

“Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you”

Intention for the Week

Monday, August 31

6:30 AM Fr. Joe Mills

Tuesday, September 1

6:00 PM Hazel Strobel (ann of death)

Wednesday, September 2

6:30 AM Stewart Schrecker (ann of death)

Thursday, September 3, St. Gregory the Great

9:00 AM School Mass

Noon Paul Roberts (dec)

First Friday, September 4

Noon George & Virginia Ballard

Saturday, September 5, Mother Teresa of Calcutta

4 PM Jerry Blandford Jr. (dec)

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

7:00 AM Andrew Dotsey (dec)

10:00 AM Charlie Wedding (dec)

5:30 PM Blessed Mother Parishioners

Visit Our Web Site
www.blessedmotherchurch.com
All Q&A's Now online!

Liturgical Ministers for September 5-6

Eucharistic Ministers

4 PM Janet Ruth, Joyce Pearl, Cecelia Hamilton, Jack Wilson, Lucy Harpe, David, Jennifer Jones, Susie, Jay Fillman

7 AM Harry, Charlene Baumgarten, Carolyn Taylor, Darlene Kazlauskas, Mike Thompson, Sr. Mary Timothy

10 AM Jim Hagan, Kim Barnett, Julie Hayden, Mary Howard, Darlene Church, Josie, Phil Hagan, Bill Hayden, Lindsey Whitehouse

5:30 PM Connie Morgan, David McBride, Martha Estes, Olivia Hardesty, Sam Lilly, Lisa Carmon

Readers

4 PM Judy Coomes

7 AM John Kazlauskas

10 AM Diane Fulkerson

5:30 PM David Marshall

Servers

4 PM Gabe Fillman, Kyra Vanover

7 AM Brittany, Courtney Estes

10 AM Collin Carrico, Daniel Fulkerson

5:30 PM Alex Smiley, Paris Wedding

Families to Take Up Gifts

4 PM Hayden Head

7 AM Vince Frey

10 AM Betty Jo Johnson

5:30 PM Ron Robertson

Children's Liturgy

Preschool: Jennifer Hayden, Beth Young

Kn-3 Grade: Natalie Hayden, Jessica Aull

Vocation Cross Family

Jim Hodgkins, Rebecca Hodskins, Lynn Hofer

Hillcrest: Bobby & Phyllis Bastin

Ministers of Hospitality for September

4 Jordon, Jolene White, David Jones, Taylor Wells

7 Vince Frey, Mike Wade, Steve Orth, Glenn Woodward

10 John, Christopher Hayden, Dan, Michael Goedde

5:30 Jack Hamilton, Gary, Garrett, Landon Smith

First Friday of September
Pot Luck and Bunko
After Noon Mass

Q&A

What is Purgatory?

People tend to think of Purgatory in a variety of ways:

— “Purgatory is a place where souls who don’t deserve heaven get a second chance to be with God”;

— “Purgatory is the best that I can hope for in the after-life, since heaven is only for **really** holy people”;

— “Purgatory is a place where souls work their own way into heaven, since God’s grace is not enough.”

Purgatory is in fact none of those things. Instead, it is simply the final act of purification, or “purging,” that God performs for us after we die in order to make us worthy for entrance into heaven.

We can die in unity with God but still have imperfections on our soul. These include things like venial sins, concupiscence (the inclination or propensity to sin), attachments to sin (the state of finding certain sins attractive or appealing), and insufficient reparation (the state of not having adequately made up for the negative effects of one’s sin). Since heaven is a place where no unclean thing shall enter (cf. Rev 21:27), God desires to purge these things from the persons who die in union with Him.

The first description is a misconception because Purgatory is only for souls that are already in a state of grace or friendship with God. These souls have persevered to the end. The divine life in them remains. If a soul is not fit for heaven, then it is not fit for Purgatory. There are no “second-chances” in the afterlife.

The second description is a misconception, first of all, because Purgatory is not a final destination. Souls don’t go to Purgatory and stay there forever. Eventually, they move on to heaven. Secondly, Jesus Christ did not die on the Cross for a select few. No, He died for all mankind (even you!). Our hope should be in **heaven**, and in the power of God’s grace to actually get us there.

The third description is a misconception because it attributes a soul’s release from Purgatory to his own suffering, instead of to the work and suffering of Christ. Yes, there is suffering in Purgatory. After all, it is a state of being refined in the furnace that is the burning fire of God’s love (cf. 1 Cor 3:12-15; Heb 12:29, Songs 8:6). We certainly can’t expect that to be pleasant! But, our suffering only has meaning and is only meritorious (or, worthy of receiving grace) because of the grace of God. Purgatory is a final application of the grace that He won for us on the Cross. So, it is ridiculous to say that Purgatory is somehow a belittling or a contradiction of that work.

