

Blessed Mother Catholic Church

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. John Meredith, Pastor, phone ext. 22
Russ Hayden, Administrator, phone ext. 21
Brett Ballard, Music/Liturgy Director, phone ext. 27
Roman Osowicz, Maintenance Mechanic, phone ext. 20
Darlene Quinn, Office Assistant, phone ext. 25
Nicholas Hardesty, Director of Religious Education ext. 26
Christina Best, Youth Director, phone ext. 28

OFFICE PHONE: 683-8444

OFFICE ADDRESS: 601 East 23rd Street

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday at Noon

PRAYER LINE NUMBERS:

E-mail Line: Barbara Cecil - bwcecil@tds.net
or phone 929-3690

BAPTISM: Parents must be registered in the parish and attend the Baptism Class. Call Nicholas Hardesty, the Director of Religious Education to set up an appointment for the Baptism Class. Arrangements for the Baptism may be made at that time.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements must be made six months in advance of the ceremony with Fr. John.

ADULT CATECHUMENATE: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is open for all who would like to inquire into our Catholic Faith. Call the Parish Office.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME: A program for returning Catholics

Contact Josie Hagan, 926-1483

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

WEEKEND: Saturday 4:00 P.M.
Sunday 7:00 & 10:00 A.M.,
5:30 P.M.

WEEKDAYS: 6:30 A.M. Monday
6:00 P.M. Tuesday
6:30 A.M. Wednesday
Noon Thursday and Friday

HOLY DAYS: 6:00 P.M. Vigil Mass
9:00 A.M., 12:00 P.M.

ALL FRIDAYS: Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 12:30 - 2:00 P.M.
Any time by appointment.

VISITATION OF THE SICK: In order to meet the spiritual needs of our sick we ask that you please keep us informed of those who are ill at home, in the hospital, or a nursing facility. Our priest visits the hospital on a weekly basis. Arrangements may be made for Communion calls to the homes of our homebound parishioners on First Friday by the priest and/or weekly Communion calls made by lay ministers to parishioners who are unable to attend Mass.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

During the school year for grades Kn-8th

BEREAVEMENT DINNERS

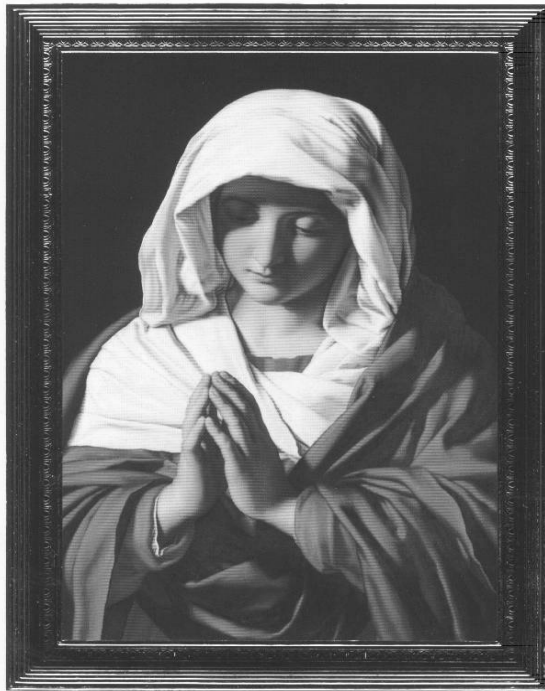
Dinners for family and friends after the Funeral.
Contact the Parish Office.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Blessed Mother welcomes all newcomers to our Parish Family. We would be honored to have you as a member. Please fill out this section, cut out, and turn it in or mail it to the Parish Office. We will send you papers for membership and we will also have a member of our Welcoming Committee call you.

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____



*"Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord,
May it be done to me according to your
word"*

Intention for the Week

Monday, December 20th
6:30 AM Edward J. Payne (dec, b-day)

Tuesday, December 21st
6:00 PM Johnny Payne (dec, b-day)

Wednesday, December 22nd
6:30 AM Joe Early (dec)

Thursday, December 23rd
9:00 AM NO School Mass
Noon Jerry Blandford Sr., & Jr.

