



“Your sins are forgiven”

Intention for the Week

Monday, Feb. 23, St. Polycarp

6:30 AM Jerry Blandford Sr. (dec)

Tuesday, Feb. 24

6:00 PM Josh McCarty (deacon)

Wednesday, Feb. 25, Ash Wednesday

9:00 AM School Mass Intention

Noon Judy Garvin (dec)

6:00 PM Charlie Riney (ann of death)

Thursday, Feb. 26

NO 9 AM Mass

Noon Brenda Miller (ann of death)

Friday, Feb. 27

Noon Joanne Knott

Saturday, Feb. 28

4:00 PM Betty Hamilton

First Sunday of Lent

7:00 AM Blessed Mother Parishioners

10:00 AM Martin Keller (dec)

5:30 PM Ronnie Laiche (dec)

Liturgical Ministers for Feb. 28/Mar. 1

Eucharistic Ministers

4 PM Marian Bennett, Liz Francis, Joyce, Lannie Pearl, Janet Ruth, Joe, Maggie O’Bryan, Susie, Jay Fillman

7 AM Sr. Mary Timothy, Martha Estes, Joy, Bill Bach, Darlene Kazlauskas, Brenda Hagan

10 AM Jim Hagan, Russ Hayden, Debbie Ward, Mike Head, John, Sharon Bell, Lori, Richard, Parker Whitehouse

5:30 PM Michele Linn, Linda, Adam Wahl, Garrett Smith, Dan, Sandra Thomas

Readers

4 PM Cindy McCain

7 AM Mike Williams

10 AM Barbara Cecil

5:30 PM David Marshall

Servers

4 PM Nicholas Jackson, Gabe Fillman

7 AM Kaylin, Kendra Hagan

10 AM Jacob Johnson, Sam Lilly

5:30 PM Simmie, Henley McCormack

Families to Take Up Gifts

4 PM Dennis Clark

7 AM Bill Bach

10 AM Doug Dunn

5:30 PM John McCormack

Children’s Liturgy: Stephanie Frey, Molly Aud, Sarah Murphy

Vocation Cross Family

Bea Wooldridge, Debbie Addington, Mary Aull

Hillcrest: Susan Hale, Phyllis Bastin

Ministers of Hospitality for March

4 Mark Dorth, Ken Terry, Taylor Wells, Gerald Coomes

7 Russ Corley, Bernie Dotsey, Mike Wade, Jack Murphy

10 Tony, Donna, Blake Powers, Phil Riney

5:30 Amie Walters, Alex Bumm, Pat, Isaac Hardesty



**“Even now, says the Lord,
return to me with you whole
heart, with fasting, and
weeping and mourning...
For gracious and merciful is
he, slow to anger, rich in
kindness, and relenting in
punishment.”
Joel 2:12,13**

Forming Good Stewards

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
"Your sins are forgiven!" Mark 2:1-12

Jesus returned to Capernaum and a crowd gathered around the house where he was preaching. Friends of a paralytic who could not get through the crowd made an opening in the roof (probably a permanent opening to let out smoke from the open fires and to let in light, covered with thatch when not in use) and lowered him down. The paralytic and his friends obviously believed Jesus to heal him. Jesus said, "child, your sins are forgiven." Jesus knew his words caused concern among the Jewish leaders who heard him. He asked, "Which is easier, to say Your sins are forgiven, or to say Rise, pick up your mat and walk." So he tells the paralytic to "Rise, pick up your mat and walk," and he did just that. Our sin often paralyzes us from being all that God created us to be; from doing all that he gave us the ability to do; from giving all that we can give. Jesus wants to forgive us of our sin and heal us of our paralysis and make us whole. If we have faith like the paralytic and ask for forgiveness, we will be forgiven and healed.

