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# Blessed Sacrament

602 Sycamore Street • Owensboro, KY 42301 • 270-926-4741

[www.blessedsacramentchapel.org](http://www.blessedsacramentchapel.org) or email at [pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org](mailto: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](mailto:john.thomas@pastoral.org)

**Parochial Vicar:** Father Shibu Cheriankunnel

[moc\\_shibu.cheriyankunnel@pastoral.org](mailto:moc_shibu.cheriyankunnel@pastoral.org)

**Parish Life Coordinator:** Sr Jeannette Fennwald,  
SSND [pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org](mailto:pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org)



**February 12, 2023 6th Sunday--Ordinary Time**

Give me discernment so that I may keep your law with all my heart. Ps. 119:34

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

No one does he command to act unjustly, to none does he give license to sin. (Sir 15:20)

### Psalm:

Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Ps 119)

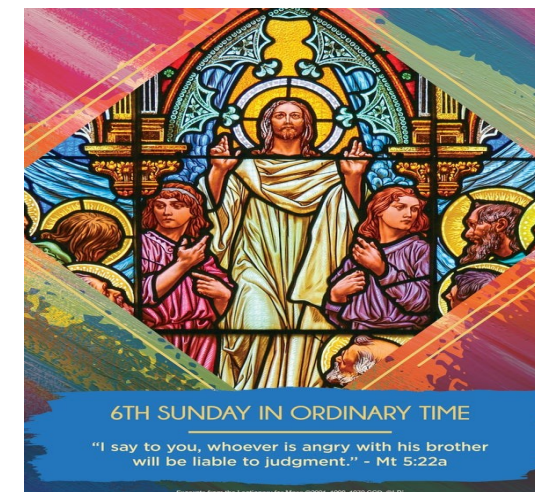
### Second Reading:

Rather, we speak of God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory. (1 Cor 2:7)

### Gospel:

"I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 5:20)

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



My Dear Parishioners:

A few years ago I was blessed to have the opportunity to gather with friends of mine (Anglo and Spanish) and to pray with a Latino family who were bringing their three-year-old child for the Rite of Presentation. This is a Latino custom whereby the parents ‘offer’ their child to God (as they did when the child was baptized three years earlier). During the prayer, they offer thanksgiving to God for three years of life and ask God’s blessing on the child in the years to come.

Because there were so many present at the Mass who spoke Spanish, I felt it necessary to have the homily translated and to offer some of the prayers of the Mass in Spanish. Thank God ‘Jorge’ was part of the choir that had come to join the celebration. Jorge’s English skills are pretty developed and he had done some translating before. I asked him to help me during the homily. He eagerly responded ‘si’ (yes).

Jorge and I had never worked together before this moment. As soon as the homily began, I could tell Jorge was an excellent translator and was right in-step with me. It was a pleasure to stand with him and to preach God’s word to so many.

After Holy Communion and the Prayer after Communion, I had everyone sit down and asked the family forward for the presentation. The young child to be presented was dressed for the occasion. Actually, the entire family was in their finest and was so honored to stand before the community. Jorge joined me again and assisted with translation. After the service was concluded, we all stayed for pictures. It was a great celebration.

The Mass was beautiful. It was beautiful for many reasons. It was JOYFUL! There was simply a spirit of joy in the Church that night. The family of the three year old was joyful and excited for the celebration. The Latino choir was joyful in their songs of praise. The Anglo community was joyful as together we witnessed God bringing people of different cultures together around one altar. As Jorge translated the homily, everyone was joyful because of his spirit and willingness to follow along with me in preaching the Word!

It is always moving to me when the community is gathered around God’s Word and around God’s altar. This Mass was especially joyful, however, because it brought people of different places together to share one meal. Our Church (the Catholic Church) is diverse. Sometimes because we always go to the same Mass with the same people week after week, we lose sight of the fact that our Church reaches all over the world and calls us all together. When we pray the prayers of the Mass, we join our voices with people around the world speaking many different languages. That Mass on Saturday evening was a true picture of what it means to be Catholic. To gather around the Word and Sacrament people of different places, languages, customs, ethnicities, and practices is what Christ came to do. It is what Christ calls us to do.

We must be welcoming to visitors. We must be respectful of people who worship using different customs or prayers. We must welcome strangers as I want to be welcomed. Father John

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By the early 1950’s some scholars were calling for the restoration of Communion of the faithful on Good Friday, since by then only a priest received, consuming the host from the Holy Thursday repository. In 1955 the new Good Friday liturgy was timed to begin at three o’clock everywhere, and included the option of Holy Communion but without the Precious Blood that had originally been part of the liturgy. Today there is increasing debate among theologians. Some feel that it would be better to fast from the Eucharist on Good Friday, focusing on the mystery of the cross and highlighting the Easter Communion. Other say that this Communion infuses the sadness of the day with awareness of Christ’s victory. It is not a day of mourning, of course, and the Passion according to John grounds the liturgy in a sense of Christ’s victory over death and the triumph of the cross. The tradition is rich and varied, and we are still in the early stages of recovering an ancient way of doing things..

