Finding Strength in the Cross

Arturo Mari, the photographer who followed St. John Paul II from the first to the last day of his pontificate, was once asked which of the millions of photos he took of the pope captured him best. He cited the ones of the pope holding his crozier, resting his head on it as he prayed during so many Masses around the world. This silver pastoral cross accompanied St. John Paul everywhere (at right) and was his constant companion in all of his sufferings.

It shows Jesus hanging from a cross that is literally bowing under the weight of his body. You can feel the pull of gravity drawing the victim down in desperation. The photos show St. John Paul resting his forehead on the back of the cross, lost in prayer.

The papal photographer said this image more than any other summed up the pontiff because, before becoming a public figure who changed world history, he was a man of prayer, deeply loving Jesus. He was a man immersed in prayer who spent hours on his knees in order to have the strength to stand with and for those who most needed him.

This is a lesson for us. In order to live the beatitudes, we need to lean on Jesus and find our strength in him. Resting ourselves on the empty side of the crucifix is the best place to learn to love like him and be strong like him.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

Do I believe in the patience and love of Christ on the cross as the best show of strength?

[Jesus said,] “Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back.”

Luke 6:30
St. Joseph Catholic Church
204 North Main Street, Leitchfield, KY 42754  www.stjosephch.org
Office Hours: 8am to 4pm Mon-Fri  Office  270-259-3028  Rectory  270-259-3028
Emergencies 270-863-1596

Pastoral Staff
Pastor - Fr. Tony Bickett ftonyb57@ymail.com
Deacon - Deacon Bob Higbee
270-589-7316  rhigbee95@gmail.com
Office Manager - Missy Hart
270-259-3028  stjoseph1840@yahoo.com
Pastoral Associate - T.J. Dennison
270-259-3028  tj.stjoseph@gmail.com
Office Assistant - Paloma Falcon
pfalconstjoe@gmail.com
Religious Education - Kim Smith
270-589-1789  kim.smith@grayson.kyschools.us
Music Coordinator - Meredythe Lee
270-929-7048
Homebound Ministry - Joanne Johnson
270-259-7599
Catholic Outreach - Linda Clark
270-287-3776
Altar Society - Dee Dee Johnston
270-723-2740  deedej80@gmail.com
Prayer Chain - Betty Miller
270-259-3303  bettymil@windstream.net

Masses:  Feb 26-March 3
Monday  7:30 am  Prayer/Communion
Tuesday  12:05 am  †Debbie Stephens
Wednesday  5:00 pm  †Lorena Bland
Thursday  12:05 pm  †Mildred Rogalinski
Friday  7:30 am  †Jackie Richardson
Saturday  4:00 pm  Frank & Pauline Henning
Sunday  7:00 am  St. Joseph & St. John
Sunday  11:00 am  Alton Cannon & Grandson George

Confessions  Wed  4:30 pm
Sat  3:00 pm

Pastoral Council
Barbara Allen    Edna Duggins
Jim Cecil    Ann Marshall-Secretary
Jerry Clemons-Chair    Chris Nelson
Kirk Collard    Carolyn Thomason – Vice Chair
Billy Dallas

Stewardship of Finance
Feb 10, 2019  $3666
Debt Red  $15  Cemetery  $45
Outreach  $30
Thank you for your generosity!
July 1, 2018- January 31, 2019
Total Income  $213,600
Total Expenses  $191,100

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

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<tr>
<th>March 2- 4:00 p.m.</th>
<th>March 3 - 7:00 a.m.</th>
<th>March 3 11:00 a.m.</th>
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<tr>
<td>L Harold Rhodes</td>
<td>L Carolyn Thomason</td>
<td>L Curtis Grant</td>
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<td>S Ethan &amp; Zach</td>
<td>S Caroline, Chloe, &amp; Eva</td>
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<td>U Danny Joe &amp; Barbara Allen</td>
<td>U Kirk Collard &amp; Jerry Clemons</td>
<td>U Eddie Clemons &amp; Wade Lashley</td>
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<td>Gr Vivian Green &amp; Kerry Smith</td>
<td>Gr David &amp; Amelia Thompson</td>
<td>Gr Gary &amp; Stephanie Render</td>
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<td>Gi David &amp; Monica Riley</td>
<td>Gi Kirk Collard Family</td>
<td>Gi Deacon Bob &amp; Shirley Higbee</td>
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Pastoral Council
Cathy Young, Chair  Dick Dyche
Nancy Farmer, Secretary  Joe Durbin
Barbara Fitzhugh  Shelia Durbin

This Week at St. John
Tue  3:30 pm  Mass
Sun  10:00 am  Coffee & Donuts
       10:15 am  1st Small Group Session

March
6  5:00 pm  Ash Wednesday Mass

Sympathy: Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Grey Vincent who passed away. May he rest in peace

Small Group: Signup on the sheet in the back of church for our small group. The first session will be on Sunday, March 3 after Mass (10:15 am) in the parish hall and continue for the next 5 Sundays.

