



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 there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:3-4)

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)



PENTECOST SUNDAY

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

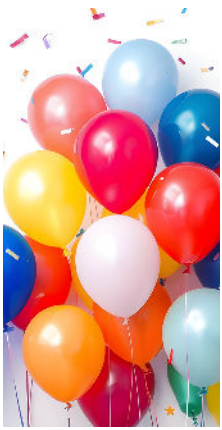
My Dear Parishioners:

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 to 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.



May Birthdays

26—Diane Hatchett
30—Karen Leachman,
31—Barbara Hammond,
Layson Brooks

Our thoughts and prayers are with the sick: Nicole Melton, Mike Dunn, 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

May 24 - April Brown

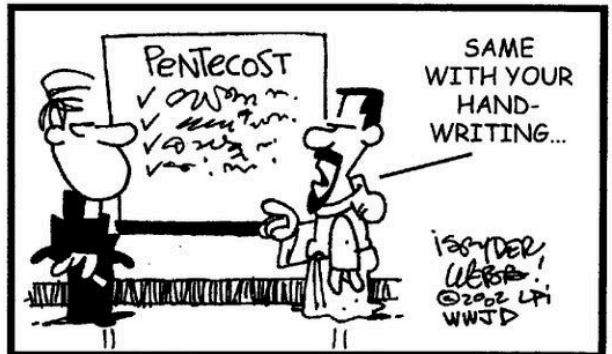
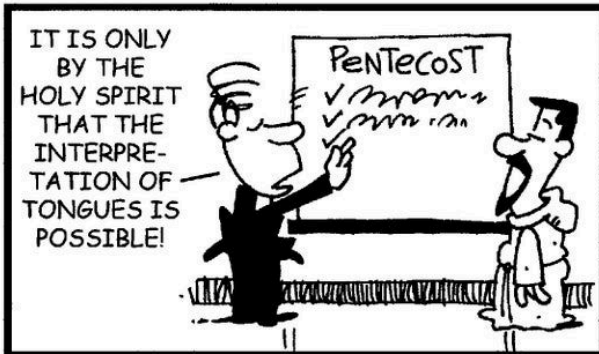
May 31 - Kenneth Higgs

June 7 - James Curtiss 'JC' Greene

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.

PENTECOST



Coming Events



May 25-Memorial Day

May 31-Parish Meeting

11:00am in hall

June 7-Diocesan Corpus

Christi procession 3:00pm



May 17--\$934.01

Budget--\$1,300.00

MTD Collection--\$4,725.51

MTD Budget--\$3,900.00

YTD Collection--\$89,412.97

YTD Budget--\$60,800.00

*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

“He 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.’” (John 20:22–23)

For those of us who go to confession regularly, there is often a familiar frustration: “Why do I keep confessing the same sins?” It can feel like a loop, cleansed but unchanged.

Pentecost reveals a hopeful perspective. When the Risen Jesus breathes on his ashamed and fearful disciples and gives them the Holy Spirit, he echoes Genesis, when God breathes life into Adam. This is not just primarily the removal of guilt, but new creation.

In confession, we receive more than forgiveness. We receive a fresh outpouring, the breath of the Spirit, and a renewed mission. Jesus does not say to us, “You’re forgiven, now go back to your old life.” He says, so to speak, **“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”** (John 20:21)

That is why penance is not just saying a few prayers. It is reorientation. It is the Spirit summoning us to live differently: with mercy and healing.

Just as Adam was sent into the world, and the Apostles were sent out after Pentecost, so too we are sent from the confessional — not just clean, but consecrated.

Pentecost Challenge: After your next confession, ask the Holy Spirit for one way you can participate in Christ’s healing will for you. Then take one small, concrete step, and do not look back.

— Father John Muir

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday: 1 Pt 1:10-16/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: 1 Pt 1:18-25/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 10:32-45

Thursday: 1 Pt 2:2-5, 9-12/Ps 100:2, 3, 4, 5/Mk 10:46-52

Friday: 1 Pt 4:7-13/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mk 11:11-26

Saturday: Jude 17, 20b-25/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 11:27-33

