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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 Cheriankunnel

moc_shibu.cheriyankunnel@pastoral.org

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



June 11, 2023 Corpus Christi

I am the living bread; whoever eats this bread will live forever. Jn. 6:58

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

He therefore let you be afflicted with hunger, and then fed you with manna, a food unknown to you and your fathers." (Dt 8:3)

Psalm:

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. (Ps 147)

Second Reading:

Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. (1 Cor 10:17)

Gospel:

"For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and in him." (Jn 6:55-56)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
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My Dear Parishioners:

There are only a few TV programs I watch regularly. Honestly, most of the time I am in front of the TV you will find me watching the Food Network. I even have those programs on when I iron or clean (or nap!). There is a program I enjoy once and a while called Man Vs. Wild. This program is hosted by an ex-military man Bear Grylls. He would go for an adventure into different parts of the world, climbing up mountains and cliffs, swimming across dangerous rivers, crossing deserts, climbing down dark caves and tunnels, etc. But no matter where he goes, he always follows one principle, i.e. how to survive through those difficult and challenging places. Living out this principle, the first thing he does is to look for food and water, as he goes along to find his way out to a safer place. In a process, he would look for anything edible, and look for anything that might contain water, such as coconuts and bamboo trunks. This just goes to show, food and water are necessary for a person to survive and to live.

Friends, God knows that we need food and water to live. So he provides us with food and drink every day. Our First Reading today tells us, God provided ‘manna’ to the Israelites in the desert when they complained for food. The word “manna” possibly comes from the Aramaic man hu, which means ‘what is this?’ which expresses the wonder of the discovery that God’s love and providential care kept his chosen people alive on this substance. Manna was a sticky sweet resin exuded by trees like the tamarisk which on hardening, could be eaten. And when they complained about water, God provided them with water from the rock. But the manna and the water that the Israelites ate and drank did not assure them of eternal life. ‘They are dead’ as Jesus tells the Jews in our gospel today. However, Jesus did not say this to be cynical to the ancestors of the Jews, but to make them realize that in him, eternal life is offered and assured, as long as they eat his body and drink his blood. This self-proclamation of Jesus seems to have created a hiccup for the Jews. They asked ‘how can he give his flesh to be eaten?’

Our celebration today offers us an answer to this question. Jesus gives his very life to give us life. Through the Holy Spirit, Christ becomes truly present in the Eucharistic species. In the Consecration, the earthly species [i.e. bread and wine] are transformed substantially into a real body and blood of Jesus to become our spiritual food and drink-the special gift from God to us. This is how he gives his flesh for us to be eaten, and this is how he gives out his blood for us to drink. This is how he wants us to enjoy eternal life with him. When we take communion, then we not only receive this to survive or to live but we also welcome and accept God’s offer of eternal life. This Eucharist makes us one, in the Body of Christ. This unity then sustains and strengthens us to go on in our mission of promoting the cause of God, the cause of peace, justice, and unity.

Because of this Eucharist and because of the real presence in the Eucharist, more especially in the Eucharistic species, the church survives over the centuries amidst the challenges, difficulties, problems, scandals, etc. The Eucharist has been and will continue to be the lifeline of the Church. And being member of this body of Christ, we are enjoying this very life as well. Because of the ever-continuing presence of Jesus, the Church survives and lives on. Let us therefore, not lose sight of him. For in Him, eternal life is sure and imminent. If we have not welcomed Jesus yet in our lives, let’s pray he’d come and dwell in us, to guide and sustain us, and to give us life. When we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus, we, too, must be transformed. It could never be more true . . . we are what we eat! So as we continue to celebrate our solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, let us thank God for this great and special gift of the Eucharist, a gift that assured us not only to survive and to live but of everlasting life. Let us make this solemnity then resolution to be more active in our participation in every celebration of the holy Eucharist. Blessings, Fr. John