Friday, December 24th Christmas Eve
5:00 PM Johnny Payne (dec)
8:00 PM Blessed Mother Parish
Midnight Charlie Wedding (dec)

Saturday, December 25th Christmas
9:00 AM Addie Mae Corley (dec, wed ann)

Sunday, December 26th
7:00 AM Lucille Goetz (dec)
10:00 AM Charles Riney (dec)
5:30 PM Blessed Mother Parish

Liturgical Ministers for December, 26th

Eucharistic Ministers

Sat 4 PM NO MASS

SUN 7 AM Randy Lee, Angie Lee, Don Cecil,
Mike Thompson, Darlene Kazlauskas, Brenda Hagan

Sun 10 AM Russ Hayden, John Calhoun, Raymunda
Calhoun, Carol Goedde, Debbie Ward, Eric Vaughn, Jim
Hagan, Sabrina Johnson, Scott Johnson

Sun 5:30 PM Janice Bumm, Michele Linn, Pete Linn,
Rachel Thomas, Christina Best, Jessica Carmon

Readers

Sat 4:00 PM NO MASS

Sun 7:00 AM Joy Bach

Sun 10:00 AM Diane Fulkerson

Sun 5:30 PM David McBride

Servers

Sat 4:00 PM NO MASS

Sun 7:00 AM Kaylin Hagan, Kendra Hagan

Sun 10:00 AM Stephanie, Caroline Hayden

Sun 5:30 PM

Families to Take Up Gifts

Sat 4:00 PM NO MASS

Sun 7:00 AM Michael Ward

Sun 10:00 AM Todd AAud

Sun 5:30 PM Bill Young

Children's Liturgy

Preschool Stephanie Frey, Rachel Aull (Asst)

K-3rd Grade Leesa Moman, Rachel O'Nan (Asst)

Vocation Cross Family

Mike Thompson, Shelby Thompson, James Topper

Hillcrest: Judy Coomes, Karen Thompson

Ministers of Hospitality for December

4:00 PM Jackie Russell, William Shelton
Keith Best, Tony Fiorella

7:00 AM Angela Lee, Randy Lee
Jack Murphy, Nancy Murphy

10:00 AM David Graham, Chris Glaser
Paul Coomes, John Hayden

5:30 PM Pete Linn, Jacob Linn
Josh Linn, Matthew Howard

Catholic Q&A

In this week before Christmas, I would like to offer a reflection on the Holy Family. I suspect that when most people think about the Holy Family, they imagine a picture of total happiness, where there is no worry or suffering of any kind and where every day just turns out perfectly. Yes, Jesus and Mary were completely sinless, and Joseph was a most chaste and righteous man. But, they still had their struggles. For example, we know that Mary and Joseph had quite a scare when, for three days, they had no clue where to find their son (cf. Lk 2:41-49). Just imagine losing the Savior of the World!

The movie *The Nativity Story* also gave me a better sense of the struggles that the Holy Family had to endure. These include public scorn, hunger, homelessness, harsh environments and traveling conditions, a power-hungry and blood-thirsty king, a tyrannical government, and the pressures--and ultimately the suffering--that comes with the knowledge that your son is the Lamb of God who must be slaughtered to save us from our sin.

What this shows us is that the Holy Family can relate to a family that struggles. A sword pierced Mary's heart, so that the thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed (cf. Lk 2:35). Of course, if anyone knows what it is like to suffer, it is Jesus. Joseph, for his part, had always on his shoulders the task of protecting and providing for this holiest of holy families. Together, they know what it means to struggle. More importantly, they know how to overcome and how to survive.

Thus, they are great models for us of how to live as a family, and they are powerful intercessors when we struggle with family issues. If you suffer because of your mother, find solace in Mary. She cares greatly for the entire Body of Christ, just as she cared for the literal body of Christ. Just as Sarah was the spiritual mother of the Jews (cf. 1 Pet 3:6), Mary is the spiritual mother of "those who keep the commandments of God and bear testimony to Jesus" (Rev 12:17). Her prayer for us will always be powerful because her will is always united with her Son's, and because "the prayer of the righteous has great power in its effects" (Jas 5:16).

