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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
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Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennewald,
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Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, his kingship shall not be destroyed. (Dn 7:14)

Psalm:

The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty. (Ps 93)

Second Reading:

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, who has made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father, to him be glory and power forever and ever. (Rv 1:5-6)

Gospel:

Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth." (Jn 18:37)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001

November 24, 2024 Christ the King

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness...ruler of the kings of the earth. Rev.1:5



My Dear Parishioners:

Paul speaks of Jesus Christ at the end of time handing over the kingdom to God the Father. Today’s Preface repeats this, describing Christ’s kingdom as one of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice. love and peace. This ideal is not to be merely a future hope but is to be worked for in the present. The kingdom is our hope, but somehow it is also in our midst, in the process of becoming. The gospel tells us how we are to promote the fuller coming of God’s kingdom among us. It comes whenever justice is done for the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, and the oppressed. To behave in this way is to imitate the Shepherd-King himself who is presented in our Gospels as one who rescues from situations of alienation, who feeds, gives rest, heals and makes strong. Among his final words was a promise to the thief being crucified at his side, that he would be enfolded by the eternal love of God, in paradise.

The way to serve Christ our King is to work for the coming of his kingdom. In working for the relief of the deprived, the oppressed and the out-cast we are serving Christ in person, because he fully identifies himself with all those in need, right up to his final moment in this life. The disciple of Christ the King cannot afford the luxury of comfortably “keeping myself to myself” or “Well anyway, I do nobody any harm.” To be deaf to the cries of the neighbor in need is to be deaf to Christ. To be blind to the anguish of the dying is to be blind to Christ. To take Jesus Christ as our Shepherd-king involves becoming shepherds in some way ourselves; for the work goes on.

Father John

THANKSGIVING MEAL PRAYER

Glory and praise to you, Lord, for giving us a desirable, good, and ample land; for making a covenant with us in your Son, Jesus; and for granting us life, grace, mercy, and food in every season. Bless this festive meal and this time to enjoy it through Jesus, our Lord, Amen.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

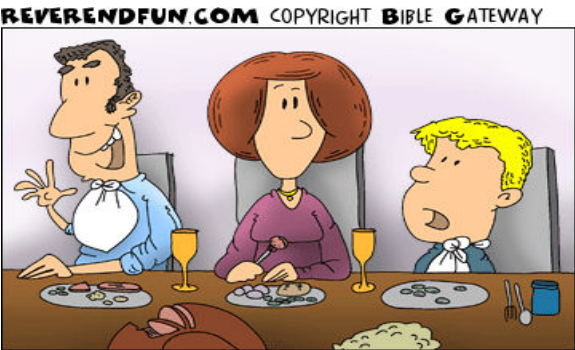
Despite the fact that the feast of Christ the King was established less than a century ago, it has already undergone a shift in focus. When Pope Pius XI established this feast in 1925, nationalism and fascism were on the rise. The pope intended that it be a “vehicle for spiritual teaching,” one that would recognize the ultimate authority of Christ over all political and social scheming. The last Sunday of October was chosen as the date for the feast because of its proximity to the feast of All Saints, those whose men and women who bore witness to Christ’s reign in so many different ways.

The celebration reforms of 1969 moved the feast to the last Sunday of the liturgical year. There, in the context of November’s focus on the end times, Christ’s second coming as the end of all time is highlighted. The threefold cycle of readings also expands our imaginations in regard to this feast. In this year’s Gospel, Christ stands before Pilate, whose own power blinds him to the truth of the Lord’s kingdom. In a world where oppression still holds sway over too many people, this feast is somehow still as timely as when Pope Pius XI first established it.

--James Field, Copyright J.S. Paluch Co.



HONESTLY JESUS, YOU GIVE ME 5 PIES AND 2 TURKEYS AND EXPECT ME TO COOK FOR THE 5,000 GUESTS YOU'VE INVITED?!?



I WOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE A LOT MORE THANKS IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO FINISH OFF THESE LIMA BEANS

Safe Environment

The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian. Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities (800-422-4453); local law enforcement (800-752-6200); or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-597-2331). To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church (paid or volunteer), call Louanne Payne, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) on the confidential phone line: 270-852-8380, or Susan Montalvo-Gesser/Miguel Quintanilla, Pastoral Assistance Coordinators (Spanish): 270-880-8360. The Diocese of Owensboro’s sexual abuse policy is available at this parish (in the bookshelf in back of the church), in the parish office and hall, and on the diocesan website (<https://owensborodiocese.org/safe>). To make a report of sexual abuse of a minor and related misconduct by bishops, go to ReportBishopAbuse.org or call 1-800-276-1562

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

19--Ron Moorman, Barbara Bisel
22--Trey Hatchett
25--Payton Sanford

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

16--Yulanda Williams
18--Robert Johnson
23--Greg Richardson



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

November 17--Patricia Lett
November 24--Donald Moorman
December 1--D.J. Clark
December 8--Sharlene Hatfield

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:
Kathi Skidd, Gene Forsyth, Pam Wilson, Emma Latta, Phil Armendarez, Cindy Heckmann, Joe Washington, Judy Stinett, 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.**



Our annual **Community Thanksgiving dinner** will be November 24 12-2 pm. This is our opportunity to reach out to community and hopefully form community spirit We ask that everyone participates in some way. Please sign up in church or call the office. We need you present on the 24th to serve, and show hospitality since this is a dine-in event.

Coming Events



Blessed Sacrament Happening

Nov. 22--Scripture Sharing 10 am
Nov. 24--Thanksgiving dinner 12-2
Nov. 28--Thanksgiving
Dec. 1--1st Sunday of Advent



Nov. 17--\$1,345
Budget--\$1,300
MTD Collection--\$4,265
MTD Budget--\$3,900
YTD Collection--\$26,757.08
YTD Budget--\$26,000

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

When I was a young boy in Burlington, Vermont, my dad had a good friend named Phil who owned a sporting goods store. I loved sports, so meandering the treasure-filled aisles was an unmitigated joy. One afternoon, we were shopping for a baseball glove. Dad said to me, “Hey Johnny, see that man who just walked into the store? *That’s* Phil.” I remember being fascinated and a little terrified. I recall thinking, “That man right there is in charge of *everything* in this store!” He reigned over every ball, sneaker, jersey, and sweatshirt. Phil became a family friend. And he was a good owner. The store flourished, and I found myself even more at peace every time I went there. I felt a new hope and even responsibility for the store to flourish.

To say that Christ is the King of the Universe means that Jesus has absolute authority over everything in it. It should fill us with awe and fascination. He is in charge. The world and everything in it are finally his. Knowing that he knows and loves us should make us also feel a deep peace at being a part of his universe. This leads us to want his kingdom to flourish, to play some responsible role in it.

We advance his kingdom by promoting the truth. **“Everyone who is of the truth hears my voice,”** Christ the King proclaims. In Phil’s store, it was about the truth of athletics. In our world, it’s all about the truth of all creation, especially the dignity of the human person, made by and for our loving God. Let’s rejoice that we know the true king and commit to the flourishing of his kingdom.

— Father John Muir

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Lectors

November 24:

December 1

December 8:

Jacques Williams, Katie Goins

Greg Gough, Barbara Bisel

Leland Herzog, Wayne Stephens

Eucharistic Ministers

November 24:

December 1:

December 8:

Misty Sanford, Denise and Greg Richardson

Cindy Clark, Vivian Higgs, Misty Sanford

Barbara Bisel, Janet Clark, Greg Gough

Collection & Gifts

November 24:

December 1:

December 8:

Jamie, Beau, Luke Bisel

Ron Moorman, Jeff Sanford

Jacques and Whitney Williams family

PRAY FOR THE DEAD

Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and offer our prayers for them.

