



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:

But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, he does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life. (Ez 18:27)

Psalm:

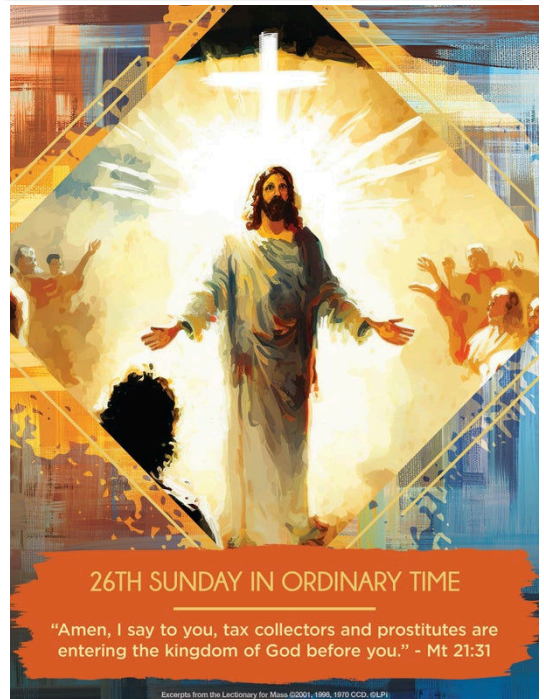
Remember your mercies, O Lord. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Phil 2:10-11)

Gospel:

Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." (Mt 21:31)



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." - Mt 21:31

My Dear Parishioners:

In Today's Gospel, Jesus says the tax collectors and prostitutes will enter God's kingdom before the chief priests and elders. As you can imagine, the chief priests and elders were probably not very happy when they heard this.

As the spiritual leader of the Jewish people, the chief priests officiated at worship on Jewish holy days, was the main religious teacher, and had the responsibility of protecting the law. Because the chief priest represented the entire community, the Jewish people believed he should be holier than anyone else.

The elders were older Jewish men respected for their wisdom. They usually made up the town council, the city's main governing body. Also known as the Sanhedrin, the town council passed laws, enforced these laws, and even tried those who were accused of breaking the laws. The Jerusalem Sanhedrin is the group that arrested Jesus and determined he should die.

So, it appears Jesus was aiming his comments at the Jewish people's religious leaders, who were regarded as very holy men and were supposed to be the example to the ordinary Jewish person. Because of their holiness, most people believed the chief priest and elders would occupy the places of honor in God's kingdom.

The prostitutes and tax collectors were viewed as the exact opposite. As public sinners, despised by their fellow Jews, they were to occupy the lowliest spots if they ever made it to the kingdom of heaven. They certainly weren't in the same league as the chief priests and elders.

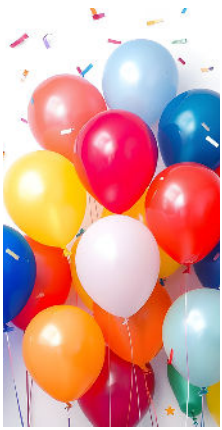
We are now ready to understand the meaning of Jesus' comments. The chief priests and the elders said they were holy, but like the first son in the parable they did not back up their words with actions. They refused to repent when John the Baptist urged them to do so.

The tax collectors and prostitutes who accepted John's teaching and reformed their lives are like the second son who ended up doing his father's will. Because of this, Jesus says they (not the chief priests and the elders) will have a prominent place in the kingdom of heaven, implying that the tax collectors and prostitutes are holier than the chief priests and the elders. As you can imagine, Jesus angered the Jewish leaders so much they began to look for a way to put him to death.

The saying 'actions speak louder than words' can sum up today's Gospel reading. We say we believe in Jesus. What are some of the actions in our own lives that back up these very words?

Blessings,

Fr. John



October Birthdays

6—Holly Hollis
10—Jacques Williams III
13—Vicki Leonard
17—Kelly Hollis
19—Sister Monica Seaton

Mass Intentions

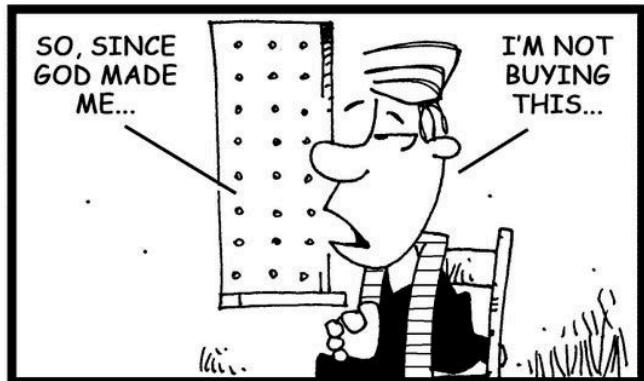
September 27 - Sam Thruston
October 4 - Sandra Brown
October 11 - April Brown

Our thoughts and prayers are with the sick: Rayma Hollis, Judy Aronold, Ginny Singleton, Mary Ann Terry, Nicole Melton, Mike Dunn, 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, 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, especially **Rachel Mattingly**, daughter of Ron and Connie Moorman.*

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

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Coming Events



September 27 - Religious Ed

September 27 - Priesthood
Sunday

October 18 - Anointing of the
Sick



September 20--\$1,403.06

Budget--\$1,541.00

MTD Collection--\$5,217.38

MTD Budget--\$4,623.00

YTD Collection--\$18,973.63

YTD Budget--\$18,492.20

*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

This Sunday, Jesus tells a short, uncomfortable story. A father asks two sons to go work in the vineyard. One says no, but later goes. The other says yes, but never shows up. It is a parable so simple, we almost miss how sharp it is. Jesus is clear about who it is for. This is not aimed at pagans or outsiders. It is aimed squarely at religious people, people who know the right words and sound obedient.