If you suffer because of your father, find solace in St. Joseph, Jesus' father in this world. St. Joseph will never forsake his fatherly duty. He is the patron saint and the protector of families. With his powerful intercession, he protects God's children, just like he protected God's Child. As Mary's most chaste spouse, he also teaches boys how to be good men, and **men** how to be good men too. Pray that St. Joseph will help your father to be the man that God is calling him to be.

Of course, there is no intercession, no solace, no love, no source of strength and courage and hope like that of the Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is our Rock and our Salvation. In Him, we can do all things, overcome all things, be all things. Together, the mother, the father, and the Son are a triple threat against all who would dare threaten the integrity of the family.

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



Wishing you a Blessed Christmas!
Fr. John, Russ, Darlene, Brett, Nicholas,
Christina, Romie, and Will

Christmas Schedule Liturgical Ministers

Christmas Eve

5:00 PM EM, Russ Hayden, Jenny Glaser,
David Jones, Jennifer Jones, Cliff Russell, Mark
Church, Darlene Church, Lisa Carmon, Jessica
Carmon

Reader: Doug Dunn

Server: John David Marshall, Emily Marshall

Gifts: Tom & Sharon Johnson

8:00PM EM Dan Thomas, Sandra Thomas, Ra-
chel Thomas, Christina Best, Jeanie Best, Pat
Hale, Susan Hale, Darryl Murphy, Carol Murphy
Reader: Nichole Elder

Server: Daniel Best, Jacob Linn

Gifts: Tom Lilly

Midnight EM: Jay Fillman, Susie Fillman, Drew
Ward, Jeannette Ward, Scott Johnson, Sabrina
Johnson, Marian Bennett, Brenda Millay, Jerry
Millay

Reader: Ann Blandford

Server: Gabe Fillman, Appointed

Gifts: Appointed

Laugh for the Week

In a small Southern town there was a "Nativity Scene" that showed great skill and talent had gone into creating it. One small feature bothered me. The three wise men were wearing firemen's helmets. Totally unable to come up with a reason or explanation, I left. At a "Quick Stop" on the edge of town, I asked the lady behind the counter about the helmets. She exploded into a rage, yelling at me, "You darn Yankees never read your Bible!" I assured her that I did, but simply couldn't recall anything about firemen in the Bible. She jerked her Bible from behind the counter and ruffled thru some pages, and finally jabbed her finger at a passage. Sticking it in my face she said "See, it says right here, "The three wise men came from afar."

Giving Tree

Thanks to all who have returned their gift from the giving tree. Your generosity has been tremendous. If you have not returned your gift please do so by noon Monday. **We will start delivering the packages Tuesday at 11AM.** If you are interested in helping we are still in need of volunteers.

New Roman Missal

Why was there a need for a new translation of the Roman Missal? The Roman Missal, the ritual text for the celebration of the Mass, was promulgated by Pope Paul VI In 1970 as the definitive text of the reformed liturgy of the Second Vatican Council. That Latin text was translated into various languages for use around the world; the English edition was published in the United States in 1973. The Holy See issued a revised text in 1975. Pope John Paul II promulgated the third edition during the Jubilee Year in 2000. Among other things, the third edition contains prayers for the celebration of recently canonized saints, additional prefaces for the Eucharistic Prayers, additional Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Intentions, and some updated and revised instructions for the celebration of the Mass. To aid the process of translation of the third edition of the Roman Missal the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments issued Liturgiam Authenticam in 2001, an Instruction on the vernacular translation of the Roman Liturgy which outlines some new principles and rules for translation.

Advent Penance Services

Sun Dec 19	St Marys, Whitesville	2pm
Mon Dec 20	St Joe & Paul	6pm

Forming Good Stewards

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
"When Joseph awoke he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and he took his wife (Mary) into his home." Matthew 1:18-24

What if Joseph, in the legitimate exercise of his free will, had said "No, I will not take Mary into my home as my wife. Let her be stoned to death according to the law." Mary, despite the deadly consequences that could await her, had already freely said "Yes" and the Word was Incarnate in her womb. Happily for us all, Joseph received Mary into his home and lovingly cared for her and for the child that he knew was not his own. They are a family made holy by mutual love and courage and sacrifice (the Latin derivatives of the word "sacrifice" mean "making holy what we do"). They gave themselves to one another, and to us, in total love, without counting the cost or being deterred by the consequences. Imagine a world in which every family is characterized by such love, courage and sacrifice; by "making holy what we do" regardless of the cost or consequences - every family a holy family. Oh what a Christmas that would be!

