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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:

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I shall not be put to shame. (Is 50:7)

#### Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

#### Second Reading:

Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name. (Phil 2:9)

#### Gospel:

Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me." (Lk 22:19)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998,



### April 13, Palm Sunday

**The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue that I might know how to speak a word that will arouse them. (Is. 50:4)**



.My Dear Parishioners:

We have finally arrived! HOLY WEEK! We begin with the celebration of Palm Sunday. There is a strange arc on Palm Sunday. We begin with the crowds acclaiming Jesus as the long-awaited one who comes in the name of the Lord. The title with which they acclaim him, ‘Son of David’, is a messianic title. As he enters Jerusalem, there is an air of excitement and anticipation. Son of David implies a new kingdom, a new glorious chapter in the history of the people of God. Then later in the Mass, we go on to read the passion narrative. Here the same crowds have turned, within a matter of days. We read that passers-by jeer at Christ on the cross. The people who were singing praises are now taunting him. It is a sobering reminder of the fickleness not only of crowds but of all human beings. Which of us could say that we have never run with the crowd, even against our better instincts? Which of us could say that we have never voiced opinions that were not our own, motivated by the fashion of the day and our desire to win favor in the eyes of others?

This is the world – our world – into which the love of God incarnate has come to establish the kingdom. The crowds greeting Jesus were right. This is a new and definitive moment in history. Only this time it is a kingdom of the heart that Jesus is creating, a movement of followers who will seek to bring into everyday life the love of God and neighbor that Jesus taught and lived himself. Because we know this and believe this, it is difficult to read the words of the passion. In particular, it is painful to shout the words ‘Crucify him’. This is not what we want, we think in the quiet of our hearts. But let’s remember that we are following the whole story. That story includes not just the cross, but also the resurrection. As we re-enact the events of the passion, we enter more deeply into the meaning of it all. Psychologists tell us that we come to terms with trauma in our lives by playing it over and over again in our minds. We see it from different perspectives. We think how we might have reacted differently at the time. And in this way, slowly, the trauma has less and less hold on us. As we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, as we hear the menacing crowd and hear the thud of the nails hammered in, we are re-living once more a great wound on the body of humankind. But by doing this we find that we are not trapped in the past, but rather, we are set free in the power of the resurrection that we will soon celebrate. The paradox is that in remembering the death of Jesus we enter more deeply into the life of Jesus, as the one who overcame sin and death and takes us with him in his victory. So let us not be afraid to be with the crowd of sinners this Holy Week. We are the people who acclaim him. We are the disciples whose feet he washes. We are also the disciples who run away as he is arrested, and the crowd who taunt him on the cross. We remember all this and act it out so because we know that God’s response is not to leave us in our shame.

The events of each Holy Week tell us that this world’s sorrows are not the final word. Rather, God raises us up with Christ and invites us to live the promise that his love is with us until the end of time. Confident in that love, confident in the victory of Christ over human sin, we can ask for gifts of grace so that we can continue the work of the kingdom of God that Christ has entrusted to us. ‘Your kingdom come’ he taught us to pray. Holy Week renews us each year in our desire to live what we pray.

I remind you once again of the Holy Week Schedule and strongly encourage you to participate in the Mass of Holy Thursday, the service of Good Friday, and of course, the celebration of the Solemnity of Easter

Blessings, Fr. John

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Later this week, the Chrism Mass is celebrated in every cathedral in the world in preparation for the Easter Triduum. Only a bishop can consecrate chrism, pure olive oil infused with rich fragrance, so this liturgy is a sign of unity of the local Church and the bishop’s ministry to all who will be baptized and confirmed in our parishes in the coming year. Chrism is also used in the ordination of priests and bishops and the consecration of new altars. Two other sacramental oils, the unscented olive oil for catechumens and for the sick will be blessed in the same liturgy and transported carefully to every parish by the beginning of the Triduum.

Remember when Noah’s dove returned with the sign of the world’s rebirth? The dove carried an olive branch, a pledge that God was breathing the world to life again. Yet olives require human nurture. Olives are inedible unless they are cured by human labor. Olive trees grow on sunny slopes away from the shade of city walls, so they can only be properly tended, cured, and laboriously pressed in peace time. The Chrism Mass with its olive oils expresses God’s deepest desires for us, and our resolve to lace our lives in service to God’s saving, healing, loving plan.

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the **Easter Triduum**—from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ’s Paschal Mystery. The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil.

