

 **AnITConsultant** LLC

Whaylon Coleman
Chief Technology Officer

Office : PO BOX 22998
Owensboro, KY 42304-2998
Phone : 270-883-1450
Email : it@anitconsultant.com

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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 Cheriyanunnel

mocshibu.cheriyankunnel@pastoral.org

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



5th Sunday of Easter May 7, 2023

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation. (1 Pt.2:9)

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

To meet their growing needs, the community chooses seven reputable men to serve the new Greek believers. (Acts 6:1-7)

Psalm:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Ps 33)

Second Reading:

We, like living stones, let ourselves be built into a spiritual house. (1 Pter2:4-9)

Gospel:

Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father." (Jn 14:6-7) Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001



My Dear Parishioners:

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Have faith in God and have faith in me.

On a scale of 1-10 how troubled is your heart today? There are days where my heart is troubled! So if you have troubled hearts what’s troubling you on this Easter day? Is it the world that worries you? The war, the economy? Is it the housing market or your work? Is it personal issues like illness, aging parents, and strained relationships? What is troubling you today? Maybe nothing. Maybe you are feeling completely at peace and ecstatically happy! Well Alleluia! Happy Easter!

That is what we are supposed to feel in this Easter Season. We are supposed to feel the peace and joy that comes from knowing that we are healed, reconciled, loved, known, embraced fully by the God who has created us. Are we there yet? Do we echo the words of Philip in the Gospel today, “Master we do not know where we are going, How can we know the Way? The Gospel today gives us a way out of our troubles, anxieties, worries. Of course it doesn’t make those troubles disappear. But it may help to give us a little more of the peace and joy that is the Easter promise.

Jesus speaks to our hearts today very simply. He speaks words of faith, of hope and love. He asks us to trust God and trust him. That is what faith is all about. He invites us to hope that he will always be there for us. “I am going to prepare a place for you. In my father’s house there are many dwelling places. I will come back for you and take you with me”. He invites us to share intimately in the love that he has for the father and the father has for him. Faith, hope and love; these are not abstract ideas bur real lived relationship with the person of Jesus.

Sometimes when I ask people who Jesus is for them, the response I receive is “model, teacher, guide, Lord, Son of God etc.” The answers usually refer to the titles that the Church gives him or the human life he led that inspires us to lead good lives. Jesus, of course, wants to be so much more than an inspiration for a good life. He wants to be THE Way, THE truth, THE life for us. He wants to be the be all and end all that enables us to have life abundantly. He wants this first-hand, personal experience of him to be so much for us. Especially in our troubles, he comes to us. He walks with us.

He knows what it feels to have a troubled heart. We join our suffering with his that our hearts no matter what we face will have no fear or become like stone. We mustn’t be afraid.

The challenge for us is how we see Jesus as so much more that an inspirational figure. Pope Francis is continually calling us and showing us this truth. When we see the Holy Father we have had a glimpse of the gentle, compassionate, smiling, joyful shepherd whom many did not expect to see in such a compelling way. Many expected to see and hear a critic and judge. The person of Pope Francis has been surprisingly loving and hopeful, proclaiming the joy of being a follower, a disciple of Jesus and recognizing him as the Way, the Truth and the Life.

And with Jesus too, we have to find ways of seeing more than the image and hearing more than the teaching. We are invited into a real relationship with him as one who lives in our midst and breathes the breath of life into us so that we may have faith, hope and love..

Easter blessings, Fr. John

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In many parish churches, the tabernacle with the Blessed Sacrament is visible from a doorway or aisle in the church. Normally, a person is to give the proper sign of reverence, a genuflection, when passing in proximity to the tabernacle. The word “genuflect” comes from the Latin roots meaning bending (or flexing) the knee. A common-sense exception to the rule is for a sacristan wo is taking care of the church and can’t be genuflecting every thirty seconds during a vacuum run. Also excepted are person in procession entrusted with important symbols of the Lord’s presence. So a crossbearer or a minister carrying the Gospel book or ministers on their way to their Communion stations do not genuflect. For everyone else, the usual sign of reverence for the Lord’s presence in the Blessed Sacrament is to genuflect on the right knee.

The oldest form of reverence during prayer in our tradition is standing; kneeling or genuflections is a sing borrowed from old civic practice. The posture of kneeling, even on one knee, is a sign of submission. Servants would take this position before their masters in the ancient world. It said: “I’m not running away; I’m yours; I’m here for you.” This is what your genuflections says when you enter a Catholic Church where the place of reservation of the Blessed Sacrament is visible to you: I’m yours.

Rev. James Field, copyright J.S. Paluch Co.



Few snapshots from celebration for our honorees. A big Thank you to Neighborhood Food Mart for providing the pizza for the party. Thanks to Charlene for the roses on the tables.

May Birthdays

3--Mae Campbell
7--Connie Clary
8--Mary Ann Terry
12--Cindy Clark, Brent Hatchett,
Tess Campbell
14--Steve Coble
18--Tina McHenry
19--Lad Ottofy
20--Christian Trevor
22--Charles Brown SR
23--John Carson Malone
26--Diane Hatchett
30--Karen Leachman
31--Barbara Hammond,
Layson Brooks



IMP—Kroger

Thank you to everyone who has designated Blessed Sacrament as your community reward partner. If you do not have a community reward partner, please designate Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Sacrament’s # is WX799. Go to krogercommunityrewards.com to register. Thanks to each of you for your support.

Mass Intentions

April 30--Danny Stevens

May 7--Patricia Thomas, Lloyd and R.V. Hamilton

May 14--Frances Johnson

May 21--Lucian Moorman, Sandra Brown

May 28--Aaron Fennewald

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.