Sunday Collections

December 12th, 2010

Actual	Budget	MTD	YTD
\$20,826	\$21,426	\$28,515	\$23,076

END OF YEAR GIVING

We are all busy finding that perfect gift for everyone on our list during this season of joy. Please remember to put your Church on your giving list. Not only is your gift Tax Deductible, but most of all you are helping spread The Kingdom of God on earth. Parish Christmas Envelopes are in your packets.

Christmas Flower Memorial

You can honor your loved ones this Christmas by giving flowers in their memory. Envelopes are in your packets. Be sure to write in the names of those you wish to remember. Your loved ones will be remembered at all the Masses during the season.

Religious Ed

Calendar for November and December

12/19: No class (Winter break)
12/26: No class (Winter break)

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

Frances Ballard, Herman Barr, Joey Barr, Harry Baumgarten, Helen Bellwood, Eva Birkhead, Megan Briggan, Liz, Logan Brown, Tony Brown, Frances Car-rico, Maria Castlen, JB Cecil, Joe Cecil, Melody Cecil, Vincent Cecil, Joyce Paul, Paul Jr., Christian, Ann Clark, Clifton Clark, Dennis Clark, George Clark, James Clark, Alice Cole, Jake Conder, Amy Cox, Hettie Crask, Ben Crump, Mickie Crump, Leoma Daly, Philip Demarest, Evelyn Denton, Sheila Duncan, Emma Dunbar, John Duncan, Kinsey Dunn, Angela Farmer, Maria Finley, Damon Gillim, Brenda Goodman, Luke Gray, Josh Griffith, Janice Goins, Sheila Gunterman, Joe Hagan, Donna Hamilton, Martha Hayden, Martha Faye Hayden, Madalyn Marie Hayden, Janet Haynes, Hayden Head, Mike Head, Beverly Heppler,, Mary Elizabeth Hill, Janice Hobbs, Jennifer Howard and baby, Mildred Howard, Paul Hodskins, Carol Hodskins, Margaret Isbell, Betty Jo Johnson, Gertrude Jones, Jo Ann Kauffeld, Joann Knott, Debbie Koenig, Connie Krusick, Bob Lawrence, Sam Lindsey, Travis Martin, Helen Matheny, Margaret Mattingly, Mildred McCarthy, Margie Meredith, Mary L. Millay, Virginia Millay, Mary Miller, Conner Mills, Dena Montgomery, Roger Morgan, Jayne Morgan, Mary Mor-ton, Alma Mullican, Carter Wayne Murphy, Nancy Mur-phy, Cindi Neuner, Lee Newton, Ruth Bittel-Nunez', Shirley Olliver, Katherine Osowicz, Ethan Payne, Helen Payne, Jerry Payne, Lura Payne, Mary Payne, Carolyn Pierce, Brenda Pitt, Paul Raley, Geraldine Ralph, Joyce Rangel, Otto Reisz, Vincent Reynolds, Paul Robertson, Beck Roby, Larry Roby, Lucille Russell, Dorothy Schell, Juanita Sessman, Jessica Seymour, Herman, Mary Sim-mons, Becky Smith, Elizabeth Sosh, Rose Stepp, Susan Stersman, Onora Stone, Melissa Sullivan, Teresa Taucher, Larry Taylor, Mary Hilary Taylor, Billy Thomas, Joyce Thomas, Angela, Leo Thompson, Betty Thomp-son, Martha Towery, Anita Travis, Tammy Tucker, Lucille Vowels, Glynda Turner, David Vasterling, Dianne Walsh, Kenny Ward, Scott Ward, Teresa Ward, Deny Wheatley, Katherine Whittinghill, Alli Williams, Joe Wink, 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

Afghanistan

Jeremy Ballard (grandson of Frances Ballard)

US Navy Lieutenant Commander Michael T. Clark

Other

AIC Austin Eckstein, USAF, grandson Henrietta May

SN Jason Bishop, US Navy, son of Linda & Dan Pearl



I hope you had a good week. Today is the Fourth and last Sunday of Advent. So we are very close now to the Lord's birth. The waiting is almost over. The Gospel tells us how the birth of Jesus came about. We thank God for good St. Joseph and the quiet role he played in the story of salvation.