I hope that helps you to understand Purgatory better.

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

Forming Good Stewards

“Almighty God, every good thing comes from you,” we pray in today’s opening prayer of the Mass. The first step in embracing stewardship as a way of life is in acknowledging that *everything* that we have that is good is a gift from God and not of our own doing!

In the reading from the letter of St. James we are urged to be “doers” of the Gospel, not just listeners. Being a “Steward” of God’s Word is a matter of listening to the Good News, embracing the Good News and putting the Good News into action in our day-to-day lives. And whenever we are uncertain as to what decisions to make or actions to take as good stewards of the Gospel, St. James reminds us: We can never go wrong if we resist popular values that are not compatible with the Gospel, and we come to the aid of those who are burdened, distressed and poor.

	Aug. 23rd Collection		
Actual	Budgeted	MTD	YTD
\$21,020.	\$21,058.	\$20,134..	\$20,567.

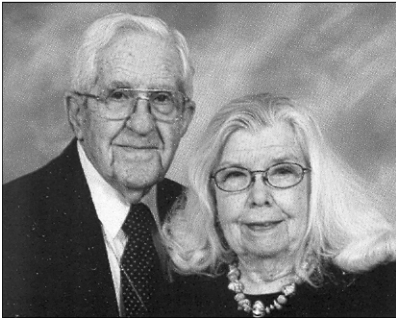
Picnic Update: Still waiting on a couple of bills then a financial sheet will be put in the bulletin. Looks like a net of around \$18,000.00.

Blessed Father Damien DeVeuster, SS.CC (1840-1889)

On Oct. 11, in St. Peter’s Square, our Holy Father will canonize five new saints, among them Hawaii’s own Father Damien. Father Damien is known the world over as the simple but determined priest who dedicated the last sixteen years of his life to the Native Hawaiians and others who had been exiled to the tiny, isolated peninsula on the island of Molokai because they had been diagnosed with leprosy. For more on the life of Fr. Damien go to the website www.fatherdamien.com

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The process through which adults enter into full communion with the Catholic Church is starting soon. Our 1st session is **Thurs., Sept. 3, from 7PM - 8:30 PM in the St. John Bosco Room in the Family Life Center.** Do you know someone who has a lot of questions about Catholicism or who would be interested in becoming Catholic? The first stage is for inquirers and there is no obligation to join the Church. If you know someone who would be interested, please have them contact Nicholas Hardesty by phone or email.



Charlie Speaks 2009 Sophia Award Winner

Blessed Mother is proud to announce Charlie as our 2009 Sophia Award Winner. Charlie has been a part of Blessed Mother for many years. His stained glass will always be a part of our Church in the presence of the Holy Spirit over the Altar and the Cross in the center of St. Joseph Hall. Charlie spent many years as the Master Money Counter, sorting through the sealed envelopes and filling in the count sheets. The spoken word was also heard from Charlie during his many years as a lector. We have been truly blessed by Charlie and his wife Laverne at his side! We pray that the Lord continue to bless them and bless their lives together.

Thanks to all our Seniors in the Parish for all you do for us! Without your help, devotion, and love we would be lost!

Young Disciples (Grades 7-12)

Coming Soon...

August 30th: ODYO Kick-Off – Food and Games @ Panther Creek Park! Drivers Needed!

September 12-13th: Youth Serve-Service Oriented Retreat for 6-8th graders... more information coming. If interested, please contact me!

Parents, if you have not been able to fill out forms, please contact me at the office or catch me Sunday night!

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

THANK YOU: To everyone who signed up to prepare meals for the youth group! The response was great, and we really appreciate all of your help! It's not too late if you missed the sign-ups, but would like to help. Contact me!

Right to Life of Owensboro Annual Walk for Life

The 29th annual Walk for Life fundraiser is scheduled for Sat., **Sept. 12** beginning at Lourdes. Muffins, juice and registration begin at 9am and the 3 mile walk down Frederica begins at 10am. People of all ages are welcome! Tshirts will be awarded to those who have collected \$50 or more, plus other prizes youngest & oldest, most money collected. The group that raises the most will be awarded a trophy to keep for a year, among other prizes. New this year is a Tshirt contest for grades K-12. All youth get your thinking caps on! Show your creativity and stand up for the unborn by designing a pro-life tshirt. The winner of the design will be our tshirt for next year's walk. For collection forms, waivers, or more info contact 685-4922, or 689-9101.