Why do we call the day “good”? The English and Dutch languages share this name, and its origin stems from the name “God’s Friday.” The traditional name for the day in Latin is *Feria VI in Parascevee*, which translates as “The Sixth Day of the Week of Preparation.” Other languages make do with “Holy Friday.” In another part of England, as in Denmark the people used to call it “Long Friday,” a good description for a quiet day without work and no chance for play or a good meal.

Rev James Field @JS Paluch, Co

### Vestment Colors

**Question:** What do the colors of the priest’s and deacon’s vestments mean?

**Answer:**

In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the colors of the vestments evolved over the course of several centuries and there was wide variation both in the colors used, and in the feasts and seasons associated with particular colors. It was Pope Innocent III (d. 1216) who gave us the basic outline that was later prescribed by Pope Saint Pius V in 1570. The various colors remind us of the dominant themes of a particular season or celebration.

- White: Used for the seasons of Christmas and Easter and in celebrations of the Lord, of Mary, the angels, and saints who were not martyrs. This color is also used in Masses for the dead, at baptisms, weddings and other festive celebrations.
- Red: As the color of both blood and fire, red is used on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, as well as Pentecost and special celebrations of the Holy Spirit. Moreover, red is used on the feasts and memorials of the Apostles and those saints who died as martyrs.
- Violet: The color for Advent and Lent. Violet may also be used in Masses for the dead and on All Souls Day (November 2).
- Green: A color of life and hope, green is used throughout Ordinary Time.

Other colors: Rose may be used on the Third Sunday of Advent and the Fourth Sunday of Lent, black may be used in Masses of the dead and on All Souls Day, gold or silver may be used on solemn occasions in place of white, red, or green. ©LPi



## February Birthdays

2--Nancy Bumm  
3--Jacques Williams Sr.  
6--Philip Moorman  
8--Karen Terry  
9--Beau Bisel  
10--Father Jerry  
23--Larry Allen  
24--Yasmeen Williams  
27--Sondra Hibbs



## Lent

Lent will begin on February 22. We will have 6 pm Mass that day; neighboring parishes will have early morning Masses and noon Masses.

There are several opportunities to practice the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

1. Centering Prayer Program
2. Mission on Eucharist (both explained in flyer)
3. Donate to St. Benedict Shelter: deodorant, razors, 3 in 1 body wash, toothpaste, coffee, cereal, gently used shoes.
4. Reach out to the lonely and homebound: call, card, visit.
5. **Pray, Penance, and Almsgiving**

## Mass Intentions

February 5--Burnell and Idella Hamilton  
February 12--Stephen Hall  
February 19--Hugh Moorman  
February 22--Ron Sullivan  
February 26--Donald Moorman

*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:**  
**Philip Moorman, Jr., Larry Clark, Brent Hatchett, Gloria Savet, Rachel Mattingly, Sister Janice Fennewald,** Charlie Brown Sr, Carol Hatchett, Teresa Woods, Larry Allen, 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, P  
**If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.**



## Coming Events

## CALENDAR



### Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Feb. 22--Ash Wednesday  
6 pm Mass

March 4--Italian Night 6:30 pm.

March 31--Fish Fry 5-7 pm



Feb. 5--\$1044

Weekly Budget--\$1058

MTD Collection--\$1044

MTD Budget--\$1058

YTD Collection--\$39,788.80

YTD Budget--\$31,740

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

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WeShare (on website)

## Laugh of the Week

### Senior Observations

- ⇒ The ability to speak several languages is an asset, but the ability to keep your mouth shut in any language is priceless.
- ⇒ Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision.
- ⇒ Just once, I want the prompt for username and password to say, "Close enough."
- ⇒ If you see me talking to myself, just move along. I'm self-employed. We're having a meeting.
- ⇒ "Your call is very important to us. Please enjoy this 40- minute flute solo".
- ⇒ Does anyone else have a plastic bag full of plastic bags, or is it just me?
- ⇒ Tip for a successful marriage: Don't ask your wife when dinner will be ready while she's mowing the lawn.
- ⇒ So, you drive across town to a gym to walk on a treadmill?
- ⇒ Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

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JUDGE NOT, LEST YE BE JUDGED!

