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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
moc_shibu.cheriyankunnel@pastoral.org
Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennewald,
 SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



Sunday's Readings
First Reading:
 "Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD, for he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!" (Jer 20:13)
Psalm:
 Lord, in your great love, answer me. (Ps 69)
Second Reading:
 But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many. (Rom 5:15)
Gospel:
 "What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul." (Mt 10:28)
 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

June 25, 2023 12th Sunday Ordinary Time
 Answer me, Lord, for bounteous is your kindness. Ps. 69:17



My Dear Parishioners:

Wherever you go, I shall go/ Wherever you live, there shall I live/ Your people will be my people/ And your God will be my God, too. This promise of fidelity from the book of Ruth reminds us that Christ will live and go with us, wherever we live and wherever we go. But it also invites us to care for people because they are his people, too. Christ asks each disciple to be his partner in the work that God the Father sent him to do in this world. And he promises to be our partner, whatever our work, whatever kind of life we live, wherever we go. We follow him, trusting that he is with us, not just for a moment, but for the whole of our lives. Wherever we go, however we live, “the Lord is at my side.” His commitment to us is lifelong despite our own inability to think of him always, or even despite our occasional thoughtless rejection of him. The mystery of God’s call to us and of our response to him is that he is always there for us. “I am at your side; you are my friends,” said Jesus, even to disciples who sometimes lose the way.

“Wherever you go, I shall go.” If we take those words to heart we can accept the risk of going out to others in his name. In saying “yes” to our life as Christian disciples, we can, like Jeremiah, go forward in a zigzag fashion, going somewhere, but not always directly or in a predictable manner. “Do not be afraid,” Christ said and still says. Christ is not for the fearless but for those who must control their fears. Neither is he for the perfect but for those who need his word of forgiveness. If this ideal of going the journey of life with Christ seems beyond our reach, remember how once said to his friends, “With men it is impossible but not with God; for all things are possible with God.” I follow Christ best when I realize that the gospel ideal is beyond the reach of my own strength. It is then that I can lean on him and build on the strength of the Lord who is always at my side.

Blessings, Fr. John

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The Eucharistic Prayers at the heart of our liturgy have a long history, beginnings with the extemporaneous prayers of the early Christians. The presiders gave thanks from their hearts, not from any prearranged text, over the gifts of bread and wine. When the assembly had the sense that enough was said, someone would call out “Amen!” and that was that. For the most part, the plan flowed directly from Jewish meal prayers, which always recalled God’s mighty deeds. Some other markers and signposts were added almost everywhere fairly early, like the presider’s call to attention: “Lift up your hearts!” Scholars have provided us with translations of many early texts. These have actually helped us craft new liturgical prayers, because until the liturgical reforms of forty years ago, no one could recall any prayers but the Roman Canon, now called Eucharistic Prayer I. For hundred of years in the West, it was our only Eucharistic Prayer, and it was only in Latin. But the history of our Eucharistic Prayers is amazingly fruitful, and models have come down to us that have yielded new insights and expressions. The old custom of improvising texts according to a master plan has not endured, but we have now rediscovered a plan of standardizing the text while allowing for a great variety. Rev. James Field, copyright JSPaluch Co.

PICNIC August 5, 2023 12-2 pm

Dinner—**Drive-thru only**

5

50-50 Raffle \$5 per ticket---**sell, sell**—start week of June 18
(Drawing Sunday morning—August 6 after Mass)

Pre-sales—begin week of July 9

Ribs \$25/\$13

Chicken \$12/\$7

Pulled pork \$12

Dinner—drive through

Menu: 1/4 chicken, potato salad, baked
beans, bread \$12

Sandwich: pulled pork (onion, pickle)
\$6

50-50 raffle Start week of June 18

No one under age of 18 may purchase.

June Birthdays

23--Michelle Jones, Pam McCarter
27--Leland Herzog
28--Cassidy Campbell
30--Trent Hatchett, Father Sinjo

July Birthdays

3--Ray Higgs
8--Alexis Hatchett, Calvin McHenry
10--Chelis Carmona
12--Darlina Etienne



Laugh of the Week

Three pastors were having lunch together at a diner. The first pastor said, "Ya know, since summer started I've been having trouble with mice in my church. I've tried everything -noise, spray, cats - nothing seems to scare them away. The second pastor then said "Yea, me too. I've got hundreds living in the basement of the church. I've set traps and even called an expert to get rid of them, yet they still won't go away." With a grin on his face, the third pastor said, "I had the same problem so I baptized all mine and made them members of the church... Haven't seen one back since!!!"

Mass Intentions

June 18--Brian Bumm
June 25--Danny Stevens
July 2--Raymond Nichols
July 9--Savellia Epison, Mary Aurielis McHenry, Beverly Chilton

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 Katya Winchell, Mike Lewis, 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, 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.**

IMP—Kroger

Thank you to everyone who has designated Blessed Sacrament as your community reward partner. We have 38 households that designate Blessed Sacrament as their community partner. Our last quarterly check is \$146.68. 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.

