

**DECEMBER 5, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



A DEEP CHANGE OF HEART

When John proclaimed a baptism of repentance, as today's Gospel relates, he called people to a deep change of heart. For John the Baptist, repentance was not simply regret for past failings, but a commitment to orient life around God's desires and purposes. What might living in alignment with God's desires look like? Our readings offer some clues. Baruch indicates that when mercy and justice are embraced like a royal garment, we may see the fruits of repentance. Paul notes how the Holy Spirit has been active within the church in Philippi, forming them to live in a loving and united community of faith, so they may witness to the love of God. And John himself suggests that a repentant heart clears a path for God to enter, leveling the mountains and valleys of our resistance, so that God might dwell within.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Stand on the heights, Jerusalem; see your children rejoicing that they are remembered by God. A *merciful and just God leads Israel in joy* (*Baruch 5:1-9*).

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (*Psalm 126*).

Second Reading — May your love increase in knowledge to discern what is valuable that you may be blameless for the day of Christ (*Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11*).

TODAY'S GOSPEL

John proclaims a baptism of repentance

- for the forgiveness of sins. All flesh shall see the salvation of God.
(Luke 3:1-6).

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

- Almighty and merciful God,
- may no earthly undertaking hinder those
- who set out in haste to meet your Son,
- but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
- gain us admittance to his company.
- Who lives and reigns with you
- in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
- God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

- *What earthly undertakings do I need to set aside so that I can set out to meet God's Son?*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday** Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday:** Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 913ab; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 5-16, 18-19; Mt 7:9a, 10-13
- Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 56
Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Second Sunday of Advent
- Monday:** St. Nicholas
- Tuesday:** St. Ambrose;
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Wednesday:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Thursday:** St. Juan Diego
- Friday:** Our Lady of Loreto
- Saturday:** St. Damasus I

WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES

Masks are required .

- SUNDAY:** 8:00 A.M. MASS. (Live)
10:00 A.M. MASS
(Live and Recorded)
- WEDNESDAY – 9:00 A.M. MASS (Live)**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION\



- Starting in January, 2022, the first Communion Class will meet each Sunday, after the 10:00 Mass, in Ferguson Hall.
Jenny Gillis, Teacher
- **We are preparing to start classes for the Sunday School, Junior Youth Group, Senior Youth Group, in January, 2022.**
- **The dates, meeting times and locations, will be listed in the Bulletin.**
- **Ramonda Doakes, Director**

THE DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY- ST. JOSEPH -

~ is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

- 1) Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-392-3728 (if the victim is currently under the age 18), and
- 2) Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
- 3) After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816-812-2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcs.org *if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.*
- 4) ***The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care And healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families.***

Please contact Whitney True-Francis, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816-392-0011 or true.fransis@diocesekcsj.org for more

SECOND COLLECTION – NEXT SUNDAY

**For
THE RETIREMENT FUND
FOR
THE RELIGIOUS**

OUR SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Please notify Father Leonard when you or a family member has become homebound or has been admitted into in a hospital. Call the Church Office, 816-471-3696, or email: leombuthis@yahoo.com

Edith Bolder, Home, **Jeanette Hamilton**, Home, **Rosa Birch**, Home, **Sandra Cloyd**, Home, **Delores Bazy**, Home, **Vera Brown**, Home, **Kevin Brown**, Home, **Ray Myers**, Home, **John Johnson**, Home, **Vauncille Bartlett**, Home, **Mary Ann Grayson**, Home, **Donald and Mable Parson**, Home, **Sergio Mendoza**, Home, **Michael Lucas**, Home, **Paris Harrington**, Home, **Earl Greene**, Home, **Ovell and Francis Thomas**, Home, **Dorothy Mustin**, Home, **Earnestine Nard**, Home, **Barbara Parks**, Home Rehab.,, **James Davidson**, Home, **Flora Waddell**, Rehab., **Elaine Lomax**, Home, **Dr. James Birch**, **Providence Rehab.,**, **Donna Dupree**. Home., **Cheryl Warren**, Home, Rehab, , **Chaunceyetta Mize**, Home, **Michael Mize**, Home, **Rhea Holloman**, Home, **Terry Buckman**, St. Luke Hospital, **Clara Mays**. Home, **Melva McClellan**, **Menorah Rehab.** **Marilyn Hardy**, St. Luke Hospital,



God has commanded
that every lofty mountain
be made low.
~Baruch