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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
jthomas@sscobo.org
Parochial Vicar: Father Shibu Cheriankunnel
moc_scheriyankunnel@sscobo.org
Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennewald,
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Sunday's Readings

First Reading:
 I prayed, and prudence was given me; I pleaded, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. I preferred her to scepter and throne, and deemed riches nothing in comparison with her. (Wis 7:7)

Psalm:
 Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy! (Ps 90)

Second Reading:
 Indeed the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword. (Heb 4:12)

Gospel:
 "Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." (Mk 10:21)
 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

October 13, 2024 28th Sunday Ordinary Time

All things are possible for God. (Mk. 10:20)



My Dear Parishioners:

At first sight the young man comes across as an exceptionally good person, deferential to Jesus and somehow searching for the way of eternal life. He had kept God's commands since his youth, and Jesus looked on him with love. An ideal person, you would think, to receive the gospel. And yet Jesus wanted to show him something about himself of which he was totally unaware. He was owned by his own wealth, and it had a stronger grip on him than he had on it. Jesus invited him to become free of it, but the cost seemed too just too high. "Freedom's just another word for nothing left to lose."

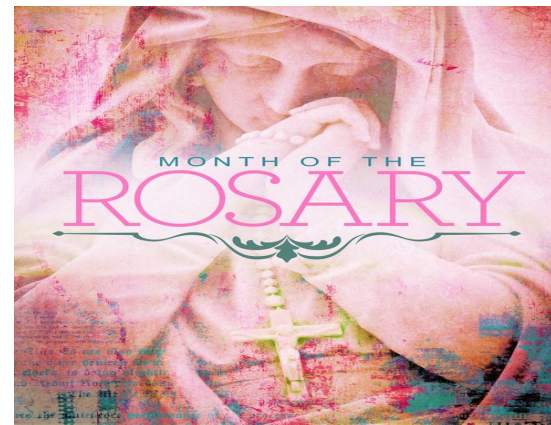
There is nothing wrong with money as such, or even with being wealthy. Some of the world's greatest people who did most for the welfare of humanity, have been wealthy people. But at a deeper level the fact is that I own nothing, *absolutely*. My hold on things is provisional, temporary. A sudden stroke, a brain haemorrhage or a heart attack, and I am separated forever from all my worldly belongings. "There are no pocket in the shroud." Apparently there was a narrow entrance at the side of the temple called the "needle." It is wide enough for a camel to pass through, but only if the load was removed from the camel's back. With the panniers of goods the camel normally carried on either side, it would be impossible to pass through the *Needle* gate. How hard it is for people who are weighed down with money and ambitions to enter the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom belongs to children. It belongs to the *poor in spirit*; not so much *economically* poor, but detached from riches in their inmost spirit. For a worthy cause, they can part with their wealth.

Then there are some who give up everything to follow Jesus. He doesn't call everybody to do this. He didn't ask Lazarus or his sisters to leave home and follow him. But being a follower of Jesus does mean having to leave *something*. It involves a change of priorities, a new way of valuing things, an interest in the riches that are stored in heaven, "where moth cannot consume, nor rust corrode." Those who leave everything to follow Jesus are among the most blessed of people, dedicated souls like Padre Pio, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, aid workers in places torn by war and disease, and many other unsung heroes. Such people are blessed with the riches of God's grace, and bring much blessing to the lives of others

Blessings, Fr. John

How to Pray the Rosary

The Rosary is a Scripture-based prayer. It begins with the *Apostles' Creed*, which summarizes the great mysteries of the Catholic faith. The Our Father, which introduces each mystery, is from the Gospels. The first part of the *Hail Mary* is the angel's words announcing Christ's birth and Elizabeth's greeting to Mary. St. Pius V officially added the second part of the *Hail Mary*. The Mysteries of the Rosary center on the events of Christ's life. There are four sets of Mysteries: Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and—added by Saint John Paul II in 2002—the Luminous. The repetition in the Rosary is meant to lead one into restful and contemplative prayer related to each Mystery. The gentle repetition of the words helps us to enter into the silence of our hearts, where Christ's spirit dwells. The Rosary can be said privately or with a group.



