

 **AnITConsultant** LLC

**Whaylon Coleman**  
Chief Technology Officer

Office : PO BOX 22998  
Owensboro, KY 42304-2998

Phone : 270-883-1450  
Email : [it@anitconsultant.com](mailto:it@anitconsultant.com)

**ChemDry**

- Carpet Cleaning
- Upholstery Cleaning
- Ceramic/Grout Cleaning
- Auto Interiors
- Area Rugs Cleaned

715 Cumberland St.  
Owensboro, KY 42303  
Phone: 270-684-0969 (Owensboro)  
Phone: 270-827-1130 (Henderson)  
Emergency: 270-315-2294

**Jacques Williams**  
Manager

Pipe, Valves, Fittings, Pneumatics, Actuation, & Steam

 **PVF**  
Supply Company, Inc.  
"Since 1978"

**Greg Gough**  
(Cell) 270-993-7120  
greg@pvfsupplyco.com

270-685-4919  
800-787-6803 (Fax) 270-685-2559  
PO Box 1796, 1611 West 7th St., Owensboro, KY 42302

 **GREENWELL CHISHOLM**

Printing  
Signs and Banners  
Promotions  
Design  
Mailing and Fulfillment

gc1919.com • 270.684.3267  
420 East Parrish Avenue  
Owensboro, KY 42303



# 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)



**4th Sunday of Easter April 30, 2023**

Only goodness and kindness follow me  
all the days of my life. (Ps. 23).

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

"Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." (Acts 2:36)

### Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23)

### Second Reading:

For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. (1 Pt 2:25)

### Gospel:

"I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." (Jn 10:9)



Jesus says ‘I am’. The Gospel today identifies Jesus as ‘The Good Shepherd’. This Sunday is often referred to as ‘Good Shepherd Sunday’. These "I am" sayings in the gospel of John are simply stated and easily grasped at a basic level. They are, at the same time, invitations into a lifelong relationship with Jesus in which we live into the promises they make. That means that the Good Shepherd who was there for me as a child is still here for me as an adult seeking to grow in faith amid personal and cultural challenges to that faith. John's Gospel has been aptly described as a book in which a child can wade and an elephant can swim.

It is through the Gospel of John that we learn this basic truth: Jesus' Identity Shapes Ours. Each promise says something about Jesus' identity and something about ours as individuals and communities when we live in relationship to him.

**Food:** I am the bread of life (*John 6:35*)

**Light:** I am the light of the world (*8:12*)

**A path to follow:** I am the Way, the truth and the life (*14:6*)

**A gate to get onto the path:** I am the Gate for the sheep

**Someone trustworthy to follow:** I am the Good Shepherd (*10:11*)

**An eternal journey:** I am the Resurrection and the Life (*11:25*)

**A life that bears the fruit of that walk:** I am the True Vine (*15:1*)

Jesus is a Strange Kind of Shepherd. Let's zoom in on this image of the Good Shepherd and see if we can move to understanding and deeper faith for our daily lives. It comes right after the expulsion of the formerly blind man from the synagogue, so the "thieves and robbers" Jesus refers to are probably the Pharisees. Jesus warns about thieves and bandits, and then elaborates on their failings. They speak with an unfamiliar voice, they come only to steal and kill and destroy. They see the wolf coming and leave the sheep because they do not care for the sheep. In this swirling mass of negatives, the Good Shepherd stands firm, undaunted by danger, not intimidated by threats. He is unmoved because his motivation is love for the sheep.

All seven "I am" sayings have the effect of unifying Jesus' followers. The unity of the Father and the Son, a key theme in John's gospel, is to be mirrored in the unity of the community that gathers around Jesus. Because there is one and only one Good Shepherd, there is one flock that gathers around him.

Listen to how the "I am" sayings serve to unify those who believe in Jesus.

**Since Jesus is food**, discipleship means gathering around the table.

**Since Jesus is light**, discipleship means coming out of our dark corners and gathering in the middle of the room together.