St. John Chrysostom

ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE

◇

Dec. 11--St. Martin, Rome

6 pm

◇

Dec. 16--Immaculate

6 pm

◇

Dec. 18--Precious Blood

6 pm

◇

Dec. 22

St. Stephen Cathedral

2 pm

ULTIMATE THANSGIVING

Eucharist means “thanksgiving”. Pope Francis concentrates on Jesus’ gift of himself to us, first proclaimed at the Last Supper, when he told his friends that the bread and wine they were consuming were his Body and Blood. Thee was not greater way to show his solidarity with us all-- or to show us the kind of commitment we are asked to make s his disciples. We are praising God and giving thanks every time we receive our Lord--and every time the Eucharist leads us to give of ourselves, out of love, in our daily lives.

Citizens of Another Country

I read an article, years ago, about an American filmmaker who decided to step away from a wildly successful film franchise that had been requiring him and his family to live abroad.

It stuck in my mind because of the tongue-in-cheek reasoning he gave for the surprising decision, “My kids were starting to speak in British accents.”

Sometimes, we just want to go home, don’t we?

Returning from a recent family vacation, I burst into tears at the airport, overcome with relief when I saw my sister’s van pulling into the pickup lane. It didn’t matter that I had had fun on this trip and that I was even looking forward to taking another one. In that moment, I was so tired, and all I wanted was my own bed. The smell of my own house. The feeling of not being “away.”

If Jesus is our king, and his kingdom is not of this world, then we live our lives as perpetual aliens. This should reassure us in some ways. The world so often feels cold and cruel and strange to us because it *is*. We were not made for this world. We were made for heaven. We were made to yearn for the face, the presence, the protection of our King.

But this understanding of ourselves as strangers in a foreign land should also be a caution to us.

We can’t get too comfortable here. We cannot become too wrapped up in the world and its temptations, its rewards, its comforts. We cannot start speaking in the language, the accent of our adopted homeland. Not if we ever want to return home and belong there.

Our King looks for our return.

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Readings for the Week

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday:

Rv 14:1-5/Ps 24:1-6 /Lk 21:1-4

Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96 10-13/Lk 21:5-11

Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98:1-3, 7-9/ Lk 21:12-19

Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, /Ps 100:1-5/Lk 21:20-28

Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2/Ps 84:3-6, 8/Lk 21:29-33

Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/ Mt 4:18-22

Observances for the week of November 24

Monday:

Thursday:

Saturday:

Next Sunday:

St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

Thanksgiving Day

St. Andrew, Apostle

1st Sunday of Advent

CHRIST THE KING

The selection from the book of Daniel presented in today’s first reading was part of an attempt to weave a vision of ultimate success for the Jews under persecution. Exactly whom the author had in mind when he refers to “one like a Son of Man” is hotly disputed by scholars today. The fact is, we simply do not know if the author meant anyone in particular or if this is a collective, figurative image of Israel’s triumph. What we do know is that the early Christian community seized upon this passage and recognized it as a messianic prophecy, a foretelling of the ultimate triumph of Jesus as the Christ of God. The Lectionary’s juxtaposition of this text with today’s Gospel narrative of Jesus before Pilate is a wonderful example of how the liturgy “layers” passages with new meaning by inserting them in a particular context.

The celebration of Christ the King allows us to hear these passages with a new depth of meaning in light of our contemporary understanding of how, in Jesus and his resurrection and ascension, we have seen the fulfillment of Daniel’s vision of ultimate deliverance. The veiled admission of Jesus before Pilate that he did indeed have a kingdom “not here” takes on new meaning against the cosmic vision of Daniel, who allows us to glimpse the “Ancient One” on this heavenly throne.

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One day we will each meet the Lord of the Universe. What will we tell Him about the life we lived....about how we treated His other children?

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta