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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: Father Shibu Cheriankunnel moc shibu.cheriyankunnel@pastoral.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennewald, SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them (Nm 6:27)

Psalm:

May God bless us in his mercy. (Ps 67)

Second Reading:

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman. (Gal 4:4) Gospel:

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant

lying in the manger. (Lk 2:16)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. International Commission on English in.Liturgy Corporation. All lights reserved.



January 1, 2023 Mary, Mother of God. God sent the Spirit of his son into our hearts, crying out "Abba Father!" (Gal. 4)



My Dear Parishioners:

Merry Christmas to you! Remember a few weeks ago I was speaking about the SEASON of Christmas. For months now, the world of retail has been celebrating Christmas by enticing us to purchase gifts for loved ones. Radio stations have been playing Christmas music since the day after Thanksgiving. Many of us have attended parties and taken part in special dinners and gatherings. And all this can and is good. It brings us together. It is opportunity to share and visit. However, the day after Christmas for so many of us marks the end of Christmas and nothing could be further from the truth.

The Christmas Season began on December 24th. Here at Saint Stephen Cathedral, it began at 4:30 PM with the opening of the 'family Mass' and continues through the conclusion of Masses on Monday, January 09 (The Baptism of the Lord). For most of us our last Eucharistic celebration will be the weekend of January 6 & 7 (Epiphany) and the visit of the Wise Men to the infant Jesus.

"The liturgies of Christmas . . . seek to express and shape the spirituality not of one person or a single cultural community but of the entire ecclesial bodies of those baptized into the pasch of Jesus Christ. They set before us the powerful challenge of the Christmas child who is not our personal or communal past but the dawning future we share with all humanity. When we assemble for liturgy in the season of Christmas, then, we are a Church haunted by a child with many faces." (Taken from "What Child is This?" Jennifer Glenn, CVI, in Assembly, volume 11:2. © Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, Notre Dame, IN.

Our gatherings on Christmas Eve and Day brought together many people. As I stood before you, I looked into the eyes of the young, aged, men, women, Catholic, Protestant, unchurched, those who wanted to be present and those who were forced into attendance. Christmas Day and indeed the entire season calls us together, especially around the altar of God. It reminds us of who we are and who we hope to become.

I encourage you to 'reconnect', to honor the SEASON of Christmas and not simply the day. Please do not remove your Christmas decorations and trees until after January 8, the true end of the season of Christmas. The world of retail will move on to Valentines and St. Patrick's Day, but we remain anchored to the beauty of the child Jesus who comes to us again and again.

Thank you for making our celebrations so wonderful and joyous. Thank you for your many gifts and cards. Thank you for sending cards to our homebound parishioners. I am grateful for your witness, your faith, and especially for your love of Christ and his people. We have so much for which to be thankful! Blessings, Fr. John

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"Octave" comes from the Latin word for "eight," and since eight is one step beyond seven, the number of days in a week, it has long been seen as a symbol of perfection, completion, and new beginnings. Early Christians called Sunday the "eighth day," since it was the day after the Sabbath and a day of resurrected life, the Lord's Day. Be the seventh century, people regarded the eight days after Easter Sunday as one great day, an octave, one glorious feast when people were forbidden to fast or kneel. In the seventh century, Pentecost acquired an Octave, too. Christmas didn't claim the honor of a continuous feast but it did get an Octave Day. January 1 is the oldest Marian feast, the Octave of Christmas. It was originally a feast of the motherhood of Mary, although for centuries until 1969 it was called the Feast of the Circumcision. Our reformed calendar follows the earlier tradition of celebrating Mary as Mother of God.—James Field Paluch



CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

Thank you!

- ♦ Jean Higgs--in memory of Rachel Hersey, Doris Smith, Lucille Higgs, Betty Wright, Earsie Moore
- ♦ Jeff and Misty Sanford
- ♦ Georgia Holland--in memory of Frances Johnson
- ♦ Vivian Higgs--in memory of Penny Blackwell, Earsie Moore, Cherie Taylor, Kenneth Higgs,
- Cindy Clark--in memory of Chick and Betty Jo and Holly Thompson
- ♦ Connie Clary
- ♦ Janet Clark --in memory of Ethel, R.T. and Tommy Clark
- ♦ Nancy Bumm--in memory of Les Bumm
- ♦ Ruth Coble--in memory of Clyde Coble
- ♦ Sister Jeannette--in memory of Chris and Martha Fennewald, Sister Paulette, SSND

January Birthdays

3--Parker Malone

7--Jacques Williams II

10--Whitney Williams

14--Burnell Hamilton

20--Janet Clark

22-Von Williams

25--Louise Johnson

27--Sarah Malone, Lilly Malone

26--Frank Adams

30--Pam Wilson



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.