Eucharist--The gift of all gifts

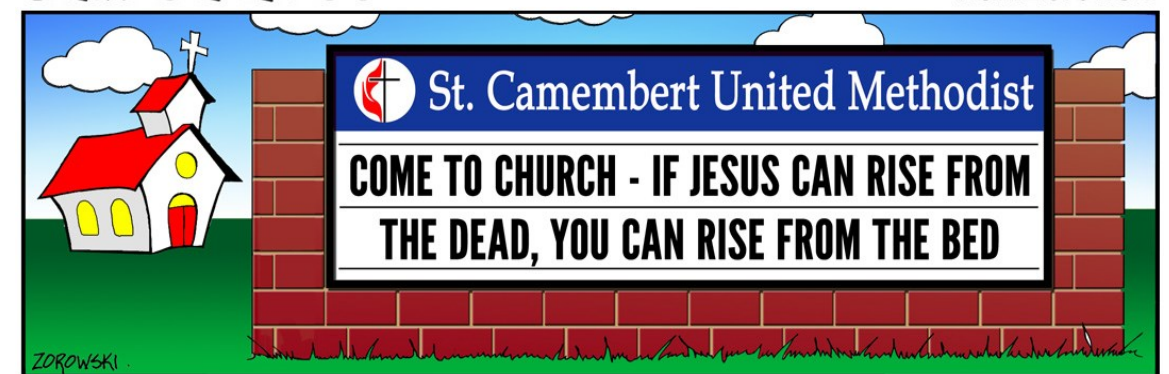
Standing at the crowded table in the dim candle light of the Upper Room during the Last Supper, Jesus Christ did not hand out Bibles to the Twelve Apostles and solemnly tell them, “Take this, all of you, and read it. This is my book, written for you.” Jesus gives us Himself, not a book. On today’s Feast, we commemorate God’s greatest gift to mankind, the person of Jesus Christ. God gives us His Son, and then Christ gives us Himself, body and blood, soul and divinity, under the accidents of bread and wine in the .Saint Thomas Aquinas taught that the most necessary sacrament was Baptism but that the most excellent was the Holy Eucharist.

This most excellent sacrament has been, for some, too excellent. In the Gospel of John, when Jesus tells His disciples that they must eat His body and drink His blood, many are incredulous and walk away. But Jesus does not compromise or say He was misunderstood. He lets them keep on walking. This initially hard teaching for the few was destined, over time, to be lovingly welcomed by the many. who “offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit.” Christ’s Covenant with his people is established verbally and liturgically at the Last Supper and physically on the cross the following day. The consecration of the Sacred Species at Mass continues Christ’s physical presence among us, while adoration of the Blessed Sacrament suspends the consecration of the Mass, stretching it out into hours, days, months, and years.

We naturally desire to leave a part of ourselves to our loved ones. We send photos, solemnly pass on a cherished memento, or give a baby a family name. Soldiers used to carry a locket holding a few strands of their wife’s or girlfriend’s hair. We need to be close, physically close, to those we love in concrete, tangible ways. Jesus desired the same, and, not being constrained by the limitations of human nature, He did the same, and more. He *has* left us Himself! That dogma processing down the street is a person! And that dogma behind the golden doors of the parish’s tabernacle is the same person! So bend that body low and set that heart on fire, for the Saving Victim opens wide the gate of heaven to all below. **We stand as close to Christ in the Holy Eucharist as the Apostles ever did on Mount Tabor.**

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



June Birthdays

- 2--Anthonia Hagan
- 4--Larry Leachman
- 9--Alvin Leachman
- 16--Sister Jeannette
- 23--Michelle Jones, Pam McCarter
- 27--Leland Herzog
- 28--Cassidy Campbell
- 30--Trent Hatchett, Father Sinjo



Laugh of the Week

Leo and Sam locked the car in a hurry, forgetting to remove the key which was in the ignition. Realizing the mistake, Leo asked, “Why don’t we get a coat hanger and open it?” “No, that wont work” answered Sam. “People will think we’re breaking in.” Then Leo suggested, “What if we use a pocket knife to cut around the rubber, then sick a finger in and pull up the lock?” “No,” said Sam. “People will think we’re too dumb to use a coat hanger.” “Well,” sighed Leo, “we’d better think of something fast, it’s starting to rain and the sun roof is open!”

Mass Intentions

- June 4--Aaron Fennewald
- June 11--Frances Johnson
- June 18--Brian Bumm
- June 25--Danny Stevens

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: Ruth Coble, Steven Moorman, Rachel Mattingly Philip Moorman, Jr., Danny Stevens, Wynter Keller, Larry Clark, Gloria Savet, Shaun Winchell, Jeeriah Cruite, 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, Larry Conder, Andy Evans, Gary Moorman, , If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.

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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.

SHOELESS

I wept because I had no shoes,
until I saw someone who had no feet.



Blessed Sacrament Chapel
June 11--**Parish Feast Day**
Corpus Christi procession 4 pm
Starts at Sts. Joe and Paul
June 17 Clean up day (inside and outside) 9 am



- June 4--\$1107.96
- Budget--\$1058
- MTD Collection--\$1107.96
- MTD Budget--\$1058
- YTD Collection--\$62,095.78
- YTD Budget--\$50,412.02

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

Thanks to everyone who practices stewardship on a regular basis. An active parishioner attends Mass regularly and practices stewardship (time, talent, treasure).

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Years ago, a woman at daily Mass approached me in the communion procession. She had her arms crossed, indicating she wanted a blessing instead of the Sacred Host. She had tears in her eyes. I gave her a little blessing. She returned the next day. And the next. The same thing repeated. After a few weeks, I asked her why she didn’t receive Holy Communion. She said she wasn’t Catholic yet and was preparing to become so. I asked her why she wanted to be Catholic. She said, “Because I long to be in a real communion with Christ and with everyone I love.” That, I submit, is a darn good reason. A few months later, she became Catholic and received the Body and Blood of Christ with unspeakably great joy and still does to this day.

