

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

These days, every morning welcomes us with disturbing news like; war, natural calamities, accidents, sickness of our dear and near ones etc. We are all disturbed and peace remains a distant dream for many people today. In today's Gospel we see that the disciples have lost their peace of mind after the death of Jesus. They are afraid of the Jews and stayed in a room without having any contact with anyone. They are confused and are not able to take any decision further. At this time Jesus comes into their midst and empowered them by saying; "Peace be with you," rather than saying Jesus is with you. Today, as we celebrate this Divine Mercy Sunday, the greatest merciful act each one of us can do is to allow others to live peacefully.

Often, we claim that we are Christians. A Christian is a person who carries Jesus in His heart and follows Him in his/her thoughts, words and actions. Today, Jesus comes to us and claims that He is the Peace, but how many of us really experience that peace in our lives? If we examine, we will realize that we are similar to the disciples of Jesus. From the Gospels we can see that, in the company of Jesus, the disciples had no fear of doing anything in their lives; they broke customs and traditions. They ate without washing their hands, plucked grains on the Sabbath, never bothered about fasting, and St. Peter even had no fear in cutting the ear of a soldier who came to arrest Jesus. However, after the death of Jesus, the whole situation is changed that they were living in great fear of Jews. Dear friends, today, it is good to write in our hearts that Fear is the result of the absence of Jesus in our lives, and Peace is the result of the presence of Jesus in our lives. The Gospel of John 14: 27 says; "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Look at the changes happening to the disciples after they saw the Risen Lord! The disciples tell St. Thomas that "We have seen the Lord." By saying their witness to St. Thomas, the disciples have already started their evangelization among themselves. This is the greatest evangelization we are also called to do. The criteria for evangelization is not the knowledge about the Bible, rather it is the personal experience of God and sharing it. When Thomas is told that others have seen the Lord, he became so upset and lost his peace of mind and so he says; "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe". Yes, the determination of St. Thomas bear fruits and he also gets a the chance to see the Risen Lord. The personal encounter of St. Thomas with the Risen Lord, brought so much joy in his heart and he

surrenders himself before the Lord and says, "My Lord and my God". This is the profession of faith that St. Thomas is making before the Lord.

Finally, Jesus throws a great challenge before us saying "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed". People who are obsessed with scientific knowledge would question this statement of Jesus asking how it can be possible. I would say, this is the mystery and beauty of our God and our Christian Faith. This beauty cannot be explained fully in words, but it has to be experienced personally. If you can breathe the air which you cannot see, if you can enjoy a good smell of something which you cannot see, if you can enjoy the cool breeze which you cannot see, if you can use the electricity which you cannot see, then be sure you can believe in God who created this universe, who Himself is unseen but He is to be experienced. Yes, our faith in God is like a leap into the darkness. Yes, only brave people can leap into the darkness, and he does it with Hope. So, as a Christian, our life is a hope, our hope is in Christ and Christ is our great Help. May the risen Lord continue to fill your heart with hope and love. To experience this great hope and love, let us be like St. Thomas that is determined to experience Jesus personally in our lives. May the Mercy of God follow us always. **Amen.**

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire" - St. Catherine of Siena

71th ANNIVERSARY NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Owensboro Prayer Events:

Thursday May 5th

~ Courthouse Lawn ~

Bible Reading	Prayer & Worship
11:30am - 11:50am	11:50am 12:50pm

For more information contact Rick Rhodes by phone / text at 207-313-8370

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

Financial Report – April 17, 2022

St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$2,883.56 weekly	
Regular Collection	\$ 4,223.00 + 1,339.44
Emergency Fund	\$ 265.00
Special Collections	\$ 496.00

Financial Report – April 17, 2022

St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,058.22 weekly	
Regular Collection	\$ 1,360.00 + 301.78
Emergency Fund	\$ 25.00
Special Collection	\$ 505.00

Mass Schedule April 24 – May 1

Sunday – Sunday of The Divine Mercy

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Morgan Farley
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Randy Joe Marcum

Monday – St Mark, Evangelist (Feast)

-8:30am – Mass at St. Sebastian - Alvin Bickett

Tuesday – Easter Weekday

-8:30am – Mass at St. Sebastian
Leon & Mary Jane Gibbons

Wednesday- Easter Weekday

-6:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian – *Abel Floyd*
-6:30pm – Faith Formation

Thursday – Easter Weekday

-8:30am – Mass at St. Sebastian
Mary Vollman
-5:30pm – Mass at St. Charles
Lauretta Evans Adkins

Friday – St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor of the church (Memorial)

-8:30am – Mass at St. Sebastian - *Louis Weise*

Saturday – Easter Weekday

-4:00pm - Confession
-5:00pm - Mass at St. Sebastian
Morgan Farley

Sunday – Third Sunday of Easter

-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Jaimie Hobbs
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Mary Albin

Ministry Schedule April 30, 2022

St. Sebastian Lectors: Michael Cooper

May 1, 2022

St. Sebastian Euch. Min: Debra Hamilton
Lectors: Josh Searcy & Laurine Sexton

Money Counters: Cathy Burden & Jimmy Clayton

St. Charles Euch. Min: Sherry Logsdon
Lectors: Lee Edwards & Marylyne Miller

Money Counters: David Miller & Rondy Humphrey

Yard Signs

If you have a fish fry yard sign you can return it to church or store at home for next year. Thanks

No Potluck – St. Charles

St. Charles will not have their monthly potluck in May because it falls on Mother's Day.

"ALIVE: Who is there?" Movie

A new documentary highlighting the transformative power of the Holy Eucharist will be debuting for one day only in more than 700 theaters across the United States on **Monday, April 25.**

Bosco Films and Hakuna Films documentary "ALIVE: Who is there?" features the testimonies of five men and women who share how the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist has transformed their lives.

It will be shown in the Owensboro and Bowling Green theaters. To find a showing near you visit <https://www.fathomevents.com/events/Alive-Who-Is-There>.

Happy Anniversary - St. Sebastian



Tommy & Brenda England – April 28

"And fear nothing, dear soul, whoever you are; the greater the sinner, the greater his right to Your mercy, O Lord."
- St. Faustina

Happy Birthday - St. Charles



Pat Martinez – April 26
Tony Logsdon – April 29

Happy Birthday - St. Sebastian



David Scott – April 23
Ava McCarty – April 27

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, Alice Weise, Callie Hayden, Tom Schutte, Evelyn Drury, Debbie Dunn, Ben Dunn, Tommy England, Louis Dant, Donald Durbin, Lance Green, Neil Hayden, Serena Cooper, Jeff Husk, Elaine West and Maurice Drury, JR.