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# Blessed Sacrament

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

[www.blessedsacramentchapel.org](http://www.blessedsacramentchapel.org) or email at [pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org](mailto: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](mailto:jthomas@sscobo.org)

**Parochial Vicar:** Father Shibu Cheriankunnel

[moc\\_scheriyankunnel@sscobo.org](mailto:moc_scheriyankunnel@sscobo.org)

**Parish Life Coordinator:** Sr Jeannette Fennwald,  
SSND [pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org](mailto:pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org)

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

God exalted him at his right hand as leader and savior to grant Israel repentance and forgiveness of sins. (Acts 5:31)

### Psalm:

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me. (Ps 30)

### Second Reading:

"To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor, glory and might, forever and ever." (Rv 5:13)

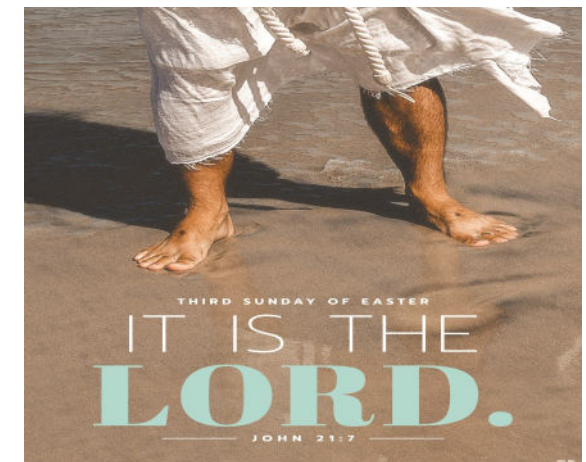
### Gospel:

Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered him, "No." So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in because of the number of fish. (Jn 21:5-6)



## May 4, 2025 3rd Sunday of Easter

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain..to receive honor and glory. (Rev. 5:12)



## 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.

My Dear Parishioners:

Fish are funny creatures. They are always so busy and yet seem so pointlessly busy. Ever on the move, they flit about, dashing and darting hither and thither, full of agitation and enthusiasm. How easily they are alarmed by every ripple, every shadow on the water! Always keyed-up, on the alert, so ready for the unexpected, and yet so easily duped. So quick to react to the first rumors of danger and yet so easily caught.

Dare I say, there is a certain “fishiness” about us, in the spiritual sense. We are among the fish Christ sent Peter out to catch. Like fish, we are immersed in a sea of troubles and distractions, easily alarmed and agitated by every ripple of excitement, every shadow of doubt that crosses our paths. We expend so much energy on what are, in the end of the day, trivialities. We can dangerously dally with temptation, and let ourselves be hooked by unhealthy lures, from cigarettes to status symbols. It is little wonder that Christ showed a marked preference for fishermen when he chose his first apostles.

Today’s story reflects the miracle of our own lives. Through his church, Christ has thrown his net over us, a net of grace. He says: “The kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind.” And like a fisherman’s net it remains unseen beneath the surface. And we are drawn into it, if we allow it to happen. Even in spite of our struggling may we be caught in God’s net.

Today’s miraculous catch of fish recalls that other big catch to which Christ compared the kingdom of heaven. We may be sharp in our estimates of the world and its ways. We might be accurate in our judgement of individuals. We may be keen critics of those whose behavior falls short of the demands of the gospel. But we cannot limit the infinite sufficiency of God’s grace. There is no telling what size the catch will be until the net is finally drawn in at the end of time. Like today’s catch, it may well astonish even the most seasoned of fishermen. Who knows what queer fish will be caught there spluttering and gasping at the breadth of God’s mercy? The “big catch” is Christ’s answer to those prophets of gloom who would put so many outside his reach.

Blessings! Fr. John

.TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The Gospel today sees Peter and his colleagues after the Resurrection, returning to Galilee and resuming the family business. They are fishing by night. Although it is true that fish feed by night, the mention of darkness here is more about the human spirit than it is about fishing advice. Modern life keeps darkness effectively under control; much of the world has been glowing radiantly through the night for a century. Yet just as surely as the Risen Christ breaks into Peter’s fishing, so does he break into the usual patterns of our own darkness, electric lights notwithstanding. It is Easter and we are the people of the light.

In our tradition, Evening Prayer, celebrated in monasteries, parishes, cathedrals, and homes everywhere, is a kind of solemn protest against the darkness and its claims, an act of praise for our light-bearing God, and a commitment to carrying that light forward. Sunset is a turning point of our day, felt less acutely in an electrified world, but still an effective reminder that one day darkness overtakes us all. Yet out Eastering has taught us in a hundred ways that the victory belongs to the Bearer of Light. Easter summons us to transform our everyday “blackouts,” perhaps in a way as simple as a whispered prayer of thanks at evening for the blessings of the day.

