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Blessed Sacrament

602 Sycamore Street • Owensboro, KY 42301 • 270-926-4741

www.blessedsacramentchapel.org or email at pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org

The Jubilee Prayer

**Father in heaven,
may the faith you have gifted us in
your son Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity
kindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us, the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.**

**May your grace transform us
into diligent cultivators of the evangelical seeds
that make humanity and the cosmos rise
unto the confident expectation
of the new heavens and the new earth,
when with the powers of Evil overcome,
your glory shall be manifested eternally.**

**May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
the yearning for heavenly treasures
and pour over all the earth
the joy and peace
of our Redeemer.**

**To you God blessed in eternity,
be praise and glory for ever and ever.**

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,
SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give the land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates." (Gn 15:18)

Psalm:

The Lord is my light and my salvation. (Ps 27)

Second Reading:

Our citizenship is in heaven. (Phil 3:17)

Gospel:

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. (Lk 9:28-29)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



March 16, 2025 2nd Sunday of Lent

The Lord is my light and my salvation.
Whom shall I fear. Psalm 27:1).



2nd Sunday OF LENT

While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. - Lk 9:29

My Dear Parishioners:

The splendid vision in our Gospel today comes after Jesus had said that “The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised” (Lk 9:22). This was no good news to the disciples who expected Jesus, as the Messiah, to drive out the Roman army of occupation and restore the kingdom to Israel (Acts 1:6). Many of them would have begun to have second thoughts: Is Jesus really the expected Messiah? So a few days after, Jesus invites the three leaders of his group, Peter, James and John, to go with him up a mountain, to show them another angle on reality.

For many, mountains are a place of encounter with God. Moses encountered God on a mountaintop, and so did Elijah, and it was a favourite place of prayer for Jesus too. It was where the eyes of the apostles, their spiritual eyes, were opened and they caught a glimpse of a Jesus that their physical eyes could never see. Then they saw that the heavens were on the side of Jesus, and they heard the voice of the invisible God, “This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him” (Lk 9:35). This was all the confirmation they needed, that Jesus was indeed the expected one, for heaven itself bore witness. Now they would listen to him and follow him all the way to his suffering and death in Jerusalem. No matter what happens they are now sure of one thing: God is with Jesus; final victory will therefore be his.

How often we experience absurdities in life, leaving us filled with doubt and with the question: Where is God in all this? Think of people who have experienced abuse, deep-rooted individualism and insensitivity from church officials, and they ask, “How can God be in this place?” and many of them give up the faith. Others are traumatized by their experience of social injustice and discrimination. They apply for a job but see people less qualified than they get the job because of having the right connections or the right accent. They see forceful people advancing in society through unfair means and they ask: Where is God when this is going on? Or you may know someone undergoing personal and family crisis like terminal illness, breakdown of relationship between husband and wife, between parent and child, between friends.

At times like these we need to climb the mountain of prayer and ask God to open our eyes that we may see. When God grants us a glimpse of eternity then we realize that all our troubles in this life are short-lived. Then we have the courage to accept the suffering of this life, knowing that through it all God is on our side. All it takes is a glimpse of heaven to empower us to take up our daily crosses and follow Jesus, knowing that the cross of Lent is followed by the victory of Easter. Blessings, Fr. John

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, many may have failed in Lenten discipline to some measure or another: the daily doughnut is simply too alluring, or a furtive puff on a cigarette irresistible. There is meaning even in the failure, though, a kind of reminder that we cannot save ourselves. Part of the power of Lent is that we do it together, and although individuals decide on different ways to keep it, it is fundamentally the same journey. We fall, we get up, we keep moving. The desire to “give something up” for Lent is an age-old impulse in the Christian heart. We get better at it over the years, and move more deeply into the meaning and message of acts of sacrifice; so there is no shame in stumbling, as long as we are not discouraged by the failure and give up. We are clearing space in our lives, after all, and some of the things we desire to give up are worth rooting out completely anyway.

What do we do with the space we have cleared out by our sacrifice? The Lenten question of giving up is balanced by the Easter question of our response to Christ’s embrace of us in love: “What are you taking on for Easter?”
--James Field, copyright J.S. Paluch Co.

Set your soul on fire.

Having been heard by hundreds of thousands of Catholics and Christians around the world, Evangelist Richard Lane continues to give thousands what they desire: Bible Fed, Christ Lead, POWERFUL preaching and teaching in an enthusiastic, engaging style of ministry that will set your soul on fire with a NEW ZEAL for the Holy Spirit! A great opportunity Don’t miss out.