**Since Jesus is a path to follow**, discipleship means walking together along it.

**Since Jesus is an eternal journey**, discipleship means a group walking in the way that leads to life.

**Since Jesus is the Vine**, discipleship means being the branches, people who derive their fruitfulness from him.

**Since Jesus is the Good Shepherd**, then discipleship means being sheep who find their life in his care.

Jesus was and is the Good Shepherd. He is with us always. He will never leave us. His only desire is to draw us to himself. And yes, that makes all of us his little sheep. Where he leads . . . we follow - together. Easter blessings, Fr. John

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Every rectory office has received a panicked phone call from a person who has been invited to serve as a godparent, or from someone newly engaged, who suddenly “needs to get confirmed.” While the lack of confirmation is not an obstacle for marriage, it is for godparenting. Many are surprised that the Church seems to be looking for a kind of sacramental “seal” on one’s baptism before the door opens fully to this ministry. Yet if you think about it, would you want someone to guide you to a place that he or she had not been? A godparent has to be someone who has “been there” and knows the way. Although signet rings and wax seals have passed from use, our society depends on “seals of approval” ranging from certificates of quality to the familiar safety seals on medicines and foods. While Eucharist is the “seal” of the sacrament of baptism, there is a sense in which one’s Christian initiation is also incomplete without confirmation. Have you been confirmed? Perhaps it is time to inquire now! Rev James Field

## Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



Copyright 2002 Karl Zorowski. All rights reserved. [www.chuchmice.net](http://www.chuchmice.net)

**Where is God:** A couple had two little boys, ages 8 and 10, who were excessively mischievous. They were always getting into trouble.. The boys’ mother heard that a priest in the downtown parish had been successful in disciplining children, so she asked if he would speak with her boys. The pastor agreed but asked to see them individually. So, the mother sent her 8-year-old first, in the morning, and fixed the appointment of the older boy with the priest in the afternoon. The priest, a huge man with a booming voice, sat the younger boy down and asked him sternly, “Where is God?” The boy’s mouth dropped open and he made no response. So, the priest repeated the question in an even sterner tone, “Where is God!!?” Again, the boy made no attempt to answer. So, the clergyman raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy’s face and bellowed, “WHERE IS GOD!?” The boy screamed and ran directly home and dove into his closet, slamming the door behind him. When his older brother found him in the closet, he asked, “What happened?” The younger brother, gasping for breath, replied, “We are in BIG trouble this time, Dave. God is missing – and they think WE did it!”



### April Birthdays

23--Misty Sanford  
25--Charlene Meadows  
26--Vivian Higgs  
27--Ruth Coble  
29--Jeff McCarter

### May Birthdays

3--Mae Campbell  
7--Connie Clary  
8--Mary Ann Terry  
12--Cindy Clark, Brent Hatchett,  
Tess Campbell



### NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER--MAY4 Courthouse lawn

**2023 Verse:** The effective prayer of a  
righteous man can accomplish much.

**2023 Theme:** Pray fervently in  
righteousness and avail much.

**11:30--**Bible Read (Read assigned Bible  
verses simultaneously)

**Noon- 1pm** Time of prayer, praise,  
and testimony.



### Mass Intentions

April 23--Ron Sullivan  
April 30--Danny Stevens  
May 7--Patricia Thomas, Lloyd and R.V.  
Hamilton  
May 13--Frances Johnson  
May 21--Lucian Moorman, Sandra Brown

*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., Danny Stevens, Wynter  
Keller, Larry Clark, Gloria Savet, Rachel  
Mattingly, Charlie Brown Sr, Carol Hatchett,  
Teresa Woods, Larry Allen, Brian Bumm, 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.**

### SACRED HEART CONSECRATION

Do you want more peace in your family, blessings on your undertakings, and a more perfect faith life? Jesus is standing at the door and knocking. Open the door for Him! Join our nationwide campaign to invite the Sacred Heart of Jesus into your home, classroom, or business. Visit [www.SacredHeartRevival.com](http://www.SacredHeartRevival.com) for more information on the graces of the Sacred Heart and sign up today.

## 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--\$637

Budget--\$1058

MTD Collection--\$5301.43

MTD Budget--\$4232

YTD Collection--\$54,142.75

YTD Budget--\$43,285

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

### Heaven

The goal of religion is not to get us  
into heaven--  
but to get heaven into us.

### GOSPEL MEDITATION

I recently rescued a dog. She's a terrier and rather adorable. And she's crazy about me. She could spend all day with me. But I'm a pastor at a parish and sometimes I leave her at the front desk of the church office. She constantly amazes me by her ability to distinguish between my voice and that of everyone else. If I say one word, even if I'm hidden around a corner, she'll sprint toward me and jump up into my arms.

