

"I am Who am"

Intention for the Week

Monday, March 8, St. John of God
6:30 AM Mary M Head (dec)

Tuesday, March 9, St. Frances of Rome
6:00 PM Bob Brown (dec)

Wednesday, March 10
6:30 AM Edward J. Payne (ann of death)

Thursday, March 11
9 AM School Mass
Noon Zula Conder (dec b'day)

Friday, March 12
Noon Jim Clark (dec b'day)

Saturday, March 13
4 PM Carroll Meister (dec)

Fourth Sunday of Lent
7:00 AM Doris Wahler (ann of death)
10:00 AM Mary Lois Clark (dec)
5:30 PM Blessed Mother Parishioners

***Blessed Mother
Communal Penance Service
Sunday, March 14, 2:00 PM***

Liturgical Ministers for March 13-14

Eucharistic Ministers

4 PM Marian Bennett, Lahoma Stinnett, Joyce Pearl, Marjorie Early, David, Jennifer Jones, Sandra Henry, Susie, Jay Fillman

7 AM Randy, Angie Lee, Joy, Bill Bach, Mike Thompson, Sr. Mary Timothy

10 AM Bill Hayden, Ed Higdon, Drew, Jeannette Ward, Mary Howard, Phil, Josie Hagan, Darlene Church, Chris Ford

5:30 PM Janice Bumm, Christina Best, Bobby Bastin, Rick Moman, Lisa Carmon, Cliff Russell

Readers

4 PM Mike Clark
7 AM Dennis Sandefur
10 AM Sr. Marie Joseph
5:30 PM David Marshall

Servers

4 PM Matthew Johnson, Gabe Fillman
7 AM Kevin, Tricia Thompson
10 AM Allie Ford, Daniel Best
5:30 PM Nick Russell, Alex Smiley

Families to Take Up Gifts

4 PM Kenny Blandford
7 AM Hugh Bittel
10 AM Eddie Jackson
5:30 PM Michael Ward

Children's Liturgy

Preschool: Michelle Sandefur, Beth Allen
Kn-3 Grade: Linda Wahl, Brittany Murphy

Vocation Cross Family

John Bell, Anna Bilderback, Hugh Bittel

Hillcrest: Bobby & Phyllis Bastin

Ministers of Hospitality for March

4 Keith Best, Jackie Russell, Tony Fiorella, Thomas Hobbs
7 Faye Riney, Jeff, Lynn Hofer, Michelle Sharp
10 Dan Johnson, Bryan Jones, Eddie Jackson, Bill Hamilton

5:30 Michael Bastin, Matt Howard, Ashley, Ken Hamilton

***Stations of the Cross
Fridays at 6:30 PM***

Catholic Q&A

Isn't the Catholic Church discriminating against people when it supports laws that ban same-sex marriage?

I think there are two errors at the root of this question: 1.) All discrimination is wrong, and 2.) People have the right to enter into a same-sex marriage. I would like to address these errors in turn.

Regarding the first error, people throw around the word "discrimination" a lot in order to gain some leverage based on the baggage attached to the word. When we hear "discrimination," we think "slavery," which was one of the greatest evils we have ever faced. So, when you charge someone with discrimination, that usually works to gain public sentiment in your favor. But, it's not intellectually honest. That's because it is simply **not true** that all discrimination is wrong. Speed limits discriminate against people who like to drive fast. Laws against stealing discriminate against kleptomaniacs. Should these laws be repealed simply because they discriminate? Of course not. The fact is, sometimes discrimination is **just** and **necessary**. So, it is not enough to say that a law is wrong simply because it discriminates. Instead, one has to prove that the discrimination in question is unjust.

The second error, that people have a right to enter into same-sex marriages, really centers around the definition of a "right." What is a "right"? Is it the freedom to do whatever we want? If that were the case, then people could claim the "right" to do anything! How then do we determine whether or not someone has a legitimate claim to something? If it's a legitimate claim, it's a "right." If it's an arbitrary claim, it's a "want." Basic philosophical principles tell us that a claim is legitimate only if it is **justified morally**, and if it has its basis in some good that should be honored. Under this definition, same-sex marriage cannot qualify as a right.

Now, I realize that this begs the question: how do we determine whether or not something is morally justified? As a Catholic, the Bible and the teachings of the Church are my guide, and while one could argue that these should be the guides for ALL men, I think it is also true that natural law and every man's faculty of reason should also lead him to the conclusion that same-sex marriage is immoral and thus no one has a legitimate claim to it.