Youth 2000

A Eucharistic Centered Retreat
March 6, 7 and 8, 2009
Brescia University

If you would like to attend this retreat, please turn in your paperwork either to the Parish Office on Monday or take to the Catholic Pastoral Center after Monday. Forms are available in church or in the Parish Office. You must have a chaperone to attend.

No Religious Education Classes
On the Following Dates:
Feb. 15, Mar. 29, Apr. 5, and May 10

5-Part Study on the Sufferings of Christ

To register, write a check for \$20 to Blessed Mother Catholic Church no later than **Feb. 24**. First Lesson will be **March 3**. For more info call Nicholas Hardesty, 683-8444 ext. 26

Blessed Mother Church Ministry Fair

March 14-15
After All Masses in St. Joseph Hall



Sign-ups, Information, Refreshments, Prizes,
New Parish Resource Books



You are invited to come and see what your church has to offer!
You are invited to come and see what you can offer your church!



*There are different gifts but the same Spirit,
There are different forms of service but the same Lord,
There are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.*

1 Cor 12:4-6

Power Week, 2009

June 22-26

A Catholic Summer Camp for **students entering 7th or 8th grade**—sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes
Limited Spaces, \$225 for the week
Call Danny May at 684-5369

Camp L.I.F.E.

Camp for ages 14-19 (incoming freshman), June 28-July 3 or July 12-17 at Gasper River Youth Camp. Go to www.Gasperriverretreatcenter.org for registration information.

Christian Leadership Institute (CLI)

Will be held June 21-26 at Mount St. Joseph, June 21-16 for ages 15-19 (who have completed their freshmen year of high school) and would like to learn how to be a better leader. Great for those wanting to be a youth group leader/officer, serve on a retreat team, class officer or student council member. For registration contact the Parish Office.

Laugh for the Week

A man asked his wife what she'd like for her birthday. "I'd love to be six again," she replied. On the morning of her birthday, he got her up bright and early and off they went to Holiday World. What a day! He put her on every ride in the park, including all the roller coasters. Five hours later she staggered out of the theme park, her head reeling and her stomach upside down. Right to McDonald's they went, where her husband ordered her a Big Mac, extra fries, and a large chocolate shake. What a fabulous adventure! Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed. He leaned over and lovingly asked, "Well, dear, what was it like being six again?" One eye opened, the wife said, "You idiot, I meant my dress size!" The moral of this story is: If a woman speaks and a man is actually listening, he will still get it wrong.

Catholic Q&A

Where do you get the questions and answers for your column every week?

Well, the questions come from various sources. Sometimes a parishioner will email me a question. Other times, friends, family, and coworkers will ask me things. However, the majority of the questions come from people I've never even seen before. These people are readers of my blog.

The word "blog" is short for "web log." It's like an online journal where you can post your thoughts. Blogs are nice because you don't have to know anything about web design in order to create your own. Once you sign up with one of the various blog services, you just type out what you want to say and the blog service does the rest. The three most popular blog services are Blogger (www.blogspot.com), Wordpress (www.wordpress.com), and TypePad (www.typepad.com).

If your content is well-written and speaks to a particular audience, you post on your blog regularly, and you are able to enhance the design of your blog, then you can actually attract a sizeable group of fans who will read your blog on a regular basis.

I've been posting on my blog, *phatcatholic apologetics* (<http://phatcatholic.blogspot.com>) since July 19, 2006, and currently attract around 200 readers a day. Most of the time, at least one or two of these readers will have a question about Catholicism. That's why they read my blog in the first place, because they want to learn more about the Catholic Church and they see that I am knowledgeable in that area. Out of the hundreds of Catholic "experts" out there, they choose to ask *me* their questions. I am always truly humbled by that.

The answers come from my own noggin ... with a little help from various online resources. The *New Advent Catholic Encyclopedia* (www.newadvent.org) is an amazing resource for information about the Church. *Catholic Answers* (www.catholic.com) is great because they have a library of short articles that defend various Catholic beliefs. *Crosswalk* (<http://bible.crosswalk.com>) is actually a Protestant website, but it's the best tool I've found for looking up Scripture passages. Each passage is also linked to various dictionaries, commentaries, and lexicons that are useful as well. Of course, you can never go wrong with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (<http://www.scborromeo.org/ccs.htm>).

