



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:

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed. (Is 58:8)

Psalm:

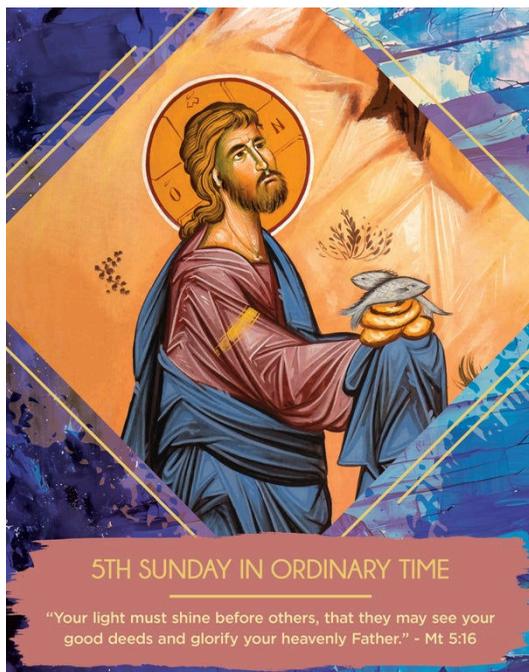
The just man is a light in darkness to the upright. (Ps 112)

Second Reading:

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, proclaiming the mystery of God, I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. (1 Cor 2:1-2)

Gospel:

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket." (Mt 5:14-15)



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." - Mt 5:16

My Dear Parishioners:

Several years ago, I went to the Humane Society to see about adopting a pet for myself (there had been several priests in the rectory, but they had returned to school and military so the rectory is sort of quiet!). I visited the Humane Society on two different occasions. On my first visit, I didn't find a dog that 'felt' like a match. However, on my second visit I met a small puppy (Lab Mix). He looked at me with the funniest expression (and who are you?). I picked him and almost immediately named him "Buddy".

It has been a while since I last had a pet. Several years ago, while pastoring Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, I decided to adopt a cat. However, not just any cat. I adopted a Sphinx. This is an Egyptian breed . . . that is hairless. His name was "Pelon" which in Spanish translates "No Hair!". Pelon was a good cat. Actually, he behaved somewhat like a small dog. When I would enter the rectory, he would come running to greet me. He was playful. After several years, Pelon developed a health problem that could not be treated easily. I was sad to lose him.

Buddy was brought home to the rectory of Christ the King on December 23. He immediately made himself at home and began learning how to live with a priest. He was a bit hesitant in the beginning and seemed to be almost shy at first. However, by the second day, he was definitely 'at home'.

We began the process of learning what time we were going to eat, and where to go to the bathroom (critically important). He did well. Very soon, Buddy was even letting me know when he needed to 'go'.

I had decided to 'crate' him. So at night when it was time for bed I would prepare the coffee for the morning, turn off lights and make my way to the bedroom. Buddy was always right in tow. He would climb right into his crate and be put until morning. Sometimes he would cry during the night. A friend let me know that if I simply took my T-shirt off and put it in the crate with him, he would stop crying. It worked like a charm.

Buddy learned quickly which chair was 'mine' in the TV room. He always wanted to get in that chair. Even if I was not in it, he wanted to be. I know it was because my 'scent' was in that chair and he found comfort in that. Sometimes I would enter the room and he would be standing next to the chair with his head up against it. He wanted to be 'near his master'.



February Birthdays

8—Karen Terry
9—Beau Bisel
27—Sondra Hibbs

Mass Intentions

February 8 - Dan Halbig
February 15 - Larry Allen
February 18 (Ash Wednesday)- Jean Murphy
February 22- Dan Halbig

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
Nasty at (270) 929-5728 or
Denise at (270) 929-0528

Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky

SAVE THE DATE



FATHERHOOD & HEROIC DISCIPLESHIP
Saturday Feb 21, 2026
www.kycatholic.com

Dr. Jason Kynard
Bob Allen Knoff
Dr. Jeff Anderson
Fr. Larry McBride



Coming Events



February 8--Religious Ed

February 8--Parish Meeting after Mass

February 15--Anointing of the Sick at Mass

February 18--Ash Wednesday Mass 6pm

March 7--Italian Dinner



February 1--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).

