

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

In my last weekend's reflection, I had mentioned to you all about the very purpose of Jesus' invitation; "come after me and I will make your fishers of men" to enter into an ongoing process of evangelization of one's own self by becoming a follower, a disciple and an apostle of Jesus Christ. This is the reason in the second reading St. Paul exclaims; "curse upon me, if I do not preach the Gospel." By this St. Paul reminds us that preaching the Gospel is not an option given to us; rather, it is our obligation. As a catholic, how many of us have this realization like St. Paul? Remember, as a follower of Jesus we know about Jesus, as a disciple of Jesus we experience Jesus by walking with Him, and as an apostle of Jesus we preach about Jesus by living in Him. Now, let us examine in which category we belong to?

Jesus began His public ministry by revealing the very purpose of His ministry; "Repent and believe in the Gospel, for the Kingdom of God is at hand." In the process of the establishment of the Kingdom of God Jesus performed miracles, healings, casting out demons etc. Being taken up the wonderful things done by Jesus, people and disciples often misunderstood Him as the miracle worker, healer etc. Understanding this wrong idea of the people only Jesus tells the people who followed Him; "Truly, truly, I tell you, I tell you, it is not because you saw these signs that you are looking for Me, but because you ate the loaves and had your fill."(Jn 6:26) Of course, Jesus is a miracle worker and a wonderful healer, but more than that we have to believe that He is our savior, Son of God. Job, the innocent and faithful servant of God in the first reading never doubted the love of God for him, despite all the hardships He has undergone inflicted by the devil. In the second reading we see St. Paul accepted Jesus as the Son of God and so he says "curse upon me, if I do not preach the Gospel."

In today's gospel we see, Jesus went about teaching, and healing, which includes the mother in law of Peter, delivering and empowering people. As a result, people were seeking Him for healing. After taking some rest we see, Jesus is entering into a personal ministry which is very much essential for His public ministry, and that is Prayer. If Jesus was in need of prayer in His life, how much more we all need prayer in our lives? But, do we find time for prayer in our lives?

Even though, people were seeking Jesus, Simon Peter and other disciples notified to Jesus that "everyone is looking for you" we see Jesus is ready to move on to the nearby village, rather than staying back. One might ask – why did Jesus do that when there were many waiting for Jesus? The reason is

that the people stopped at the healing of the body. The spiritual conversion needed as a consequence of the physical healing did not follow. Jesus must have noticed that many had come only to be healed physically. The people were missing the essence of healing. Jesus knew His mission and He is focused to it.

We must ask ourselves? Who is Jesus to us? Is He only a miracle worker? Is He only a provider? Or Is He our Lord and Savior? There is nothing wrong with asking for healing or material graces; but we should not forget the very reason Jesus came- He came to save us all. This saving plan of Jesus must be continued through each one of us by becoming an apostle of Jesus Christ like St. Paul who proclaimed; "curse upon me, if I do not preach the Gospel." **God Bless.**



Parents: Would you like to jump-start communication with your son or daughter? Do you need help talking to your child about chastity, sexuality, marriage, dating and other important topics?

The Office of Marriage & Family Life invites you to a webinar for parents presented by Family Honor. Parents of 7th or 8th grade students, we encourage you to register for the Real Love & Real Life parent-teen chastity webinar on Monday evenings, January 25th – March 1, 2021. Cost is \$50 for all five sessions. Register at: owensborodiocese.org/parenting-resources or call 270-852-8336.

*A webinar for parents of 6th grade students is coming in March.

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 31, 2021

St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$2,938.09 weekly	
Regular Collection	\$ 2,410.00 - 528.09
Emergency Fund	\$ 210.00

Financial Report - January 31, 2021

St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,147.46 weekly	
Regular Collection	\$ 600.00 - 547.46

Mass Schedule

February 7 - 14

Sunday - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - No Mass

Wednesday - Saint Scholastica, Virgin (Memorial)

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Delila Mae Payne
- 5:30pm - Mass at St. Charles
Stella Fogle

Thursday - Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Lydia Payne

Friday - Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

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

Saturday - Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

- 3:00pm - Confession at St. Sebastian
- 4:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian
Henry & Verna Hayden

Sunday - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Brenda Payne
- 10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Souls in Purgatory

St. Sebastian - Happy Anniversary

Scott & Marie Caraway - February 7

St. Charles - Happy Birthday

Emma Hudson - February 10
Beth Rhodes - February 12
Kyle Chappell - February 13

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, Mary Jewell, Tom Schutte, and Evelyn Drury

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.

St. Sebastian - Happy Birthday

Sid Hayden - February 7
Genevieve Searcy - February 8
Quinton Sexton - February 10
Matthew Dame - February 12
Charles May - February 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>).