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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 Cheriakunnel
moc_scheriyankunnel@sscobo.org
Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennewald,
 SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



Sunday's Readings
First Reading:
 If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him. (Is 53:10)
Psalm:
 Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Ps 33)
Second Reading:
 So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help. (Heb 4:16)
Gospel:
[For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. \(Mk 10:45\)](#)
 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001

October 20, 2024 29th Sunday Ordinary Time
 Through his suffering,
 my servant shall justify many. (Is.53:11)



.My Dear Parishioners:

The theme of the willing servant matches the missionary ideal perfectly. The ideal missionary is so devoted to the good of the people whom s/he is sent to serve that they plan both their activities and their life-style to match the real needs of those people. There is a huge effort of adaptation and enculturation involved, so that the Gospel can integrate into the lives of the local people.

In our world, where most of the celebrities highlighted in the media seem motivated by self-interest and self-assertion Jesus' call to total service seems unrealistic, and, one might think, unlikely to succeed. But today's Gospel offers the ideal of dedication to the service of others as fundamental to Christian discipleship. Jesus came "not to be served, but to serve" and this example must always be a guiding light for his followers. He went about doing good, bringing justice, healing, forgiveness and kindness into people's lives. This is why those who believe in him are challenged to give themselves, their talents and their time, to the service of others without seeking any other reward than knowing that this is supremely worthwhile. The acted parable of the foot-washing at the Last Supper gives out the same message.

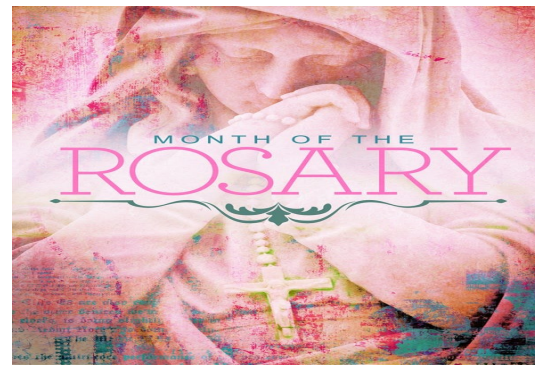
In practice what can we learn from our Lord's life and actions? He clearly said that he came to do the Father's will, and this thought stayed with him, even when it led to suffering and a cruel death. He was always about the Father's business, and made it his business. This prompts us too, with an active sense of duty, and a personal dedication to God's will for us. Normally, we discover our duty and God's will for us, not in world-changing plans or in heroic ideals but in the ordinary tasks of each day. At home or in the office, or the school or other workplace, or wherever the activity of the moment calls us, we try to be aware of duty and a sense of dedication. Whenever we work in a slipshod manner, or fail to offer the needed helping hand, we fall below our personal call to service. What a change it would make, if there was a widespread return to this spirit, with regard to people's daily work. We need to be reminded that in rendering to others the service of a job well done we are imitating the serving Christ and being his fellow-workers in building up the kingdom of God on earth.

It is tempting to be selfish with our time and energy. There are so many plausible excuses for excluding ourselves from the work that needs to be done. How easy to join the many who just live for themselves and let society fend for itself. But today's Scripture calls us to examine our conscience, and to face the question, "What can I do for my community, rather than what can my community do for me?" It is one of the most basic values we have to keep on learning throughout our lives. The approach of James and John, in today's Gospel, is not unlike the way many of us come to God. We approach him in prayer with the greatest fervour, whenever we want something for ourselves. Jesus responds to their request with a request of his own, thereby showing that what he wants for us must take priority over what we want for ourselves. The only request worth making is that which he taught us to make, "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Mt 6:10.) His will, as expressed in today's Gospel, is that we should share in his cup and in his baptism, that cup which he was to ask the Father to take from him (Mk 14:36), and that baptism of fire which he knew he had to undergo. His death on the cross was but the final expression of that total service which characterised the whole of his life. Every day he died to himself, because he lived "not to be served, but to serve." His life was a daily emptying of self (Phil 2:7), a self-emptying which was only complete when he gave his last breath on the cross the complete missionary!

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.



LAUGH OF THE WEEK

Kitchen Signs

A balanced diet is a cookie in each hand. Thou shalt not weigh more than thy refrigerator.

Help keep the kitchen clean— eat out.

Housework done properly can kill you.

My next house will have no kitchen— just vending machines.

A husband is someone who takes out the trash and gives the impression he just cleaned the whole house.

A messy kitchen is a happy kitchen and this kitchen is delirious.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

World Mission Sunday is a special day that unites Catholics worldwide in prayer, solidarity, and support for the Church's mission efforts. This year's theme, chosen by Pope Francis, is rooted in the Gospel of Matthew. "Go and invite everyone to the banquet, reflecting the inclusive and urgent call to bring God's love to everyone.

Catholics in every parish around the world are invited to participate in World Mission Sunday through prayer and support for the World Mission Sunday special collection. This collection supports the Pontifical Mission Societies, a worldwide network at the service of the Pope that supports the missions and the Young Churches with prayer and charity

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 13--David Millay
 October 20 Harry Baumgarten
 October 27--DJ Clark
 November 1--Patricia Lett

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 Happening

Nov. 1--All Saints Day Mass 6 pm
Nov. 2--Diocesan Black Catholic History Month Mass 11:30 (lunch to follow)
Nov. 16--Encounter Love/Encounter Jesus Retreat 9-1 pm McRaith Center



Oct. 13--\$1699.50
 Budget--\$1300
 MTD Collection--\$2819.50
 MTD Budget--\$2,600
 YTD Collection--\$19,402.08
 YTD Budget--\$19,500

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

From a young age, I loved winning at sports. I confess that winning was a bit of an addiction. It was probably coming from a deep desire for attention and affirmation from others. Nevertheless, it was a driving motivation for me. Baseball, soccer, track, table tennis, and whatever else I could find was a chance to win. Competition was my obsession.