Gospel Meditation

I recently learned why zebras have stripes. Scientists used to think it was for camouflage, but new research suggests something more interesting: the stripes help zebras blend in with one another. When a predator looks at a herd, the overlapping stripes make it hard to single out one animal. But if a researcher spray-paints a dot on just one zebra, predators lock on it and eventually attack. The lesson? In the wild, blending in is protection. Standing out can be dangerous.

Human beings are not so different. Most of us would rather blend in than stand out, especially when it comes to our faith. We know that giving bold witness to Jesus — through our words, values, or public choices — can make us targets for criticism, isolation, or judgment. That's why Jesus' words in today's Gospel are so challenging: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14).

A city on a hill draws attention. It also draws fire. But that's part of the cost of discipleship. Jesus doesn't call us to be tribal or boastful. He calls us to stand in the open with humble confidence, so that people might see our good deeds and glorify our Father in heaven. Today, let's ask for the courage not just to believe in Christ, but to be seen believing in him.

— Father John Muir



Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10/Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15/Mk 7:31-37

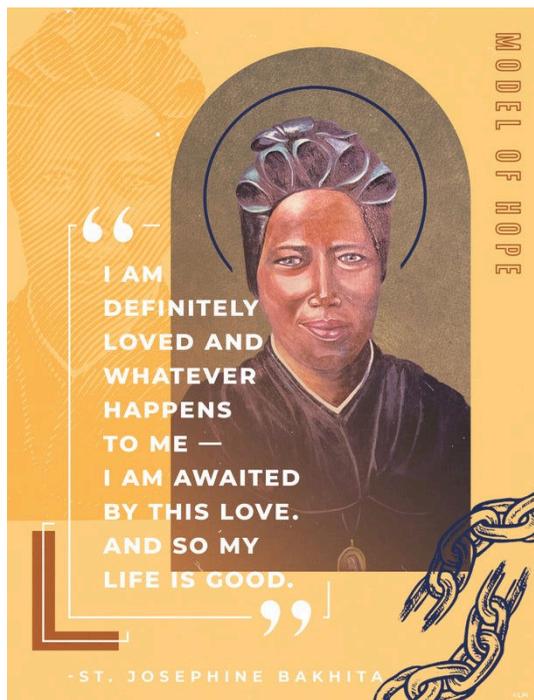
Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22/Mk 8:1-10

Observances for the Week

Tuesday: St. Scholastica, Virgin

Wednesday: Our Lady of Lourdes

Saturday: Sts. Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop; Valentine's Day



St. Josephine Bakhita

The saints are more than lovely pictures on a holy card. If we dig a little deeper, their lives can challenge and transform our own. On February 8th, the Church celebrates St. Josephine Bakhita. As a young girl, St. Josephine was kidnapped from her family in Darfur and sold into slavery at age nine. She was introduced to Catholicism as an adolescent and experienced a profound love for Jesus Christ. St. Josephine eventually gained legal freedom and entered religious life. Though she bore over one hundred scars beneath her habit, St. Josephine forgave her enemies and became known in the convent for her humility and joyful spirit.

Author Fr. Jeff Kirby writes, "Saint Josephine gives us all a scarred and human face to the evils of human trafficking, racial tension, and of the brutality found in the peripheries. Her life demands a response." As we approach the season of Lent, let us recall our own call to conversion and an active concern for those who suffer.

Be Salty

I want you to close your eyes. Are they closed? (I'm serious.) Okay. Now think of the greatest saint in history.

I don't care who you're thinking of. It's going to be different for everyone. Just think of that person. Think of his or her life. And answer the question: Why is he or she a great saint?