Mark your calendar
Wednesday March 19 6 pm
Mission Revival
Moving in Hope

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2--Marsha Allen
- 7--Britney Carmona
- 18--Jean Higgs
- 25-Carol Hatchett
- 31--Frank Fulton



40 This recurring number in the Bible has significance in Lent

Every number in the Bible has an ancient meaning. 40 is a graced period of time long enough to effect renewal. This number points to or symbolizes trial and testing, a period of time for God to effect change

- ◇ God sent rain upon the land for 40 days
- ◇ The Israelites were in the desert for 40 years after the Exodus
- ◇ Elijah walked 40 days to Mount Horeb
- ◇ God gave Ninevah 40 days to repent
- ◇ Jesus fasted 40 days in the desert.
- ◇ Jesus showed himself for 40 days before the Ascension

Lent is our 40 day opportunity to allow God to change us through grace into the person God wants us to be. 40 is a symbol of “God’s time.” As we move through the 40 days of Lent, let’s see each day as a day in God’s time.

Mass Intentions

- March 9--Larry Allen
- March 16--Jackie Jones
- March 23--Larry Allen
- March 30--Larry Allen
- April 6--Sam Thruston

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: Mary Hagan, Kathi Skidd, Ray Higgs, Debbie Gabbert, Mike Bogden, Pam Wilson, Donna Fennewald, Emma Latta, Phil Armendarez, Cindy Heckmann, Judy Stinett, Shaun Winchell, China Dulin, Rachel Mattingly, 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.

REVIVE--RENEW--REBIRTH

Richard Lane, a well-known Catholic evangelist will lead us in a special one-night celebration of “Moving in Hope.”

The evening will begin at 6 pm with Praise music. This evening at Blessed Sacrament Chapel will serve as the final evening of the Lenten Parish Mission at St. Pius X which will be on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. Invite family and friends--Catholic and other Christian denominations.

Coming Events



Blessed Sacrament Happenings

**March 19-Richard Lane
(Catholic Evangelist) 6:00 pm**

April 11--Fish Fry 5-7 pm

**April 15--Chrism Mass 6:30 pm
Sports Center**



March 9--\$1,547

Budget--\$1,300

MTD Collection--\$2,966.50

MTD Budget--\$2,600

YTD Collection--\$50,146.46

YTD Budget--\$46,800

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

St. Thomas Aquinas said that friends share three things: time, possessions and secrets. For example, how do I know if you’re my friend? Well, let’s say we’ve been to Mexico together, you’ve tried my shaky attempts at pasta carbonara, and you know what ridiculous costume I wore in a music video I filmed in my early twenties. We, dear reader, are definitely friends. We’ve shared time, possessions and secrets.

How does friendship with Jesus develop? The same way. Jesus lives and eats with his disciples. Then he takes Peter, James and John to Mount Tabor and there reveals to them his deepest secret: his glorious, divine Sonship. The majesty of God shines from within his humanity in a way that goes beyond description. God the Father confirms this “secret,” saying, **“This is my chosen Son, listen to him”** (Luke 9:35). It’s all so precious that **“they fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone.”** Do we take time to be alone with Christ, to allow him to mystically share this “secret” with us as his dear friends?

Lenten challenge: This week, identify one time when you experienced an awareness of some specific aspect of Jesus — perhaps on a retreat, at Mass, in prayer or in an act of service. Spend ten minutes consciously re-living that experience in your heart. If you can’t recall one, set aside at least two hours this Lent as a mini retreat, either alone in nature or in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Focus on him and ask him to share the secrets of his heart with you. He will. Then, as his friend, share the secrets in your heart.

— Father John Muir @LPI

Think of St. Joseph who watched over Mary and Jesus, of his care for the family God had entrusted to him, and of the attentive gaze with which he guided it to avoid the perils on the way.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	Lectors
<u>March 16:</u>	Greg Gough, Wayne Stephens
<u>March 23:</u>	Jacques Williams, Barbara Bisel
<u>March 30:</u>	Jerry Fuchs, Misty Sanford
	Eucharistic Ministers
<u>March 16:</u>	Cindy Clark, Greg Gough, Misty Sanford
<u>March 23:</u>	Janet Clark, Holly Hollis Rita Moorman
<u>March 30:</u>	Barbara Bisel, Denise and Greg Richardson
	Collection & Gifts
<u>March 16:</u>	Greg and Ethan Gough
<u>March 23:</u>	Fain Family
<u>March 30:</u>	Jeff and Pam McCarter

Laugh of the Week

A passenger jet was going through severe thunderstorm. As the passengers were being bounced around by the turbulence, a young woman turned to a minister sitting next to her and with a nervous laugh asked, "Reverend, you're a man of God. Can't you do something about this storm?" To which he replied, "Lady, I'm in sales, not management."

