



Jacques Williams Manager



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:

The people who walked in darknesshave seen a great light; (Is 9:1)

Psalm:

The Lord is my light and my salvation. (Ps 27) Second Reading:

I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose. (1 Cor 1:10)

Gospel:

He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled. (Mt 4:13-14)



January 22, 2023 3rd Sunday--Ordinary Time The Lord is my light and my salvation. (Ps. 27)



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." - Mt <u>4:19</u>

Finally! The Season of Christmas has concluded. Of course, for most of society it concluded weeks ago. For some it had concluded as the sun went down on December 25. But we know the truth of the season. Christmas begins with the first Mass on Christmas Eve and the season concludes with the final Mass on the weekend of the Baptism of the Lord. Next we move on to Ordinary Time and will soon enter the JOYFUL Season of LENT! But I will address that joyful season another time. . .

Years ago, I was asked to speak to liturgical ministers about 'hospitality'. I agreed and I stood before 150 members and shared my ideas. My talk was called: "Hospitality and the Eucharist" The pastor asked that I address the fact that we do have 'greeters' and they are indeed Ministers of Hospitality. However, every liturgical minister is a 'minister of hospitality'. I spoke to lectors, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, servers, choirs. Each of us in our own way must be hospitable as we gather around the altar of God.

What can we do to show that the Eucharist is a communal activity? Greeting people at the door is a start. It alerts us to the fact that we are going to do something with others. "Welcome" implies "I am happy that you have come." The first impression a visitor receives is extremely important. But hospitality is everybody's ministry. We practice hospitality in choosing where we sit. Do we take the aisle seat and block access to the rest of the pew or chairs? Are those who come after us forced to crawl over us to find a place? What does it say to latecomers when the only open places are way up front? And how do we acknowledge the presence of those who come in and sit next to us? Hospitality is not restricted to the ministers at the church door.

It is also helpful if we think of the first part of the Mass as "gathering rites" because "gathering" names the purpose of these actions and pravers: "to ensure that the faithful who come together as one establish communion." We exercise the ministry of hospitality when we pick up the service book and sing the gathering hymn. If we are actually doing something together, we should look like it. We also practice hospitality when we open our minds and hearts to the proclamation of the Scriptures. When we listen to the psalm refrain and repeat it back as best we can, even if the melody is new, we are honing our listening skills and training our ears to hear the word of God. And this word, received in the Holy Spirit, broadens our understanding of whom we must welcome into our parish assembly. The U.S. bishops' document Built of Living Stones (2001) underlines this idea: "The Gospel requires that particular care be taken to welcome into the Church's assembly those often discarded by society-the socially and economically marginalized, the elderly, the sick, those with disabilities, and those with special needs" (No. 42). The General Intercessions expand the horizons of our prayer. Understanding the Eucharist as sharing a meal together rather than "receiving Holy Communion" lies at the heart of this communal understanding of the Mass. spaces." We must empty ourselves in order to make room for the other to enter in. This is the difficult part of hospitality. Arrogance and all that goes with it need to be "sacrificed" at the Eucharist. When we are weighed down with pride and self-importance, it is difficult to mount the cross with Jesus, who "humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross" (Phil 2:8). Emptying ourselves of arrogance is the key to experiencing reverence.

I ended my talk by quoting one of my favorite people, Blessed Mother Theresa. She said: "The biggest disease is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted."

Our parish is indeed a welcoming and hospitable parish. I do believe that. However, there is always room for us to improve. We are too good not to work and become better! So as we move now into the space of Ordinary Time we recognize the time we have before the great Season of Lent. Let us begin today by welcoming one another sincerely as we gather around the altar of our salvation. Blessings, Father John

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The prayers surrounding baptism often speak of being "clothed in Christ," and clothes are an important consideration. In ancient times, adults were probably baptized without any clothes at all, and old texts survive asking people to leave fancy garb and jewelry behind as they enter the font. Baptism was typically in a private place, the community waited elsewhere, and the casting off of clothing was hardly a public moment, nor was I embarrassing in ancient cultures where privacy was largely unknown. ...

Nonetheless, what was left behind on one side of the font was replaced on the other as a white robe was wrapped around the newly baptized. It was a robe of honor, a dazzling sign of a new beginning for a society that valued clothing as a sign of personal identity. For the newly baptized, a whole week in white garments was the rule, through the second Sunday of Easter, call "Sunday in Albis," because of all the folks wearing their baptismal robes. Paluch Co.

Church Mice

BUT A CHILD OF GOD SAYS. "THERE'S NO WAY MY GLASS

Karl Zorowski



Copyright 2008 Karl Zorowski. All rights reserved. www.chuchmice.net

Praver of Thanksgiving For my family and friends, I give thanks For God's love, I give thanks For answered prayers, I give thanks For unanswered prayers, I give thanks For the gift of today, I give thanks For the gift of prayer, I give thanks I give thanks for all that I need and want for God is faithful. Thanks be to God. Amen.

DREAM OF GREAT THINGS!

Have you thought about the talents God has given you? Have you thought of how you can put them at the service of others? Do not bury your talents. Life is not given • to us to be jealously guarded for ourselves, but is given to us so that • we may give it in turn. Dear young people, have a deep spirit! Do not be afraid to dream of great things. Pope Francis

January Birthdays

- 3--Parker Malone
- 7--Jacques Williams II
- 10--Whitney Williams
- 14--Burnell Hamilton
- 20--Janet Clark
- 22-Von Williams
- 25--Louise Johnson
- 26--Frank Adams
- 27--Sarah Malone, Lilly Malone
- 30--Pam Wilson



Pope Francis Resolutions

- ◊ Don't gossip
- ♦ *Finish your meal*
- ♦ *Make time for others*
- Choose the "more humble" purchase
- \diamond Meet the poor in the flesh
- ♦ Stop judging others
- ♦ *Befriend those who disagree*
- *◊ Make commitments*
- ♦ *Make it a habit to ask the Lord*
- *◊ Be happy*

Mass Intentions

January 15--Sandy Dyer

January 22--Stephen Hall

January 29--Betty and John Clark

February 5--Burnell and Idella Hamilton

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: Brent Hatchett, Larry Clark, Gloria Savet, Rachel Mattingly, Carol Hatchett, Sister Janice Fennewald, Charlie Brown Sr, Teresa Woods, Larry Allen, Mike Coakley, Jordan Gertisen, Buddy Adcock, Debbie Moseley, Donna Kaelin, Janice Taul, Merle Griffith, Pam Wilson, Frank & Gloria Adams, Shelby Webster, Louise Johnson, Ruth Coble, Larry Conder, 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.



.A huge thank you and many blessings to St. Stephen Cathedral and St. Romuald Parish, Hardinsburg (Father Tony Jones) for recent donations to our Capital Campaign. Please remember them in prayers.



Blessed Sacrament Chapel January 29--Parish meeting after Mass

February 22--Ash Wednesday 6 PM Mass



Jan. 15--\$1245 Weekly Budget--\$1058 MTD Collection--\$3,335 MTD Budget--\$3,174 YTD Collection--\$35,323.69 YTD Budget--\$28,566

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)

The Art of Retreat

Social media has made it far too easy for me to share my opinion.

These virtual spaces tend to strip our words of all empathy. Someone will post something that I think is nonsense, and I just have to tell them why and quickly! Hurry! Before they delete it!

Nine times out of ten, when the dust is settled, I find that I've said too much and listened too little.

As I've gotten older, the motto I try (not always successfully) to live by is this: You do not have to be on the attack all of the time, even if it's for what you think is the truth.

I can't help but notice that the first thing Jesus does when he hears of the arrest of John the Baptist is to retreat. He doesn't punch a hole in a wall or take to the streets in protest. He withdraws.

And what does he do after withdrawing? A lot of praying, I would imagine. A lot of thinking, a lot of reflecting. A lot of listening to the voice of his Fa-ther.

Sometimes we mistake stillness with vulnerability. But Christ shows us that to withdraw, to contemplate, can actually be a tremendous show of strength. Even the fiercest dogs wait for the command of their master before they act. ©LPi

Be well, stay safe, and SMILE (it makes your face feel good,) and if smiles are good, laughs are even better. It's been said, "You don't stop laughing when you die, you die when you stop laughing!

