



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
grief@sscobo.org

Parish Life Coordinator: Sr. Monica Seaton, OSU
office@bscobo.org



Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

No one does he command to act unjustly, to none does he give license to sin. (Sir 15:20)

Psalm:

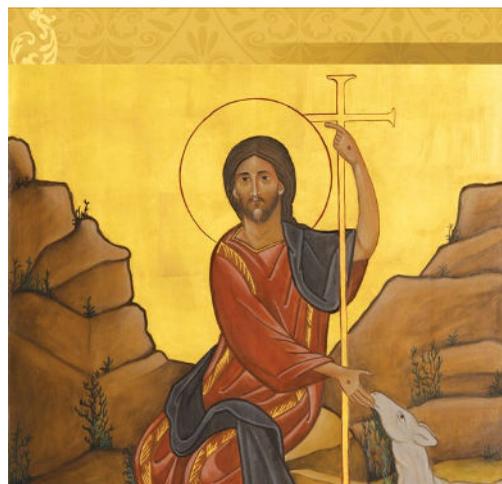
Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Ps 119)

Second Reading:

Rather, we speak of God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory. (1 Cor 2:7)

Gospel:

"I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 5:20)



6th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

"Jesus said to his disciples: 'I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.'" Mt 5:20

My Dear Parishioners:

A few years ago I was blessed to have the opportunity to gather with friends of mine (Anglo and Spanish) and to pray with a Latino family who were bringing their three-year-old child for the Rite of Presentation. This is a Latino custom whereby the parents ‘offer’ their child to God (as they did when the child was baptized three years earlier). During the prayer, they offer thanksgiving to God for three years of life and ask God’s blessing on the child in the years to come.

Because there were so many present at the Mass who spoke Spanish, I felt it necessary to have the homily translated and to offer some of the prayers of the Mass in Spanish. Thank God ‘Jorge’ was part of the choir that had come to join the celebration. Jorge’s English skills are pretty developed and he had done some translating before. I asked him to help me during the homily. He eagerly responded ‘si’ (yes).

Jorge and I had never worked together before this moment. As soon as the homily began, I could tell Jorge was an excellent translator and was right in-step with me. It was a pleasure to stand with him and to preach God’s word to so many.

After Holy Communion and the Prayer after Communion, I had everyone sit down and asked the family forward for the presentation. The young child to be presented was dressed for the occasion. Actually, the entire family was in their finest and was so honored to stand before the community. Jorge joined me again and assisted with translation. After the service was concluded, we all stayed for pictures. It was a great celebration.

The Mass was beautiful. It was beautiful for many reasons. It was JOYFUL! There was simply a spirit of joy in the Church that night. The family of the three year old was joyful and excited for the celebration. The Latino choir was joyful in their songs of praise. The Anglo community was joyful as together we witnessed God bringing people of different cultures together around one altar. As Jorge translated the homily, everyone was joyful because of his spirit and willingness to follow along with me in preaching the Word!





February Birthdays

27—Sondra Hibbs

Mass Intentions

February 15 - Larry Allen

February 18 (Ash Wednesday)-
Jean Murphy

February 22- Dan Halbig

March 1 - Larry Allen

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.**

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.

Blessed Sacrament Chapel Italian Night March 7, 2026

*Doors open at 6:00pm
Festivities begin at 6:30pm*

*Join us for a fun night with
good food, music, and games.*

*\$400 per table of 8
Number of tables are limited*

*To reserve please contact
Nataly at (270) 929-5728 or
Denise at (270) 929-0528*

West Deanery Lent Communal Reconciliation Services



Monday, February 23 - 6:00 pm
Mount Saint Joseph

Monday, March 23 - 6:00 pm
Immaculate

Tuesday, March 10 - 6:00 pm
St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

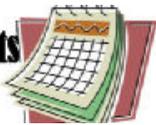
Tuesday, March 24 - 6:00 pm
Precious Blood

Thursday, March 19 - 6:00 pm
St. Sebastian, Calhoun

Sunday, March 29 - 2:00 pm
Saint Stephen Cathedral

God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy.
- Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium: The Joy of the Gospel