Coming Events



Blessed Sacrament Chapel

June 18--Raffle ticket sales
July 16--Raffle ticket sales at St. Stephen Cathedral after Masses: 4:30 Sat., 8:30 and 11 Sun.
August 5--Parish picnic



June 18--N/A
Budget--\$1058
MTD Collection--N/A
MTD Budget--N/A
YTD Collection--N/A
YTD Budget--N/A

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).

GOSPEL MEDITATION

When I was in middle school, there were times I didn't want my fellow students to see my parents drop me off or pick me up in the school parking lot. I was embarrassed of my parents. Why? I have no idea. Maybe it was our station wagon. Or I didn't want to look like a little kid. But in retrospect that was a silly thing to do. I was a kid. And I had two parents who loved me and had built a wonderful family. I was afraid of the other kids' judgment. How silly! I should have been afraid of forgetting or downplaying my family, which is where my identity had its deep roots.

This is a way to understand Jesus' words to his disciples this Sunday, when he says, **“Don't be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.”** Fear, in this sense, refers to where we find our deepest identity and our highest love. That's why Jesus says next that when we acknowledge him before others, he will acknowledge us before the Father. It doesn't mean we're brash or boastful. But rather we unhesitatingly and humbly embrace our identity as followers of Jesus and children of God the Father. After all, if we love who we are and where we come from, who cares what the other kids think about us?

— Father John Muir

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

LECTORS

June 25: Sarah Malone, Jacques Williams
July 2: Barbara Bisel, Greg Gough
July 9: Layson Brooks, Misty Sanford

Eucharistic Ministers

June 25: Rita Moorman, Kathi Skidd, Denise Richardson
July 2: Sarah Malone, Charlene Meadows, Lori Robinson
July 9: Barbara Bisel, Janet Clark, Holly Hollis

Collection & Gifts

June 25: Kelly, Holly, Samuel Hollis,
July 2: Lad and Aubrey Ottofy
July 9: Joyce and Ron Moorman

The Necklace

I have a necklace that originally belonged to my great-grandmother. I don't really know much about the man who gave it to her, most of those details have been lost to time. But I know that he wanted to marry her, and that she refused, and it had something to do with religion — ultimately, he did not share her faith. And while I've certainly seen many interfaith couples have loving and successful marriages, in this particular case, my great-grandmother discerned that this would not be one of those marriages.

Like I said, I don't have many details about this man, but I know that she felt she couldn't marry him because it might jeopardize the souls of her children, and therefore the souls of their children, and their children after them — me. She turned him down because of me.

My great-grandmother never sold that necklace, not even when the Great Depression further reduced her financial circumstances. She kept it, and she gave it to her daughter, who gave it to her daughter, who gave it to me. The necklace is always given with a warning: there is something worse than being poor, worse than being scared, worse even than being desperate. Worse than all of these things is separation from God.

When I wear this necklace, I think about my grandmother and this man she possibly loved a hundred years ago. I think of the many decisions we make every day — large and small, good and bad — that reverberate down through the generations in ways we cannot, at the time, imagine. I think of the God who knows every hair on my head.

“And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.” — Matthew 10:28
By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



I have metal fillings in my teeth. My refrigerator magnets keep pulling me into the kitchen. That's why I can't lose weight.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 12:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20 and 22/Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday: Gn 13:2, 5-18/Ps 15:2-5/Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/105:1-4, 6-9/Mt 7:15-20
Thursday: Acts 12:1-11/ Ps 34:2-9/ 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19
Friday: Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22/Ps 128:1-5/Mt 8:1-4
Saturday: Gn 18:1-15/Lk 1:46-50 and 53-55/Mt 8:5-17

Observances for the Week of June 25

Tuesday: St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop
Wednesday: St. Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr
Thursday: Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles
Friday: The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
Saturday: St. Junipero Serra, Priest

Sts. Peter and Paul both turned their back on the Lord. Yet each encountered the Lord's mercy. Whose life do you identify with most—St. Peter or St. Paul?

EVENING PRAYER

Dear Jesus, the day is done. Help me to find my rest in you, even if there is still work to be done. Draw me nearer to you. Allow me to release my cares and worries in your hands. Send me your Holy Spirit in these waning minutes of the day, that I may know that my peace is always found in you. Jesus, I trust in you. Amen.

FEAR NOT

How do people find hope in the face of suffering and death? That is the question addressed by today's scriptures. We hear of the suffering of Jeremiah and the psalmist. We hear of the death that “reigned from Adam to Moses” (Romans 5:14) We hear of the fears of the Twelve as Jesus sends them out into the world to preach and heal. Through all this tribulation one message rings out loud and clear--”Do not be afraid!” The God who saved Jeremiah and the psalmist and Jesus is fully present to save us through the gracious gift of Jesus Christ. We have nothing and no one to fear. Copyright J.S. Paluch

Laudato Si

Air Pollution in the home is a leading cause of disease--especially among the poor. At least 3 million people die every year from indoor air pollution--mainly from charcoal, wood, and dung used for cooking.

Outdoor air pollution kills more than 4 million people each year. The main types of outdoor air pollution are smog and soot. These are released from burning fossil fuels in motor vehicles and in industry, and to generate power. Breathing the particles released by these activities is a health risk for all causing heart disease, stroke, and lung cancer. Some air pollutants are also major contributors to global warming.
Consider fewer car trips, cycling, walking.

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@nbcccongress.org