--James Field, copyright @J./s. Paluch Co.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- ***The 135 cardinals eligible to elect the next pope will enter the Sistine Chapel to begin the conclave May 7. The cardinals will first celebrate the "Mass for the Election of the Roman Pontiff" in St. Peter's Basilica that morning before processing into the Sistine Chapel that evening.***

***The Vatican Museums announced that the Sistine Chapel would be closed to visitors beginning April 28 to allow preparations for the conclave to begin. The preparations include the installation of a stove to burn the cardinals' ballots and a chimney on the roof to signal the election results to the world.***

The date for the conclave was set during the fifth general congregation meeting of cardinals April 28, Matteo Bruni, director of the Holy See Press Office, told reporters at a briefing later that day. The general congregation meeting was the first after a two-day pause to allow cardinals to participate in the funeral rites for Pope Francis

More than 180 cardinals attended the April 28 meeting, including over 100 cardinal electors. During the session, about 20 cardinals offered reflections on the state of the church, its mission in the world, the challenges it faces and the qualities needed in the next pope, Bruni said. Topics addressed included evangelization, interfaith relations and the ongoing need to address clerical sexual abuse, he added.

Looking ahead to the next session, Bruni said the general congregation meeting April 29 would open with a reflection by Benedictine Father Donato Ogliari, abbot of St. Paul Outside the Walls in Rome and a member of the Dicastery for Bishops. Meanwhile, Cardinal Walter Kasper, former president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity who is past the age limit to vote in the conclave, told the Italian newspaper La Repubblica that he hopes the cardinal-electors "come to a consensus on the next pope very soon, in the footsteps of Francis."



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

26--Vivian Higgs  
27--Ruth Coble  
29--Jeff McCarter

May Birthdays

8--Mary Ann Terry  
12--Cindy Clark, Brent Hatchett  
14--Steve Coble  
18--Tina McHenry  
19--Lad Ottofy  
20--Christian Trevor  
22--Charles Brown SR.

Mass Intentions

April 27--Larry Allen  
  
May 4--Michael Bogdan  
  
May 11--Larry Allen  
  
May 18--Larry Allen  
  
May 25--Sam Thurston

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, Ray Higgs, Mary Hagan, Debbie Gabbert, 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.

PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

O God, who are shepherd and ruler of all the faithful, look favorably on the soul of your servant Francis, whom you set at the head of your Church as her shepherd. Grant, we pray, that by word and example he may continue to be of eternal service to the Church so that, together with the flock that you entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Alleluia!



Laugh of the Week

St Peter meets three new potential Heaven Members and says, “Ok, tonight we’re going to have a quiz. Just a simple question: What is Easter?” The first guy says, “oh, that’s easy. It’s when the family gets together and have turkey and mashed potatoes and...” “No, no. That’s Thanksgiving! Ok, who’s next?? The next man says, “Very simple. It’s when you get a tree and presents for everyone and ...” “No, no, no! That’s Christmas,” says St Peter. “Ok, last person give it a try. The guy says, “Well, Easter is when Christ was crucified, his body was placed in a cave, and they rolled this HUGE boulder in front of it, and...”“Hey,” St Peter yells at the first two. Listen up and you’ll learn something!” “So,” the third guy continues, “then 3 days later they rolled that huge rock away from the cave opening, and if Jesus comes out and sees his shadow we’ve got three more weeks of winter!!”

Coming Events



Blessed Sacrament Happenings

May 4--First Communion--10 am  
Quinn and Hank Fain

May 16--Memorial Mass for  
Michael Bogdan 2 pm at  
St. Stephen Cathedral

May 31--Deacon Conrad’s  
Ordination 10 am.



April 27--\$1,026

Budget--\$1,300

MTD Collection--\$5,358

MTD Budget--\$5,200

YTD Collection--\$59,729.89

YTD Budget--\$55,900

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

I eat breakfast. If I don’t have something substantial, I’m fading by midmorning. Breakfast is my key meal because it sets up my physical wellbeing for the rest of the day.

Spiritually speaking, we need sustenance to get us going. This is true for the Apostles in this Sunday’s remarkable Gospel reading. The risen Jesus makes his third appearance to them in the early morning light and calls, “Come, have breakfast” (John 21:12). The exhausted and cold fishermen sit, and he feeds them bread and fish as the dawn breaks. They are overwhelmed by his presence to the point of awestruck silence. As they eat, their bodies and their hearts come alive. Once refreshed by their morning meal, they will be ready to feed others — indeed, the whole world — with the love of the risen Jesus. But first, they need breakfast from him.