Exodus to Easter: Signup on the sheet in the back of church to reserve your copy of our daily devotional for Lent.

Canned Foods Wanted: St. John Food Pantry in Brownsville needs the following canned goods items: Peas; Whole Corn; Mixed Vegetables; and Tomatoes. You can just leave them in the box in the back of church. Thank you!

Read This Book for Lent: On Ash Wednesday, March 6, we will be giving out the book, “In His Likeness” Be Transformed as a Disciple of Christ by Edward Sri. This approachable yet in-depth exploration of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus is a tremendously valuable handbook for anyone who wants to know and love Christ more than ever.


St. John’s Thrift Store & Food Pantry
301 N Main St., Brownsville, KY 42210
Store Open: Mon - Fri - 9 am - 2:30 pm
270-597-1038  Sat - 9 am - 1:00 pm
Pantry Open: Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am -2 pm

Stewardship of Finance
Feb 17, 2019  $547

Thank you for your generosity!
July 1, 2018 - January 31, 2019
Total Income  $29,000
Total Expenses  $27,000

Masses  Feb 26 –March 3
Tuesday  3:30 pm  †J.T./Bennie Duvall
           Family Living & Deceased
Sunday  9:00 am  †Bobby S. Renfro

March 3  9:00 am
Lector  Joe Durbin
Server  John Gay
Cup  Chris Wolfe/Nancy Farmer
Host  T. J. Dennison
Ushers  Joe Farmer/Doug Farmer
Gifts  Bill & Cathy Canty
Greeters  James & Pam Hughes
Music  Jeremiah Bush/Barbara Fitzhugh

MONTHLY GATHERINGS

St. John’s Thrift Store & Food Pantry
301 N Main St., Brownsville, KY 42210
Store Open: Mon - Fri - 9 am - 2:30 pm
270-597-1038  Sat - 9 am - 1:00 pm
Pantry Open: Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am -2 pm
This Week at St. Joseph

Mon  7:30 am  Prayer/Communion
     7:00 pm  Live Stream Rosary
Tue  12:05 pm  Mass
Wed  4:30 pm  Confessions
       5:00 pm  Mass
       5:30 PM  Religious Ed
Thu  12:05 pm  Mass
       6:00 pm  RCIA—Journey of Faith
       6:30 pm  Pastoral Council
Fri  7:30 am  Mass
       8:00 am  Eucharistic Adoration
       5:00 pm  Benediction

SUN  12:00 PM  PARISH MARDI GRAS

UPCOMING

March
6    7:00 am  Ash Wednesday Mass
     12:05 pm  Ash Wednesday Mass
     7:00 pm  Ash Wednesday Mass
7    7:00 pm  Cemetery Committee
8    5:30 pm  Stations of the Cross
9    9:30 am  Altar Society

Mardi Gras Dinner: We will be having a parish get together on (Fat Sunday) March 3, at 12:00 noon in the parish hall to Feast before the Fast. Come and join with your fellow parishioners as we say goodbye to winter and welcome spring and begin the Holy Season of Lent. What to bring, good cheer and your favorite side dish and desert.

BIRTHDAYS
Ryan Pierce          2/24
Nicole Johnston     2/25
Collin Logsdon      2/25
Troy Kannapel       2/26
Chelsea Phillips     2/26
Melissa Garrison    2/27
Carolyn Hawke       2/28
Chad Butler         2/29

ANNIVERSARIES
Kevin & Roni Mudd   2/26

Sympathy: Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Debbie Stephens who passed away. May she rest in peace.

Renew Your Faith: Living the Eucharist is an exciting renewal experience designed to help all parishioners grow in their faith and to have a deeper understanding of Sunday Mass.

Small Group: To get the most from Living the Eucharist you are urged to participate in our small group. Sign Up Today! Small groups will begin the first week of March and continue for the next 5 Sundays.

Pray: Pray daily our Living the Eucharist prayer for Lent.

