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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

moc_scheriyankunnel@sscobo.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr Jeannette Fennwald,

SSND pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. (Acts 2:3)

Psalm:

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (Ps 104)

Second Reading:

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. (1 Cor 12:12)

Gospel:

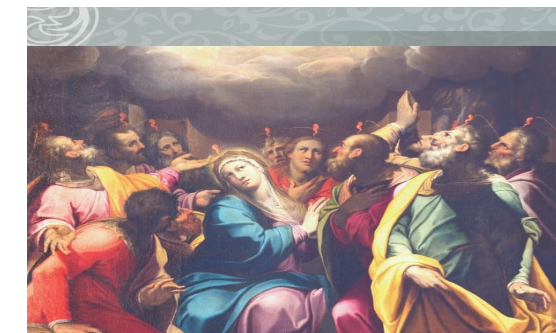
Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)

rom the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970



June 8, 2025 Pentecost

**In one Spirit, we were all baptized
into one body (I Cor. 12:13)**



PENTECOST SUNDAY

[Jesus] breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." - Jn 20:22-23

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My Dear Parishioners:

Today is popularly known as the Birthday of the Church, but this is actually a very weak analogy. The more proper term to encapsulate today’s solemnity is the ‘epiphany of the Church’ as Pope Pius XII hinted in his encyclical Mystici Corporis Christi. This is so because, our tradition tells us that the Church was born with the death of Christ and manifested on the day of Pentecost. However, naming the solemnity today is not the main point here. The essence of today’s celebration is that Jesus and the Father have fulfilled their promise to us, that they don’t leave us orphans, that they would send the Holy Spirit the empower us, to enliven us, to guide us to the truth, and today is the day. When Jesus left his disciples for heaven as we celebrated last Sunday, they felt like orphans, abandoned and confused, reserved and more so, they were afraid of the authorities. So they were hiding behind locked doors. That is their comfort zone. And in there, they felt safe, secured and supported. What they were doing though was a direct contrast to what Jesus has entrusted them to do, that is to go out to all the world and proclaim the good news. As human as they are, we can understand their worries and anxieties. We might call it cowardice, but for the disciples in the upper room, they felt safe. But Jesus appeared to them there and his first message was ‘peace’ and then he parted to them his gift, the Holy Spirit. And as we have heard from Luke in the first reading today, the disciples were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. So here is the moment of epiphany, the manifestation of the Church, and the manifestation of her mission to all people. The gift of the Holy Spirit transforms them right there and then, from being cowards to being courageous. And we know the story, they went out proclaiming the message of the gospel, to all people in their own different languages according to the inklings of the Holy Spirit.

Since the event of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit is continuously working more actively in the world, in each believer, and in the Church. Thus, we have thousands of witnesses of the working of this Holy Spirit such as the Saints, the martyrs, the philanthropists, the missionaries, among many others. We have the Holy Spirit working in our world by the move to unite all people in works of social justice, to be advocates of peace, etc. The same Holy Spirit works in the Apostles, down to the Early Fathers, then to the Modern Church. It is also the same message... the message of peace.

The same Holy Spirit is dwelling within each one of us today, empowering us to get out of our comfort zones and to proclaim the message of peace to all people. It is hard, but it is only burdensome if we take the whole credit for ourselves. God wants to channel us his grace. God wishes to make us an instrument of his peace. So why not let him be. It is God’s work, we are just his workers. There are many ways we can preach the message of peace. We do not have to go out to other countries, and go to remote areas and preach the gospel. Do you remember? Many times in my homilies I have spoken about the mission of the church belonging to each and every one of us? When we go out today, just give a genuine smile to a stranger you will meet. Give a call or note to someone whom you were not talking to for a while now. Go out for meal with someone with whom you are not exactly comfortable to be around And so on. This is the message of Pentecost. To embrace the Holy Spirit, to open ourselves to become the temple of the Holy Spirit, where peace, love and joy abide.