Saint Paul says of the Eucharistic bread, “**Is it not a participation in the body of Christ?**” For Paul, the answer is obvious. Yes, it is exactly that. Which is why he can say, “**we, though many, are one body.**” Jesus is truly, really, and substantially present in the Holy Eucharist. This is no magic trick, but a mystery of our salvation. He feeds us with the Sacrament of his body so that our communion with him — and with the other members of his body — is built up and becomes mature. That’s why the Eucharist quenches our deep thirst for love and communion. The Body and Blood of Christ is the best reason to be Catholic. It’s our participation of love in the one we love.
— Father John Muir

	LECTORS
<u>June 11:</u>	Connie Clary, Barbara Bisel
<u>June 18:</u>	Layson Brooks, Kathi Skidd
<u>June 25:</u>	Sarah Malone, Jacques Williams
	Eucharistic Ministers
<u>June 11:</u>	Greg Gough, Vivian Higgs, Holly Hollis
<u>June 18:</u>	Cindy Clark, Janet Clark, Misty Sanford
<u>June 25:</u>	Rita Moorman, Kathi Skidd, Denise Richardson
	Collection & Gifts
<u>June 11:</u>	Jacques & Whitney Williams and sons
<u>June 18:</u>	Malone Family
<u>June 25:</u>	Kelly, Holly, Samuel Hollis, Lori Robinson

.NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS XIII

The National Black Catholic Congress will be held July 20-23 at the Gaylord National Resort in National Harbor, Maryland.

Key Participants include noted figures in U.S. Catholic history.

For more information or to register, contact Veronica Wilhite at veronica.wilhite@pastoral.org or the National Black Catholic Congress at nbcc@nbccongress.org

The Priesthood and the Eucharist

“These two Sacraments were born together,” wrote St. John Paul II of the priesthood and the Eucharist, “and their destiny is indissolubly linked until the end of the world.”

The Eucharist is such a beautiful example of how God, conscious of our limitations, bends to meet us. He once came to us cloaked in the flesh, that we might recognize Him. Now He comes as the very means by which we nourish ourselves: food and drink, the most familiar and comforting thing in the world to us. How easy He makes it to fulfill his command that we become one with Him. How generous He is to make such a sacred thing also accessible.

We can say the same of the priesthood, and of the men He calls to its number. How generous of Him to make such an accessible thing — our sons, our brothers, our uncles, our cousins — sacred. How generous of Him to allow these human creations — who share in our own faults — to be the means through which He comes to us in the Eucharist.

Without the Eucharist, we would have no eternal life. Without priests, we would have no Eucharist. On this, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, let’s give thanks for our priests, and redouble our prayers that God will send us good and holy ones — manna from Heaven in our wandering exile.

“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day.”
 — *John 6:54* By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman


TRANSFORMATION

The effect of our sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ is to change us into what we receive.

Readings for the Week	
Monday:	2 Cor 1:1-7/Ps 34: 2-9/ Mt 5:1-12
Tuesday:	2 Cor 1:18-22/Ps 119:129, -133, 135/Mt 5:13-16
Wednesday:	2 Cor 3:4-11/Ps 99:5-9/ Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	2 Cor 3:15—4:1, 3-6/Ps 85:9-14/Mt 5:20-26
Friday:	Dt 7:6-11/Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 10 /1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30
Saturday:	2 Cor 5:14-21/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12//Lk 2:41-51
Observances for the Week of June	
.Sunday:	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
Tuesday:	St. Anthony of Padua, Priest
Wednesday:	Flag Day
Friday:	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday:	The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

We come to the Eucharist not to receive a prize for being perfect but to receive the medicine and nourishment we need.

Pope Francis



Thanks to Philip and Ron Moorman who assembled the new chairs in the sanctuary .

AMEN

Take a look around the walls of your church. The word “Amen” has resounded off those walls, countless times at the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer and as the faithful have come forward to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Today’s feast is about those “Amens” offered in faith, offered in times of trouble or doubt, spoken in joy, spoken mindlessly, but all given to God in a multitude of ways. It is our very lives that lie behind our “Amens” and are touched by the presence of Christ, the presence we celebrate today. More importantly, we celebrate the love of Christ for us shown in the sacrifice on Calvary and that he continues to give to us in every celebration of the Eucharist. What can we do but rejoice in that great love, and then go out into the world and live that love in sacrificing for others?

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Corpus Christi Procession

Parish Feast Day

Please plan to be part of the Corpus Christi procession Sunday June 11 at 4 pm. We will gather in front of Sts. Joseph and Paul Church on 4th Street and process across the street to the Marian Shrine behind their hall. BSC will lead a song, and have a reading. We then process to the next altar led by the African congregation from Bowling Green, and then the Burmese members, followed by the Hispanic group will lead us to the next altars. We end with Benediction at Brescia University.