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Coming Events
CALENDAR



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

May 12--Father Shibu’s ordination
15th anniversary
May 21--1st Communion 10 am
May 28--Pentecost--Lad Ottofy’s
Confirmation at St. Stephen-11am



April 30--\$732
Budget--\$1058
MTD Collection--\$6,479.36
MTD Budget--\$5,290
YTD Collection--\$55,958.11
YTD Budget--\$44,346

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

Where do pencils go on a vacation?
Pencil-vania
Scientist discovered how trees com-
municate? They bark.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

If you had to summarize the essential core of the Christian life, what would it be? Mercy, truth, or love, perhaps? The readings today suggest another word which may surprise you. That word is *priest-hood*.

St. Peter says to us, **“You are a ‘chosen race, a royal priesthood...”** To be part of a priesthood is to offer a particular sacrifice in order for the community to survive and thrive. Jesus is the great high priest because he offers the one perfect sacrifice which heals and perfects the entire human race. Peter the Apostle wants us to know that all the baptized share in this priestly ministry. The whole of our lives, including every detail, is meant to become our acceptable offering to God.

The baptized exercise this priesthood in many ways, I’ll mention three. At Sunday Mass, in private prayer, and in daily work. At Mass, we offer the sacrifice of our lives with that of the priest, who symbolizes Christ the Priest. In our prayer, a “morning offering” prayer is a great way to offer up all the joys and sufferings of the day to come. In our daily work, we sacrifice our time, comfort, money, and energy to do good for others. All this gives the deepest possible meaning to our lives: we share in the priesthood which saves the world. That’s at the core of our faith.
— Father John Muir

“The saints did but one thing — the will of God:
But they did it with all their might.”
Blessed Teresa Demjanovich

	LECTORS
<u>May 7</u>	Layson Brooks, Connie Clary
<u>May 14</u>	Barbara Bisel, Kathi Skidd
<u>May 21</u>	Sarah Malone, Jacques Williams
	Eucharistic Ministers
<u>May 7:</u>	Greg Gough, Vivian Higgs, Sarah Malone
<u>May 14:</u>	Janet Clark, Holly Hollis, Cindy Clark
<u>May 21:</u>	Kathi Skidd, Denise Richardson, Misty Sanford
	Collection & Gifts
<u>May 7:</u>	Joyce and Ron Moorman
<u>May 14:</u>	Steven, Meredith, Hank, Quinn Fain
<u>May 21:</u>	Lennox, Marshall, John Carson

STRONG, SAFE, AND SOUND

The Risen Lord is the hope that never fails, that never disappoints. Hope does not let us down--the hope of the Lord! How often in our life do hopes vanish, how often do the expectations we have in our heart come to nothing! Our hope as Christians is strong, safe, and sound on this earth, where God called us to walk, and it is open to eternity because it is founded on God, who is always faithful. We must never forget: God is always faithful to us.

--Pope Francis

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Building on the Cornerstone

Before I married my husband, I assumed there were “ugly houses” and “pretty houses,” and that was that. But Matt is an architect, someone who reads books with titles like “A Field Guide to American Houses” for fun and who uses the term *vernacular architecture* like he knows what it means.

Through him, I’ve come to learn a lot about why certain structures simply don’t have a pleasing look. There is a logic to ugliness, as it turns out. One of the main reasons a building or a home might strike some of us as ugly is because it has undergone a careless renovation. Whether out of laziness or an effort to be cost-effective, additions are made that depart from the architectural style of the original structure. The result is slapdash, confusing — ugly, for lack of a better word. What is added on later must somewhat resemble the original. If you want to depart dramatically from the original style of a building, it’s better to build a separate structure altogether.

I think of this principle when I consider Christ as the “cornerstone.” We know we are called to model ourselves on Christ, to build on his example. But so often we cherry-pick elements of his message and attempt to build on it with additions that make no sense.

When someone looks at us, at our lives, they should be able to tell after whom that life is patterned. We must resemble the cornerstone, if we do not, it will be apparent, unseemly. You can’t see God the Father without embracing God the Son. You can’t chart the future of a house without any thought for its past. If Christ is not our inspiration, he will be our contradiction.

“...like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house...to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” — 1 Peter 2:5

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Readings for the Week	
Monday:	Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-13, 21/Jn 14:27-31
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-5/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57: 8--10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1-3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Observances for the Week of May 7	
.Wednesday:	St. John of Avila, Priest and St. Damien de Veuster, Priest
Friday:	Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr
Saturday:	Our Lady of Fatima
Next Sunday:	6 th Sunday of Easter; Mother’s Day

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children in 1917 in Fatima, Portugal, on the 13th day of the month from May to October. The final apparition on October 13th concluded with the spectacular “Miracle of the Sun” and was witnessed by over 70,000 people.

The Fatima message emphasizes central truths and devotions of the Catholic faith: The Blessed Trinity, the Eucharist, penance, the Rosary and sacrifices for the conversion of sinners. The final prophecy was that “In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me, and she shall be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world.

THE WAY

Today we sense the apostles’ trepidation as they begin to realize that the Lord would soon be leaving them. In their fear, they ask, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way? (John 14:5). Jesus tells them that *he* is the way. The Easter season has been a time of growing in Easter faith so that we too may learn to know that Jesus is the way. We can take comfort in the Lord’s promise that he is going to his Father’s house to prepare a place for us, his chosen people who have been called out of darkness into God’s wonderful light. As the paschal candle continues to burn during this holy season, let us remember that in baptism we were given the light of Christ. With Christ our light as the beacon lighting our way, let us march toward the glory of Pentecost.

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LONGING

The hand will not reach out for what the heart does not long for. German proverb

MUCH-NEEDED LOVE

No one needs love more than the one who doesn’t deserve it. Anonymous