Jesus is not condemning unbelief so much as disobedience. The polite hypocrisy that says the right things while quietly resisting the Father's will. St. John Chrysostom put it bluntly, "Not words, but deeds, are what God requires. Nothing so exasperates Him as insincere obedience, while nothing so delights Him as repentance."

Every disciple must face that mirror. Do I publicly profess faith in Christ while privately resisting what He asks of me? It is easy to say, I believe in God in my heart. But if faith never becomes action, it slowly becomes an illusion.

Jesus does not expose hypocrisy to shame us. He reveals it to heal us. He wants our hearts and our deeds to speak the same word, to let our yes truly mean yes. Like the first son who initially refused but afterwards changed his mind and went, Jesus invites us to step into the Father's will, however late, however imperfectly.

Challenge: Where are your public faith and private obedience divided? Where do you say, I will go, but never enter the vineyard? Go, get to work, even if it is late. The Father's vineyard is still open.

— Father John Muir

Readings for the Week

Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Mt 18:1-5, 10

Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24

Observances for the Week

Monday: St. Wenceslaus, Martyr; St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs

Tuesday: Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

Wednesday: St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Thursday: St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Friday: The Holy Guardian Angels

Prayer for Priests

Lord God, most holy,
we approach you in gratitude for your holy
ordained priesthood.

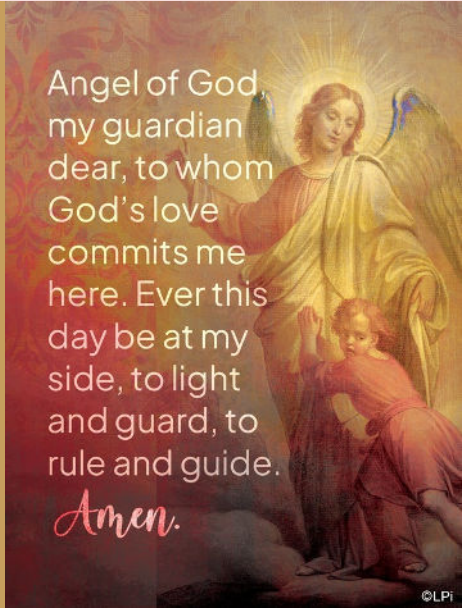
You have called these men to be set apart
and to shepherd your people,
as you shepherd your entire church.
We pray for them in their daily work.
Grant to them an increase in spiritual gifts and
grace,

so they may be prepared for the tasks at hand.
Lead them not into temptation
and protect them from the grasp of the evil one.
It is through the sacraments they confer
that we encounter the divine in a real and profound
way.

May your church never lose sight of these,
your special sons, and may we, the body of Christ,
never fail to cherish the gift of their lives,
which they have freely given to you and your holy
church.

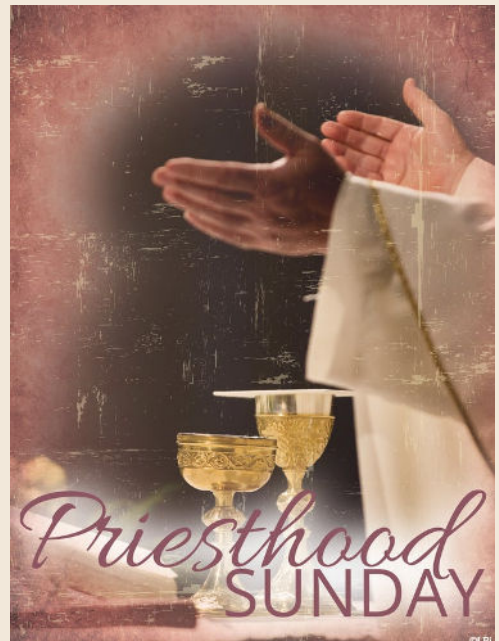
We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son.

Amen.



Angel of God,
my guardian
dear, to whom
God's love
commits me
here. Ever this
day be at my
side, to light
and guard, to
rule and guide.

Amen.



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

1st Reading Question

Ezekiel challenges people who complain, “the Lord’s way is not fair.”
Can you think of a time you felt the need to defend God?

2nd Reading Question

Paul urges believers to be humble and look out for one another’s needs.
How might you help build up a friend or co-worker this week?

Gospel Question

In the parable of the two sons, Jesus warns the chief priests and elders to be open-minded and willing to change.
What are you hoping will change in your life?

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LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The owner of the vineyard gave both his sons the same opportunity. Only one took it, even though he had rejected it at first. Always remember: it is never too late to do the will of God. He waits for you.

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Ministry Schedule

	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Collection & Gifts
September 27	Jacques Williams Greg Gough	Janet Clark Cindy Clark Barb Bisel	Jamie, Beau, and Luke Bisel
October 4	Jerry Fuchs Katie Goins	Greg & Denise Richardson Misty Sanford	Kelly, Holly, and Sam Hollis

A PASTORAL CHURCH IN THE MODERN WORLD

How Vatican II Prepares Us to Renew the Church Today

November 9, 7:00pm-8:30pm

Duffy Auditorium, Brescia University

Free & Open to the Public

RSVP today to stay up to date on this event!

The Diocese of Owensboro is pleased to welcome Bill Huebsch for a presentation on how Vatican II informs the Church in our modern world.

Bill Huebsch is a husband, an author, a gardener, an advocate for immigrants and the poor—and a bit of a monk. He earned a Masters in pastoral theology at Catholic Theological Union of Chicago and has served on pastoral teams at the parish, diocesan, national, and international levels for the past 40 years.



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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 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