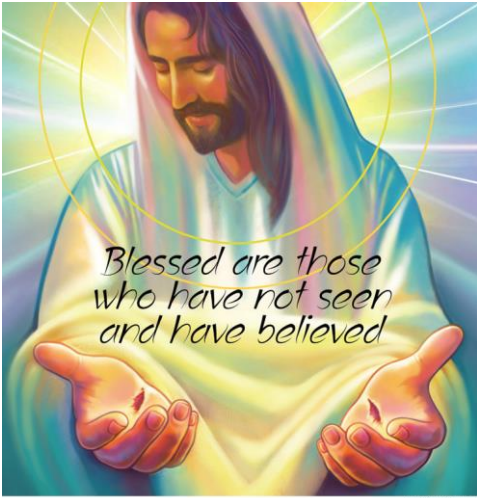


April 11, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? (John 5:1-6)



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DOUBT

The desire to be able to prove the existence of a divinity has troubled humanity since human consciousness first became aware of the divine. To this very day we are fond of saying that any number of things—from sunsets to hot fudge sundaes—are “proof that there is a God.” We get so caught up in the story of “doubting Thomas” that we fail to notice that today’s Gospel gives us John’s account of Pentecost, the bestowing of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples following the Resurrection. Thomas, evidently, missed out not only on seeing the Risen Christ, but receiving the Holy Spirit as well. This is not to be taken lightly and, perhaps, makes Thomas’ disbelief a bit easier to comprehend. It also makes his professing that Jesus is his Lord and God—the only time the New Testament explicitly refers to Jesus Christ as “God”—more remarkable.
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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus (Acts 4:32-35).

Psalm — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — The victory that conquers the world is our faith (1 John 5:1-6).

TODAY’S GOSPEL

Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed (John 20:19-31).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-9; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy); Julian Calendar Easter

Monday: Ramadan (Islamic observance) begins at sunset

Tuesday: St. Martin I



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**Must wear mask at all times
– to attend.**

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. (Live)
10:00 a.m. (Live & Recorded)

WEDNESDAY

9:00 a.m. MASS (Live)
6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting,

FEAST OF FAITH

The Psalms in the Liturgy

The book of Psalms is a prayer book, hymnal, and anthology of verse all rolled into one. It contains one hundred fifty ancient songs—poem-prayers that express the joys and sorrows of the Hebrew people and their longing for God. The psalms are incredibly varied in tone. Some are solemn anthems of praise that once accompanied processions of great multitudes to the temple; others record the lonely cries of a faithful soul who feels abandoned by God.

This ancient prayer book of the Hebrew people is our principal prayer book as well. The psalms are everywhere in the liturgy—in the antiphons and acclamations of the Mass, and most particularly in the responsorial psalm that follows the first reading. The psalm that is sung at Mass usually echoes the themes of the first reading, and sometimes even comments on it. On this Second Sunday of Easter, we listen to the account from Acts describing the communal life in the early Church, and then the psalm comes to remind us: “Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting” (Psalm 118:1). In their wonderful variety, the psalms teach us how to pray.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



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CHRIST IS HERE

Christ departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find him. For he departed, and behold, he is here.

—St. Augustine

FORWARD IN FAITH



The Stewardship Committee extends a heartfelt thank you to all the St. Monica parishioners for the success of our 110 Anniversary Celebration and Virtual Silent Auction. The Committee worked with precision as a team, under the capable leadership of Mrs. Shirley Thaw, with expert guidance on the auction from Mrs. Angela Curry. Kim Urenda's technical assistance, and Dwight's performance as the announcer contributed to raising a total amount that exceeded our goal! Our success would not have been possible without your support. You donated and bid on many of the 56 available items. During the process, we added St. Monica Twitter and Instagram accounts to expand our reach on social media. We expect the addition will attract new members as the downtown and 18th and Vine areas expand housing opportunities near the church. Thank you again and look forward to future events to work on together as our parish moves "Forward in Faith." Our goal is, to raise **\$150,000** by October 2021. So far, we have received **\$63,086.50** and **\$86,913.50**, still to go. The goal is huge, but God is faithful. God bless you all,

Fr. Leonard

TRASH AND TREASURE SALABRATION!

After 2020, we need a two-part Juneteenth Salabration! What better way to celebrate than by cleaning out the garage, getting rid of the old, spring cleaning and decluttering our homes and neighborhood.

FESTIVITIES BEGIN SATURDAY, JUNE 5! - 9AM-3PM

Bring your treasures to the St. Monica **GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER** where parishioners can sell reusable merchandise and contribute the money to the church from the sale of unwanted items. Make a donation to St. Monica without reaching into your pocket...

ALL proceeds go to the Church.

ALL donations are tax deductible.

What you don't sell, we'll haul away and donate to a charity. Enjoy some music.

Refreshments and St. Monica T-Shirts will be sold. Socially distance FUN!!!

PART 2: Saturday, June 19, OUR HISTORIC HOLIDAY!

We are working in conjunction with the city for you to take yard waste, papers to be shredded and hard to recycle items to the parking lot at **Manual High School between 8am and Noon** that day. Then finish the day by enjoying the festivities in Parade Park and on 18thVine. Your family, the church and our community all benefit. A win-win for everybody.

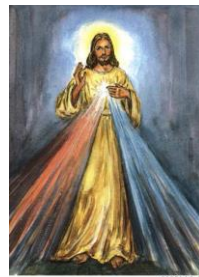
TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Sometimes children acquire nicknames in childhood that stalk them through adulthood: "Pinky," "Boo-boo," and the like. This Sunday was once called "Low Sunday," a step down from Easter glory, and an unfortunate nickname since Easter rejoicing goes on for fifty days. Traditionally this is the day when the newly baptized put away their white baptismal robes and returned to their everyday life after a week of intense celebration. Of course, the goal was to take up everyday duties with a very new point of view.

A long title for the day was *Dominica in albis deposito*, or "The Lord's Day for Putting Away the Albs," so no wonder the nickname "Low Sunday" arose. In the old calendar it was also called "Quasimodo Sunday," after the first word of the opening chant, *Quasimodo geniti infantes*, or "As newborn infants," a reference to the newly baptized taken from the Epistle of Peter. Victor Hugo's bell-ringing hero in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* was abandoned as an infant on the threshold of the cathedral of Paris on Low Sunday, 1467, and named "Quasimodo" for the feast.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Bulletin Deadline Wednesday - MOON



OUR SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Please inform our Pastor, Fr. Leonard when a loved-one is home bound or has been hospitalized. Call 816-471-3696 or email:stmonica1616kc@hotmail.com

Edith Bolder Holmesdale Care Center, Alvin Brooks, Home, Jeanette Hamilton Evans, Home, Carlos Nix, Home, Lavel McCullough, Home, Rosa Birch, Home Sandra Cloyd, Home, Kevin Brown, Home, Jackie Countee, Home, Sharon Shackelford-Allen Home, Earnestine Nard, Home, Earl Greene, Home, Michael Mize, Home, Flora Waddell, Home, Delores Bazy, Home, Home, Vera Brown, Home, Ovell Thomas, Home, Joann James, Home, Dorothy Wyatt, Home, Terese Spears Chambers, Home, John Johnson, Home, Vauncille Bartlett, Home, Mary Ann Grayson, Home, Herman Lovett, Home, Donald and Mable Parson, Home, LaTonya Sutherland, Home.