Of course, this just scratches the surface of the debate (which is all I really have room here to do), but I hope it helps. For more information, I suggest the following sites:

— The Public Discourse: Marriage
<http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/topics/marriage>

— Catholic Answers: Gay Marriage
http://www.catholic.com/library/gay_marriage.asp

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

Laugh for the Week Lost in the Darndest Places

An elderly Floridian called 911 on her phone to report that her car has been broken into. She is hysterical as she explains her situation to the dispatcher: "They've stolen the stereo, the steering wheel, the brake pedal and even the accelerator!" she cries. The dispatcher said, "Stay calm. An officer is on the way." A few minutes later, the officer radios in, "Disregard. She got in the back-seat by mistake."

Senior Driving

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his cell phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Tom, I just heard on the news that here's a car going the wrong way on I24. Please, be careful!" "Heck," said Herman, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!"

Lenten Meditation

When God says "no" it is not necessarily discipline or rejection. It may simply be redirection. You have pursued His will; you have wanted to do His will. You threw that piece of wood on the fire, and you saw your selfish desires go up in smoke. With all good intentions you said, "By God's grace I am going to pursue this." And here you are, thirty or forty years later, or maybe only five years later, and it hasn't worked out. The thing we have to do in our walk with God is to listen carefully from day to day. Not just go back to some decision and say, "That's forever, regardless." We need to look at it each day, keep it fresh, keep the fire hot, keep it on the back burner, saying "Lord, is this Your arrangement? Is this Your plan? If it is not, make me sensitive to it. Maybe you are redirecting my life." God has all kinds of creative ways to use us—ways we can't even imagine and certainly can't see up there around the next bend in the road.



Prolife Corner

God's name, as revealed to Moses, is "I AM." It does not only mean "the fullness of being." It means "I am here FOR YOU, to rescue and save you."

The same words are spoken by God when he is announcing that he will rescue his people from their captivity in Babylon (see Isaiah 45) and when Jesus announces the liberating effects of his passion (see John 8).

In our day, these reflections show us our obligation to rescue the most vulnerable human beings of all, oppressed by abortion and euthanasia.

Young Disciples (Grades 7-12)

Coming Soon...

Sunday, March 7~ Youth 2000 Re-cooperation: NO YOUTH GROUP!

Sunday, March 14th~ ODYO (Owensboro Deanery Youth Outing): 4 square/9 square tourney @ Lourdes Leaving: right after mass (about 6:20) and returning @ 8:35 pm!

Questions, concerns, comments: come by, call, or e-mail me @: Christina Best: bmcyouth@bellsouth.net or 683-8444 Ext. 28

Cooking Teams up to bat: THANK YOU!!

1. Sunday, March 7th~ NO TEAM NEEDED!!

2. Sunday, March 14th~ NO TEAM NEEDED

Lenten Communal Penance Services

Mar. 2	Sts. Joe & Paul	6:30PM
Mar. 8	St. Williams	6:00PM
Mar. 9	Precious Blood	6:30PM
Mar. 14	Blessed Mother	2:00PM
Mar. 16	Lourdes	6:00PM
Mar. 17	St. Anthony	6:00PM
Mar. 21	St. Stephen	2:00PM
Mar. 22	Immaculate	6:00PM
Mar. 22	St. Lawrence	6:00PM

New CD's in The Stand

Many of these CD's have to do with the season of Lent. There is a suggested donation of \$3. On the back of each CD is an opportunity to join the CD-of-the-Month club, which also helps the parish to continue to provide these helpful resources. Please check them out and share them with friends and family!

Blessed Mother Church Stewardship

If you still have not turned in your commitment form, please do so this week. Follow-up calls will be made to those who do not turn in their card. This information is very important in helping us to plan for the coming Fiscal Year. Extra Forms are at the Church doors.

Forming Good Stewards

March 7, 2010

Third Sunday of Lent

“For three years I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down! Why should it exhaust the soil?”

Luke 13:1-9

Jesus tells of a gardener who pleads to save a fig tree so he can cultivate it and hope to make it productive. In chapters one and two of Genesis God reveals that He created man and woman and gave them dominion over His *Garden* - all creation. Bishop Robert Morneau poignantly describes how God made us stewards of many *gardens*: the *gardens* of our faith, our body, our family, our mind, our artistic ability, our many abilities and, most importantly, our ability to reason and our free will. He points out that all of the *gardens* belong to God and poses the question, “How are we caring for our *gardens*? Are we being good stewards? Have we cultivated our *gardens* or let them go fallow. Are our *gardens* as productive as God intended? If not, it is not too late. The first step is to identify and accept responsibility for the *gardens* that God has entrusted to our care. Do not be afraid. We have Jesus as our helper in our *garden*.

