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# Blessed Sacrament

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



**3rd Sunday of Easter April 23, 2023**

Lord, You will show us the path of life.  
 (Psalm 16).

**Sunday's Readings**

**First Reading:**  
 God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death because it was impossible for him to be held by it." (Acts 2:23-24)

**Psalm:**  
 Lord, you will show us the path of life. (Ps 16)

**Second Reading:**  
 Our faith and hope are in God who raised Jesus from the dead. (1 Pt 1:17-21)

**Gospel:**  
 And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. (Lk 24:30-31)



**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

They set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" - Lk 24:33-34

My Dear Parishioners:

For the Christian every Sunday is a celebration of Easter Sunday. The Liturgy of the Word may have us focus on different relevant moments of the life of Christ and the early church but the Liturgy of the Eucharist always brings us back to the Easter moment. As a community, we share in the Emmaus journey where the breaking of the bread reveals to us the risen Christ that the two disciples of the today's gospel reading experienced. The privilege that we have during the Easter season, which we are in, is to further reflect on the Easter message in the readings and preaching that we receive.

The Easter season of the Church is observed between Easter Sunday and Pentecost Sunday (50 days). This is the time of transition where the disciples struggle to make sense of the events that have just taken place and their communal identity as the disciples of the risen Christ. In today's first reading, we see Peter making his first public pronouncement after the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples. Peter is preaching the Paschal mystery with conviction. His message is one that can resonate with us as we contemplate the social realities of our day. In his explanation, Peter is offering juxtaposition between the social actions of our worldly leaders and the Divine action of God. In his explanation, we can hear what the Church teaches us about society's "culture of death" and what God and His Church offer us through the "Gospel of life."

This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it.

Saint John Paul II often spoke of the 'culture of death' in which we are currently living. All around us human life is devalued. It is the opposite of Christ's message and 'Gospel of Life'.

In the Gospel passage Jesus offer the two disciples on the way to Emmaus an explanation into the events surrounding his passion, death and resurrection by placing it within the context of the prophetic tradition. The Prophets shared in the mission to preach the countercultural word of God's justice and peace and they were persecuted for challenging the social powers of their time. The Major Prophets including Isaiah, Jeremiah and Micah all tried unsuccessfully to turn the Kingdom of Judah back from the brink of disaster through a life of fidelity to God and the adoption of a political, economic and social agenda that flows from God's vision of justice and peace. They each faced persecution and ridicule and so they placed their hopes on a future intervention where God will demonstrate the redemptive power of His own living Word. God would have to demonstrate the true power of the "Gospel of life" in the midst of our own "culture of death." Jesus is LIFE. Jesus gives LIFE. Jesus promises ETERNAL LIFE. This is our call during this Solemnity of our Salvation.

Easter Blessings, Fr. John

## Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



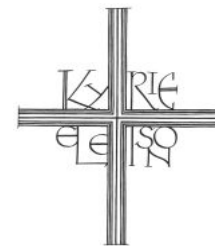
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*For God justice is not a problem;*

*For human beings it is.*

**JUSTICE—GETTING WHAT YOU DESERVE.**



*Loving Mercy*

**MERCY—NOT GETTING WHAT YOU DESERVE**

*Purgatory--where justice and mercy meet.*



*All is gift and all is grace,  
all is given through the death and  
resurrection of Jesus.*

**GRACE—GETTING WHAT YOU DON'T DESERVE**



### April Birthdays

- 6--Marshall Williams
- 10--Steven Fain
- 21--Kathi Skidd
- 23--Misty Sanford
- 25--Charlene Meadows
- 26--Vivian Higgs
- 27--Ruth Coble
- 29--Jeff McCarter

### May Birthdays

- 3--Mae Campbell



### A Note of Thanks

Thank you for investing in our Catholic education. We know that Catholic education is a large part of our parish budget. We appreciate all you do for our schools and ask that you pray for us as we finish our final months at Catholic High.

Sincerely,  
Lexy Hatchett, Senior Class of 2023

*The Lord is so rich in mercy; every time, if we go to him, he forgives us. Let us trust in God's work!*  
Pope Francis

### Mass Intentions

- .April 9--Mike Coakley
- April 16--Betty Winsatt
- April 23--Ron Sullivan
- April 30--David Stevens
- May 7--Patricia Thomas, Lloyd and R.V. 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: Brian Bumm, Philip Moorman, Jr., Wynter Keller, Larry Clark, Brent Hatchett, Gloria Savet, Rachel Mattingly, 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, If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.**

**STAY WITH US, LORD**  
*Walk with us, Lord, along the road of resurrection! Explain for us, so slow to believe, the things that Scripture says of you. Break the bread of the Eucharist with us whenever we share our lives with our brothers and sisters. Stay with us each time night approaches and the daylight fades in our hearts!*  
Lucien Diess copyright by World Library Publications

## Coming Events CALENDAR



### Blessed Sacrament Chapel

- April 30--Celebration of sacraments/graduation after Mass in hall.
- May 4--Owensboro National Day of Prayer 12:00--1 pm Courthouse lawn
- May 21--1st Communion 10 am



- April 16--\$1,326.67
- Budget--\$1058
- MTD Collection--\$4,664.43
- MTD Budget--\$3,174
- YTD Collection--\$54,142.75
- YTD Budget--\$42,230

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

- Holy Land--\$116
- Seminary--10
- Rice Bowl--\$63.85

### SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

I always feel a little sad when someone begins to speak to me with the words, "Father, I know you're so busy, but ..." It happens a lot. And I get it. He or she is trying to be respectful of my time. But it saddens me because a priest makes Jesus present to people in a special way, and Jesus *always* has time for us. Don't we all feel at times that God just doesn't have time for us?