Christmas Masses are upon us. Mass Christ-mas Eve will be at 5pm with overflow seating in the parish hall. Mass at 8pm, Midnight and then Christmas morning at 9am. **THERE WILL BE NO MASS SATURDAY NIGHT.** Regular schedule of Sunday Masses. Merry Christmas to you and yours.

There are many worthwhile charities to con-sider when contemplating year-end contribu-tions. Please consider the TV ministry in your generosity.

Only one more penance service at St. Joe & Paul at 6pm Monday evening the 20th.

UNIQUE REQUEST: if someone is so moved to help, there is a person incarcerated in the Ohio County Detention Center that needs bail money. For more information contact the of-fice.

Special thanks to the families who are bringing up our Advent candles this season.

**Young Disciples
(Grades 7-12)**

Coming Soon...

December 19th: Pizza, Decorating the church, & Dodgeball!!

December 26th: NO YOUTH GROUP!!

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

Cooking Team Up to Bat: THANK YOU!!

Dec. 19th~ No Team Needed!!

Dec. 26th~ No Team Needed!!



Calendar for the Week

Rosary is prayed Mon.—Thurs, 4 PM

**Mon. Mass 6:30 AM
Bunko, 1 PM**

Tues. 6:00 PM Mass

**Wed. Mass 6:30 AM
No Parish Council Meeting**

**Thurs. NO 9:00 AM School Mass
Mass 12 Noon
RCIA 7:00PM**

**Fri. Eucharistic Adoration
Mass 5 PM, 8PM, Midnight**

**Sat. NO Confessions, 12:30 –2:00 PM
Mass 9:00 AM**

**Sun. Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph
Mass at 7, 10 AM, 5:30 PM
NO Religious Ed after 10:00 AM Mass
NO BMC Youth Group 6:30 PM
AA Meeting, 7:30pm, Cafeteria**

Readings for the Week

December 19 through December 26, 2010

Sun: Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-6 Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24

Mon: Is 7:10-14 Lk 1:26-38

Tue: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a Lk 1:39-45

Wed: 1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56

Thur: Mal 3:1-4,23-24 Lk 1:57-66

Fri: 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16 Lk 1:67-79

Sat: Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6
Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5,9-14

Sun: Sir 3:2-7,12-14 Ps 128:1-5
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Mt 2:13-15,19-23

Daily Bible Reading 683-8524

Visit our website!

<http://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.rcdok.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 want to volunteer with minors you must complete the Safe Environment Training, and have a current Background Check. If you have any questions, contact Russ at the Parish Office.**

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 **7 am on Channel 311**. It also broadcasts from News 25 (cable channel11) 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**

Bethlehem

Though it was the birthplace of David, Bethlehem was far from notable when compared to the great cities of the ancient world. The Hebrew king's ancestral home, and the site of Rachel's tomb, was no Jerusalem, no Alexandrian, No Athens, no Rome. What an interesting portal for the baby Jesus. He left his established heavenly home for an inn's manger, a modest welcome at the end of the Virgin's long journey. The righteous King, he was placed in a manger, born into earthy uncleanness. Into a world torn by war and chaos, he entered a village where even the Church of the Nativity has experienced conflict and death in our day. More than a messenger of peace, though, Christ Jesus is our peace. "He shall be peace," Micah proclaimed, and, as the world celebrates his coming this Christmas season, we await the return of Bethlehem and Heaven's son, trusting his second coming ultimately restores Peace to all mankind.



Parish Council Members

Camillia Baker	729-9094
Nancy Byrum	729-4362
Charlie Castlen	683-3426
Charlotte Cecil	683-0499
Liz Francis	926-3148
Tim Goetz	684-8275
David Graham	683-4665
David Higdon (Chair)	852-5321
Rick Moman	683-6555
Darryl Murphy	683-8437
Tony Powers	926-1803
Dan Thomas	681-2120