Sunday Collections

Actual	Budget	MTD	YTD
\$22,424..	\$21,058.	\$23,316.	\$22,611.

Cook Books

As a fund-raiser for their Ethiopian adoption, our parishioners, Zach and Katrina Watts have put together a cookbook containing recipes from family and friends. If you would like to support them by purchasing a \$5 book, please call Katrina at 688-0467 or 314-4155.

**Remember in prayer those
sick in our community:**

Frances Ballard, Herman Barr, Joey Barr, Harry Baumgarten, Helen Bellwood, Eva Birkhead, Liz, Logan Brown, Tony Brown, Frances Carrico, Maria Castlen, JB Cecil, Joe Cecil, Vincent Cecil, Joyce, Paul, Paul Jr., Christian, Ann Clark, Clifton Clark, George Clark, James Clark, Alice Cole, Jake Conder, Amy Cox, Hettie Crask, Ben Crump, Leoma Daly, Philip Demarest, Evelyn Denton, Jeannette Dick, Sheila Duncan, Emma Dunbar, John Duncan, Kinsey Dunn, Angela Farmer, Maria Finley, Matt Gabis, Rita Gabis, Lauren Girten, Lucille Goetz, Brenda Goodman, Luke Gray, Josh Griffith, Janice Goins, Donna Hamilton, Mary Hardesty, Jr. Harpe, Lucy Harpe, Martha Hayden, Martha Faye Hayden, Madalyn Marie Hayden, Janet Haynes, Hayden Head, Mike Head, Beverly Heppler, Mary Elizabeth Hill, Mildred Howard, Margaret Isbell, Mary Ava Jackson, Betty Jo Johnson, Gertrude Jones, Wilbur Jones, Jo Ann Kauffeld, Joann Knott, Debbie Koenig, Connie Krusick, John Krusick, Bob Lawrence, Travis Martin, Helen Matheny, Margaret Mattingly, Mildred McCarthy, Margie Meredith, Mary L. Millay, Virginia Millay, Mary Miller, Conner Mills, Dena Montgomery, Mary Morton, Alma Mullican, Carter Wayne Murphy, Nancy Murphy, Cindi Neuner, Lee Newton, Shirley Olliver, Joann Ogle, Ethan Payne, Helen Payne, Jerry Payne, Lura Payne, Mary Payne, Carolyn Pierce, Brenda Pitt, Lawrence Quinn, Paul Raley, Geraldine Ralph, Joyce Rangel, Otto Reisz, Vincent Reynolds, Paul Robertson, Darla Robinson, Beck Roby, Larry Roby, Janet Schartung, Dorothy Schell, Jessica Seymour, Herman, Mary Simmons, Becky Smith, Elizabeth Sosh, Rose Stepp, Susan Stersman, Onora Stone, Melissa Sullivan, Teresa Taucher, Larry Taylor, Mary Hilary Taylor, Joyce Thomas, Angela, Leo Thompson, Betty Thompson, Charles Thompson, Martha Towery, Anita Travis, Tammy Tucker, Glynda Turner, David Vasterling, Dianne Walsh, Kenny Ward, Scott Ward, Teresa Ward, Katherine Whittinghill, Jack Wilson, Bea Wooldridge, Bill, Flora Yancy, Randy Zaremba

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

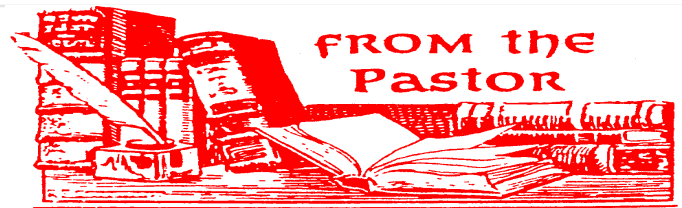
Iraq: SGT Jeremi Bosley, National Guards
Brandon Mattingly, US Army, Baghdad
Spec. Daniel Nugent, Iraq
Sgt. David Farley, US Army
Ryan Hofmann, Iraq (grandson of Al & Joan Hofmann)

Afghanistan

Jeremy Ballard (grandson of Frances Ballard)
1st Lt William Cory Newton (grandson of Dorothy Schell)

Other

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



I hope you had a good week. Today is the Third Sunday of Lent. During this time of Lent, when the RCIA candidates are present, it is permissible to use the readings from Year A for Mass. I compromise and just use the Gospel from Year A. The Gospel for the Third Sunday of Lent is the story of the woman at the well from John. Jesus wants a deeper faith commitment from her just as He does from us. He challenges her to grow; to open her heart to more than what she is presently seeking. We are all like her at a well wanting the love and forgiveness of Jesus.