Another John, and his brother James, demonstrate a kind of wildly competitive obsession when they dare to say to Jesus: **"Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory"** (Mark 10:37). Their audacity arouses an indignant reaction from the other apostles, who are clearly raw that these two are out to win the highest spots.

How does Jesus respond to us in our desires for greatness? The same way he does to James and John. He does not criticize them for their desire for glory. But he does highlight their ignorance (**"you do not know what you are asking."**). Then he invites them to be champions of true greatness: by drinking not the cup of worldly victory, but his cup of self-giving suffering love, to be the **"slave of all."** The true winners are slaves of love. This week, dare to tell Jesus what your ambitions truly are. Hear him call you to an even greater victory. — *Father John Muir*

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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.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Lectors

October 20: Layson Brooks, Katie Goins
October 27: Jacques Williams, Kathi Skidd
November 3: Leland Herzog, Greg Gough

Eucharistic Ministers

October 20: Holly Hollis, Misty Sanford, Vivian Higgs
October 27: Barbara Bisel, Denise and Greg Richardson
November 3: Kathy Skidd, Cindy Clark, Vivian Higgs

Collection & Gifts

October 20: Marcia Wilhite, Lori Robinson
October 27: Fain Family
November 3: Michelle Jones, Dee Brasher



ERROR FREE

A mistake doesn't become an error until I refuse to correct it,

Made to Serve

I thought it often in my first year as a mother, when I was every day discovering what this new life of parenthood looked and felt like: doing anything with kids is a hundred times harder than doing it without kids. But it's a thousand times better.

From eating dinner to going to Mass to taking a walk around the block — every single outing, even the simplest ones, had an extra level of logistical complexity. I had to bring diapers and food and extra clothes, I had to be ready to distract, to comfort, to settle, to de-escalate. Before, I just showed up, did the thing and went home. Now, I had to be ready to coordinate. had to be ready to serve.

But even while everything had become so much more complicated, so much harder, there was suddenly a joyfulness to these experiences that had not been there before. Yes, I was a mom now, a servant if there ever was one, constantly tending to someone else's needs, and it was difficult. Sometimes terribly so. But it was beautiful (not in a physical way — I was usually covered in baby spit-up — but my soul had that glow, you know?). It was the first time in my life that I really understood what it was to serve, and the power of that vocation to which we are all called.

This isn't just true of parenthood. It's true of every relationship. When we find someone we can meaningfully, wholeheartedly serve — our spouse, our best friend, our employees, our students, our patients, whoever it is — the effort becomes nothing compared to the joy and the fulfillment we find in the work.

We were made for greatness, and Christ tells us that to be great is to serve. So don't be afraid of greatness. Don't be afraid to serve.

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Readings for the Week

Monday: Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1-5/
Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday: Eph 2:12-22/Ps 85:9-14/
Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday: Eph 3:2-12/Ps 12:2-3, 4-6/
Lk 12:39-48
Thursday: Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5,
11-12, 18-19/Lk 12:49-53
Friday: Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-6/
Lk 12:54-59
Saturday: Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-5
/Lk 13:1-9

Observances for the week of October 20, 2024

Sunday: World Mission Sunday
Tuesday: St. John Paul II, Pope
Wednesday: St. John of Capistrano, Priest
Thursday: St. Anthony Mary Claret,

LIFE'S INSTRUCTION

1. *Never give up on miracles. They happen every day.*
2. *Count your blessings.*
3. *Never deprive someone of hope; it might be all they have.*
4. *Pray not for things, but for wisdom and courage.*
5. *Be kinder than necessary*
6. *Never underestimate the power of love and forgiveness.*
7. *Never underestimate the power of a kind word or deed.*
8. *Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring, and integrity, they think of you.*
9. *Leave everything a little better than you found it.*
10. *Don't whine.*

--H. Jackson Brown Jr.

TOO MUCH INFORMATION

There is a common expression: "Too much information!" we usually use it when people tell us details about their lives that we don't want or need to know. Today, when James and John ask Jesus a simple question, making their request for places of honor in the kingdom, a simple answer might have been in order. Instead, as he often does, Jesus answers a question with a question; today it's about drinking the cup of suffering. Then, once the others are indignant over James and John's outrageous request, he proceeds to give them what may have been "too much information" for followers who were simply interested in the pursuit of glory. But this information, though it can sometimes seem "too much" for us, is essential for our lives as disciples. In Isaiah, in Hebrews, and in Mark today, we learn this information. It is in suffering, in weakness, in self-giving service to others, that we come to understand the kingdom. It is the information we need to find our place and come to be honored in the reign of God.

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ENCOUNTER LOVE

ENCOUNTER JESUS

Are you looking for a deeper spiritual connection to God? Do you need a boost in your spiritual life? This retreat experience is for you! It will be held at the McRaith Catholic Center in Owensboro on Saturday, November 16, 9-1 p.m. We will have coffee and breakfast foods, and lunch will be served. There is no cost to attend, but you must sign up. Sponsored by the office of evangelization and discipleship for the Diocese. Email with any questions jeff.andrini@pastoral.org