The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are  
*Mass of the Lord’s Supper*  
*Good Friday of the Lord’s Passion*  
*Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord*

*Here at Blessed Sacrament we will have the Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7 pm on Thursday. During this Mass we have washing of the feet, the priest washing feet just as Jesus washed the Apostles’ feet. After Mass we have a period of Adoration, keeping the Lord company. After the Last Supper, Jesus took the Apostles with him to the Garden and asked the Apostles to pray with him. “Pray that you may not undergo the test.” You can stay five or ten minutes or a longer time to unite yourself with Jesus and think about the deep love Jesus has for each of us that He was willing to die for us.*

*Good Friday is the one day in the Liturgical year that there is no Mass. We have a service at 6 pm. During the prayer service, we have Adoration of the Cross, the reading of the Passion, and Communion. (The hosts are consecrated on Holy Thursday since there is no Mass.*

*These are special days set aside so we can come to a greater appreciation of the love of Jesus that he would suffer and die for each of us. Hopefully you can participate in one or more of the Triduum.*

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3--Rita Moorman, Ethan Gough,  
Bobby Hardin  
6--Marshall Williams  
10--Steven Fain  
21--Kathi Skidd  
23--Misty Sanford  
25--Charlene Meadows  
26--Vivian Higgs  
27--Ruth Coble



### Where do Palm Sunday palms come from and where should they go?

The Palm Sunday celebration has ancient origins. Beginning the liturgy “outside” the church, we symbolically reenact Christ’s entry into Jerusalem. The crowds in ancient Israel waved palm branches – a symbol of royalty – to welcome Jesus. These days, obtaining palms takes a lot of planning and coordination, as hundreds of thousands of churches worldwide need them on the same day! Many in the United States order palms from Florida, California, Texas, or Central America. Many companies stress the sustainability of their production and the just wages paid to their workers. The palms used on Palm Sunday are blessed at Mass. This means they shouldn’t end up in the trash! Many people weave palms into crosses or families display them in their homes. If you do not plan on displaying your palms throughout the year, they should be burned, buried, or left at the church. In the final case, the palms are burned to provide the ashes for next year’s Ash Wednesday service.

## Mass Intentions

April 6--Sam Thruston  
April 13--Larry Allen  
April 17--Sam Thruston  
April 20--Larry Allen  
April 27--Larry Allen

*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.**

## WASHING FEET

Our Lord’s lucid and all-understanding awareness (knowing that the Father had put everything in his hands) leads him to gird himself with a towel and wash the feet of his disciples. A deeper and higher vision does not lead to new insights but to humble, specific, and concrete action.

**Reflection: Does an increase in your faith cause you to love more? Does it give you a greater humility or pride? Perform a specific and concrete act of humility this week.**

## Coming Events



### Blessed Sacrament Happenings

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

**Sports Center**

**April 17--Holy Thursday 7 pm**

**Mass and Adoration**

**April 18--Good Friday service**

**6 pm**

**April 20--Easter Mass**



April 6--NA

Budget--\$1,300

MTD Collection--\$.NA

MTD Budget--\$1300

YTD Collection--\$.NA

YTD Budget--\$

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

**“As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road.” (Luke 19:36)**

Consider how useless it is to spread your clothes on the ground for a donkey to walk on. The clothes get smeared with hooves, and who knows the grimy places where they’ve been? The animal may leave some unsavory presents on them. They may get stolen by a thief looking to make a buck. The thorns, thistles, rocks and muck of the road will leave stains. The clothes may never be useful again, and you’ll probably walk home shivering without your normal covering. Yet this is precisely the gesture the people employ to welcome Jesus and his donkey. Why does this detail matter?

Wastefulness is an essential part of celebration. Consider the unnecessary extravagance of Christmas decorations, confetti and ticker tape parades, baseball players spraying each other with bottles of champagne after a victory, birthday gifts for kids and so on. This wastefulness signals celebration and therefore participation in higher identities (as believers, winners, and parents, to mention the above examples). That’s what the wasted cloaks are all about. Those who donate their cloaks participate in Christ’s kingship in Jerusalem — and we savor it two thousand years later.

The lesson? Learn how to “waste” money, time, clothes, and food on Christ. We do this at Mass, but in so many other ways, too, like serving the poor, going on retreats, and doing prayerful study. When we practice this holy wastefulness, Jesus will ride into our lives and we’ll be more deeply members of his kingdom.

— Father John Muir @LPI

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### Lectors

April 13: Jerry Fuchs, Katie Goins,  
Passion: Misty Sanford, Greg Gough  
April 17: Wayne Stephens, Barbara Bisel  
April 18: Layson Brooks, Katie Goins  
Passion: Barbara Bisel, Greg Gough  
April 20: Layson Brooks, Misty Sanford  
April 27: Greg Gough, Wayne Stephens

### Eucharistic Ministers

April 13: Holly Hollis, Janet Clark  
 Barbara Bisel  
April 17: Denise and Greg Richardson  
 Misty Sanford  
April 20: Greg Gough, Cindy Clark,  
 Rita Moorman  
April 27: Misty Sanford, Barbara Bisel,  
 Holly Hollis

### Collection & Gifts

April 13: Barbara Hammond, Wonet Taylor  
April 20: Fain Family  
April 27: Jamie, Beau, Luke Bisel

**Mini-reflection:** I'm Catholic. I'm proud of being Catholic. But is that wordless witness really evangelization?

### The Stones Will Cry Out

I have a complicated relationship with evangelization. I don't think that we (I'm talking about 21st-century American Catholics here) have had much formation around what exactly it means to proclaim the Gospel. We don't know how to do it. We don't really *want* to do it. It sounds kind of scary and awkward. It sounds like knocking on strangers' doors and yelling through the keyhole, "Have you accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior?" It sounds like arguing with friends and family. It sounds like a real pain.