COMMUNION MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Nursing Home  Homebound

Jim Marshall  2/24-3/02  Rita Grant

St. Joseph Prayer List:  Laska Anderson, Mary Beckner, Bonnie Blanton, Pat Boone, Troy Burkhart, Alton Cannon, George Cannon, Nathan Clark, Nicole Moreland Cook, Anna Critchelow, Dana Cruze, Mary Davis, Delbert Durham, Ken Farris, Dick Gatto, Sheila Gibson, Linda Handus, Rick M. Harris, James Hibbard, Robbie Higdon, Odelean Hill, Sandra Hill, Norma Hodges, Ricky Howard, Dean Jacobs, Don Jaggers, Pat Jarboe, Phillip Johnston, Sandy Johnston, Sharon Johnston, Jeraline Logsdon, Joseph Lyons Jr., Cadence Lyons, Janette Pierce, Phyllis Pierce Portman, Norman Powell, Tammy Powell, Spencer Ray, Tony Rishkofski, Mary Enith Ross, Aaron Shull, Rebecca Sneed, Betty Stone, Dave Thompson, Michelle Vincent, Madelyn Whitworth, Damon Young, Jamie Wortham, Briana Denise Zeitz.
**Best Lent Ever** is a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that will guide you on an incredible journey toward the best version of yourself. From Ash Wednesday to Easter you will receive a daily email that is designed to help you to transform your life in forty days. Signup at: dynamiccatholic.com/best-lent-ever

**Ash Wednesday Invitation:** Anyone is welcome to attend services in a Catholic Church. And anyone may receive ashes on Ash Wednesday. So, **INVITE EVERYONE** you can think of TO COME TO MASS with you this **ASH WEDNESDAY**, March 6. We will be having Mass at 7:00 am; 12:05 pm and 7:00 pm.

**Knights Party:** You are invited to join the Knights of Columbus Mardi Gras Party of Saturday, March 2 at 6:30 pm at the knights hall.

**Fish Fry:** The Knights of Columbus fish fry dinners are held every Friday from 4:30-7:00pm. For more information call 270-242-7955.

**Get Ready for Lent:** Check out this site for some creative things to do for Lent this year. For some GREAT suggestions see: dynamiccatholic.com/everyday-life/creative-things-to-give-up-for-lent

**Eucharistic Adoration**

Every First Friday of the month we offer Eucharistic Adoration from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm. Ideally we would like to have 3 people committed to praying for one of those 9 hours. If you would be willing to cover one of the hours this coming Friday, February 1st, please call Judy Warren 270-259-6265 or 270-899-0488.

**St. Paul:** Reverse Raffle and Chili Cookoff on Saturday, March 9 at 5:00 pm in St. Joseph Church Hall. Grand prize $2000 with another $1000 being given away. An additional $300 for best chili, a raffle and games. Tickets $50 each. Dinner $8 each. Call St. Paul 270-242-7483 or 270-784-1520 for more info.

"We cannot be Christians part time. If Christ is at the center of our lives, he is present in all that we do."

**Read This Book for Lent:** On Ash Wednesday, March 6, we will be giving out the book, "In His Likeness" Be Transformed as a Disciple of Christ by Edward Sri. This approachable yet in-depth exploration of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus is a tremendously valuable handbook for anyone who wants to know and love Christ more than ever.
Sunday, Feb 24, 2019
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Love without distinction
An enemy is defined as someone who’s against you. The word springs from the Latin “inanimus”—literally, “not friend.” If someone’s not interested in being your amigo, why should you be amicable in return? While contrary to instinct, loving enemies is one of the hallmarks of following Jesus, who chooses to lay down his life even for the sake of those who are killing him. Is it risky to open your arms to an enemy? Yes: see crucifixion, above. But if we refuse to love those who hate us, what makes us any different from those who hate?


Monday, Feb 25, 2019

Clean from the inside out
Most people may think they’ve left behind those old-fashioned notions of “unclean spirits” found in the Bible and religious texts of an earlier age, but have they really? Researchers have found that a lot of ancient associations about “clean” and “unclean” are still with us, only now we have translated them into the realm of science, health, or nutrition. Think of how concerned people are about the purity of their food and whether their environment is antiseptically clean. It’s all well and good to promote health and guard against disease, but don’t forget Jesus taught that purity and impurity ultimately are questions of the heart.

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 1:1-10; Mark 9:14-29 (341). “Everything is possible to one who has faith.”

