

Dear friends in Jesus Christ,

To share the spirit of the Risen Lord to everyone and everywhere, last weekend Jesus invited us all to be united with Him by saying; *“I am the true vine and you are the branches. Apart from me you can do nothing.”* In today’s Gospel, Jesus teaches us that only through love we can be united to Him. Jesus not only just speaks about love, but the quality and the kind of love that we should have in our lives; *“As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.”*

Love, the most beautiful and at the same the most dangerous word in the world. Fortunately, or unfortunately, both characters of love can be found in the Bible. The beauty of love can be found through the life of Jesus which began with His birth and continued through His life, passion, death and resurrection. The ugly face of love can be found through the life of Judas Iscariot. Yes, if the love is not cared or handled carefully it can be the ugliest thing in our lives. As we reflect about the Gospel of today, let us ask ourselves, how we treat the love of God that we receive in our lives.

Nowadays, many people long to see a great miracle from God to get out from the problems they face in their daily lives like; economic crisis, natural and man-made calamities, wars, incurable and highly contagious diseases, moral and spiritual decay, and many others. We are hoping and praying that God will now intervene and put an end to all these troubles. We need a miracle. Unfortunately, God may not do it. He has already done His share. It is now up to us to continue His work, and in doing so produce the miracles we need. And Jesus has already revealed to us the miracle-producing formula: *“Love one another as I have loved you.”* If today, we have not realized Love as the miracle formula in our lives, it is a clear sign that we have not taken love seriously in our lives.

Yes, Love is the miracle that should happen every day in this world: when we learn to love in deed and in truth like Jesus. True love opens up great and wonderful miracles before our eyes: because of love, enemies are reconciled, warring countries re-establish peaceful and harmonious relationships, families are united and happy, the poor and hungry are attended to, criminals mend their ways, resources and blessings are generously shared among people, the truth is proclaimed, justice and peace prevail, kindness and generosity rule in society. More than all these results what do we need in this present world? The problem is that people think of love as a subject matter to be discussed, a

passing emotion, or just a vague romantic idea. St. John, in his first Letter, pleads with us: *“Children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in deed and truth”* (1Jn 3:18).

Love is an action word. The first action in relation to love is obedience to God’s commandments. The commandments of God are not meant to make our life difficult; rather to help us practice love more readily. The commandments teach us not only to love God, but also our neighbor. So Today’s gospel is a command to love: *“This I command you, love one another.”* It means that we do not have any option than to love one another. The reason is simple. We ourselves are the products of love. This love flows from God to Christ and from Christ to us. It also flows from God to our parents and, from our parents to us. This is why Jesus tells us today: *“As the father has loved me, so have I loved you.”* So, we have no reason not to extend it to others. The role of each of us is to continue the chain of love. Love done and practiced is the greatest miracle we hope and pray for to happen in our world today. Then, and only then, will our joy be complete. **God Bless**

Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center
Youth Camp at Gasper River Catholic is filling up! This summer Gasper will follow all guidelines set forth by the state to ensure the safety of all campers and staff. There will be limited attendance this summer (currently 50% occupancy), additional hand washing/sanitation stations, campers will stay in small groups, masks will be worn, campers will be asked to monitor their health two weeks out until they arrive at camp, and additional daily cleaning and sanitizing of buildings and most everything at camp will be done outdoors. Visit www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org

The Lazarus Retreat
The Lazarus Retreat is open to 9th-12th graders and will be held Friday, June 4 – Sunday, June 6, 2021 at Blessed Mother Catholic Church in Owensboro, KY. The goal and theme of the retreat is an intentional invitation to our young people to life in Jesus Christ. For questions contact the office of Youth Ministry **(270) 683-1545**

Thanks to everyone for your generous contributions to Our Churches during this unfortunate time. God Bless & Be Safe.

