many of us comfort ourselves with thoughts like, I'm not perfect but I'm not as bad as him or her... they're a mess. If Naaman or the Samaritan had not felt they were ill they would never sought to be healed. One of the first steps in sobriety is for a person to realize that they are powerless, over their addiction. Those in AA know only when you realize that you are powerless can you really turn to God your higher power. To be brought to faith we have to be humble enough to be willing to ask for help. This is so essential. Think about it... If the lepers and Naaman had not sought out help from God there is no indication that they would have been healed. It is so clear from the first reading and the Gospel that we must open the door to our hearts for God to come in. So many of us refuse to ask for help. So many of us let our pride get in the way of being healed.

The second step is also crucial. Both Naaman and the Samaritan had to trust that their prayers would be answered. Naaman had to wash himself in the river. The Samaritan had to start off toward Jerusalem to show himself to the priest. Faith, healing, God's loving providence demand a response from us. May people never feel God's presence in their lives because they never really seek it out. Finally a careful reading of the scriptures reveals that eleven people were healed that day but only two were brought to faith - - only two were saved body and soul. Naaman and the Samaritan were saved because they believe and they returned to thank God for his blessing. Quite frankly many of us pray a lot when times get tough. But few of us remember to be thankful or recognize God's presence in our lives when times are good or when our health is restored.

Yes today the scriptures remind us that we must know we are in need of God and are dependent on him. We must be willing to ask His help. We must trust he loves us and will provide for us. And we must thank him for the gifts received. Only then will we ever hear him say: "Stand up and go your faith has saved you..."

.TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Christian liturgy has always contained an opportunity to make a choice for sharing. From the beginning, Christians pooled their resources, especially for the care of widows and orphans, at the weekly Eucharist. Over the years, the collection became detached from the liturgy and baskets or plates would be passed through the community while the Mass was going on at the altar, or contributions would be collected at the doors. In Milan's Ambrosian Rite, these gifts have always been brought to the altar by lay people in procession. In German countries, the ancient custom was for the entire assembly to process with their gifts--first the men, then the women, then the priests and deacons--to offer their gifts at the altar. The old ceremony of canonization included a curious vestige of this procession: people would present the pope with two loaves of bread, two barrels of wine and water, five candles and three cages containing pigeons or turtledoves.

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



Saint John XXIII, Pope | October 11

Saint John XIII was born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli on November 25, 1881, in a small village in Italy. He was ordained in 1904 and later earned a doctorate in canon law. During World War I he served as a stretcher-bearer and chaplain for the Italian army. Beginning in 1925 he served as a Vatican diplomat, first in Bulgaria, then in Greece and Turkey. From 1935 through the Second World War he helped save thousands of Jewish people. In 1944 he was named papal nuncio to France. He was named cardinal and appointed patriarch of Venice in 1953. A quiet pastoral life passing into retirement, however, was not in God's plan for the saint.

Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was elected Pope in 1958 and took the name John. His papacy was short, but full of action. He transformed the Vatican, calling for openness, a spirit of ecumenism, and the setting aside of politics. He called the Second Vatican Council in the fall of 1962, the first meeting of its kind in almost a century, setting the agenda to work for the spiritual regeneration of the Church. His efforts changed the face of the Catholic Church. At the same time worked diligently and publicly to ease tensions during the Cuban missile crisis, pleading with leaders for the end of the Cold War.

Saint John XXIII's kindness, sense of pastoral care, and works of reconciliation and peacemaking made him beloved not only to Catholics but to people around the world. He died on June 3, 1963. He was beati-

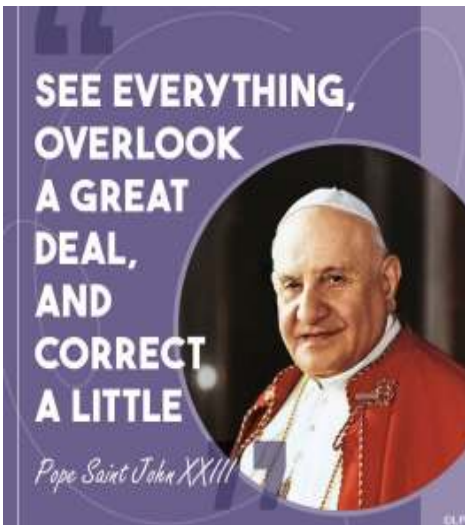
October Birthdays

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 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, 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.

*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



Oct. 2--\$852
 Weekly Budget--\$1058
 MTD Collection--\$852
 MTD Budget--\$1058
 YTD Collection--\$15,150
 YTD Budget--\$14,812

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

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The Zeal of the Convert

When you work in the Church, professionally or on a volunteer basis, you become familiar with the phenomenon known as "the zeal of the recent convert."

