



BLESSED SACRAMENT

602 Sycamore Street • Owensboro, KY 42301 • 270-926-4741
www.blessedsacramentchapel.org or email at office@bscobo.org

Sunday Mass: 10:00AM

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.

St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Office: 270-683-6525

Pastor: Father John Thomas
jthomas@sscobo.org

Parochial Vicar: Father Christopher Grief
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Parish Life Coordinator: Sr. Monica Seaton, OSU
office@bscobo.org



Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

But I will leave as a remnant in your midst a people humble and lowly. (Zep 3:12)

Psalm:

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! (Ps 146)

Second Reading:

Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong. (1 Cor 1:27)

Gospel:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 5:3)



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven." - Mt 5:10-12a



My Dear Parishioners:

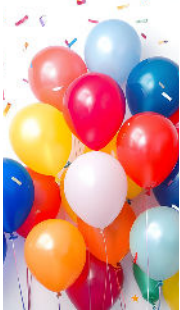
There many customs in our Church that dates back to its earliest time. We use incense, burn candles, bow, stand, and bless with water. Some customs come and go . . . and come back again (chapel veils). All customs are to help us understand something of our faith. All customs are to aid our understanding of what we believe and how we are to live.

This Tuesday, February 3, happens to be the memorial of Saint Blaise. The custom attached to this day is the ‘Blessing of Throats’.

Unfortunately, what is known about the life of St. Blaise derives from various traditions. His feast day is celebrated in the East on Feb. 11 and in the West on Feb. 3 (although it was observed on Feb. 15 until the 11th century). All sources agree that St. Blaise was the Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia who suffered martyrdom under Licinius about A.D. 316. From here, we rely on the tradition which has been associated with our liturgical celebrations over the centuries, which does not necessarily preempt their veracity or accuracy.

In accord with various traditions, St. Blaise was born to rich and noble parents, and received a Christian education. He was a physician before being consecrated a bishop at a young age. Although such a statement seems terse, keep in mind that at that time the local community usually nominated a man to be a bishop based on his outstanding holiness and leadership qualities; he in turn was then examined and consecrated by other bishops with the approval of the Holy Father. Therefore, St. Blaise must have been a great witness of our Faith, to say the least.

During the persecution of Licinius, St. Blaise, receiving some divine command, moved from the town, and lived as a hermit in a cave. Wild animals visited, and he healed any that were sick and wounded. One day, a group of hunters gathering wild beasts for the game in the amphitheater discovered St. Blaise and seized him. While in prison, he miraculously cured a small boy who was choking to death on a fishbone lodged in his throat. Eventually, Agricolaus condemned St. Blaise for upholding his Christian faith rather than apostatizing. He was tortured with the iron comb (an instrument designed for combing wool but was used here for shredding the skin) and finally beheaded.



February Birthdays

- 1—Natalie Clark
- 2—Nancy Bumm
- 3—Jacques Williams
- 5—John Hess
- 6—Philip Moorman
- 8—Karen Terry
- 9—Beau Bisel
- 27—Sondra Hibbs

Our thoughts and prayers are with the sick: Phaedra Fuchs, Renee Perkins, Rita Moorman, Joanne Kendall, Rollie Pike, Larry Leachman, Dorothy Simmons, Steve Coble, Teresa Luebbert, Diane Selby, Kathi Skidd, Ray Higgs, Pam Wilson, Phil Armendarez, Cindy Heckmann, Judy Stinett, Shaun Winchell, China Dulin, Rachel Mattingly, Charlie Brown Sr, Steven Moorman, Philip Moorman, Jr., Ronnie Hollis, Chandra Hagan, 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.**

Mass Intentions

February 1 - Jean Murphy

February 8 - Dan Halbig

February 15 - Larry Allen

Let us remember to pray for those who are dying and those who have recently died.

Remember to pray for the souls in purgatory, especially for those who have no one to pray for them.

**JOY,
LAUGHTER,
& HOLINESS**
women's retreat
FEBRUARY 7, 2026
DOORS OPEN 8:00AM
PROGRAM 9:00-2:30
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REGISTRATION**

**SAVE
THE DATE**



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Saturday Feb 21, 2026
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*Catholic Men's Conference
of Western Kentucky*

Dr. Jason Kynard
Dr. Allen Knoff
Dr. Jeff Manning
Fr. Larry McBride



Coming Events



February 1--Religious Ed

February 1--Blessing of Throats at Mass

February 8--Religious Ed

February 15--Anointing of the Sick at Mass

February 18--Ash Wednesday Mass
6pm

March 7--Italian Dinner



January 25--Information not available at time of publication

Budget--\$

MTD Collection--\$

MTD Budget--\$

YTD Collection--\$

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).

What Stays the Same

Somewhere, there is a monk whose life is very quiet and who devotes long hours to prayer. And somewhere there is a nun, cloistered in a life of contemplation, who speaks very little except to God.

Somewhere, there is a father whose days are filled with noise, who hasn't finished a Rosary in years because he keeps falling asleep. Somewhere there is a mother whose voice is weak with giving direction and offering counsel.

Somewhere, there is a teenage girl with much to say, but few people to listen — fewer, at least, than she would like.

Somewhere there is a woman who holds a positive pregnancy test in one hand and a phone in the other, and somewhere there is a man on the other end of that phone who waits for her to speak.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus utilizes a literary device called *anaphora*. Both as a reader and a writer, I love anaphora. It's a clean, unfussy way to communicate a point. By repeating the same word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses, you're basically saying the same thing over and over again, just a little bit differently each time. Those small differences tease at your audience's brain, gently highlighting the consistencies.