Catholics Returning Home

October 1—November 2

6:30-8 pm

Family Life Center

If you or someone you know wants to come back to the Catholic Faith, but don't know how to begin the journey, these sessions will walk you through.

Call Josie Hagan 926-4183 or Liz Francis 9263148

Laugh for the Week

The \$2.99 Special

We went to breakfast at a restaurant where the "Seniors Special" was two eggs, bacon, hash browns and toast for \$2.99. "Sounds good," my wife said. "But I don't want the eggs." "Then, I'll have to charge you \$3.49 because your ordering a la carte," says the waitress. "You mean I'd have to pay for not taking the eggs?" my wife asked incredulously. "Yes!!" stated the waitress. "I'll take the special then," my wife replied. The waitress ask, "How do you want your eggs? "Raw and in the shell," my wife replied. She took the two eggs home and baked a cake.

Mount St. Joseph Picnic, Sept. 13

Raffle tickets will be sold at Blessed Mother next weekend after all the Masses. Thousands attend the annual picnic, hope you can be one of them. Booths open at 10:30 am. Barbeque chicken, mutton and pork served from 11:30 am to 2 pm. Burgoo and sandwiches also available. Grand prize \$3,000, \$1,000, \$500, a quilt, wall mirror, and a ham. Grand raffle tickets \$2. All kinds of booths, silent auction, yard sale, inflatables, games, fun!

Remember in prayer those sick in our community:

Len Bach, Herman Barr, Helen Bellwood, Eva Birkhead, Liz, Tony Brown, Susan Byars, Frances Carrico, Maria Castlen, JB Cecil, Vincent Cecil, Joyce, Paul, Paul Jr., Christian, Ann Clark, Clifton Clark, Dorothy Clark, George Clark, James Clark, Linda Clark, Alice Cole, Jake Conder, Addie Corley, Amy Cox, Hettie Crask, Ben Crump, Leoma Daly, Philip Demarest, Evelyn Denton, Andrew Dotsey, Sheila Duncan, Emma Dunbar, John Duncan, Kinsey Dunn, Lauren Girten, Lucille Goetz, Brenda Goodman, Luke Gray, Janice Goins, Robert Hagan, Robert Hagan, Mary Hardesty, Martha Hayden, Martha Faye Hayden, Madalyn Marie Hayden, Janet Haynes, Hayden Head, Mike Head, Beverly Heppler, Peggy Hicks, Mary Elizabeth Hill, Mildred Howard, Margaret Isbell, Mary Ava Jackson, Gertrude Jones, Anna Kemper, Debbie Koenig, John Kru-sick, Travis Martin, Helen Matheny, Margaret Mattingly, Charlie Mayfield, Mildred McCarthy, Margie Meredith, Mary L. Millay, Virginia Millay, Conner Mills, Dena Montgomery, Mary Morton, Alma Mullican, Cindi Neuner, Lee Newton, Joann Ogle, Ethan Payne, Helen Payne, Lura Payne, Mary Payne, Paul Payne, Phillip, Carolyn Pierce, Brenda Pitt, Lawrence Quinn, Paul Raley, Geraldine Ralph, Otto Reisz, Vincent Reynolds, Susan Rice, Haley Riney, Paul Robertson, Larry Roby, Linda Rouse, Cecelia Schartung, Janet Schartung, Jessica Seymour, Herman, Mary Sim-mons, Becky Smith, Elizabeth Sosh, Susan Stersman, Onora Stone, Melissa Sullivan, Teresa Taucher, Larry Tay-lor, Mary Hilary Taylor, Angela, Leo Thompson, Betty Thompson, Charles Thompson, Martha Towery, Anita Travis, Tammy Tucker, Glynda Turner, Jean Van Meter, David Vasterling, Joyce Ventrees, Dianne Walsh, Kenny Ward, Scott Ward, Teresa Ward, Katherine Whittinghill, Alli Williams, 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:

SGT Jeremi Bosley, National Guards
Brandon Mattingly, US Army, Baghdad
Matthew Hoffman, US Army, Baghdad (great nephew of Camilla Baker)
Spec. Daniel Nugent, Iraq
Sgt. David Farley, US Army

In Afghanistan

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

When Does the Hurting Stop?

