



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
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Parochial Vicar: Father Christopher Grief
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Parish Life Coordinator: Sr. Monica Seaton, OSU
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Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The Lord GOD will wipe away
the tears from every face. (Is 25:8)

Psalm:

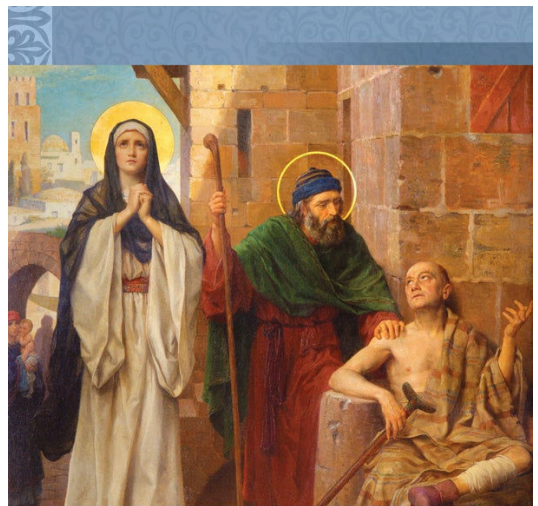
I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. (Ps 23)

Second Reading:

I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry,
of living in abundance and of being in need.
I can do all things in him who strengthens me. (Phil 4:12-13)

Gospel:

"Go out, therefore, into the main roads
and invite to the feast whomever you find." (Mt 22:9)



28th Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast." Matthew 22:2-3

My Dear Parishioners:

For a moment I would like you to imagine yourself at a party, maybe a party that you have been to, or one that you have given for friends and acquaintances. Let's say it's a costume party and people are there with altered ways of seeing each other. Everyone has a fresh start and a new beginning at being different persons. Past histories are forgotten. The guests present themselves, and are seen by others, as new persons.

Everyone at the party is having a wonderful time, chatting, laughing, enjoying each other, and sharing the happiness of a really good time. But then you notice someone over in the corner, all alone and sulking... miserable in his isolation and loneliness. You go over and try to talk with him but all you get for your trouble are a few grunts and a sour look. The more you try to break through his isolation the more you discover that he is disgusted with people who have a good time and resentful that you have even given a party. It's almost as if everyone else doesn't have a right to have a good time because he is miserable and he wants everyone else to be miserable also. No amount of coaxing moves him out of his protective and miserable shell. He absolutely refuses to receive the good time you wish to give him. There is nothing that you can do, nothing you can give him that will make him happy.

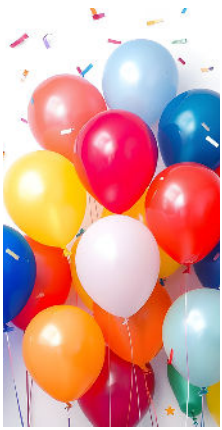
Let me now point out that God is throwing a party for us. He made the earth a garden of beauty. Even when in the Garden of Eden things didn't turn out right God started over. And He did so again and again after that. Finally He sent his Son to throw us a party, a celebration in a new garden, the Garden of the Resurrection.

Listen again now to the prophet Isaiah: *On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever.*

In St. Matthew's Gospel we hear: *The servants went out into the byroads and rounded up everyone they met the bad as well as the good. This filled the wedding hall with banqueters. When the king came in to meet the guests, however he caught sight of a man not properly dressed for a wedding feast.*

The point of it all is that we come to God's party, His banquet life, not because we have earned a right to be there, not because we can buy an invitation, not because our friends have good political influence with Him, but simply because He gives us entrance out of His free generosity. The enjoyment of life comes to us from God's free choice and totally because of His sheer generosity.

There is a more subtle point. The bad as well as the good are at the party. All are predestined to attend. All are there with new faces, as new persons with new beginnings because the forgiveness of God has made them new again, new persons with new histories and new beginnings. All of our past mistakes and our sins are blotted out because we are wearing new visages, new costumes, because we are wearing His wedding garments, clothed with His gifts. God's judgment is His mercy. Our predestination allows is to be made over again, the bad as well as the good, in the new creation that is given us by the Son of God, the Word made into one of us and then raised from the death of our sins and our history into a new life, in a new Garden of Eden, in the banquet thrown by God in the Resurrection of his Son.



October Birthdays

13—Vicki Leonard

17—Kelly Hollis

19—Sister Monica Seaton

Mass Intentions

October 11 - April Brown

October 18 - Charlene and Peter
Armendarez

October 25 - Kenneth Higgs

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.

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

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Coming Events



October 11 & 18- No Religious Ed- Fall Break

October 18 - Anointing of the Sick

October 25- Religious Ed Resumes

November 22 - Thanksgiving Meal



October 4--\$1,139.34
Budget--\$1,541.00
MTD Collection--\$1,39.346
MTD Budget--\$1,541.00
YTD Collection--\$21,336.25
YTD Budget--\$21,574.00

*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

Some friends invited me to one of the most famous and expensive restaurants in the country. I was grateful and eager to go. One invited friend even flew from another state for the experience. Every bite and sip was truly memorable and delicious. But my friends' teenage children spent much of the time on their phones, complained about the food, and generally ignored the once-in-a-lifetime experience. I wanted to yell, "C'mon, you guys! Look what you're missing!"

In today's parable, Jesus describes people invited to an amazing wedding feast who respond with inexplicable indifference. He says, "**Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business**" (Matthew 22:5). The problem is not that they choose evil but that they allow other desires to distract them from an amazing opportunity. The feast is prepared, but their hearts are elsewhere. In Christ Jesus, God offers each of us a wildly extravagant offer: a place at the wedding banquet between heaven and earth.