Mass Intentions

January 1--Stephen Hall

January 8--Betty and John Clark

January 16--Sandy Dyer

January 23--Stephen Hall

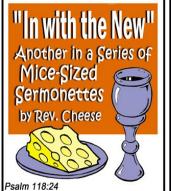
January 30--Betty and John Clark

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:
Mariyam Pynadath, Rachel Mattingly, Carol
Hatchett, Sister Janice Fennewald, 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.

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski





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Coming Events CALENDAR

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

January 1--10 am Mass

January 12--Scripture sharing resumes 5:30 pm



Dec. 25--N/A

Weekly Budget--\$1058

MTD Collection--\$N/A

MTD Budget--\$N/A

YTD Collection--\$ N/A

YTD Budget--\$N/A

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)

She Kept All of These Things in Her Heart

"What was my first word? Who was there when I was born? When did I start to walk? Which toys did I play with? What made me cry when I was a baby?"

My oldest has reached the age where she has started to ask questions like this. As she grows up, she is realizing that, in order to understand the world around her, she must first understand herself. This makes her insatiably curious about her own identity, her history — her "origin story," as they say in the movies.

I've got most of it documented either in writing or in photos, but even if it's a detail that wasn't scribbled in a baby book or saved to my digital cloud, it's a memory that I can quickly summon and make real for her as we snuggle and talk about who she was, who she is, and who she may become.

I'm the mom. I have kept all of these things in my heart.

The Blessed Mother knew more about God before opening a book than most of us could discover after a lifetime of study and prayer. There is no one whose knowledge of Christ was so intimate, so deep, so simultaneously ordinary and extraordinary, as the human woman who bore him, birthed him, nursed him, raised him and eventually gave him up.

In the way that I can tell my daughter everything there is to know about the part of her life she cannot recall, Mary can tell us everything we need to know about Christ. All we have to do is ask.

Mary kept all of these things in her heart. — Luke 2:10 ©LPi

Lectors Jan. 1: Connie Clary Kathi Skidd Jan. 8: Alexis Hatchett Greg Gough Jan. 15: Barbara Bisel Misty Sanford

Eucharistic Ministers

Jan. 1:

Vivian Higgs, Sarah Malone,

	Charlene Meadows
<u>Jan. 8:</u>	Janet Clark, Lori Robinson,
	NA:-+ C fl

Misty Sanford

Jan. 15: Cindy Clark, Greg Gough,

Kathi Skidd

Collection & Gifts Jan. 1: Malone Family Jan. 8: Ron and Joyce Moorman

Jan. 15: Alexis and Alizabeth Hatchett

Thanks to each of you who have made a pledge or contributed in some way to update our chapel. We invite you to get involved if you have not been.

Phase 1 is complete except for presider and server chairs.

Phase 2 is the replacement of win-

Phase 2 is the replacement of windows. Donations my be made toward the windows (\$800). There is a total of 24 windows. A plaque will be displayed with names of people that windows have been purchased in honor of or memory of. When we receive needed donations, we will begin this Phase. Please keep all in prayers as together we serve the Lord with the gifts He gave us.

Renovated Sanctuary





Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:2-4/Jn 1:19-28

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3-6/

Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/

Jn 1:35-42

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1-5/

Jn 1:43-51

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-15, 19-20/

Mk 1:7-11 or

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-6, and 9b/

Jn 2:1-11

Observances for the Week of Ja. 1

Sunday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God,

National Migration Week, New

Year's Day, World Day of Peace

Monday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory

Nazianzen, Bishops.

Tuesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Wednesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,
Thursday: St. John Neumann, Bishop
Friday: St. André Bessette, Religious

Saturday: St. Raymond of Penyafort,

THE BLESSINGS WE RECEIVE

The blessing we experience in Christ Jesus is proclaimed in Numbers as the special blessing for the people of Israel. They and we are to be blessed by the invocation of God's loving kindness, the shining glory of God's face turned toward us in love, not away from us in ager. We are blessed by God's ow peace!

Our wish and our hope are fulfilled in this blessing which is made visible in the coming of Jesus. In Jesus, the image of the invisible God, God's face is shown to us and God's presence is made known to us in faithful and loving kindness.

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St. John Neumann | January 5

St. John Neumann, patron saint of educators, immigrants, and sick children, was the first male saint to be canonized from the USA. An immigrant himself, he expanded Catholic education in his region from 2 schools to 100 & ministered in 6 different languages!