We pray for the approximately 60+ kids from our parish attending Youth 2000 this weekend down at Brescia. We thank all the parents and other adults who have agreed to chaperone.

Many thanks to all those who have turned in their **stewardship commitment forms** for this year. There is still time. Mail them in or drop them off at the office. **We will need volunteers soon for the phone-a-thon.**

Fridays of Lent we will be praying the Stations of the Cross. Stations will be at 6:30.

We welcome Fr. Phil Riney here with us today. I have to be at a certification program that is required for Power Week summer camp. Power Week is June 21st to 25th and applications can be picked up at the office. Power Week is for kids going into the seventh and eighth grades next year.

Have a good week

Daily Bible Reading 683-8524

Calendar for the Week	
Rosary is prayed Mon.—Thurs, 4 PM	
Mon.	Mass 6:30 AM Bible Study 10AM Bunko, 1 PM Choristers Practice, 4:30 PM Cherubs Practice, 5:15 PM
Tues.	Mass at 6:00 PM Bible Study 7 PM Finance Meeting, 6:30PM
Wed.	Mass at 6:30 AM Stewardship Meeting, 6:30 PM
Thurs.	Mass at Noon
Fri.	Eucharistic Adoration Mass at Noon Stations of the Cross, 6:30PM
Sat.	Confessions, 12:30 –2:00 PM 4 PM Mass
Sun.	4th Sunday of Lent Mass at 7, 10 AM, 5:30 PM Penance Service, 2 PM Religious Ed Classes 11 AM Coffee and Donuts, 11 AM Youth Group, 6:30-8 PM AA Meeting, 7:30pm, school cafeteria

Readings

March 7 through March 14, 2010

Sun:	Ex:3:1-8a,13-15 Ps 103:1-4,6-8,11 1 Cor 10:1-6,10-12 Lk 13:1-9
Mon:	2 Kgs 5:1-15b Pss 42:2-3;43:3-4 Lk 4:24-30
Tues:	Dn 3:25,34-43 Ps 25:4-5b,6,7bc,8-9 Mt 18:21-35
Wed:	Dt 4:1,5-9 Ps 147:12-13,15-16,19-20 Mt 5:17-19
Thurs:	Jer 7:23-28 Ps 95:1-2,6-9 Lk 11:14-23
Fri:	Hos 14:2-10 Ps 81:6c-11b,14,17 Mk 12:28-34
Sat:	Hos 6:1-6 Ps 51:3-4,18-21b Lk 18:9-14
Sun:	Jos 5:9a,10-12 Ps 34:2-7 2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3,11-

Visit Our Web Site www.blessedmotherchurch.com

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 Background checks must also be done before you are eligible to work with the youth of our parish.**

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**

Catholic Schools News

OC Elementary Open House: K-3 Campus at Lourdes, 4-6 Campus at Blessed Mother, Thursday, March 11 6-7:30PM. For all incoming and new students and parents for the 2010-11 School year.

Win A Home: Catholic Education Partners are giving away a 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home on Sat. April 10 at 10am. Home located at Meadow Grass Creek. Tickets \$100 can be purchased at the Central Office, Jagoe Homes, Independence Bank, WBKR, or Sts. Joe & Paul Office, or call 683+5641.

Knights of Columbus "All you can eat Fish Fry" Fridays, Feb. 19-Mar 26, 3540 E. 10th St. (behind St. Pius) begins 6pm. More info call Kenny Ward 683-9955. Carry outs available!

Parish Council Members

Charlie Castlen	683-3426
Charlotte Cecil	683-0499
Tim Goetz	684-8275
David Graham	683-4665
Troy Haleman	691-0633
David Jarboe	683-5108
Rick Moman	683-6555
Darryl Murphy	683-8437
Phil Riney	926-8945
Darlene Kazlauskas	684-3891
Tony Powers	926-1803
Nancy Byrum	729-4362