Discipleship is a lot like anaphora. It's the differences — those little aberrations from person to person, life to life — that so beautifully illustrate what remains the same across the broad spectrum of what it means to live out the Beatitudes.

Me. You. The monk. The nun. The father. The mother. The lonely girl. The man and woman who decided their own future without realizing it. How similar we all are in sin. How similar we all are in potential. How different we look to the world.

And yet, how wondrous it is that we are all offered the same hope: "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in Heaven."

-Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Readings for the Week

Monday:

Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or
2:22-32

Tuesday:

2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-
6/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday:

2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday:

1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a,
12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

Friday:

Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday:

1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34

Observances for the Week

Monday:

The Presentation of the Lord,
World Day for Consecrated Life

Tuesday:

St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr;

St. Ansgar, Bishop

Thursday:

St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

Friday:

St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Bless Us, Lord

Jesus,

You are good and gracious, every moment of every day. You invite us to be meek, merciful, clean of heart, peacemakers. Give us the grace to seek these virtues, and to seek you. May your blessing accompany us on our way.

Amen.



Join us for Lenten Day of Prayer on March 28 at Mount Saint Joseph

Lent is traditionally a time when Catholic Christians recommit themselves to more serious prayer, along with fasting and almsgiving. On March 28, 2026 – the Saturday of the fifth Week of Lent – all are invited to join Sister Cheryl Clemons in Maple Hall at Mount Saint Joseph (8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, Ky.) for a Day of Prayer and Reflection titled “Deepening Our Prayer Life: Advice from the Four Saint Teresas.”

Throughout the day, Sister Cheryl will offer insights on prayer from Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), and Saint Teresa of Calcutta.

The day will include quiet prayer and reflection and opportunities for small group sharing. Lunch will be provided. The cost to attend is \$60. Sister Cheryl, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, has been offering retreats, parish missions and OCIA programs for 30 years. She has extensive training in theology, Scripture, spirituality and spiritual direction.

Sign up online by going to this link:

<https://ursulinesmsj.org/calendar/> and click on the event and then the Register box. If you have any questions, call Doreen Abbott at 270-229-2006 or email doreen.abbott@maplemount.org.



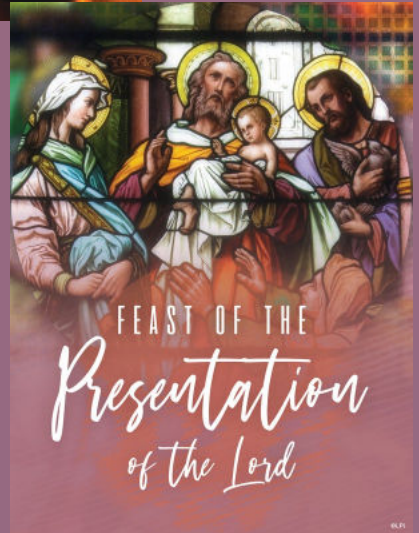
On this day, the Catholic Church celebrate the contributions of religious sisters, brothers, and priests — people who "consecrate their life to Jesus."

Consecrated Life

*Candlemas
Day*



February 2, 2026



Ministry Schedule

	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Collection & Gifts
February 1	Misty Sanford Layson Brooks	Denise & Greg Richardson Barbara Bisel	Burnell Hamilton Steve Coble
February 8	Jacques Williams Barbara Bisel	Michelle Jones Holly Hollis Janet Clark	Dee and Brennah Brasher
February 15	Wayne Stephens Katie Goins	Sr. Monica Seaton Greg Gough Misty Sanford	Bernadette Thames

Pastor's Corner Continued...

By the sixth century, St. Blaise's intercession was invoked for diseases of the throat in the East. As early as the eighth century, records attest to the veneration of St. Blaise in Europe, and he became one of the most popular saints in the spiritual life of the Middle Ages. Many altars were dedicated to his honor, and even the Abbey of St. Blaise in southern Germany claimed to have some of his relics.

One reason for St. Blaise's popularity arose from the fact he was a physician who cured, even performing miraculous cures. Thereby, those who were sick, especially with throat ailments, invoked his intercession. Eventually the custom of the blessing of throats arose, whereby the priest held two crossed candles over the heads of the faithful or touched their throats with them while he invoked the prayer of the saint and imparted God's blessing. In our present Roman Ritual, the priest prays, "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." This practice continues in many parishes on St. Blaise's feast day.

While we invoke St. Blaise for his protection against any physical ailment of the throat, we should also ask his protection against any spiritual ailment - profanity, cursing, unkind remarks, detraction or gossip. St. James reminds us, "If a man who does not control his tongue imagines that he is devout, he is self-deceived; his worship is pointless" (1:26) and later, "We use [the tongue] to say, 'Praised be the Lord and Father'; then we use it to curse men, though they are made in the likeness of God. Blessing and curse come out of the same mouth. This ought not to be, my brothers!" (3:9-10). Therefore, may St. Blaise protect us from all evil, physical and spiritual, which may attack the throat.

I know there are many in our congregation who has not had the throat blessed in many years (maybe never).

At the conclusion of Masses this weekend (Feb 1) we will offer this blessing to any who wish to receive it. May our mouth and speech be used for God's glory and praise.

Blessings, Fr. John





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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