	LECTORS						
<u>Jan. 22:</u>	Jacques Williams, Sarah						
	Malone						
<u>Jan. 29:</u>	Layson Brooks						
	Sarah Malone						
<u>Feb. 5:</u>	Alexis Hatchett						
	Connie Clary						
Eucharistic Ministers							
<u>Jan. 22:</u>	Barbara Bisel, Vivian Higgs,						
	Kathi Skdd						
<u>Jan. 29:</u>	Sarah Malone, Charlene						

<u>Feb. 4:</u> Janet Clark, Misty Sanford, Kathi Skidd

Meadows, Janet Clark

Collection & G	ifts
----------------	------

<u>Jan. 22:</u>	Wonet Taylor, Barbara Ham
	mond
<u>Jan. 29:</u>	Mary Hagan, Lori Robinson and family

GO YOU ARE DISMISSED

During Mass we are fed by Christ in scripture during the Liturgy of the Word. Then we are fed by His Body and Blood during the Liturgy of the Eucharist. We become what we eat.

After receiving these precious gifts we are called as baptized disciples to use them. When the Mass ends we are not done; our job has just begun.

The Body and blood of Jesus gives us the grace and strength to be disciples of Christ. --Deacon Jay VanHoosier

GOSPEL REFLECTION

When I was a young seminarian, I asked a wise old priest how to pray better. He said simply, "Don't lie when you pray." He helped me to see how much energy I waste in trying to appear acceptable to God when I pray. For me, prayer was showing off for God and hiding what was ugly.

It's stunning that the Gospel of Matthew tells us of Jesus, **"He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulon and Naphtali..."** This isn't just the Lord's relocation up north. It's his moving into places of shame and defeat. This region was where the enemy invasion of Israel began centuries before. Jesus left the comfortable confines of Nazareth and sought out a place of darkness, not to bring shame, but to announce the dawning of his light.

When we pray, we usually prefer Jesus to stay put in our little Nazareths — where we feel comfortable, successful, and in control. But he moves. He relocates into the Zebulons and Naphtalis of our shame, embarrassment, fear, and sense of being defeated. The question for us is: will we allow him to take up residence in *those* places in our prayer time? Will we talk to him honestly about our places of darkness? If we do, we're no longer lying when we pray. Colleen Dorman

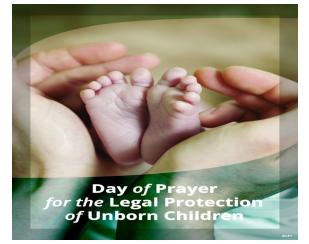


Readings for the Week

Monday:	Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-6/ Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday:	Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4, 708, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday:	Acts22:3-16/Ps117:1-2/ Mk 16:15-18
Thursday:	2 Tm 1:1-8/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11- 14/Mk 4:21-25
Friday:	Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34
Saturday:	Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70-75/ Mk 4:35-41

Observances for the Week of Jan. 22

Monday:	St. \	Vincent,	Deacon 3	St. Mari		
	anne	e Cope, D	Day of Pr	ayer for		
the Legal Protect	egal Protection of Unborn Children					
Tuesday:	St. Francis de Sales, Bishop			shop		
Wednesday:	The Conversion of St. Paul the					
	Аро	stle				
Thursday:	Sts.	Timoth	ny and	Titus,		
	Bish	ops				
Friday:	St. A	Angela Me	erici, Virg	in		
Saturday:	St.	Thomas	Aquinas	, Priest		
	and Doctor of the Church					
Next Sunday:	4 th S	unday in	Ordinary	Time,		
Ce	lebrat	te Catholi	c Schools	s Week		



DIVISION

It is a situation that plays itself out in more and less significant ways: Christians divided.

A CYO basketball game between two neighboring parishes. Parents of the young players scream insults and threats at one another and assert their "superiority."

A Protestant and a Catholic church sit on adjoining properties. Each is vigilant about having parking violators removed from is own "private" parking lot.

An old pastor retires but continues to reside at the parish. A new pastor arrives and quickly finds his faith "community" choosing sides against him.

Saint Paul addresses similar disagreements in the early church at Corinth. He encourages the church there to make up their differences and to be united again in their belief and practice.

Today's first reading from Isaiah speaks of a people weighed down by the yoke of sin and darkness. Certainly the bickering and differences among us can be classified as such. The Gospel tells of the beginning ministry of Jesus. The light has come, encouraging us to "repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand"

Laugh of the Week

A rather stingy man died and went to Heaven. He was met at the front gate by St. Peter, who led him on a house tour down the golden streets. They passed mansion after beautiful mansion until they came to the end of the street and stopped in front of a tiny shack without gold paving in front. "And here is where you'll be living, sir," Peter announced. "Me live here?" the stingy man yelled. "How come?" Peter replied, "I did the best I could with the money you sent us."