Praying the Rosary

Familiarize yourself and/or your group with the prayers of the rosary.

1. Make the Sign of the Cross.
2. Holding the Crucifix, say the *Apostles' Creed*.
3. On the first bead, say an *Our Father*.
4. Say one *Hail Mary* on each of the next three beads.
5. Say the *Glory Be*
6. For each of the five decades, announce the Mystery (perhaps followed by a brief reading from Scripture) then say the *Our Father*.
7. While fingering each of the ten beads of the decade, next say ten Hail Marys while meditating on the Mystery. Then say a *Glory Be*. (After finishing each decade, some say the following prayer requested by the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima: *O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have most need of your mercy.*)
8. After saying the five decades, say the Hail, Holy Queen, followed by this dialogue and prayer: V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. *Let us pray: O God, whose Only Begotten Son, by his life, Death, and Resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech thee, that while meditating on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Conclude the Rosary with the Sign of the Cross.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

6--Holly Hollis
 10--Jacques Williams III
 13--Vicki Leonard
 17--Kelly Hollis
 20--Dorothea Melton Williams



GROWING FORWARD IN CHRIST
It has been two years since we began our Growing Forward in Christ campaign. Thanks to all of you who have pledged and faithfully have been fulfilling that pledge. Please continue to contribute; the three year pledge period is not over (and you can even continue after that!).

If for some reason you have not contributed, it is not too late. We will have a plaque board in the vestibule with the name of everyone who has contributed to the campaign. We would like to see the name of every parishioner on it. If you can make a contribution, please mark it "Capital Campaign" or use the envelope in your box of envelopes titled "Growing Forward. This is a separate donation from your tithing. Thank you for consideration. We will be making decisions about the contribution board soon.

Mass Intentions

October 6--Harris Family
 October 13--David Millay
 October 20 Harry Baumgarten
 October 27--DJ Clark

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: Pam Wilson, Emma Latta, Phil Armendarez, Cindy Heckmann, Joe Washington, Judy Stinnett, Shaun Winchell, China Dulin, Rachel Mattingly, Larry Allen, Charlie Brown Sr, Steven Moorman, Philip Moorman, Jr., Ronnie Hollis, Chandra Hagan, Larry Clark, Ruth Coble, Carol Hatchett, Jordan Gertisen, Shelby Webster, Andy Evans, Gary Moorman. If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.

BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH

November is Black Catholic History Month. To celebrate this, Bishop Medley is celebrating Mass at St. Stephen Cathedral on Saturday, **November 2 at 11:30 am**. There will be a luncheon to follow. We have been asked to serve the luncheon. **Please let me know if you are available to help.** (Food will be provided. We are not responsible for it.)

Coming Events



Blessed Sacrament Happenings

October 13--No religious ed class (fall break)

Nov. 1--All Saints Day Mass 6 pm

Nov. 2--Diocesan Black Catholic History Month Mass 11:30 (lunch to follow)



Oct. 6--\$1120

Budget--\$1300

MTD Collection--\$1120

MTD Budget--\$1300

YTD Collection--\$17,702.58

YTD Budget--\$18,200

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

This week we hear of the man who inquires of Jesus how to obtain eternal life. He rejects Jesus' invitation to sell his goods, give to the poor, and follow Jesus. Mark tells us this devastatingly sad line, **"At this saying, his countenance fell and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions"** (Mark 10:22). The man's heart wasn't centered on Jesus, but on his possessions. Perhaps Jesus intuited this. Now, we don't know if Jesus intended to actually make him go through with it, like God's call to test Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac. But sadly, in this case the willingness was not there to entrust everything to Jesus. And this made the man deeply sad.

For most of us, the literal dispossessing of our goods is not our call. But as Christians, a consistent *renouncing* of them is. This week, especially if you're noticing a persisting sadness, I invite you to hear Jesus calling you to acknowledge that none of your possessions are finally *yours*. They are God's and on loan to you. We get so addicted to that stuffy and sad word, "mine." At Mass, we rehearse this attitude of joyful detachment by giving bread, wine, and money to the Lord, as if to say, "Lord, all I have is yours." And what we get back is a sadness-defeating joy beyond all description: knowing that He is ours, and we are His.