Sometimes, it really seems that the newly baptized are just stronger Catholics than the cradle Catholics. They smile more at Mass. They are awestruck by the Eucharist. They come out of the confessional beaming.

It's not that they are naive. It's not that they are in some honeymoon phase of religion, living outside of reality. It's simply that they remember. They remember what it felt like before the Eucharist or before Confession. They recall before the sacraments and the oil and the grace and the relief. It was more recent for them than for some of us older Catholics — especially those of us who were baptized as infants.

Let's ask ourselves: Have we become too comfortable? Do we receive God's grace with expectation instead of surprise? Have we ceased to marvel and wonder at the goodness of God? If the answer is a resounding yes, don't despair. Look at the Gospel — a literal nine times out of ten, God goes un-thanked and un-noticed.

So many of us have forgotten, or never understood, what it meant when the leprosy was washed from our souls. But when we remind ourselves, we become more keenly aware of the extraordinariness of the gift we have received.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

	Lectors
<u>Oct. 9:</u>	Layson Brooks Sarah Malone
<u>Oct. 16:</u>	Alexis Hatchett Barbara Bisel
<u>Oct. 23:</u>	Jacques Williams Kathi Skidd
	Eucharistic Minister
<u>Oct. 9:</u>	Greg Gough,, Cindy Clark, Charlene Meadows
<u>Oct. 16:</u>	Vivian Higgs, Rita Moorman, Misty Sanford
<u>Oct. 23:</u>	Sarah Malone, Janet Clark, Lori Robinson
	Collection & Gifts
<u>Oct. 9:</u>	Aubrey and Lad Ottofy
<u>Oct. 16:</u>	Joyce and Ron Moorman
<u>Oct. 23:</u>	Yvonne Mundy, Cathy Kramer

LAUGH OF THE WEEK

Generous Rich Man:

The parish church was badly in need of repair. So the pastor called a special meeting inside the church to raise funds. At the assembly the pastor explained the need of an emergency fund for plastering the roof and supporting pillars and the other areas which needed repair. He invited pledge of contributions. After a brief pause Mr. Murphy, the richest man in the parish, volunteered he would give \$50. Just as he sat down, a hunk of plaster fell from the ceiling on the head of Mr. Murphy. He jumped up, looking terribly startled and corrected himself: "I meant to say \$500". The congregation stood silent and stunned. Then a lone voice cried out: "Oh, Lord, hit him again."

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 4:22-24, 26-27, 31—5:1/ Ps 113:1-7/Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday:	Gal 5:1-6/Ps 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48/Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday:	Gal 5:18-25/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 11:42-46
Thursday:	Eph 1:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3-6/ Lk 11:47-54
Friday:	Eph 1:11-14/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13/Lk 12:1-7
Saturday:	Eph 1:15-23/Ps 8:2-7/ Lk 12:8-12

Observances for the Week of Oct. 9

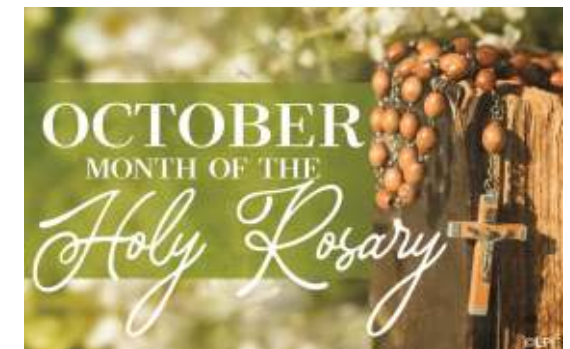
Monday:	Columbus Day
Tuesday:	St. John XXIII, Pope
Friday:	St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr
Saturday:	St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Sunday:	29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alcoque,

October--Respect Life Month



HEALING AND SALVATION

The readings today speak of healing and salvation. In Second Kings, Naaman, a commander of the army of the king of Syria, develops leprosy. He goes to a stranger, a prophet from Israel, when no one else can cure his disease. Much to his surprise, after a simple bath in the river, he is cured. In Luke's gospel, Jesus cures ten lepers and send them to the priest. Only one, a Samaritan, returns to thank Jesus for his cure and only he hears the words, "Your faith has saved you." The psalm and Timothy remind us that salvation involves justice, kindness, and faithfulness and forever links us with Jesus. In a world as broken as ours, both healing and salvation are necessary. J.S. Paluch,



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 Joyful mysteries are usually prayed on Monday and the Sundays during Advent.

- 1--The Annunciation
- 2--The Visitation
- 3--The Birth of Christ
- 4--The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple
- 5--The Finding of Jesus in the Temple