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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 Christopher Grief

cgrief@sscobo.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr. Monica Seaton, OSU

pa@blessedsacramentchapel.org



July 6, 2025 14th Sunday Ordinary Time

Into whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this household.' (Luke 10:5)



Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Lo, I will spread prosperity over Jerusalem like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent. (Is 66:12)

Psalm:

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (Ps 66)

Second Reading:

From now on, let no one make troubles for me; for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body. (Gal 6:17)

Gospel:

Nevertheless, do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven." (Lk 10:20)

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

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:

When Jesus sent out the seventy-two disciples, he said to them:

“The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest. Go on your way; behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves. Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals; and greet no one along the way. Into whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this household.’ If a peaceful person lives there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you.”

Jesus said in today’s Gospel that their first words on entering a house were to be “*Peace on this house.*” They were to be ambassadors of peace and goodwill.

Peace is the highest value for all people in the world. Everybody is talking about peace: politicians, writers, and heads of different organizations. Many times priests in their churches preach about peace during homilies. The word Peace is on the mouth of all people, who want well to our world, our families and communities. Peace implies openness, friendship, tolerance, goodwill, hospitality. It disposes us to reach out to others. It helps to break down barriers between one another. Without peace nothing is possible.

Shortly before Communion the priest says to us, “*The peace of the Lord be with you always.*” What a wonderful gift is being offered to us – the peace of Christ, a peace which the world cannot give. Then he invites us to “*offer each other a sign of peace.*” Next we share Christ peace to others by shaking hands or a hug and sometimes even a kiss.

We come to Mass to receive a blessing from the Lord. If we took nothing else away with us but peace, our time would be still well spent. We must be prepared to give back something of what we have received.

The end of the Mass is not like the end of a football game or movie where we simply get up and leave. At the end of Mass we are sent out. The priest is sending us with Jesus’ peace.

We hear: Go in the peace of Christ.... Go and give the peace of Christ to others, to your family, wife, children, maybe to your neighbors, people at your workplace. We are then sent out as ambassadors of that peace to others.

If we wish to be effective messengers of peace three things are necessary: First, we have to find peace within ourselves; Secondly, we have to be willing to share that peace with others; and thirdly, we must then be willing to receive the peace offered by those around us.

The harvest is great. There are many opportunities for sharing peace and for making peace. We may not always succeed, because it takes at least two to make peace. We have to accept that our peace will not always be accepted. It may come back to us like the echo of our own voice. But at least we ought to try. In a world torn apart by competition, anger and hatred, we have a challenging vocation – to be living signs of love that can bridge divisions and heal wounds.

Our Holy Father has taken the name Francis, A saint of peace. Pope Francis, when being asked about divisions in the Church (by a reporter trying to trip him up) he simply responded, “I am a Catholic.” Indeed, we are all Catholic and so realize peace is attainable within ourselves, our community and the world.

Blessings, Fr. John

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

JULY BIRTHDAYS

8--Calvin McHenry
10--Chelis Carmona
13--Francine Epison
15--Georgia Holland
17--Wayne Stephens
21--Meredith Fain
22--Marcia Whilhite
24--Lori Robinson
27--Robert Hagan
29--Hugh Moorman
30--Yvonne Mundy

Mass Intentions

July 6--Harry Bates

July 13--Jerry Wedlake

July 21--Larry Allen

July 28--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:
Pam Weafer, David Strawn, Teresa Luebbert, Barbara Bisel, Diane Selby, Kathi Skidd, Ray Higgs, Pam Wilson, 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, Gary Moorman.
If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

It's high summer now, school is out, the pace of work slows, and some people drift away. There are visitors in the churches every summer, and familiar faces are "among the missing." Some find the summer's call more appealing than the summons of the church bells. Many, however, would not dream of missing a Sunday, and so they make their way to Mass in unfamiliar places, watching the locals for clues as to when to sit or stand, where the Communion stations are. In answering the call, they keep the "sabbatical" rhythm of the Christian life: every seventh day, the Body of Christ assembles for worship.

For centuries, there was no obligation to Sunday Mass in the sense of a written law, but Christians have always yearned to be together on Sunday. In the city of Abitina, during a persecution by the Emperor Diocletian, a group of Christians were urged to stop worshiping together on Sundays. They responded, "Then take our lives, for without the Sunday we cannot live." By a curious coincidence, the appointed readings today center us on thoughts of peace. On our Independence Day, the experience of worship situates us in community, and evokes a commitment from us to be advocates of peace in all aspects of our society's life. —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Blessed Sacrament Happenings

July 6--Welcome, Sister Monica

July--Raffle tickets on sale. Sell!!!