Tuesday, Feb 26, 2019

The last will be first
“Will you let me be your servant? Let me be as Christ to you.” The Richard Gillard hymn with this line has become familiar to many Catholics. Sung at funerals, weddings, Holy Thursday foot washings, and Sunday Mass, the lyrics touch human hearts in their eloquent call to humbly serve the needs of others. Pope Francis, who serves the poor in word and deed, calls us to share in this journey. How can I surrender my need for recognition? How can I serve the needs of others?

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 2:1-11; Mark 9:30-37 (342). “They had been arguing about who was the most important.”

Wednesday, Feb 27, 2019

Respond to the need, not the creed
In a commentary a few years back, prelate Gerald Kicanas, former bishop of the Diocese of Tucson, addressed the question of whether Catholic organizations are still actually “Catholic” if they provide services to all people, Catholic or not. His response was clear and pastoral: “The heart of Catholic outreach and social doctrine has been that we are here to serve all, and don’t make distinctions. So in our Catholic schools there are young people who are non-Catholic. In our Catholic charities, we serve people who are in need.” May the measure of your service and outreach always be love.

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 4:11-19; Mark 9:38-40 (343). “There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me.”

Thursday, Feb 28, 2019

Gone but not forgotten?
One of the most significant documents the American Roman Catholic bishops issued in the 20th century was Economic Justice for All. Issued in 1986, it calls fulfilling the needs of the poor the “highest priority” of economic policy and the “most urgent priority for domestic economic policy.” Economic rights are fundamental human rights, as much as freedom of speech and religion. Some on Wall Street responded: What can a group of bishops know of high finance? A living Christianity, however, will always speak economic justice to economic power. Speak up for human values as expressed in public budgets.

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 5:1-8; Mark 9:41-50 (344). “Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will surely not lose his reward.”

Friday, Mar 01, 2019

The graceful gift of friendship
The church’s current sacramental system designates seven ritual moments in the life of the church as occasions of particular grace. Any parochial school child can recite them: the initiating sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist; the healing rituals of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick; the vocations of Marriage and Holy Orders. But if there’s ever room for an eighth candidate, many might vote for a sacrament of friendship. Who hasn’t experienced their closest friends as occasions of grace? And didn’t Jesus “institute” this sacrament just as obviously in the choice of his companions from Galilee to Jerusalem? Express your gratitude to a friend today.

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 6:5-17; Mark 10:1-12 (345). “Let your acquaintances be many, but one in a thousand your confidant.”

Saturday, Mar 02, 2019

MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Mother, may we?
When parents today chauffeur their kids everywhere or buy them the latest fashion item or cell phone, it’s hard toathom how invisible kids were in Jesus’ day. While he built an entire ministry on reaching out to the “least of these,” children were the “least of the least”—as we see from the perturbed reaction of the apostles. But Jesus says, “Let the children come to me.” Could it be that Jesus learned his technique at the knee of Mary, his mother and ours, who so often is depicted with her arms held wide to welcome us all?

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 17:1-15; Mark 10:13-16 (346). “Let the little children come to me: for it is to such as these the kingdom of God belongs.”
Dear Padre,

At Mass, the priest lifts the chalice and says the blood of Christ “will be poured out for you and for many.” For decades, the wording was “all” not “many.” Why the change?

A 2001 Vatican document, On the Use of Vernacular Languages in the Publication of the Books of the Roman Liturgy (Liturgiam Authenticam), called for a strict alignment between liturgical texts and the original Latin. Consequently, the current English translation of The Roman Missal (third edition) includes a more literal translation of “Et cum spiritu tuo” as “And with your spirit” rather than the loose translation “And also with you.”

Likewise, the change from “all” to “many” in the words of consecration has to do with the Latin text pro multis, for which the exact translation is “for many.” Moreover, “for many” also aligns with the words of Jesus at the Last Supper in the Gospels of Mark (14:24) and Matthew (26:28).

And Scripture scholar Daniel Harrington, SJ, cites the Suffering Servant who “bore the sins of many” in Isaiah 53:12 as the basis for the passages in Mark and Matthew. Others, however, question if the exact translation “for many” misrepresents Christ’s universal offer of salvation by his death on the cross.

To be clear, Jesus died to offer salvation to everyone, even though it’s possible that some won’t accept his offer. As the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments says: “For many’ is a faithful translation of pro multis, whereas ‘for all’ is rather an explanation of the sort that belongs properly to catechesis.”

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A Word from Pope Francis

The cross of Christ bears the suffering and the sin of mankind, including our own. Jesus accepts all this with open arms, bearing on his shoulders our crosses and saying to us: “Have courage! You do not carry your cross alone! I carry it with you.”

—World Youth Day, July 26, 2013