Coming Events



February 15--Religious Ed

February 15--Anointing of the Sick
at Mass

February 18--Ash Wednesday Mass
6pm

February 22--Religious Ed

March 7--Italian Dinner



February 8--\$3,188.50

Budget--\$1,300

MTD Collection--\$3,188.50

MTD Budget--\$1,300

YTD Collection--\$65,031.96

YTD Budget--\$23,731.96

*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

A few years into my priesthood, I hit a wall. I had taken on too many commitments: Masses, meetings, ministries, projects. I couldn't keep up. I was double-booking, forgetting things, running late, and letting people down. My boss at the time, a wise priest, and our shared secretary, noticed. For my birthday, the two gave me a stack of 100 flashcards, each with one word printed in a different language: "NO." It was funny, but also painfully true. If I couldn't say no, my yes was in danger.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says, "Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the Evil One" (Matthew 5:37). He's not just giving advice about polite speech. He's showing us something about the freedom of Christian discipleship. The follower of Christ is called to speak clearly, simply, and honestly. There is joy in that kind of freedom.

The Church Fathers often linked this kind of straightforward truthfulness with spiritual maturity. The devil is the father of lies, but Jesus is the Word made flesh. When we hedge, flatter, exaggerate, or avoid, we open space for the shadows to creep in. That little stack of flashcards reminded me that God does not want us enslaved to the expectations of others or to the fear of disappointing them. He wants us to enjoy the peace of saying yes and meaning it, and saying no, and meaning it, too.

Lenten Challenge: Practice one moment of honest, peaceful speech this week. Maybe it's a sincere "yes" to something important, or a humble "no" to something you cannot do. Let it be a quiet step into the freedom Jesus offers.

— Father John Muir



Readings for the Week

Monday:

Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday:

Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday:

Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday:

Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

Friday:

Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday:

Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

Observances for the Week

Tuesday:

The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

Wednesday:

Ash Wednesday

Question:

Why do we place ashes on our forehead each Ash Wednesday?

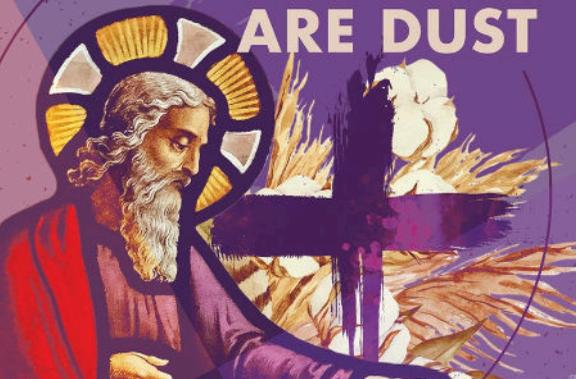
Answer:

Ashes are rich in spiritual symbolism. We recall in the second chapter of Genesis, when the human person is fashioned “out of the dust of the ground” and receives the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). In death, a person returns to the ground from which we came. The ancient Hebrews used ashes as a sign of repentance, reminding themselves that God is God and we are not.

As the minister places ashes on our forehead, we hear either “remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return” or “turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.” When we receive ashes, we remember our own mortality. We’re reminded that we have limited time on this earth and we ought to make the best use of it that we can! People are in need of love, care, and compassion. We all need to continually rediscover the love of God. The Gospel invites every person in every stage of life to encounter and imitate Jesus here and now. The forty days of Lent are the perfect time to assess our own awareness of these realities.

ASH WEDNESDAY

REMEMBER
THAT YOU
ARE DUST



The Carpenter and the Law

My husband and I couldn't believe our luck: our new house had a deck. It was more than a couple of broke millennials had ever dared to dream. Lounging in our patio furniture drinking coffee and watching the cars drive past, we felt like Kennedys at Hyannis Port. We had arrived.

Well, until it started falling apart.

To be fair, my husband knew this was going to happen all along, because he's a person who uses words like "joist" and "weight-bearing" correctly. He took one look at the deck at the open house and knew it wasn't up to code. "We're going to have to reinforce this at some point," he told me. "Whatever!" I replied, daydreaming about twinkle lights and porch parties.

Sure enough, our second summer in the house, he had to rip the rotting surface boards off. The biggest issue was that the joists were too far apart; when we stepped on the boards, they bowed and almost cracked, lacking adequate support beneath. But we weren't going to redo the whole deck — we're not actually Kennedys. We (okay, he) simply ripped the surface boards off, added the necessary joists, and replaced the decking with newer, better, stronger wood.

