

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

There was an Indian prince who was a lover of knowledge. He collected thousands of books in his large library. It happened that he was appointed as the right hand of the king. This position demanded him to travel a lot all over the kingdom and neighboring kingdoms to represent the king. Where ever he traveled, he used thirty camels to carry his books. Realizing the practical difficulty of loading all the books, he said to his chancellor, "read all the books and give me one book that is most important for my journey." After some time, the chancellor brought the Bible and gave it to the prince. The prince asked, "What authority does this book have that I should carry with me?" the chancellor replied, "It is the authority of the Son of God," and later the prince was baptized.

The Gospel of last weekend came to us with an open invitation from Jesus, "come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Accepting the invitation of Jesus, we had seen that Simon, Andrew, James and John followed Jesus for a different way of life. Listening to the same invitation of Jesus in last weekend, how many of us have made the decision to live differently in this world? The Christian call that everyone has received from Jesus is not a call to receive baptism and other sacraments, rather it is a call for an ongoing process; from a follower to disciple and to be an apostle of Jesus Christ. Sadly, most of us continue to remain in the group of followers without making much progress in our Christian life. Without changing our group of followers of Jesus Christ to the disciple and apostle of Jesus Christ, what change can we expect in this world? Today, Jesus is challenging us with a question, what changes can we bring through our lives in this world?

The philosopher Karl Marx says that the aim of philosophy should not be just to explain the world but to change it. The same way the life of a Christian is not to live like any other creations of this world but in a different way. As Christians, the aim of our life here in this world is to love and to love is to sacrifice. It is this sacrifice of life for the glory of God that brings changes in this world.

In today's Gospel we see Jesus is preaching in one of the synagogues in Capernaum. The people of Capernaum used to get instruction in their synagogue on every Sabbath. One Sabbath they had a different teacher with a different style of teaching, entirely different from the scribes. The Gospel states that "They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes." Jesus was able to teach and preach with authority because His ministry was in accordance

with the will of God and the authority was from God. He taught with absolute conviction, out of His personal experience with the Heavenly Father. The ministry of Jesus was concerned about the love of God; whereas the ministry of scribes were concerned about the obedience to the Law of Moses. The greatest strength of Jesus' teaching is that He never lost His credibility that He practiced what He preached. If we look at the life of scribes we can find that they did not have the qualities of Jesus in their lives and teachings, for which Jesus has condemned them many times.

Dear friends, just like the authority of Jesus, we are also called to use the authority of love to change the lives of the people and of the world. Be sure, the lesser the love that we spread, the more the stress we experience in our lives. So, let us not create a stressful world, rather a graceful world of love and peace by walking with Jesus. To walk with Jesus, He invites us again; "come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." His invitation to all of us is to empower us with His authority; "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord." Remember, we are all anointed one of God with His precious Body and Blood, to create a world of God. So, let us be faithful to the ministry that is entrusted to us by receiving His Holy Anointing. **God Bless.**

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, 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 24, 2021

St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$2,938.09 weekly	
Regular Collection	\$ 2,208.00 - 730.09
Emergency Fund	\$ 200.00

Financial Report - January 24, 2021

St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,147.46 weekly	
Regular Collection	\$ 1,220.00 + 72.54
Emergency Fund	\$ 10.00

**Mass Schedule
January 31 - February 7**

Sunday - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Jaime Hobbs Sr.
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Bill & Minnie Logsdon

Monday - Fourth Week in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Danny Edwards

Tuesday - The Presentation of the Lord (Feast)
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Justin Durbin

Wednesday - Fourth Week in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Joe Bickett
-6:00pm - Confirmation

Thursday - Fourth Week in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Robert Vollman
-5:30pm - Mass at St. Charles
Stella Fogle

Friday - Saint Agatha, Virgin & Martyr (Memorial)
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Lisa Young

Saturday - Saint Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs (Memorial)
-3:00pm - Confession at St. Sebastian
-4:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian
Wanda Green

Sunday - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Alvin Bickett
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Souls in Purgatory

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 Zarembo, 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.

St. Sebastian - Happy Birthday

Neil Scott - February 4
Sid Hayden - February 7

St. Charles - Happy Birthday

John Logsdon - February 3
Mark Logsdon - February 3
Kimberly Staples - February 6

St. Sebastian - Happy Anniversary



Kevin & Lisa Vaught - February 2

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 1st, 2021. A list of trained Billings instructors in our Diocese can be found at Owensborodiocese.org/billings-ovulation-method.