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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: 10:00AM

St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Office: 270-683-6525

Pastor: Father John Thomas
john.thomas@pastoral.org

Parochial Vicar:
Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennewald,
[SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org](mailto:SSND_pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org)

First Reading:
They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. (Is 2:4)

Psalm:
Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

Second Reading:
It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is at hand. (Rom 13:11-12)

Gospel:
"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." (Mt24:42)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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Nov. 27, 2022 1st Sunday of Advent
You must be prepared...for an hour you do not expect, the son of Man will come. Mt.24:44



First Sunday of Advent 2022

My Dear Parishioners:

We come to the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of preparation, gatherings, gifts, surprises, delicious food, and uplifting music. I am, of course, aware that 'out there' preparation for Christmas began weeks ago. For weeks now, I have been seeing pictures on Facebook of peoples Christmas trees, decorated mantles, candies, and stockings. But we begin now, in the Church our intentional, sacred preparing.

Now, in the general literal sense, the word '*advent*' means '*coming of someone*,' but in the Christian Liturgical sense it specifically implies to '*the coming of Christ*.' So specifically therefore, with the start of Advent today, we begin the period of expectation and waiting for the coming of Christ, our Savior — his birth on the first Christmas day. But actually, the Lord comes to us in three ways:

1. The first coming of Jesus about 2000 years ago when he came as our Savior. This was the event long awaited for by the Jews of the Old Testament. During Advent, we relive in our own lives their experience of waiting for the Lord's coming as our way of preparing for the anniversary of his birth, which is exciting, but also predictable.

2. The second coming is the glorious return of Jesus in future at the end of time. Risen Jesus who is now seated at the right hand of the Father will come again but this time as King and Judge of both the living and the dead. But we do not know when it will happen.

The third coming is situated between the first two comings. It is Jesus' daily coming into our hearts here and now at every moment of every day in the sacraments — very specifically through the Eucharist, and therein lies a challenge for us as well as a comfort.

Thus in a general sense, the period of Advent encompasses all time- - Past, Present & Future. So, a Christian in this sense is always a citizen of Advent. Therefore, it is not surprising that we begin the new Liturgical Year this Sunday, with the same theme of '*the coming of Christ*', where we ended it last Sunday.

Again, we have about 4 weeks of Advent and the 4 Sundays of Advent are supposed to prepare us for the celebration of Christmas. During these four weeks therefore, the Church invites us to enter into the longing of those who first waited for the coming of the Messiah. Scripture helps us to do this through the figures of Isaiah, John the Baptist and Mary. But the Holy season of Advent has an even more important preparation in mind viz. the readiness of each one of us for the 2nd & final coming of Christ at the end of the world, spoken of in today's Gospel Reading from St. Matthew. And this we do by means of our constant & active involvement through properly welcoming Christ and receiving him in our hearts who comes to us today in sacraments.

Father John

A few days ago, my iPhone gave me a weekly message: "Last week, your total screen time was down 17%." I thought, good for me! But the message continued: "You averaged 5 hours and 23 minutes of screen time." Yikes.

Where do we place our attention? The Prophet Isaiah says, "**For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.**" God wants us to be His learners, people who grow through a steady stream of divine instruction. But if you're like me, you spend way too much time at the feet of the wrong teachers.

Our phones can help fruitfully re-direct our attention. It's amazing how many great Catholic Bible studies, classes, podcasts, and soul-forming material is accessible there. This coming new year let's use our phones to be a little "Zion" or "Jerusalem" — a place we go for wisdom and instruction, and not just endless data and entertainment.

New year challenge: Grab your phone. Start consuming some source of Catholic instruction each week to help you become a better student of Jesus. Keep it going into 2023. If our screen time helps us learn true wisdom, it will be a great use of time.
— Father John Muir

Advent Penance Services

12/4	Lourdes 2 pm
12/11	Blessed Mother 2 pm
12/12	Immaculate 6 pm
12/14	Sts. Joe and Paul 6 pm
12/18	St. Stephen 2 pm
12/20	Precious Blood 6 pm

St. Martin in Rome, Ky is hosting a 4 night Parish Mission.

Why be Catholic? With guest priest Fr. Ken Geraci of the Fathers of Mercy.. It begins on Sunday Nov. 27th and goes to Wednesday the 30th. Each evening there will be confessions from 5:30-6:20 pm. This is followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Mission talk. After this each evening confessions will be available.

Church Mice



Karl Zorowski

November Birthdays

16--Joyce Moorman, Greg Gough
19--Barbara Bisel, Ron Moorman
22--Trey Hatchett
25--Payton Sanford

December Birthdays

16--Yulanda Williams
18--Robert Johnson



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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.

Laugh of the Week

For weeks a six-year-old lad kept telling his first-grade teacher about the baby brother or sister that was expected at his house. One day the mother allowed the boy to feel the movements of the unborn child. The six-year old was obviously impressed, but made no comment. Furthermore, he stopped telling his teacher about the impending event. The teacher finally sat the boy on her lap and said, "Tommy, whatever has become of that baby brother or sister you were expecting at home?" Tommy burst into tears and confessed, "I think Mummy ate it!"

Mass Intentions

November 20--Donald Moorman
November 27--Sandy Dyer
December 4--Stephen Hall
December 7--Herbert Millay
December 11--Linda 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, Carol Hatchett, Sondra Hibbs, Sister Janice Fennwald, Charlie Brown Sr, Kate Quinn, Larry Leachman, Teresa Woods, Larry Allen, Jordan Gertisen, Buddy Adcock, Debbie Moseley, Donna Kaelin, 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.