On the "Links" page of our parish website (www.blessedmotherchurch.com) you'll find a collection of links to articles that address various Catholic topics. It's not finished yet, but it may help you to find *your own* answers to the questions you've always had about your faith. Of course, I am always available as well.

Peace of Christ to you,
Nicholas Hardesty, Director of Religious Education
nicholashardesty@gmail.com



Masses at 9 AM, Noon, 6 PM Liturgical Ministers

9 AM School Mass

Noon, EM Susan Green, Jan Storm,
Edith Johnson, Liz Francis, Sabrina

Johnson, Fran, Ethel Watrous

Reader Pal Fitzhugh **Server** Cliff Russell

6PM, EM Maggie O'Bryan, Mike Head, Marjorie Early,
Martha Estes, Sandra Henry, Dorothy Aud, Drew,
Jeannette Ward, Dennis Sandefur

Reader Joe O'Bryan

Servers Will Sandefur, Collin Higgins

Ushers Tom Foster and crew

Fast & Abstinence:

Ash Wednesday and All Fridays of Lent are days of fast and abstinence.

Fasting means that all between the ages of 18-59 may have only one full meal, and 2 lesser meals not equal to the one full meal and no eating between meals.

Abstinence is the abstaining from meat for all from the ages of 14-59.

Ash Wednesday Diocese of Mandeville Collection

As we begin the holy season of Lent, please remember our sisters and brothers in our sister diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica. They are in need of your prayers and your financial contributions.

Stations of the Cross Fridays, 7 PM during Lent



Right to Life Chili Supper, Feb. 28, St. Pius Hall

Tickets will be sold at the doors of the church on Feb. 21-22, \$5 includes hot dog, chili, dessert, drink.

Serving begins at 5 PM



Our prayers and sympathy

Are extended to Joyce Payne on the death of her sister, Ettie Rose Head.

May she rest in the love and the peace of the Lord!

Upcoming Events

March 3 Sufferings of Christ Lenten Study Begins

March 16-17 Parish Mission with Fr. Pablo

April 5 Holy Week Begins

April 19 Mercy Sunday at Blessed Mother

April 22 Confirmation, 6 pm

April 26 Newcomers Brunch

May 3 First Communion, 2 pm

May 9 Bar-B-Que Festival on the River

**Remember in prayer the
many who are sick in our community:**

Len Bach, Helen Bellwood, Eva Birkhead, Liz, Tony Brown, Frances Carrico, Maria Castlen, JB Cecil, Vincent Cecil, Joyce, Paul, Paul Jr., Christian, Ann Clark, Clifton Clark, George Clark, James Clark, Kevin Coakley, Alice Cole, Arnold Conder, Addie Corley, Amy Cox, Hettie Crask, Ben Crump, Leoma Daly, Dorothy Davis, Philip Demarest, Evelyn Denton, Sheila Duncan, Emma Dunbar, John Duncan, Kinsey Dunn, Matt Gabis, Lucille Goetz, Brenda Goodman, Luke Gray, George A. Hagan, Dottie Hamilton, Mary Hardesty, Joanna Hatcher, Martha Hayden, Janet Haynes, Hayden Head, Mike Head, Beverly Heppler,, Peggy Hicks, Mary Elizabeth Hill, Kenny Hodskins, Mildred Howard, Margaret Isbell, Mary Ava Jackson, Gertrude Jones, Minnie Martin, Helen Matheny, Margaret Mattingly, Helen McCarty, Mildred McCarthy, Nora Mellon, Margie Meredith, Mary L. Millay, Virginia Millay, Conner Mills, Mary Morton, Alma Mullican, Cindi Neuner, Lee Newton, Joann Ogle, Ethan Payne, Helen Payne, Mary Payne, Paul Payne, Lannie Joe Pearl, Carolyn Pierce, Brenda Pitt, Lawrence Quinn, Geraldine Ralph, Isabella & Isaiah Ratliff, Otto Reisz, Vincent Reynolds, , Larry Roby, Linda Rouse, Lucille Russell, Cecelia Schartung, Janet Schartung, Herman, Mary Simmons, Becky Smith, Elizabeth Sosh, Susan Stersman, Onora Stone, Teresa Taucher, Larry Taylor, Mary Hilary Taylor, Angela, Leo Thompson, Betty Thompson, Charles Thompson, Martha Towery, Anita Travis, Glynda Turner, Jean Van Meter, Joyce Ventrees, Dianne Walsh, Kenny Ward, Scott Ward, Teresa Ward, Katherine Whittinghill, Ellen Wolford, Bea Wooldridge, Steve Woolen, Bill, Flora Yancy