What are your current excuses for the delay in engaging with Jesus? How are you postponing a deepening of your relationship with him under the guise of responsibility? The good news is that the feast is ready. His invitation remains. Hear the Lord say to us, "C'mon, guys! Look what you're missing!" Then respond with concrete action.

— Father John Muir

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6/Ps 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Eph 1:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Eph 1:11-14/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13/Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: Eph 1:15-23/Ps 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 12:8-12

Observances for the Week

Wednesday: St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr

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

Friday: St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

Saturday: St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

Honesty, Explained!

If the question were posed: “Who is God?” a variety of answers could be given, and more than one could be correct.

The most succinct, however, would be this: God is truth.

“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life,” Jesus tells his disciples (John 14:6). The pursuit of truth, he further instructs, will set them free (John 8:32) from the original untruth uttered and embraced in Eden.

If God is truth, he is honored by truthfulness.

Untruthfulness, not surprisingly, is synonymous with disorder and broken relationships among mankind — Eden’s everlasting legacy. The virtue of honesty, writes St. Thomas Aquinas, is “a kind of spiritual beauty” which measures the degree to which we honor one another in how we live truthfully (Sum. II:II, 145, Art 1-4).

Honesty is something that must be known interiorly in order to be visible exteriorly: “Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your Truth” (Psalm 86:11).

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**“YOU SHOULD
KNOW THAT AS
LONG AS I LIVE,
I DESIRE TO DO
SOMETHING IN
GOD’S SERVICE.”**

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

©LPI



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

1st Reading Question

Isaiah speaks of the Lord’s lavish future blessings upon all nations and peoples.
How should we, as believers, best prepare for God’s future blessings?

2nd Reading Question

Paul sees that the key to peace of mind in all of life’s circumstances is to be “empowered” by Christ Jesus.
How does your faith in Jesus strengthen you?

Gospel Question

In the Parable of the Wedding Feast, Jesus teaches that all who are invited to God’s banquet are to be fully open and prepared.
What are some spiritual exercises you practice to remain prepared for God’s work in your life?

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LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

When God extends an invitation, we don’t always respond promptly. So, what’s the hold-up? Let’s examine our lives for anything that delays our RSVP. This is one party we can’t afford to miss.

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Ministry Schedule

	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Collection & Gifts
October 11	Leland Herzog Barb Bisel	Vivian Higgs Michelle Jones Sr. Monica Seaton	Barbara Hammond Wonet Taylor
October 25	Wayne Stephens Jacques Williams	Greg Gough Janet Clark Cindy Clark	Burnell Hamilton Steve Coble

Pastor's Corner Continued...

Now the difficulty comes in our response to God's invitation to His party. After all is said and done, God offers and we respond. He wants us to have a good time, a joyful time with Him in His world, in the life He has given us. The difficulty is found in those who sit off in the corner sulking, muttering to themselves, and hating all of those who are enjoying themselves in God's party.

There are people who do not like to receive anything at all, even gifts. We all know of them. Perhaps we may even see them in ourselves. They are the ones who tell us: "I'll pay for everything I get; I can earn my way and I don't need anybody's charity; I don't need anybody or anything; I can take care of myself."

That attitude is particularly noticeable when it comes to receiving forgiveness. Many people just cannot say that they are sorry, or confess their sins. They simply cannot receive the gratuity and the sheer gift of forgiveness. Why? Well for a lot of reasons I suppose, but I think a big reason is pride. It's found in the fact that receiving forgiveness means an admission of need; the fear of being dependent upon another's love; and so forth. Many reasons. But they all mean that such persons come to God's party, God's celebration of life, without a wedding garment, the garment that is being clothed with Christ. They cannot rid themselves of their past and be seen in a new light, as new persons. It means they can't join the party and are bitterly resentful of those that do.

Receiving a sheer free gift is difficult. One immediately feels an obligation. One feels that one simply has to give in return; feels indebted; feels a sudden loss of independence and self-sufficiency. It happens at Christmas, birthdays. It happens in moments of crisis. It happens when one needs forgiveness. I know of several bad marriages when I could have helped the couples involved but was not able to because one or both of the parties would not come to me for help. They could not admit they needed help or admit that they could not take care of their problem all by themselves.

God has given us life and He wants us to enjoy ourselves in this life. By giving us life He is throwing a banquet for us, a feast of rich food in choice wines, juicy, rich and pure. He knows that we will make mistakes and so He is prepared to reconcile us in the death and resurrection of His only Son. Ultimately, when at the end of our lives we are judged by God, He will see our humanity in the humanity of his Son. He will judge us in that way. But that means that we have to come to God's banquet table of life properly dressed, dressed that is in the wedding garment offered us by his Son. It means putting off our old clothes of self-sufficiency, privatism, independency, and grand isolation. It means putting on the wedding garment of acceptance, acceptance of ourselves in the limitations and imperfections we have, acceptance of our need for forgiveness, acceptance of the gift of His Son offered to us by God our Father. Our destiny is there. But the consequence of our life rests in our own decisions. What will be the sum total of our life's decisions when we die? What grand decision will they all add up to? To know the answer to that question we have only to examine the pattern of our daily living and our willingness to receive the gifts of God, the gifts of life and the gifts of others that come to us in this life. Truly in this instance it is more blessed to receive than to give.

Blessings,

Fr. John



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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