Especially here at Blessed Sacrament Chapel, we should be mindful even more clearly the ways in which the Spirit moves in our community, our families and our city. We reach out to friends and strangers alike. So, to continue our celebration today, let us pray, Veni Creator Spiritus (*Come Creator Spirit*) and renew the face of the Earth. It is through the gift of the Holy Spirit we are renewed and the Church is alive. Alleluia! Blessings, Fr. John

Blessed Sacrament Chapel	Budget	Actual
	Jul '25 - Jun	Jul '24 - Jul
Income		
Contributions, Tithe, Masses, Grants	69,205.00	69,221.24
Fundraiser, Activities & Events	8,460.00	12,977.46
Subsidy, other income	13,528.08	13,525.00
Capital Campaign	0.00	13,582.00
Hall Rental Income	300.00	300.00
Total Income	91,493.08	109,605.70

	Budget Total	Actual
Expense	Jul '25 - Jun	Jul '24 - Jul
Assessments, School & Subidy Exp	13,920.00	13,656.10
Books, Dues, Subscriptions	240.00	200.00
Property Liability, Workers Comp	5,460.00	5,170.04
Fundraiser, Activities & Events	4,235.88	4,843.19
Grounds Maintenance & Leases	6,960.00	10,619.43
Salaries, Med, Retirement, Workers	33,120.00	34,620.32
Computers, Office, Equipment Exp.	9,000.00	10,111.90
Utilities,Telephone/Internet/Cable	7,980.00	7,531.14
Travel & Transportation	228.00	200.05
Total Expense	81,143.88	86,952.17
Balance	10,349.20	22,653.53



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 2--Anthonia Hagan
- 4--Larry Leachman
- 6--Ivan Clark
- 9--Alvin Leachman
- 16--Sister Jeannette
- 23--Pam McCarter, Michelle Jones
- 27--Leland Herzog
- 30--Trent Hatchett, Father Sinjo



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today we are at the fiftieth day of the Easter celebration: seven weeks of seven days, a week of weeks, now culminating in a festival fiftieth day. While the liturgical color of the Easter season is gold, this last day we have red. For the first thousand years o the church, there were no firm rule for using colors. Only wealthy churches could afford a full array of colors, and most places sued the best vestments, no matter the color for the greatest feasts. The Church spelled out an exact plan for color, including red for Pentecost, only in 157-0 but local differences held on until the 1800’s.

Color experts tell us that red is a hot color, best used for fast-paced, upbeat, active experiences. It is hard to be neutral before red, as any matador will tell you. It invites commitment, draws us in. It is a stimulating color, engaging the eye, stirring hunger. It is the most fitting color for this day when we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit into out lives, a dynamic presence, overturning neutrality in favor of mission and commitment. --James Field: copy-right @J.S.Paluch Co.

Mass Intentions

- June 1--Barbara Jones
- June 8--Sam Thurston
- June 15--Larry Allen
- June 22--Sister Jeannette
- June 29--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: , Barbara Bisel, Pam Weafer, David Strawn, Teresa Luebbert, Kathi Skidd, Ray Higgs, Debbie Gabbert, Pam Wilson, Emma Latta, Phil Armendarez, Cindy Heckmann, Judy Stinnett, 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, Gary Moorman. If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.

COME TO US, SPIRIT OF HOLINESS

Holy Spirit, you banish fear from our hearts;

You bear witness in us that we are children of God, we pray to you.

Remove from our hearts the spirit of slaves, place in us the spirit of adopted children to make us cry out “Abba, Father.” Lucien Deiss (copyright)

Coming Events



Blessed Sacrament Happenings

- June 8--Father Shibu’s last Sunday at BSC
- June 22--Sister Jeannette’s 60th Jubilee and Farewell 10 am



- June 1--\$1,288.82
- Budget--\$1,300
- MTD Collection--..\$1,288.82
- MTD Budget--\$1,300
- YTD Collection--\$65,898.71
- YTD Budget--\$62,400

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

When I was a seminarian almost 20 years ago, a bank vice president taught us etiquette classes. She said, “Gentlemen, please make sure your breath isn’t bad. Take some breath mints before you hear confessions, okay?” We nervously laughed because the proximity that makes breath noticeable (whether pleasant or not) can be a bit awkward.

When Jesus breathes on his Apostles (John 20:22), he must have been within inches of at least some of them. This closeness of his breath has a purpose: the purpose of forgiveness of sins. “Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them” (John 20:23). Why in the world would the almost uncomfortable closeness of his breath forgive sins?