Coming Events

CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

November 27--1st Sunday of Advent
December 7--Feast of Immaculate Conception 6 pm Mass



Nov. 20--\$1018.50
Weekly Budget--\$1058
MTD Collection--\$1058
MTD Budget--\$5736.70
YTD Collection--\$26,081.19
YTD Budget--\$20,102

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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Being Surprised by Christ

Some people hate surprise parties. There are those who are uncomfortable with a last-minute vacation or even an unexpected travel upgrade. If it wasn't part of the plan, it's a cause for consternation.

There is a temptation to view these folks as curmudgeonly — sticks in the mud, obsessed with predictability. But I think if we're being honest, there's a little bit of the surprise-averse in all of us.

Deep within the very heart of the element of surprise is a kernel of shock. And shock, in the moment, can feel similar to trauma. If we reflect on the most traumatic occurrences of our lives — a loss, an accident, a calamity — it is likely that we will say this: "It was the shock more than anything that got to me." Grief or fear, those feelings were overwhelming as well, but they came later. In the first moment, all we knew was we were going about our lives on one path until we were thrust on a different one and then the whole future changed.

This is the natural rhythm of our life here on earth. We never know what is coming — which is to say, in a beautiful way, we always know what is coming. More importantly, we know Who is coming.

Like the early riser who sets the "pre-alarm" (the one on which he knows he's going to hit *snooze* just to take the edge off the disappointment of waking up), we are always being given a heads-up in Scripture. From the earliest prophecies of the Messiah to Jesus' reminders in the Gospel to the very last words of Revelations, God has communicated to His stewards: *You know the time. The time is now.* We are called to constant vigilance, perpetual renewal, steadfast accountability.

In the end, the coming of Christ may be the only event in history that was a surprise, but not a shock — and so it will only be beautiful, even for those who hate surprise parties.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

	Lectors
<u>Nov. 27:</u>	Jacques Williams Misty Sanford
<u>Dec. 4:</u>	Alexis Hatchett Kathi Skidd
<u>Dec. 11:</u>	Greg Gough Sarah Malone
	Eucharistic Ministers
<u>Nov. 27:</u>	Charlene Meadows, Kathi Skidd, Lori Robinson
<u>Dec. 4:</u>	Greg Gough, Vivian Higgs, Sarah Malone
<u>Dec. 11:</u>	Barbara Bisel, Janet Clark, Charlene Meadows
	Collection & Gifts
<u>Nov. 27:</u>	Leland Herzog, Steven Coble
<u>Dec. 4:</u>	Cindy Clark, Alvin Leachman
<u>Dec. 11:</u>	Fain family

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Whether it is the surgeon performing an operation or the pilot directing a flight, one expects them to be alert. When we entrust our lives to someone, we presume that they will attend to them with the utmost care and vigilance. If we have this expectation of others, why would we not have it of ourselves? Our lives are precious vessels on an eternal journey. We can only stay afloat and on the course because of God's love and mercy. It is easy to get distracted, lazy, preoccupied, and tired. Apathy can wreak havoc on the most dedicated of souls. God's word transforms all that it touches, even a lukewarm heart. Let us seek God's grace this Advent season so that we can walk more fully in His light. Then, finding ourselves more attentive, focused, alert, and watchful, we will be eager and well prepared to meet our Lord when He comes. Why would we not want to be ready, awake, and watchful for the One we have waited for so long?
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Saint Andrew | November 30

Saint Andrew was a fisherman in Galilee, along with his brother, Peter, when they were called by Jesus to leave their boat and become fishers of men. John's Gospel also places him as a follower of John the Baptist before he came to be one of Jesus' twelve Disciples. Beyond the scant references in the Gospels, not much is known of Saint Andrew's life.

According to tradition Saint Andrew, went out into Greece and Turkey to preach the Good News. An early account of the saint's life tells of his martyrdom by crucifixion in Patras. Medieval accounts describe the cross used as X-shaped because Andrew said he was not worthy to die on the same style of cross as Jesus.

Famously, Saint Andrew is the patron Saint of Scotland, the country's flag bearing the X-shaped cross associated with him. Legends claim that the saint either traveled to Scotland to spread the Gospel or that his relics were brought there by St. Regulus who had a vision telling him to take the bones to the end of the earth. Regulus set out and was shipwrecked on the coast of Scotland. Today relics of St. Andrew which had been held by the Vatican are now at a shrine in Patras.

LPI

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:-9/ Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/ Mt 4:18-22
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5-8

Observances for the Week of Nov. 27

Wednesday:	St. Andrew, Apostle
Saturday:	St. Francis Xavier, Priest



Thanks to everyone who helped with the Thanksgiving dinner. It takes many people to make it successful.



A Shout-out to Kitty Board and Guy Connors who have helped us so much over the years. Thank you so much for your generous volunteer hours.



Today marks the beginning of another liturgical year. The tone of today's readings casts us in the role of students earning solemn lessons. The reading from Isaiah sets the stage, calling us up a mountain to receive the Lord's instruction. In this passage we study peace.

The Paul steps forth with sober admonitions. We have to wake up; the day is almost here. Live honorably in the light. Paul reminds us that we really do know the time in which we are living.

Finally, Matthew presents Jesus the storyteller. Just imagine Jesus tells us, what it was like in Noah's time. He paints a vivid picture of ordinary people living ordinary lives and ignoring the warnings that Noah heeded. Totally unconcerned, they were destroyed. How will it be any different for us? No one knows when the Lord will come. But we have been warned.

Perhaps we find such sobering scriptures unappealing and threatening. But within them is promise. We are to live in the light with nothing to hide. We are to be ready.
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