August 2--Picnic (Drive through sale of meat only) 11am-1pm



June 29---\$789.50

Budget--\$1,300

MTD Collection--\$5,946.32

MTD Budget--\$6,500

YTD Collection--\$70,556.21

YTD Budget--\$67,600

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

In the days after the awful 2020 killing of George Floyd, a Catholic friend remarked, “Racism is today’s great evil. We should put all our energy into fighting it.” I admired her intuition that the church must stand firmly against evil. Amen, I thought. At the same time, something felt wrong. As months went by, I saw her steadily slide into bitterness and anger. Soon, despondency. She spoke of giving up the fight. Don’t we too wonder how to fight evil without losing our joy or energy?

Jesus’ words this week help. He says, “**Rejoice not that you have power over demons, but that your names are written in heaven**” (Luke 10:20). Notice the asymmetry in where he wants our focus: on the latter, not the former. Should we confidently embrace our God-given power to overcome evil? Absolutely. But even more so, we should emphasize the positive element of our relationship to God. It is tempting but dangerous to define ourselves by what we oppose. It is better to define ourselves by—to rejoice in—what we celebrate: in Jesus, God has written our names in heaven. This sustains our battles.

This week, our marching orders are: fight evil. But more deeply, rejoice that God knows and loves us personally, individually. We allow this joyful knowledge to undergird our fight against the darkness of our day. Then we enjoy long-term stability to be cheerful warriors, who never forget the reason for the contests we are called to fight and win: love.
— Father John Muir

MINISTRY SCHEDULE	
	Lectors
<u>July 6:</u>	Jerry Fuchs, Jacques Williams
<u>July 13:</u>	Greg Gough, Wayne Stephens
<u>July 20:</u>	Layson Brooks, Misty Sanford
	Eucharistic Ministers
<u>July 6:</u>	Katie Goins, Michelle Jones, Misty Sanford
<u>July 13:</u>	Barbara Bisel, Janet Clark, Rita Moorman
<u>July 20:</u>	Denise and Greg Richardson Holy Hollis
	Collection & Gifts
<u>July 6:</u>	Steve Coble, Burnell Hamilton
<u>July 13:</u>	Jamie, Beau. Luke Bisel
<u>July 20:</u>	Laverne Thames

Prayer for Evangelization

As You reach out to the world, Lord, let us be Your hands!

As You answer those crying, send us.

Let us be Your people, answer to prayers prayed, comfort to the afflicted.

May we be laborers in Your harvest.

Amen.

©LPi

Mini reflection: Too often, life falls short of my expectations — an opportunity didn’t work out, a day didn’t go the way I planned — so I ball up my fists and stomp my feet. And God takes the Book of the Gospels and opens it to Luke, Chapter 10.

On Pilgrimage
Before I embarked on my trip to the National Eucharistic Congress last summer with a group from my archdiocese, we had an orientation meeting. At that meeting, the coordinator of the trip shared with us “The Five Rules of Pilgrimage.”
If you’re not familiar with them (I wasn’t), here they are:

- 1. Don’t complain.
- 2. Don’t complain. (It’s so important, it’s listed twice.)
- 3. When you see a bathroom, use it.
- 4. When someone offers you something, receive it.
- 5. When someone asks you for something, give it.

It’s great advice for a pilgrimage, but more than that, I think it’s great advice in general. So when I read today’s Gospel and I hear Jesus say essentially the same thing to his disciples as they set out to evangelize (well, minus the bathroom tip, but those weren’t as much of a thing in biblical Judea), I come to an important realization.

The whole Christian life is a pilgrimage.

Too often, life falls short of my expectations. An opportunity didn’t work out. A day didn’t go the way I planned (like, *at all*). A person didn’t accept me. And I ball up my fists and stomp my feet like a full-grown Veruca Salt, and I yell: *I cannot work in these conditions!*

And then, I imagine God, on his celestial throne, sighs and opens the Book of the Gospels (surely he keeps it handy, don’t you think?) to Luke, Chapter 10. And he whispers in my heart what he said to his disciples 2,000 years ago.
Don’t complain. Be open and give of yourself, and in turn, receive what comes your way, whatever it is. If it’s good, rejoice. If it’s not good, move on. And in the end, remember where you’re headed — the place you’re trying to go.

Oh, and again: don’t complain.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©LPi

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab/Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday:	Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15/Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday:	Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19/Mt 10:1-7
Thursday:	Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 10:7-15
Friday:	Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mt 10:16-23
Saturday:	Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt 10:24-33

Observances for the week of July 6	
Wednesday:	St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
Friday:	St. Benedict, Abbot



KROGER

Thanks to everyone who has designated Blessed Sacrament Chapel as you community reward partner. If you do not have a community partner at Kroger, please consider designating Blessed /Sacrament Chapel.. Blessed Sacrament’s number is WX 99. You can register at [krogercommunityrewards.com](https://www.krogercommunityrewards.com).

