

**“For the sake of His sorrowful Passion-Have mercy on us and on the whole world.”**

**Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,**

This weekend we celebrate the Divine Mercy Sunday, the Birth, life, passion, death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. I am sure, everyone will agree, to the fact that we are all here because of God’s mercy. Accepting this fact declares that none of us are perfect in our relationship with God and others. So, let us continue to pray, “For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.” Yes, God’s mercy is endless, but the question is do we appreciate and receive His mercy in fullness in our lives? To examine this question, the best way is to examine our lives in relation to the beautiful prayer of ‘Our Father’ sincerely from our hearts by understanding the real meaning of this prayer.

Even after we rejected and crucified Jesus, His mercy towards each of us is endless, and this is what the celebration of the resurrection of Our Lord is teaching us. Through the Gospel of today, He brings us the gift of Peace. From the Gospel, we understand that the courageous disciples in the presence of Jesus are in a troubled situation after His death, “...the doors were locked, where the disciples were for fear of the Jews” because Jesus had questioned and challenged Jewish authorities many times about their lives and hypocrisy during His life here on earth and knowingly or unknowingly, the disciples have supported Jesus too; but today, Jesus is not with them. From this troubled situation of the disciples, one thing is clear that even though the disciples were with Jesus for three years, they never accepted and understood Him and His Kingdom values. The same situation is happening to some of us also, very often. We seem to be following Jesus so closely, but when some bad things happen, we are troubled and scared like the disciples. Dear friends, there is only one effective trouble shooter in this world for all the problems and His name is Jesus. St. Paul shares this truth, “If God is for us who can be against us.” (Rom 8:31).

Yes, the presence of Jesus is the greatest mercy God has shown to us. The letter to the Philippians 2: 6-8 reminds us of God’s mercy, “*Though he was in the form of God, he did not find equality with God, something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a man. Being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.*” His showers of mercy did not stop at the cross, but continued and continuing even now through His glorious resurrection. In a more visible way, Jesus is present to us today through the Word of God, Human beings, and the Holy Eucharist. Dear friends, if we can show utmost

respect to these three visible revelations of God in our lives, we don’t need to plead for His mercy, rather automatically it will be coming to us. Unfortunately, we are in a situation to plead for His mercy, “For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.”

Yes, God’s mercy is sent to us without any limit, but do we not put a limit to God’s mercy in our lives, without sharing the same mercy to others? We pray, “Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,” but how do we live? If all the sins confessed at all the confessions all around the world were to be sincere, what could have been the situation of the world today? Yes, there is only one way to enjoy the peace in our lives and that is what Ephesians 4:32 says to us; “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” Dear friends, let us stand out as a true Catholics and say; “**I forgive you not because you deserve my forgiveness, but because I deserve peace.**” God Bless.

**Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center**

Youth Camp at Gasper River Catholic is filling up! Camp LIFE only has a few spots left! 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. The safety of campers and staff is top priority! Visit [www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org](http://www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org) for more information and for updates. Please remember that space will be limited, so sign up today and don’t miss out on an amazing summer at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp!!!

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

**Financial Report - April 4, 2021**

**St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$2,938.09 weekly**

Regular Collection	\$ 5,428.00 + 2,489.91
Emergency Fund	\$ 585.00
Holy Thursday	\$ 90.00
Good Friday	\$ 111.00
Easter Sunday	\$ 210.00

**Financial Report - April 4, 2021**

**St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,147.46 weekly**

Regular Collection	\$ 1,908.00 + 760.54
Emergency Fund	\$ 140.00
Good Friday	\$ 220.00
Easter Sunday	\$ 290.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 10.00

**Mass Schedule**

**April 11 - 18**

**Sunday - Sunday of the Divine Mercy**

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Joseph Allen Hayden  
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles  
Souls in Purgatory

**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  
Riley Wellman  
-5:30pm - Mass at St. Charles  
Conversion of Souls

**Thursday - Easter Weekday**

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Robert Vollman

**Friday - Easter Weekday**

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

**Saturday - Easter Weekday**

-5:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Ralph & Judy Ward

**Sunday - Third Sunday of Easter**

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian  
Merritt & Janice Hobbs  
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles  
Souls in Purgatory

**Holy Cow Raffle at St. Joseph Catholic Church**

April 25 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bowling Green, will hold a Holy Cow Raffle to win a Black Angus steer. Tickets are \$10 each. Please call **270-842-2525**. You do not need to be present to win. Proceeds benefit the St. Joseph restoration.

**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, and Tommy England

**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 March 10, 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. A summary follows: Maximize outdoor seating. Tables or booths should be placed six (6) feet apart. Only those living within the same household should sit together. No communal food, buffets or self-service for food or drinks. Use disposable napkins, tablecloths, utensils and condiments. Condiments must be single-use, disposable packages. If non-disposable linens (such as cloth napkins, tablecloths, wiping cloths) are used, they must be laundered between uses. □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**



Lincoln Abney - April 14  
Kathy Hudson - April 15  
Sydney Cessna - April 15  
Riley Wellman - April 15  
Tracey Dame - April 17  
Robert Guenther - April 17  
Ashley Ebelhar - April 18

**St. Charles - Happy Birthday**



Terry Baggett - April 12  
Cooper Bishop - April 15

**St. Sebastian - Happy Anniversary**



Lance & Stacy Green - April 14  
Ralph & Judy Ward - April 15