'I know by experience, ' says St. Teresa of Avila, 'that the glorious St Joseph assists us generally in all necessities. I never asked him for anything which he did not obtain for me. '

Mini Reflection: It's always helpful to get the opinion of someone we trust when we're facing a situation that confuses or alarms us. But we all have a divine confidante that can help us sort through anything we're dealing with. Are we taking advantage of that?

The Divine Confidante

My husband pretty much knows that if he tells me something — anything — he's also telling my sister. Most of us have that person that we run to when we have important information. I'm not even talking about gossip; I'm talking about stuff we just *have* to discuss. We joke that I don't really know how I feel about something until I've run it by my sister first.

There's not really anything wrong with that. When we're trying to figure out how to think about something that has happened or how to react to a certain situation, it's always helpful to get the opinion of someone we trust. But what if we ran as quickly to discuss the situation with God as we did to discuss it with our "person?" Wouldn't that be ideal?

After witnessing the transfiguration — an event that had to have been as confusing as it was astounding — we hear that the disciples "fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen." When something profound, frightening, or confusing happens, our first confidante should be God. I'm reminded of Luke 2:19: "Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart." There is something to be said for taking a moment to keep that information sacred between ourselves and the One who can really help us confront it.

Sure, maybe we don't understand what just happened. Maybe we're scared by it. We don't really know how we feel about it. And that's totally okay. The divine confidante knows how to help us pray through that confusion, that fear. If you're someone's "person" and they come to you wanting to talk, that's great. Talk it out. But remind them — and remind yourself — to pray about it as much as you talk about it.

Let the love of those things carry you through this Lent, and beyond.

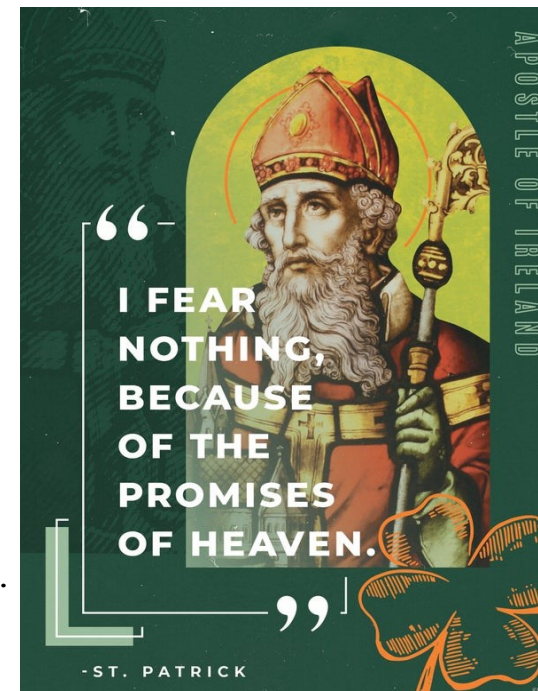
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Readings for the Week

Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	2 Sm 7:4-5, 12-14, 16/Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29/Rom 4:13-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28/Ps 105:16-21/Mt 21:33-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Observances for the week of March 16

Monday:	St. Patrick, Bishop [OM]; St. Patrick's Day
Tuesday:	St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop
Wednesday:	St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary



TRUST

"In God We Trust" marks the currency of our nation. It should mark our lives as well. In fact, however, we hesitate to trust others, including God, absolutely. We prefer to hold our trust in reserve, fearful of being hurt or betrayed. Today's reading remind us that Lent is a season of trust—a trust that transforms.

God makes a remarkable promise to Abraham. To receive this promise, all Abraham need do is trust. Paul tells the Philippians that they too must trust that they are the beneficiaries of God's bountiful

LENTEN RECINCILIATION SCHEDULE

- ◇ **March 16 Blessed Mother 2pm**
- ◇ **March 17 Lourdes 6 pm**
- ◇ **March 20 Sts. Joe and Paul 6 pm**
- ◇ **March 25 St. Pius X 6 pm**
- ◇ **April 4 St. Stephen Cathedral 1-5**
- ◇ **April 5 St Stephen Cathedral 9:30-4**
- ◇ **April 7 Immaculate 6 pm**
- ◇ **April 10 Precious Blood 6 pm**
- ◇ **April 13 St Stephen Cathedral 2 pm**

God has not called me to be successful. He as called me to be faithful. When we stand before God, results are not important.

Faithfulness is what matters.

Mother St. Teresa of Calcutta