Please Pray for Our Troops Serving in War. Keep them safe, O Lord, and bring them home soon. Iraq:

PFC 1st Class Bradley Horlander, Iraq
SGT Jeremi Bosley, National Guards
Brandon Mattingly, US Army, Baghdad
Kenneth Smith (grandson in law of Agnes Edge)
Matthew Hoffman, US Army, Baghdad (great nephew of Camilla Baker)
Spec. Daniel Nugent, Iraq
Sgt. Nicholas Johnson, US Army, Baghdad (son of Scott & Sabrina Johnson)
Sgt. David Farley, US Army

In Afghanistan

Chief Master Sgt. Andrew Reisz, USAF, Khabull
Sidney Hoffman, National Guards (great niece of Camilla Baker)

Other

AIC Austin Eckstein, USAF, grandson Henrietta May
CSSR Justin Mills, Japan, grandson of Dessie Clark

Daily Bible Reading 683-8524



I hope you had a great week. Today is the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. In today's Gospel Jesus again heals someone. This time is different however. He also forgives the man his sins. This shows the people including us that Jesus has the authority of God Himself. He can forgive us as well as heal us.

Lent begins this week. Ash Wednesday is February 25th. The Mass schedule for that day is 9am school Mass, Mass at Noon and then 6pm. Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence but NOT a holy day. Perhaps you would enjoy praying the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7pm here in church. This would be a good Lenten practice and sacrifice.

We welcome Deacon Josh McCarty back with us. Deacon Josh will be here a few times this semester as he prepares for Ordination to the Priesthood on May 30th of this year.

Coming up in March will be Youth 2000 on the first full weekend (7th and 8th). The second weekend in March (14th and 15th) will be our annual Ministry Fair. After each Mass you are invited to the parish hall to visit the various ministry displays and even have the opportunity to sign up for a ministry. Refreshments will be served. Everyone welcome.

Don't forget the weekday Mass schedule change. I have flipped Tuesday and Wednesday Mass times. The evening Mass is Tuesday evening at 6pm and Wednesday morning at 6:30am.

We continue to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit on the choice of our next bishop.

Have a great week.

“...when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret.”

Calendar for the Week

Rosary is prayed Mon.—Thurs, 4 PM

Mon. Mass at 6:30 AM
Bunko, 1:00 PM

Tues. Mass at 6:00 PM
Choristers Practice, 2:45PM Church
Bible Study, 7pm, Hall

Wed. Mass at 6:30 AM

Thurs. Noon Mass
Returning Catholics, 6:30 PM

Fri. Eucharistic Adoration
Mass at Noon
Stations of the Cross, 7PM

Sat. Confessions, 12:30 –2:00 PM
Mass at 4 PM

Sun. 1st Sunday in Lent
Masses at 7, 10 AM, 5:30 PM
Religious Ed Classes, 11:15 AM
Coffee and Donuts after 10 AM Mass
Youth Group 6:30 PM