You're all thinking of different people, but the answer is the same for everyone. And it's not "Because he did great things for God" or "Because she sacrificed everything she had for the poor." Those answers show evidence of the reason. But the reason is something more.

The greatest saints in history were not great at holiness. God brought holiness about within them because (ding ding ding! Here's the answer!) the greatest saints in history were great at being who they were meant to be.

Not who they wanted to be. Not who they thought they should be. Who they were meant to be.

Simply put, they gave themselves to God. All of themselves. Flaws and all. And God took them, in their totality, and said: "Now watch this."

Just imagine if salt was ashamed of being salty. Imagine if it looked at the sodium content on its nutrition label and thought, "That's embarrassing," and decided it was going to stop being salt. Well, great. Now it's just a box of tiny rocks.

Wouldn't it have been better for the salt to trust the baker using it?

There is a plan for each of us. There is a path to holiness for each of us. This path doesn't bypass our flaws or our weaknesses; it incorporates them. It transforms them. It fulfills them.

So be salty. Be who you were meant to be.

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Ministry Schedule

	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Collection & Gifts
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
February 22	Misty Sanford Layson Brooks	Denise & Greg Richardson Barbara Bisel	Burnell Hamilton Steve Coble

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Of course, I feel there is a homily there. It is beautiful to think that someone could be so dedicated to someone else (and so quickly) that they had such a desire to be near that person. It is touching to realize someone is so dedicated that only to 'smell' them gave comfort and security. How wonderful it would be if we interacted with Christ like that. Huh? To think that we were so dedicated to Christ that we only wished to be 'near our Master'. To think that just to have a scent of Jesus would be enough for us to feel at peace and secure.

After only having him a few weeks, I learned that Buddy had distemper. Canine distemper is a viral disease that usually attacks dogs in the first four years of life. The disease is spread through the air and by contact with body fluids. There is no specific treatment for the disease and the prognosis is poor. His health declined rapidly. I first noticed something might be wrong on Friday night. Saturday Buddy kept me awake all night. By Sunday morning it was obvious he was in trouble. I left the rectory at 5:15 PM to prepare for Spanish Mass. When I returned at 7:00, Buddy was in serious trouble. The little pup was suffering terribly and his little life was coming to a quick end.

It is sort of funny how such a small animal can bring such joy and enjoyment. I only had Buddy for two weeks, but I must say the rectory was especially quiet on Monday morning. God manifests himself in so many ways. God created the world and all that is part of it. He did this for OUR good. Buddy was just a little piece of God's great creation. His presence caused me to reflect on my desire to be near our Lord (in Word and Sacrament). Buddy's presence caused me to reflect on my need to be close to Jesus in order that I feel secure and at peace.

St. Francis is the saint of whom we think when we reflect on God's gift of animals and pets in our world. I know that many of you have pets and have a deep love and respect for each of them. I pray God's blessing on each of you and all the pets that bring such joy, peace, security, and love. And in so doing, help us know the love of God through creation. St. Francis, pray for us!

Blessings,

Fr. John

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





Pipe, Valves, Fittings, Pneumatics, Actuation, & Steam



Supply Company Inc.
"Since 1978"

270-685-4919
800-787-6803 (Fax) 270-685-2559
PO Box 1796, 1611 West 7th St., Owensboro, KY 42302

Greg Gough
(Cell) 270-993-7120
greg@pvfsupplyco.com



- Carpet Cleaning
- Upholstery Cleaning
- Ceramic/Grout Cleaning
- Auto Interiors
- Area Rugs Cleaned

715 Cumberland St.
Owensboro, KY 42303
Phone: 270-684-0969 (Owensboro)
Phone: 270-827-1130 (Henderson)
Emergency: 270-315-2294

Jacques Williams
Manager



Mowing, Mulch/Rock, Spring/Fall Cleanup
- Free Estimates -
Call/Text
Ethan Gough

270-993-7122

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