Financial Report - May 2, 2021
St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$2,938.09 weekly

Regular Collection	\$ 2,628.00 - 310.09
Emergency Fund	\$ 405.00
Communications	\$ 20.00

Financial Report - May 2, 2021
St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,147.46 weekly

Regular Collection	\$ 1,354.00 + 206.54
Emergency Fund	\$ 155.00
Home Missions	\$ 30.00

Mass Schedule
May 9 - 16

Sunday - Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 7:00am - Mass at St. Sebastian
People of the Parish
- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Thomas & Bernice Hobbs
- 10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Porter Rogers

Monday - Easter Weekday

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Alvin Bickett

Tuesday - Easter Weekday

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Joe Bickett

Wednesday - Easter Weekday

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Lisa Young
- 5:30pm - Mass at St. Charles
Robert Alan Head

Thursday - Easter Weekday

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Delilla Mae Payne

Friday - Saint Matthias, Apostle (Feast)

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Leon & Mary Jane Gibbons

Saturday - Easter Weekday

- 5:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian
Joseph Henry Hayden

Sunday - The Ascension of the Lord

- 7:00am - Mass at St. Sebastian
People of the Parish
- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Merrit & Janice Hobbs
- 10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Ronnie Bickett

Prayer List for Members of our Community

Melanie Mayes, Jason Evans, Lisa Jackson, Ethan Settle, Jimmy Clayton, Pat Calhoun, Sonny Renfrow, Kimberly Nowak, Todd Tichenor, Kimberly Stiles, Louis & Alice Weise, Callie Hayden, Mary Jewell, Tom Schutte, Evelyn Drury, Bill Abney, Debbie Dunn, Ben Dunn, Jacinta Tichenor Peters, Tommy England, and Lisa Vaught

Please Pray for our Military

MMN1 Andrew Logsdon, SSgt. James (J.P.) Dye, John Randall Zaremba, Major Jack Kaina, Major Bradley Summers, Lance Corporal Marine Joseph Ryan Hunter, Lt. Col. Michael Rezebek. A.B. Phillip Wilson, Specialist 4 Chaz McKay, Sgt. Adam Dickey, and Corpsman Aly Franklin


Guidelines for Resuming Parish Gatherings
Outside the Liturgy

*These guidelines are effective July 1, 2020 (**updated April 12, 2021) and include the following: Parishes may meet in small group gatherings where strict mask compliance can be enforced. Youth Groups, RCIA, Prayer Groups, Parish Councils etc. can gather in person when mask compliance is manageable (over nose and mouth). Limit the persons in attendance to no more than **60% of the maximum permitted occupancy capacity of the space. Maintain physical distance of six feet minimum from those not living within the same household. Wear face covering over mouth and nose. Based on CDC recommendations, everyone over the age of two must wear a mask for the duration of any event or meeting held on parish property. Those unable to wear a face mask at the event, whether it be due to age (the CDC does not recommend those under the age of two to wear a mask), health condition, or preference, are asked to stay healthy at home. Conduct temperature and health checks for each participant. Ensure proper, frequent cleaning and sanitation of the gathering space, including restrooms. Encourage those at high risk to stay Healthy at Home. Maintain a record of all persons attending the event/meeting and their contact information. Follow State of Kentucky [Healthy at Work Requirements for Restaurants and Bars](#) for any form of food service. □ Conduct events via drive-in or outdoors whenever possible. □ Ensure that gloves are worn by employees/volunteers who clean or handle high-touch areas of the gathering space. □ Encourage volunteers and attendees to frequently wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer, provided by the event organizer. □ Use appropriate disinfectants to clean frequently touched surfaces and shared equipment. □ Use signage to alert attendees of required occupancy limits, six feet of physical distance and the facial covering requirements. □ Parishes should add a rider to rental contracts specifying that the renter is bound to abide by all government and diocesan restrictions that are in place at the time of the event.*

St. Sebastian - Happy Birthday

-  Cathy Burden - May 9
- Ashley Vaught - May 12
- Marion Cooper - May 16

St. Sebastian - Happy Birthday

-  Daven Edmonds - May 14

Safe Environment Announcement

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 (270) 338-2240; local law enforcement (270) 273-3276; 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 on the bookshelf in back of the church, in the parish office, and the diocesan website (<https://owensborodiocese.org/safe>).