Readings for the Week

February 22 through March 1, 2009

Sun: Is 43:18-19,21-22,24b-25 13-14
2 Cor 1:18-22 Mk 2:1-12
Mon: Sir 1:1-10 Ps 93:1-2,5 Mk 9:14-29
Tues: Sir 2:1-11 Ps 37:3-4,18-19,27-28,39-40
Mk 9:30-37
Wed: Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6a,12-14,17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2
Mt 6:1-6,16-18
Thurs: Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4,6 Lk 9:22-25
Fri: Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6a,18-19 Mt 9:14-15
Sat: Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32
Sun: Gn 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-9 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15

All You Can Eat, Catfish: Knights of Columbus Hall, behind St. Pius X, serving begins at 6pm. Carry out available, \$8 adults, \$4 children, fiddlers, filets, baked beans, fries, cole slaw, hush puppies, corn bread, tea & coffee.

Tilapia Fish Fry: Precious Blood, Fridays in Lent, 5:30PM

Parish Council Members

Sharon Bell	729-4270
Marty Bumm	926-6443
Charlie Castlen	683-3426
Charlotte Cecil	683-0499
Tim Goetz	684-8275
David Graham	683-4665
Troy Haleman	691-0633
David Jarboe	683-5108
Ben Miller	685-2143
Rick Moman	683-6555
Darryl Murphy	683-8437
Phil Riney	926-8945
Elaine Williams	684-5116
Darlene Kazlauskas	684-3891

Safe Environment

Copies of the Diocese of Owensboro's policy dealing with sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable person is available in the Parish Office and on the Diocesan web site (www.Owensborodio.org) The Bishop and Diocesan Review Board want to help anyone who has been abused in the past or is currently suffering from abuse. You may phone the Pastoral Center, 683-1545, to report an allegation of abuse. **If you need to attend a Safe Environment Workshop, contact Jan at the Parish Office. You may now take the training online at www.shieldthevulnerable.org**

TV Mass

Mass will now air on Channel 72 at 10:30 am. If you have Time Warner's digital cable the Mass can also be seen at 11am on Channel 311. It also broadcasts from News 25 (cable chaneel11) at 6am. All those with satellite can get the Mass on local Channel 25 at 6am.

**Donations may be made to Gideon Productions.,
515 East 22nd St.
Owensboro, Ky. 42303**

Smoked Hams for Easter Dinner

The OCHS Baseball Team will be smoking Hams on Sat., Apr. 11, 7-8 bl. Field Legend for \$30. Sliced \$4 extra, pick up on the 11th 2-4 at Immaculate Parish Cook Building. Must order, Apr. 3, call OCHS Athletic Office 852-8001, Loretta Higdon 302-2292 or see any OCHS Baseball player

Free Income Tax Preparation

Audubon Are Community Services, Thursdays 1-4, HL Neblett Center, Wednesdays 5:30-8:30pm, St. Pius X, Fridays 10am-1pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm, Daymar College, Fridays Noon-8pm, Saturdays 9am-2pm, Owensboro Community college, Tuesdays & Thursdays 1pm-5pm, St. Vincent de Paul Store, Triplett St., Mondays and Fridays 4-8pm, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9am-Noon.

Retreats at the Mount

Heart of Creativity, March 6-8 (Method of meditation to help develop contemplative stance toward life.

Centering Prayer for Beginners, March 20-22

(Opening of mind and heart and one's whole being to God) **Ursuline Way of Life** Weekend, March 20-22 (Open to single Catholic women who feel God might be calling them to more in life) Call the Mount for registration and more info, 229-0200

Words of Life

One day our country will look back on what we have been doing to innocent human beings within their mothers as a crime no less heinous that what was approved by the Supreme Court in the "Dred Scott case" in the 19th century, and no less heinous that what was perpetrated by Hitler and Stalin in the 20th century." Cardinal Edward Egan

Those who pray keep alive the watch fires of faith