LECTORS	
Feb. 12:	Alexis Hatchett Misty Sanford
Feb. 19:	Jacques Williams Barbara Bisel
Feb. 26:	Layson Brooks, Sarah Malone
Eucharistic Ministers	
Feb. 12:	Barbara Bisel, Vivian Higgs, Greg Gough
Feb. 19:	Lori Robinson, Rita Moorman, Sarah Malone
Feb. 26:	Janet Clark, Charlene Mead ows, Kathi Skidd
Collection & Gifts	
Feb. 12	Holly, Kelly, Samuel Hollis
Feb. 19:	Jax Malone, Lad Ottofy
Feb. 26:	Alexis and Alizabeth Hatchett

**FORGOTTEN HOW TO WEEP**

*We are a society which has forgotten how to weep, how to experience compassion-- "suffering with" others: the globalization of indifference has taken from us the ability to weep! Let us ask the Lord for the grace to weep over our indifference, to weep over the cruelty of our world, of our own hearts, and of all those who in anonymity make social and economic decisions which open the door to tragic situations. Today has anyone wept in our world?*     --Pope Francis

**Take a minute to examine your compassion for others. those around you, those in the world.**

**Feelings and Shiny Things**

A friend of mine has a tradition on the first birthday of her children. Three items — a coin, a shot glass, and a rosary — are placed in front of the one-year-old, and whatever object he grasps supposedly bears insight into his future. A coin promises wealth, the rosary indicates holiness, and the shot glass...well, I'm sure you can guess.

Of course, the kid just grabs whatever looks coolest. They're not really choosing money or God or a party. Their choice is ruled by impulse. These days, "I'm not feeling it," is a genuine excuse to avoid something. "I feel that," we say to indicate agreement. "I feel like..." is an acceptable way to offer our opinion. Feelings carry a lot of weight.

Before Christ, there was only the law, and the law dealt primarily with actions. *Do this. Do not do this.* All well and good. But with the fulfillment of the law, Christ wants us to look inwardly. He wants us to consider the influence of our feelings on our actions, and to understand how our chosen actions can, in turn, inspire certain feelings.

I'm a millennial, so, depending on your age, you may think that I feel either too much or too little. One thing I have learned, though, is that when I give my feelings free rein, my instincts immediately turn into actions. I become the toddler grasping at shiny objects with no thought for what they represent. Anger becomes unkindness. Jealousy becomes cruelty. Fear becomes selfishness.

Free will, I have come to understand, means freedom from the tyranny of feelings. If a feeling is strong enough, it can build a prison.

*"If your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away."* — Matthew 5:30     ©LPi

**WEIGHTY**

An ounce of practice is worth a pound of preaching.    --John Ray

**Readings for the Week**

Monday:            Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc -17, 20-21/Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday:           Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10/Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday:       Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:22-26

Thursday:          Gn 9:1-13/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Mk 8:27-33

Friday:              Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15/Mk 8:34—9:1

Saturday:           Heb 11:1-7/Ps 145: 2-3, 4-5, 10-11/Mk 9:2-13

**Observances for the Week of Feb. 12**

Tuesday:           Sts. Cyril, Monk, and Metho  
dius, Bishop; Valentine's Day

Friday:              The Seven Holy Founders of  
the Servite Order

**Safe Environment**

The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian. Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities (800-422-4453); local law enforcement (800-752-6200); or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-597- 2331). To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church (paid or volunteer), call Louanne Payne, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) on the confidential phone line: 270-852-8380, or Susan Montalvo-Gesser/ Miguel Quintanilla, Pastoral Assistance Coordinators (Spanish): 270-880-8360. The Diocese of Owensboro's sexual abuse policy is available at this parish (in the bookshelf in back of the church), in the parish office, and also on the diocesan website (<https://owensborodiocese.org/safe>). To make a report of sexual abuse of a minor and related misconduct by bishops, go to [ReportBishopAbuse.org](https://ReportBishopAbuse.org) or call 1-800-276-1562

**CHOICE**

"If you choose, you can keep the commandments," Sirach tells us. God "has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand" (Sirach 15:15, 160). This is a great mystery. God does not control us so completely that we cannot chose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

In today's reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well. Copyright Paluch

**Practicing Prayer This Lent?** Do you seek the still, quiet voice of God? Come explore the gifts of contemplative prayer and discover more deeply God's presence and action in your life and within you. This prayer, often called Centering Prayer has been part of our Christian heritage for Centuries - and now you have the opportunity to participate in a Centering Prayer Introductory Program that will be offered at Precious Blood on Saturday, February 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00pm in the Parish Hall. It will include time for presentation, discussion, prayer and includes lunch, The program and lunch are offered at no cost to you, Please register in advance by contacting Maryann Joyce at 812-867- 7507, [maryannjoyce@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryannjoyce@sbcglobal.net) or Michelle in the office at 270-684-6888. Catholic Charities