

Dear friends in Jesus Christ,

Little Johnny was basically a good boy; but he had this problem of losing his temper. His mother used to tell him, "Johnny, if you are losing your temper like this with people, it is difficult for people to love you." So, on New Year's Day, Johnny made a resolution: "I am not going to lose my temper anymore with anyone." He went to the back yard, heaped up dirt resembling a graveyard and put a cross over the heap, and put a sign-RIP. His mother and sister were surprised to see that... Johnny solemnly declared, "This is the grave of the old Johnny. Mom, today I am a new Johnny." As the January days went by Johnny was faithfully practicing his resolution; he never got angry. One day in the third week of January, poor guy, he was in a bad mood; he messed up with his little sister. His sister was angry too. She went to the backyard and removed the sign that said, RIP, and put a new one: "He is not here, he is risen!" Perhaps this is our own story.

The three readings of today, are inviting us to get united in God's Spirit of Love through repentance, for the Kingdom of God is at hand. In the first reading, we see Jonah carrying out the Word of God to the people of Nineveh. Jonah is advising the people to repent or in forty days, their city would be destroyed. Believing in God, the people listened to Jonah, and repented by fasting and putting sackcloth on themselves. We see God was pleased with their repentance and they were reunited in the spirit of the Lord again. In the second reading, we see St. Paul telling the Corinthians to be prepared for a change, for the present form of the world is passing by.

The Gospel of today explains to us about the beginning of Jesus' public ministry and the culmination of St. John the Baptist's ministry in this world. St. John the Baptist began his ministry by preaching the good news of repentance and Jesus also begins His ministry by proclaiming the same good news of repentance. Thus, the central theme of ministry in the name of Jesus in this world is nothing but repentance. As we witness the beginning and end of ministry by Jesus and John respectively, the Gospel gives us the message that the evangelization or the ministry toward the kingdom of God is an ongoing process without any break in it. Today, the important question that we all need to ask ourselves is-Am I part of this ongoing ministry?

From the Gospel we see, Jesus is inviting Simon, Andrew, James and John to be part of His ongoing ministry. Just as they were called, today, Jesus calls every one of us through the Gospel; "follow me, I will make you fishers of men." Realization of this invitation of Jesus we had seen in the last weekend's Gospel from the life of Andrew who brings Simon, his

brother to Jesus by sharing his own personal experience with Jesus; "we have found the Messiah." This messianic experience is not achieved after our death, but during our lifetime here in this world, that is why Jesus is calling us to "Repentance." This is what Jesus says in His sermon on the mount; "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." (Matt. 5:8)

Dear friends, if we are not able to see God during our lifetime here in this world, we are not going to see God after our death. If we are serious about experiencing God in our lives, there is only one way-have the attitude of Simon, Andrew, James & John. They were called, immediately they left everything and followed Him. Yes, leave everything of our own in this world, and have everything of God's own in our lives. This readiness will be possible only if we are able to keep a pure heart of mind, body and soul through our true repentance. The Lord is calling us; "come follow me, I will make you fishers of men." He is waiting for our answer since our baptism. May you have a pure heart soon through repentance to say, "Yes" to His call. Amen.

#### Clean Heart Initiative

The Clean Heart Initiative team from Blessed Mother parish invites you to watch a recording of an informational webinar presented at their parish via Zoom. Parents, grandparents, priests, teachers, as well as anyone who is affected by the issue of pornography in any way, is invited to hear more about the Church's response to pornography and what we can do about it. The webinar can be viewed at [CleanHeartInitiative.org](http://CleanHeartInitiative.org), Blessed Mother Parish's website or Facebook page, or the Office of Marriage & Family Life Facebook page



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

#### Financial Report - January 17, 2020

<b>St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$2,938.09 weekly</b>	
Regular Collection	\$ 2,875.00 - 63.09
Emergency Fund	\$ 110.00
Support Life Ministries	\$ 15.00

#### Financial Report - January 17, 2020

<b>St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,147.46 weekly</b>	
Regular Collection	\$ 760.00 - 387.46
Emergency Fund	\$ 25.00

#### Mass Schedule

January 24 - 31

#### Sunday - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Thomas & Bernice Hobbs  
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles  
Bill & Minnie Logsdon

#### Monday - The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle (Feast)

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

#### Tuesday - Saints Timothy & Titus, Bishops (Memorial)

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Mary Jewell

#### Wednesday - Third Week in Ordinary Time

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Lydia Payne  
-5:30pm - Mass at St. Charles  
Bill & Minnie Logsdon

#### Thursday - Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church (Memorial)

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Wanda Green

#### Friday - Third Week in Ordinary Time

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Lisa Young

#### Saturday - Third Week in Ordinary Time

-3:00pm - Confession at St. Sebastian  
-4:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Joe Bickett

#### Sunday - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Jaime Hobbs Sr.  
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles  
Bill & Minnie Logsdon

#### Prayer List for members of our community:

Melanie Mayes, Jason Evans, Lisa Jackson, Ethan Settle, Jimmy Clayton, Pat Calhoun, Jacinta Tichenor, Sonny Renfrow, Kimberly Nowak, Todd Tichenor, Kimberly Stiles, Louis & Alice Weise, Callie Hayden, and Mary Jewell.

#### 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 & Corpsman Aly Franklin

#### Guidelines for Resuming Parish Gatherings Outside the Liturgy

- Limit the persons in attendance to no more than 25.
- 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. A summary follows:
  - o No indoor food or beverage consumption.
  - o Carryout and delivery encouraged.
  - o Outside tables or booths should be placed six (6) feet apart.
  - o Only those living within the same household should sit together.
  - o Use disposable napkins, tablecloths, utensils and condiments. Condiments must be single-use, disposable packages.
  - o If non-disposable linens (such as cloth napkins, tablecloths, wiping cloths) are used, they must be laundered between uses.
- 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.

" We must live by faith, not by fear."

-Quentin L. Cook

#### St. Sebastian - Happy Birthday

Matt Ebelhar - January 24  
Jo Ann Hayden - January 29  
Kameron Vaught - January 30  
Kellie Watkins - January 30

#### St. Charles - Happy Birthday

Jill Chappell - January 26

#### Natural Family Planning - FREE instruction offer!

Through a partnership with the St. Augustine Foundation, the Diocese of Owensboro is offering FREE instruction in the Billings Method of Natural Family Planning to any Catholic married couple in the Diocese throughout 2021! This offer is for the Billings Method only, for couples where at least one spouse is a practicing Catholic, and covers five teaching sessions, starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. A list of trained Billings instructors in our Diocese can be found at [Owensborodiocese.org/billings-ovulation-method](http://Owensborodiocese.org/billings-ovulation-method).