What possessions are pre-occupying you at the moment? Write them down. Intentionally offer them to the Lord at the next Mass you attend.

— Father John Muir

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Lectors

October 13: Alexis Hatchett, Misty Sanford
October 20: Layson Brooks, Katie Goins
October 27: Jacques Williams, Kathi Skidd

Eucharistic Ministers

October 13: Cindy Clark, Janet Clark, Greg Gough
October 20: Holly Hollis, Misty Sanford, Vivian Higgs
October 27: Barbara Bisel, Denise and Greg Richardson

Collection & Gifts

October 13: Steve Coble, Ron Moorman
October 20: Marcia Wilhite, Lori Robinson
October 27: Fain Family

Possessions

When I was a kid, before smartphones and Amazon, it was the toy catalogs that we waited for. They arrived in the mail, smiling children's faces splashed across the cover, like a silent promise that real happiness could be purchased within these magical pages. We fought over who got to look at them first. We imagined playtime with this Barbie or that EasyBake Oven.

Without realizing it, we expected that these toys — and the fun they would create out of thin air, the excitement they would inject into our days — would give us new lives. Make us new people. The toys we did get were fun enough, but they never made us new people.

They never gave us new lives. And before long they broke or needed new batteries. They lost their allure, and they went to the attic. And then, many years later, when we got married or moved houses, we found them, and we sighed — more junk to get rid of.

It's the same now, thirty years later, as much as I hate to admit it. The catalogs have become social media, and the toys have become promotions or pay raises or home improvement projects. I scroll through the feed and my mind lights up. *What if we had this? What if we could buy that? What if we could go there?*

The rich young man was not sad as he walked away from Jesus because he was losing his riches. He was sad because he wasn't — because he *couldn't*. He couldn't give them up. Such is the dark magic of materialism: it takes hold when you're not looking. He thought he was being a good person and doing good things. But he had given his heart away, and he hadn't given it to God. And now he couldn't get it back.

Whatever of this world we seek to possess — dollars, cars, clothes, prestige — will come to possess us, in the end.

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ALL WET

To repent and not to amend is like paying a debt by writing a check on water. --anonymous

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gal 4:22-27, 31—5:1/Ps 113:1-7/Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6/Ps 119:41, 43-48/Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25/Ps 1:1-3 and 6/Lk 11:42-46
Thursday: Eph 1:1-10/Ps 98:1-6 / Lk 11:47-54
Friday: 2 Tm 4:10-17/Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9
Saturday: Eph 1:15-23/Ps 8:2-7 / Lk 12:8-12

Observances for the week of October 13, 2024

Monday: St. Callistus I, Columbus Day
Tuesday: St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin
Wednesday: St. Hedwig, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgins
Thursday: St. Ignatius of Antioch,
Friday: St. Luke, Evangelist
Saturday: Sts. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Martyrs;

NOT AN ENEMY

My wish is that the dialogue between us should help to build bridges connecting all people, in such a way that everyone can see in the other not an enemy, not a rival, but a brother or sister to be welcomed and embraced.
--Pope Francis

WORDS OF WISDOM

The spirit of wisdom, as we discover in today's first reading, comes to those who pray for her. Wisdom, like the word of God, carries a message of consolation as well as of great challenge. The Letter to the Hebrews tells us that the word of God, infused with the wisdom of God, is "sharper than any two-edged sword." We cannot shrink from the wisdom of God, or from the word that has the power to penetrate our hearts and minds. Jesus, the living word of God, the embodiment of wisdom, has strong, deeply penetrating words for the rich young man who comes to him seeking answers to his most profound questions. Just when the young man thought he had done enough to fulfill God's commands, more was asked of him. This is no less true for us.

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RESPECT LIFE ISSUES

"The unborn child, the aging parent who some call a 'burden' on our medical system, the allegedly 'excess' embryo in the fertility clinic, the person with a disability, the cognitively impaired accident victim who needs assistance in receiving food and water to live—each today is at risk of being dismissed as a 'life unworthy of life'." All of these issues, as well as how we speak about people, are part of respect life.

28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

