

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

I am sure that everyone wants to go to heaven without any doubt, but how many of us live in such a way that we are preparing to go to heaven is the question the Gospel of today is placing before us. Today's Gospel is one of the most admired Gospel passages by many other religious people. The Gospel very clearly teaches us that, the values of the Kingdom of God and of this world are contradicting to each other. Because of the same reason sometimes we may have to make the excuse; it is difficult to follow the teachings of Jesus. The Gospel says: "Blessed are you who are poor.... Blessed are you who are now hungry.... Blessed are you who are now weeping.... Blessed are you when people hate, and exclude you..." Who would believe this preaching of Jesus? If this preaching of Jesus is to be believed, one thing is clear that it is not easy to enter the Kingdom of God. No doubt, Jesus never invited anyone to follow Him by giving false promises; rather He always warned them with the true sacrifice one will have to make. In the Gospel of Luke 9: 57-58, we see "someone said to Jesus, "I will follow You wherever you go." Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds of the air have nest, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head." In other words, Jesus says, "No gain without Pain." It is about this pain and gain; the Gospel is all about.

Jesus gives a positive meaning to the reality of suffering through the Gospel of today, provided it is for the glory of His name. Believe it or not, suffering brings us closer to God and allows us to depend more on God. Jesus did not say poverty, or hunger, or sadness, or hatred is a blessing, rather He says that people are blessed when they are poor, hungry, weeping and hated for the sake of the Kingdom of God. These are conditions of need and dependence, which make us closer to God. Even though, the world keeps the suffering away, Jesus keeps them closer to His heart, because He knows the meaning of suffering because He suffered for us and it is through His suffering, He bought the Kingdom of God for us. So, as Christians, if we believe in His blessings, we should have the courage to believe in His suffering too, because Jesus reminds us that: "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Mt.16:24)

In the world, nobody wants to be poor, or hungry, or weep or be hated. Instead, people want to be rich, to be filled, to laugh and be well spoken of. But, Jesus says, "Woe to you who are richWoe to you who are filled now.....Woe to you who laugh now,Woe to you when all speak well of you....." Jesus gives us this warning and reminder because when we are well off, always there will be a

temptation to forget God. We may be tempted to treat the gifts of God as gods. Being well off is not contrary to the will of God. Because, in the Bible we can see, Abraham was so rich, but his richness did not shut his ears to answer God's call. But, in the abundance of richness when we fail to open our hearts to the poor and needy, that becomes a sin in our lives, and thus we slip away from a great Christian responsibility: Love of the neighbor. The Gospel teaches us that, a certain kind of maturity is expected from each one of us in dealing with worldly things. Yes, let us not be lost in worldly things, but let us be lost in the love of God, by sharing, caring, and loving.

As we continue to celebrate this Holy Mass, let us pray, "Lord grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference." **God Bless.**

YOUTH 2000
Attention all young people ages 13-30!
You are invited to a Youth 2000 Retreat on March 11-13, 2022 at Brescia University. You will have the opportunity to gather with other young people your age for prayer, Adoration, singing, and learning about our Catholic faith. Youth should register through a parish, school or other group. For more information and registration forms, go to <https://owensborodiocese.org/youth-2000/>. The deadline for registration is February 28, 2022. Space permitting, registrations will be accepted at the door. Contact Robin Tomes at robin.tomes@pastoral.org with any questions.

Marriage Retreat
at Pennyrile Forest State Park Lodge
March 11-12, 2022 It's been a rough couple of years. Why not take some time away as husband and wife to reconnect and reinvigorate your marriage? This retreat will be a chance to get away, stay in a beautiful lodge, enjoy undistracted time together, and strengthen a few communication skills while you're at it. Sponsored by the Office of Marriage & Family Life. We only have room for 20 couples, so we do expect this retreat to fill up. Visit <https://owensborodiocese.org/marriage-retreat-registration/> for more information and registration.

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

Financial Report – February 6, 2021
St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$2,883.56 weekly

Regular Collection	\$ 3,785.00 + 901.44
Emergency Fund	\$ 600.00
Special Collections	\$ 0.00

Financial Report – February 6, 2021
St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,058.22 weekly

Regular Collection	\$ 670.00 – 388.22
Emergency Fund	\$ 150.00
Special Collections	\$ 0.00

Mass Schedule
February 13 – February 20

Sunday – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Bill & Jacinta Garinger
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Bill & Jacinta Garinger

Monday – Sts. Cyril, Monk & Methodius (Memorial)
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Robert Vollman

Tuesday – Sixth Week in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Alvin Bickett

Wednesday- Sixth Week in Ordinary Time
-6:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian
Evie Searcy
-6:30pm – *Faith Formation*

Thursday – Sixth Week in Ordinary Time
-8:30am – *Mass at St. Sebastian – Bill Abney*
-5:30pm – *Mass at St. Charles*
Tichenor – Leachman Families

Friday – Sixth Week in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Lee & Joan Warren

Saturday – Sixth Week in Ordinary Time
-3:00pm - Confession
-4:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian
Bill & Jacinta Garinger

Sunday – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Lisa Young
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Tichenor-Leachmen Families

Ministry Schedule
February 19, 2022

St. Sebastian Lector: Michael Cooper

February 20, 2022

St. Sebastian Euch. Min: Sid Hayden
Lectors: Tony Searcy & Faye May
Money Counters: Lynne Scott & Mike Vollman

St. Charles Euch. Min: George Rhodes
Lectors: Derek Miller & Geneva Bishop
Money Counters: Rondy Humphrey & Mark Logsdon

CDC Recommendations for Covid-19 Pandemic

- All Vaccinated and Unvaccinated over the age of two are strongly recommended to wear a facemask properly.
- If you are feeling ill or concerned about exposure to the virus, be encouraged to remain home.
- Gathering spaces to be cleaned and sanitized regularly.
- Continue with proper hand washing and/or sanitizing.
- No social gatherings or meetings are permitted in the church buildings.
- Eucharistic Ministers should be masked and sanitize their hands after receiving the Eucharist.
- Please continue to be diligent.

2022 Fish Fry
Our annual Lenten Fish Fry will start on March 4th and run every Friday thereafter through April 8th. Due to continued concerns for covid, it will be drive thru only. Serving will start at 5:00pm. Plates will include fish, hushpuppies, mac & cheese, green beans, and a dessert. Cost will be \$12.00 a plate.

Happy Anniversary – St. Charles

Tony & Sherry Logsdon – February 14

St. Charles - Happy Birthday

Beth Rhodes – February 12
Kyle Chappell – February 13

St. Sebastian - Happy Birthday

Matthew Dame - February 12
Charles May - February 14
David Abrams – February 15
Katelyn Dame – February 18

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.

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, Tom Schutte, Evelyn Drury, Bill Abney, Debbie Dunn, Ben Dunn, Tommy England, Louis Dant, Becky Cheatham, Lisa Vaught, Lance Green, Neil Hayden, Serena Cooper, Jeff Husk and Maurice Drury, JR.