Observances for the Week

Monday: Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church; Memorial Day

Tuesday: St. Philip Neri, Priest

Wednesday: St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

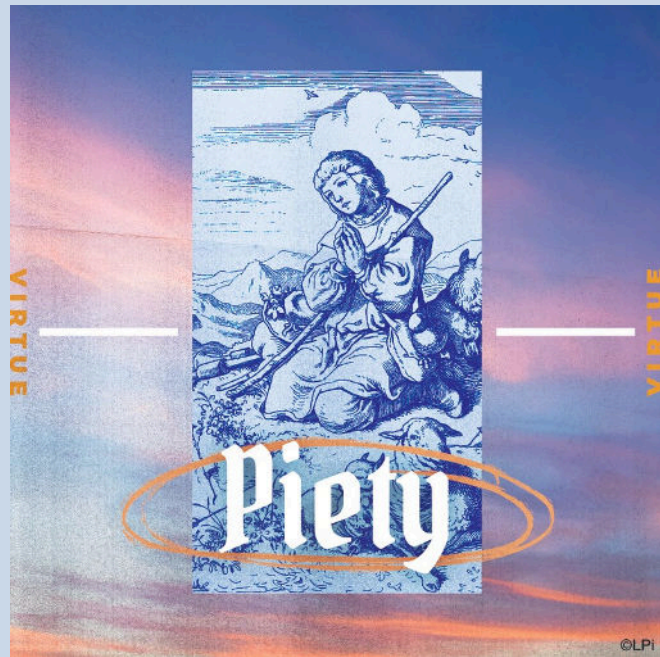
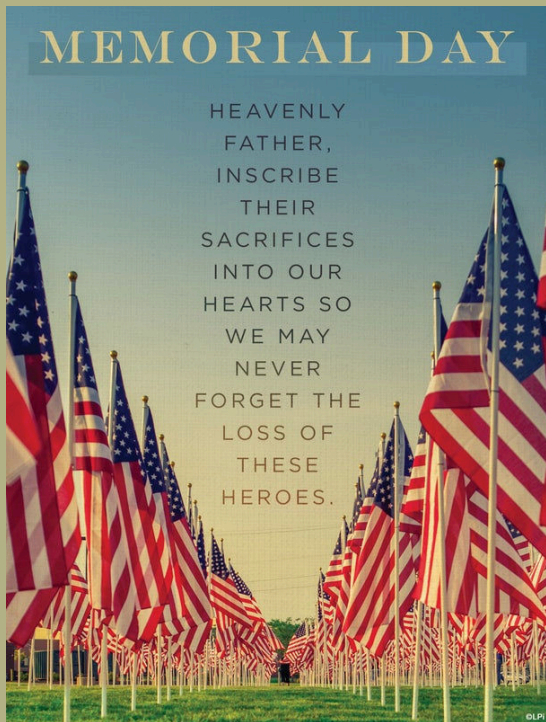
Friday: St. Paul VI, Pope

Piety, Explained!

Piety is one of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and is related to the virtue of justice.

St. Thomas Aquinas writes, “Piety denotes the reverence which we give to our faith and to our country. And since God is the Father of all, the worship of God is also called piety...therefore the gift whereby a man, through reverence for God, works good to all, is fittingly called piety.” (Sum., II:II, 68, Art. 4)

The virtue of piety, which can be understood most easily as giving due reverence to God, should not be confused with “popular piety,” which refers to external expressions of devotion that are unique to specific places and environments. The virtue of piety describes a person’s fulfillment of their duty to God and the precepts of the Church; popular piety describes other practices that enliven their desire to fulfill that duty.



St. Philip Neri (1515 – 1595)

Born in Italy and went to school as a child at the Dominican monastery in Florence. His family had hopes that he would work with his uncle, a wealthy merchant, and ultimately inherit his business and fortune but, shortly after beginning his work with him, Neri had a personal conversion. He decided to move to Rome to live a life of service.

For 13 years in Rome, Neri lived as a layperson, daily engaged in prayer and the apostolate. Even as a layperson he brought the Gospel of Jesus to everyone he met. He was eventually ordained to the priesthood and became known as a compassionate confessor, quick to disarm those around him with a joke or a kind word.

He is remembered as extremely approachable and jovial. He was kind, entertaining, and spontaneous in his approach which inspired many. He led prayer groups and excursions to visit other churches which often included music and picnics, and his council was sought by rich and poor alike. He was a strict vegetarian and was known to relocate animals and birds found inside the church back into the wild.

St. Philip Neri founded The Congregation of the Oratory. This secular order included priests and brothers and did not bind them under religious vows, but instead by a bond of charity. These men lived together in community and served those in need with happy hearts.

St. Philip Neri's ability to increase his fellow religious leader's faith coupled with his closeness with the common people in Rome cemented his reputation as the Apostle of Rome, called by God to evangelize the Holy City. His Congregation of the Oratory is still active today accomplishing the same mission. St. Philip Neri, pray for us

Ministry Schedule

| | Lectors | Eucharistic Ministers | Collection & Gifts |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| May 24 | Jacques Williams Layson Brooks | Vivian Higgs Cindy Clark Janet Clark | Bernadette Thames |
| May 31 | Barb Bisel Misty Sanford | Greg Gough Michelle Jones Sr. Monica Seaton | Burnell Hamilton Steve Coble |

Pastor's Corner Continued...

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



The Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro and
Saint Stephen Cathedral Invite you to:

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION



Beginning at Sts. Joseph and Paul Catholic Church
609 E 4th St, Owensboro, KY 42303
Ending at Saint Stephen Cathedral

SUNDAY | JUNE 7 | 3:00 PM

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IMP—Kroger

Thank you to everyone who has designated Blessed Sacrament as your community reward partner. If you do not have a community reward partner, please designate Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Sacrament's # is WX799.

Go to [krogercommunityrewards.com](https://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) to register. Thanks for your support.

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