Simply put, my husband did not come to abolish the deck, but to fulfill it.

The law of Moses was like a good deck, admirably built. You could say "Raqa," your heart filled with anger, and the law didn't break. But that anger treads heavily on boards not adequately supported. Over time, the anger becomes too much to bear. And that board — that law, that heart — it'll break. Just you wait.

And when it does, you'll see why: there wasn't anything beneath, holding it up.

So God sent a Carpenter to reinforce the law. The Carpenter crafted joists from prudence, fortitude, justice and temperance — strong virtues that can withstand a lifetime of battery, if properly maintained.

And the law still holds.

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Ministry Schedule

	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Collection & Gifts
February 15	Wayne Stephens Katie Goins	Sr. Monica Seaton Greg Gough Misty Sanford	Bernadette Thames
February 22	Misty Sanford Layson Brooks	Denise & Greg Richardson Barbara Bisel	Burnell Hamilton Steve Coble
March 1	Barbara Bisel Greg Gough	Cindy Clark Michelle Jones Holly Hollis	Jamie, Beau, Luke Bisel

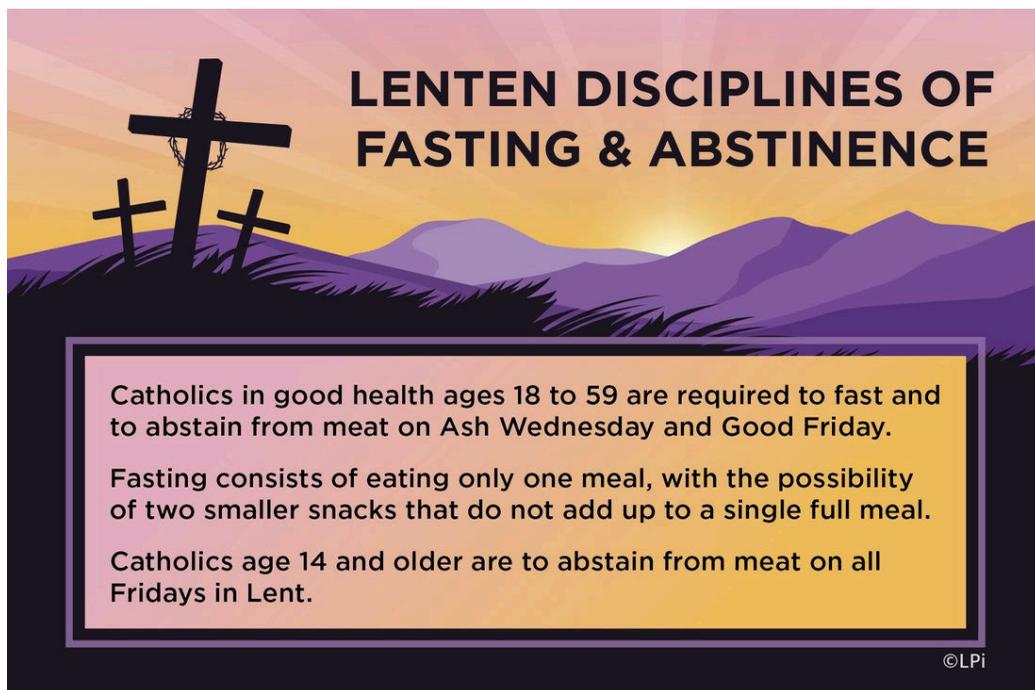
Pastor's Corner Continued...

It is always moving to me when the community is gathered around God's Word and around God's altar. This Mass was especially joyful, however, because it brought people of different places together to share one meal. Our Church (the Catholic Church) is diverse. Sometimes because we always go to the same Mass with the same people week after week, we lose sight of the fact that our Church reaches all over the world and calls us all together. When we pray the prayers of the Mass, we join our voices with people around the world speaking many different languages. That Mass on Saturday evening was a true picture of what it means to be Catholic. To gather around the Word and Sacrament people of different places, languages, customs, ethnicities, and practices is what Christ came to do. It is what Christ calls us to do.

We must be welcoming to visitors. We must be respectful of people who worship using different customs or prayers. We must welcome strangers as if we were welcoming Christ himself.

Blessings,

Fr. John



LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

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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