There will be a bereavement support group for anyone who has experienced a death at any time of his/her life. This group will meet the 2nd & 4th Wed. of each month beginning Sept. 9 from 3:30pm-5 pm and is open to the public at no charge. This will be held in the lounge at the Catholic Pastoral Center, Locust Street. For more info call Betty Medley at 683-1545 ext. 357.

Pre-Cana One Day Marriage Prep Program

Catholic Pastoral Center, Sat., Sept. 19, 8:30am-4pm. Reg-istration deadline is Friday, Sept. 11. Registration Fee: \$100 and includes continental breakfast, lunch and materi-als. To register call 683-1545.



I hope you had a good week. Today is the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. We are back in the Gospel of Mark in this year of Mark. Jesus talks about our hearts and all the bad things that can come from within. We need heart check-ups for our spiritual lives as well as physical cardiac health.

NEW ITEM: On Thursday, September 3rd at the Noon Mass, I want to offer the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. (We will do this after Communion so that anyone on lunch break can leave.) As you know, the Sacrament is for the seriously ill as well as anyone expect-ing a hospital stay or people advanced in years. We will try to do this on a regular basis possibly on first Thursdays of the month.

NEW ITEM: On Wednesday evening Sep-tember 30th at 6:30, we want to have a work-shop in church for all Eucharistic Ministers – including those who serve at Mass, minister to Hillcrest, or visit the homebound.

Religious Ed is in session today. Youth group meets tonight with a trip planned to Panther Creek Park to join other Catholic youth groups for a fun night.

RCIA starts the 3rd of September. If you know anyone who might be interested in learning more about the Catholic faith have them call Nick at the office or you call and give us their name and we will contact them.

We congratulate Tony Powers and Nancy Byrum for accepting the parish council posi-tions. I want to thank all those who submitted their names.

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

Have a great week.

Daily Bible Reading 683-8524

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**

Picnics

- Sept. 13, Mount St. Joseph, 11:30am
- Sept. 19, St. Stephen, 11am
- Sept. 26, Immaculate, 3pm
- Sept. 27, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville, 11am
- Oct. 24, Carmel Home

Calendar for the Week

Rosary is prayed Mon.—Thurs, 4 PM

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

Tues. Mass at 6:00 PM

Wed. Mass at 6:30 AM
Liturgy Comm. Meeting 6:30 PM

Thurs. School Mass 9:00 AM
Noon Mass

Fri. Noon Mass

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

Sun. 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time
Mass at 7, 10 AM, 5:30 PM
Religious Ed Classes Begin, 11 AM
Coffee and Donuts, 11 AM
Youth Group, 6:30-8:30PM

Readings for the Week

August 30 through September 6, 2009

- Sun: Dt 4:1-2,6-8 Ps 15:2-5 Jas 1:17-18,21b- 22,27
Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23
- Mon: 1 Thes 4:13-18 s 96:1,3-5,11-13 Lk 4:16-30
- Tues: 1 Thes 5:1-6,9-11 Ps 27:1,4,13-14 Lk 4:31-37
- Wed: Col 1:1-8 Ps 52:10-11 Lk 4:38-44
- Thurs: Col 1:9-14 Ps 98:2-6 Lk 5:1-11
- Fri: Col 1:15-20 Ps 100:1-5 Lk 5:33-39
- Sat: Col 1:21-23 Ps 54:3-4,6-8 Lk 6:1-5
- Sun: Is 35:4-7a Ps 146:7-10 Jas 2:1-5 Mk 7:31-37

Parish Council Members

Charlie Castlen	683-3426
Charlotte Cecil	683-0499
Tim Goetz	684-8275
David Graham	683-4665
Troy Halem	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

OCHS Football/Gold Rush Night

The OCHS Aces will face off against the Apollo Eagles, Friday, Sept. 18 at Steel Stadium for our Gold Rush Night. How impressive it will be to look up in the stands and see nothing but OC gold! T-shirts are \$10 each and range in sizes from children’s 2-4 to adult 3X. Pre-order forms are available at each OCS site, the OCHS Athletic Office and online owensborocatholic.org/Documents/Gold_Rush.pdf. Last day to order is Aug. 28, so please get your orders in soon! Questions call Michele Linn @ 691-9589.

Pro-Life Corner

The Gospel passage makes it clear that the building of the Culture of Life comes “from within,” just as do the death-producing ways of thinking that lead to the Culture of Death. The culture must be shaped by external factors, including law, and these factors can powerfully shape the heart. Yet form within the depth of the heart will spring our readiness to give life, welcome life, and defend life.