Nonsense. Just look at the stunning "Road to Emmaus" story we hear this week. It's the day Jesus rose from the dead. And the Risen One appears in disguise to two disciples. He walks with them, chats with them, and eventually eats with them. It could have been hours he spends with them — two unnamed persons — in the middle of nowhere. On the day he rose from the dead!

My friends, please take this to heart: The Risen Jesus is not too busy to spend time with you! He doesn't have "better things to do." You and I are members of this crucified and risen Body. He therefore has all the time in the world to be with us. So, I challenge you this week to approach him confidently in prayer and conversation. After all, being with you and me is the reason he rose from the dead.

— Father John Muir

### EFFECTS

**The effect of our sharing in the body and blood of Christ is to change us into what we receive.** Pope Saint Leo the Great

<b>LECTORS</b>	
<u>April 23:</u>	Alexis Hatchett, Greg Gough
<u>April 30:</u>	Jacques Williams, Sarah Malone
<u>May 7:</u>	Layson Brooks, Connie Clary
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	
<u>April 23:</u>	Barbara Bisel, Misty Sanford, Kathi Skidd
<u>April 30:</u>	Cindy Clark, Janet Clark, Lori Robinson
<u>May 7:</u>	Greg Gough, Vivian Higgs, Rita Moorman
<b>Collection &amp; Gifts</b>	
<u>April 23:</u>	Connie Clary, Wonet Taylor
<u>April 30:</u>	Aubrey and Lad Ottofy
<u>May 7:</u>	Joyce and Ron Moorman

**New Math**  
The best mathematical equation I have ever seen:  
1 cross + 3 nails = 4-given



(See John 19:17-37) 04-18-2014

### LAUGH OF THE WEEK

A college professor, an avowed Atheist, was teaching his class. He shocked several of his students when he flatly stated he was going to prove there was no God.

Addressing the ceiling, he shouted: "God, if you are real, then I want you to knock me off this platform. I'll give you 15 minutes!" The lecture room fell silent. You could have heard a pin fall.

Ten minutes went by. Again he taunted God saying, "Here I am, God. I'm still waiting."

His count-down got down to the last couple of minutes when a Marine--just released from active duty and newly registered in the class--walked up to the professor, hit him full force in the face, and sent him tumbling from his lofty platform. The professor was out cold!

At first the students were shocked and babbled in confusion. The young Marine took a seat in the front row and sat silent. The class fell silent...waiting.

Eventually the professor came to, shaken he looked at the young Marine in the front row. When the professor regained his senses and could speak he asked: "What's the matter with you? Why did you do that?" "God was busy. He sent me."

We know the Ten Commandments, probably by heart. Do you know the **Five Precepts of the Church?** These positive laws decreed by the pastoral authorities are meant to be the very minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort to grow in the love of God and neighbor.

(Catholic Catechism #2041)

1. Attend Mass on Sundays and Day of Obligation
2. Confess your sins at least once a year.
3. Receive the Eucharist at least once a year.
4. Observe days of fasting and abstinence
5. Provide for the needs of the Church.

### Readings for the Week

Monday:	Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday:	1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20
Wednesday:	Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3-7/ Jn 6:35-40
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1, 2/ Jn 6:52-59
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-17/ Jn 6:60-69

### Observances for the Week of April 23

Monday:	St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen,
Tuesday:	St. Mark, Evangelist
Wednesday:	Administrative Professionals' Day
Friday:	St. Peter Chanel, Martyr; St. Louis de Montfort,, Priest; Arbor Day
Saturday:	St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

*To all who participated in the Holy Week and Easter liturgies. Special shout-out to*

- \* *Father John Thomas and Father Shibu for presiding at our liturgies and providing inspiration .*
- \* *Our musicians who came faithfully for each service and to Leland Herzog and Clint Campbell who enhanced with their instruments*
- \* *Vivian Higgs who always sees that all is set up and taken care of after the service*
- \* *Servers and ministers*
- \* *All who volunteered (or were drafted) to participate in whatever was needed to have meaningful liturgies during Holy Week*
- \* *Kitty Board for cookies and cake*
- \* *Easter egg providers and hidiers*
- \* *Everyone who attended*

### RECOGNIZING JESUS

St. Peter speaks to us twice today. In the first reading, we hear an excerpt from his sermon on Pentecost; in the second, part of his first Letter. Once a frightened uneducated fisherman who often said just the wrong thing, now Peter is speaking what he knows to be true. Everything Jesus had said now makes sense. His death and rising were all part of God's plan, and our faith and hope can be centered on God.

Today's Gospel tells the story of Jesus' walk to Emmaus with two of the disciples. Frightened, sad, and confused, the two don't recognize Jesus, who tells them what we heard Peter say above: all this had to happen as part of God's plan. In the end, these disciples recognize Jesus as we are to recognize him--in the breaking of the bread. Copyright J.S.Paluch

April is Child Abuse Awareness month. We set time aside to pray for victims and survivors of both child abuse and sexual abuse, especially for those that occurred in the Church. *Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds and transform brokenness into wholeness. Grant us the courage and wisdom, humility and grace, to act with justice. Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen*

Please pray for our parishioners who have important sacramental happenings in their lives this spring: Kelly Hollis who was received into full Communion of the Catholic Church Holy Saturday. Congratulations!! Lad Ottofy who will be confirmed and Lennox and Marshall Williams and John Carson Malone who will receive their 1st Communion.