This week the readings focus our attention to the *voice* of the risen Jesus Christ. Comparing his disciples to sheep and himself to a shepherd, he says, **"They recognize his voice."** He speaks to us and wants us to respond. When we hear his voice, we follow. Throughout this coming week, we will experience many interior promptings to receive God's love, and to love Him in return. That's his voice. Follow it into the safe and tender arms of Christ.

By contrast, some voices we will hear do not convey God's concern and love for us, but rather produce fear, despair, and other harmful mischief. Jesus calls these voices those of robbers. Does an idea or thought make it harder for you to love God? If so, run away. Let it go. It is most likely not the voice of the Risen Lord. Keep waiting for him to speak. You will recognize his voice. Then run to him as fast as you can. — *Father John Muir*

### COUNTING SHEEP

When at night when you can't sleep,  
talk to the Shepherd and stop counting sheep.

	<b>LECTORS</b>
<u>April 30:</u>	Jacques Williams, Sarah Malone
<u>May 7</u>	Layson Brooks, Connie Clary
<u>May 14</u>	Barbara Bisel, Misty Sanford
	<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>
<u>April 30:</u>	Rita Moorman, Janet Clark, Lori Robinson
<u>May 7:</u>	Greg Gough, Vivian Higgs, Sarah Malone
<u>May 14:</u>	Kathi Skidd, Holly Hollis, Cindy Clark
	<b>Collection &amp; Gifts</b>
<u>April 30:</u>	Aubrey and Lad Ottofy
<u>May 7:</u>	Joyce and Ron Moorman
<u>May 14:</u>	Steven, Meredith, Hank, Quinn Fain

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

In addition to being the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus, St Joseph was a carpenter. Through his work of manual labour, Joseph provided for the Holy Family. The special characteristic of Joseph is hiddenness, remaining in the background. No word of his is recorded in the Gospels. The life of St Joseph shows us the dignity of human work, Joseph loved his work. He never complained of weariness, but as a man of faith elevated it to the exercise of virtue. He found contentment in his work, because he did not aspire to wealth and did not envy the rich; for Joseph, work was an instrument to support his family

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS  
Cut to the Heart

Everyone who has been married knows this feeling: you’re in the midst of a disagreement with your spouse. You’ve really dug in your heels. You’re ready to die on this hill. And you have the awful, heart-breaking realization that you are wrong. Whatever it is you’re arguing about, you’re wrong. You.

So where do you go from here? The only way forward is to own it. Fess up. Grab a fork and dig into that humble pie. It makes me cringe just to write about it, because it’s the worst feeling.

I use the example of marriage because it’s the one I’m most familiar with — my closest relationship, the one that teaches me the most about who I am and who God asks me to be. But this is a universal experience, and everyone — single or married, child or adult, lay or ordained — knows how badly it feels to realize that you’re wrong. You’re human. You messed up.

It is hard to recognize that the Christian life is one of ongoing repentance. It is painful to acknowledge the ways in which we are falling short, even as we strive to follow in Christ’s example.

It can, in the words of today’s reading, “cut to the heart.”

But that feeling of despair is what propels forward motion. We have to allow ourselves to feel bad, that’s the fertile ground of penitence. We are meant to have not just life, but life “more abundantly.” Stasis isn’t the goal. Baptism isn’t the finish line.

Examining our conscience is hard. It cuts to the heart. It cuts to the truth.

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday:	Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3-7/Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday:	1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-5/Jn 14:6-14
Thursday:	Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20
Friday:	Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-11/Jn 14:1-6
Saturday:	Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 14:7-14

Observances for the Week of April 30

Monday:	St. Joseph the Worker
Tuesday:	St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday:	Sts. Philip and James, Apostles
Thursday:	National Day of Prayer
Friday:	Cinco de Mayo

Riddles

What sort of lights were on Noah’s Ark?  
*Floodlights.*

Who was the fastest guy in the Bible?  
*Adam — he was first in the human race.*

When is the first math homework problem mentioned in the Bible?

*When God told Adam and Eve to go forth and multiply.*

THE CALL OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD

The Twenty-third Psalm, today’s responsorial psalm, is arguably the best known of all the psalms. The line that reads “Even though I walk in the dark valley/ I fear no evil, for you are at my side/ with your rod and your staff/ that give me courage.” (Psalm 23:4) connects this week’s scriptures to the wonderful story of the road to Emmaus, which we heard last week. The Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, is constantly at our side. He calls us each by name, beckoning us into a deeper relationship with him. That call, issued to each of us at the moment of our baptism, carries with it the promise of the Good Shepherd: “I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10) copyright J.S.Paluch Co.

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.