Do you realize how essential early morning prayer is? Jesus desires to refresh us every morning with his word of love, with his grace-filled presence. This week, hear Jesus calling to you: “Come, have breakfast!” Embrace some form of spiritual, meditative practice each morning for spiritual strength to get you going. — Father John Muir ©LPi



MINISTRY SCHEDULE	
	<b>Lectors</b>
<u>May 4:</u>	Jacques Williams, Wayne Stephens
<u>May 11</u>	Layson Brooks, Misty Sanford
<u>May 18:</u>	Greg Gough, Katie Goins
	<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>
<u>May 4:</u>	Janet Clark, Cindy Clark, Greg Gough
<u>May 11,</u>	Denise and Greg Richardson, Rita Moorman
<u>May 18:</u>	Holly Hollis, Cindy Clark, Misty Sanford
	<b>Collection &amp; Gifts</b>
<u>May 4:</u>	Fain Family
<u>May 11:</u>	Natalie, Lila, Ivan Clark

**Thank you for the donations for  
Easter flowers**

Jean Higgs-- in memory of Rachel Hersey,  
Lucile Higgs

Steve Coble

Ruth Coble

Cindy Clark--in memory of Chick, Betty Jo,  
Holly Thompson

Yvonne Mundy

Janet Clark--in memory of Ethel, R.T.,  
Tommy, Pam, Jack and Mary Ethel Clark.



**Mini Reflection:** Love — again, even when it doesn’t make sense. Forgive — again, even when it doesn’t make sense. Believe — again, even when it doesn't make sense. To follow the risen Christ, you must be willing to do what makes no sense.

**The Witnesses of What Makes No Sense**  
It never fails to amuse me that the disciples in today’s Gospel don’t recognize Jesus until he asks them to do something that makes absolutely no logical sense.

He’s just some random stranger on the shore — until he gives them an order that, in any other circumstances, would have them rolling their eyes into the backs of their head: *Drop the nets again. I know you haven’t caught anything all night. I know you’re tired. Just do it one more time. Trust me. Again.*

That’s when they recognize him.

The disciples display such poor recognition of Jesus after the resurrection. I’m sure there’s a good, theologically sound reason for it, one I am not smart enough to explain. Whatever that reason is, it’s very clear that God was carefully orchestrating these moments of realization. He is trying to tell us something about how we recognize the risen Christ — the one who has conquered sin, the one whose love was stronger than death. The one who never made any sense, and never will, because his kingdom is not of this world, and to understand him — to recognize him — you have to detach from the priorities, the expectations, the limitations of this present world.

You have to be willing to do what makes no sense.

Love — again, even when it doesn’t make sense. Forgive — again, even when it doesn’t make sense. Believe — again, even when it doesn't make sense.

“We are the witnesses of these things,” Peter tells the Sanhedrin (Acts 5:32). Peter, who was so full of joy when he recognized Jesus that he leapt into the sea, fully clothed, desperate to be near him.

It makes no sense, and that’s okay. That’s kind of our whole thing, as Christians. We are the witnesses of the things that make no sense. ©LPi Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Readings for the Week	
Monday:	Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday:	Acts 7:51—8:1/Ps 31:3-4, 6--8, 17 and 21/Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday:	Acts 8:1-8/Ps 66:1-3--, 4--7/Jn 6:35-40
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1--2/Jn 6:52-59
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12--17/Jn 6:60-69
<b>Observances for the week of May 4</b>	
Monday:	Cinco de Mayo
Saturday:	St. John of Avila, St. Damien de Veuster, Priest
Next Sunday:	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations; Mother’s Day



**THE RISEN CHRIST**

In this Sunday’s first reading and Gospel we see Peter and the other disciples in action after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. On trial, they refused to stop teaching in Jesus’ name, and they rejoiced at the opportunity to suffer for their beliefs. On the lake and its shore, face to face with the Risen Lord, they obeyed his directions and recognized him as he once again ate a meal with them. There are so many human and almost homey touches in these readings! The high priest in the first scene sounds as if he is scolding naughty students. There is an order to stop speaking in Jesus’ name, but it is evident everyone knows they will disobey again. And on the lake shore, we can image Peter’s excitement as he strides out of the water and is greeted by Jesus, who grins and says, ”Come, have breakfast.”

The second reading, on the other hand, is anything but homey. In this passage from Revelation, John describes a scene in which the same Lord who fed his friends breakfast here receive honor and glory from everything in the universe. copyright@J.S. Paluch Co

**THE CHOOSING OF A NEW POPE**

**The Cardinals are gathering in Rome for the Conclave which will start on Wednesday, May 7 This is a sacred and ancient process held in the Sistine Chapel. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, they will elect the next Bishop of Rome. “Come Holy spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle them the fire of your love.”**