I'm Catholic. I'm proud of being Catholic. I do my Catholic things in my Catholic house throughout my Catholic life. But is that enough? All Christians are called to "wordless witness" in how they live their lives, writes Paul VI in the apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi* — but this alone, he says, is "insufficient." We must talk about Jesus. We must name him. We must speak of his life, his promises. We must *proclaim* him. We must be loud enough that a Pharisee would cringe at us.

And yet — and Paul VI acknowledges this — it's not actually evangelization if we do it so badly that nobody listens. If we "impose" truth on someone's conscience instead of "proposing" it. If we make the mistake of thinking there is one singular way to share Christ with the great variety of personalities that exist in this world.

Dear reader, I am running out of column space, and still I have no answers for you, or for myself. I don't know how to do it well. But I know we have to try. We have to pray. We have to reflect. We have to be patient. We have to be humble. We have to remember it's about him and not about us. Most of all, when we find ourselves confused and retreating into silence, we must remember Christ's words: "If they keep silent, the stones will cry out."

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## Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1-3, 13-14/  
 Jn 12:1-11  
 Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-6, 15 and  
 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
*Chrism Mass:* Is 61:1-3, 6, 8-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25  
 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21  
 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22,  
 31, 33-34/Mt 26:14-25  
 Thursday: *Evening Mass of the Lord's  
 Supper:* Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-  
 13, 15-18 /1Cor 11:23-26/  
 Jn 13:1-15  
 Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12  
 -13, 15-17, 25 /Heb 4:14-16;  
 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42  
 Saturday: *Easter Vigil:* Gn 1:1—2:2/Ps  
 104:1-2, 5-6, 10-14, 24, 35  
 /Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9-18/  
 Ps 16:5, 8-11 (1)/Ex 14:15—  
 15:1/ Ex 15:1-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is  
 55:1-11/Is 12:2-6 (3)/ Ez  
 36:16--28/ Ps 51:12-15, 18-  
 19 /Rom 6:3-11/Lk 24:1-12

### Observances for the week of April 13

Tuesday: Tax Day  
 Thursday: Holy Thursday  
 Friday: Good Friday  
 Saturday: Holy Saturday  
 Next Sunday: Easter Sunday

## THE FACE OF JESUS

In all the readings for this Sunday we can look at the fact of Jesus. There are two Gospel passages, both from the Gospel of Luke. The first tells of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. Crowds greeted him with shouts of "Hosanna! The second tells of Jesus' departure from Jerusalem, carrying the cross on his back. The same crowds derided him and shouted for his crucifixion. We first see a face shining with glory, but in a few short days a face dark with blood and sorrow.

Set between these two contrasting Gospel passages are equally contrasting readings from the Hebrew and Christian scriptures. Isaiah describes a suffering servant who willingly submits to beating and humiliation, not even turning away his face. He knows he belongs to God and will not be put to shame. Paul writes to the Philippians of Christ Jesus, the true Suffering Servant, who willingly emptied himself to become human. But this man, with a very human face, has now been exalted by God above all others.

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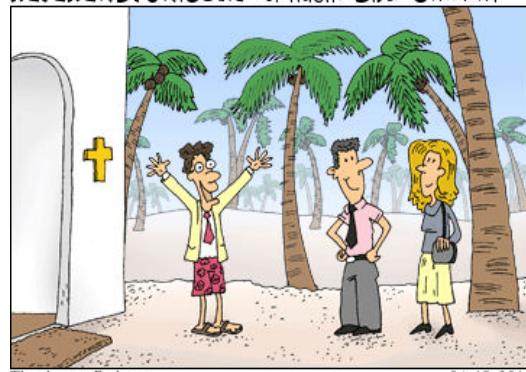
### LENTEN RECINCILIATION SC

April 13 St Stephen Cathedral 2 pm

### MORNING PRAYER

Loving God, as I wake this morning, I am grateful for the gift of life. May I enter this day before me mindful of those for whom life is challenging: those who may be rising with pain, with fear, with anxiety, in want, in hunger, in distress. Help me to be a loving presence to all I meet. Amen.

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Thanks to Robert 04-18-2011  
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