In the Bible, breath is spirit or wind. It comes from above and makes that which is below to have identity. To not have a single identity is to be multiple, divided. The word “sin” comes from an ancient word that means “to split” or “render asunder.” Sin divides us sinners and the world around us; our spiritual “breath” leaves us and our identity splinters. Only breath from above restores. For example, a shattered vase is rendered whole because the craftsman breathes the spirit of the vase back into it when he repairs it. A human being shattered by sin is made whole by the breath of God, breathed by Jesus through his priests. His breath alone forgives sins. It's always done with his gentle, loving closeness. — Father John Muir

.SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- ◇ KNOWLEDGE
- ◇ PIETY COUNSEL
- ◇ WISDOM UNDERSTANDING
- ◇ FORTITUDE
- ◇ FEAR OF THE LORD (WONDER AND AWE)

MINISTRY SCHEDULE	
	Lectors
<u>June 8</u>	Jacques Williams, Misty Sanford
<u>June 15:</u>	Greg Gough, Wayne Stephens
<u>June 22:</u>	Layson Brooks, Misty Sanford
	Eucharistic Ministers
<u>June 8:</u>	Katie Goins, Holly Hollis, Janet Clark
<u>June 15:</u>	Cindy Clark, Misty Sanford, Greg Richardson
<u>June 22:</u>	Greg Gough, Rita Moorman
	Collection & Gifts
<u>June 8:</u>	Wonet Taylor, Barbara Hammond
<u>June 15:</u>	Jamie, Beau, Luke Bisel
<u>June 22:</u>	

Laugh of the Week

Kids of Israel

When Mr. Smith finished his Sunday lesson, it was time for questions and answers. Up shot little Tony’s hand. “According to the bible Mr. Smith, the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea. Right?” “Right.”

“An’ the children of Israel clobbered the Philistines, right?” “That’s right Tony.”

“An’ the children of Israel built the Temple right?” “Right again.”

“An’ the children of Israel fought the ‘gyptians, an’ the children of Israel fought the Romans, an’ the children of Israel wuz always doin’ something’ important, right?”

“All that’s right too,” agreed Mr. Smith. “So what’s your question?”

“What I wanna know is this,” demanded Tony. “What wuz all the grown-ups doin’?”

Mini Reflection: What’s so special about Pentecost that it wasn’t until this moment — and not any of the equally world-changing moments that came in the weeks before it — that the Apostles became the Church?

Leaving the Room

I was a full-grown adult before I realized that Pentecost is known as “the birthday of the Church,” and it only resonated with me because someone showed up to a church function with cake and candles. Leave it to buttercream frosting to drive home a theological reality I had been missing for 25 years.

I knew what Pentecost *was*, of course. It simply went over my head that, despite all the incredible, world-changing things that had come *before* the moment of Pentecost, prior to this day, the Apostles were just a group of guys in a room. It wasn’t until Pentecost that they became the Church.

So what makes the Church...well, *the Church*, capital C? What makes it more than just a group of guys in a room? It’s true, they were a very special group of guys. They had the Truth — capital T. They had borne witness to Christ’s miracles, to his life and to his passion and death.

But they were still in that room.

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they received graces and gifts that made them fit to carry out the Great Commission. The Truth wasn’t enough, even with a capital T. They needed the Spirit — capital S — and more than that, they needed to receive it with the courage and faith necessary to do what needed to be done.

To get up and leave the room.

Because what good is any of it unless they leave the room? What does it matter, the tongues of fire and the miraculous bilingualism and, frankly, the coming of the Spirit, if no one ever hears about it?

The mission is what made them the Church. It’s what makes *us* the Church. Without it, we’re just a bunch of guys in a room.

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Readings for the Week

- .Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 /Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34
- Tuesday: 2 Cor 1:18-22/Ps 119:129-133, 135/Mt 5:13-16
- Wednesday: Acts 11:21-26; 13:1-3 /Ps 99:5-9/Mt 5:17-19
- Thursday: 2 Cor 3:15—4:1, 3-6/Ps 85:9-14/Mt 5:20-26
- Friday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 116:10-11, 15-18/Mt 5:27-32
- Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21/Ps 103:1-4, 9-10, 11-12/Mt 5:33-37

Observances for the week of June 8

- Monday: Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
- Wednesday: St. Barnabas, Apostle
- Friday: St. Anthony of Padua, Priest a
- Saturday: Flag Day
- Next Sunday: The Most Holy Trinity; Father’s Day



THE DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

John’s Gospel tells us that when Jesus “breathed” on the disciples, the Holy Spirit came into them, empowering them to forgive sins and to gather all people into union with one another

The book of Genesis had explained the division among nations with the story of the Tower of Babel. In rebellious pride, human beings had struggled to become equal to God. The result was chaos, strife, the inability even to speak the same language among themselves. Today’s reading from Acts tells how the Spirit has just the opposite effect.. Strangers from many nations hear and understand one another, each in his or her own tongue.

The message of unity in the Spirit is repeated in the reading from Corinthians. There are many gifts, many ways to serve. One way is not “higher,” nor one person “better” than another. There is but one Spirit, who accomplishes all the different works we do, acting through us. copyright@J.S. Paluch Co

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