

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 6, 2020**

Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill
shall be made low.

~Isaiah 40:4



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GOD'S DELAY

In times of great difficulties scoffers taunt us, "Where is God? Why hasn't your Lord come to save you now?"

And we of faith respond much in the same way as Peter did in today's second reading: the "delay" of the Lord's second coming is not any type of punishment or failure to keep the divine promise, but a loving sign of God's patience. God is giving *everyone* the chance to seek repentance.

God does not make life more difficult. Rather, God lessens our burdens as once before for the Jewish exiles returning home to Judea after captivity in Babylon. It was God who personally led them, making a "straight highway" for them across the desert.

We join with our ancestors of faith, who hoped that they might see God's Chosen One before them and who eventually realized that the Lord was also walking with them side by side. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (*Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*).

Psalm — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (*Psalm 85*).

Second Reading — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (*2 Peter 3:8-14*).

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Dear Church Family,
Please inform Father Leonard when
a loved one has become homebound,
or has been hospitalized.

Call 816-471-3696,

or email: leombuthia@yahoo.com

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------|
| Edith Bolder | Holmesdale Care Center | |
| Jeanette Hamilton | Evans | Home |
| Inell Hunter | | 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 |
| Chaunceyetta Mize | | Home |
| Margaret Jones | | Home |
| Flora Waddell | | Home |
| Delores Bazy | | Home |
| Deacon Greene | | Home |
| Vera Brown | | Home |
| Ovell Thomas | | Home |
| Joann James | | Home |
| Dorothy Wyatt | | Home |
| Terese Spears Chambers | | Home |
| Alvin Brooks | | Home |
| Cathy Johnson | | Home |
| Mary Ann Grayson | | Home |
| Melva McClellan | | Home |
| Herman Lovett | | Home |
| Mabel & Donald Parson | | Home |
| Ramonda Doakes | | Home |
| Annie Lovett | | Home |



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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

TODAY'S GOSPEL

~ I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit
(*Mark 1:1-80*)



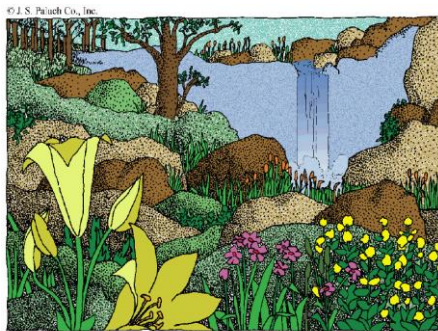
© Annika Nelson

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Monday: | Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14;
Lk 5:17-26 |
| Tuesday: | Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4;
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38 |
| Wednesday: | Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10;
Mt 11:28-30 |
| Thursday: | Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9, 10-
13ab; Mt 11:11-15 |
| Friday: | Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4;
Mt 11:16-19 |
| Saturday: | Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a;
12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde,
19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47,
or any readings from the
Common of the Blessed Virgin
Mary, nos. 707-712 |
| Sunday: | Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50,
53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-
8, 19-28 |

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL
OBSERVANCES**

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sunday: | Second Sunday of Advent |
| Monday: | St. Ambrose; Pearl Harbor
Remembrance Day |
| Tuesday: | The Immaculate Conception of
the Blessed Virgin Mary |
| Wednesday: | St. Juan Diego |
| Thursday: | International Human Rights
Day; Hanukkah begins at
sunset |
| Friday: | St. Damasus I |
| Saturday: | Our Lady of Guadalupe |



The Kingdom of Heaven Is at Hand.

Watching for Christ's Coming

In the season of Advent, we look to the coming of Christ at the end of time, and we prepare ourselves to celebrate his first coming among us at Christmas. Remembrance of the past is combined with preparation for the future. Memory meets action.

In a certain sense, the Mass is an Advent prayer. At the Last Supper, Jesus did not tell his disciples, "Never forget what I did for you." Instead, he said, "Do this in remembrance of me." He calls us to remember by *doing*, to combine memory with action. In the celebration of the Eucharist, remembering and doing become one. Jesus is as present in our midst as he was in that upper room, breaking the bread and sharing the cup; but it is a new kind of presence, seen only with the eyes of faith. In the heavenly liturgy, there will be no need of sacraments, for there, "celebration is wholly communion and feast" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1136). Here, things are different. We have only glimpses and flashes of the beauty that is yet to be. And yet, in the liturgy, we truly participate in the heavenly liturgy. The Mass is our foretaste of the joys of heaven.—*Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.*

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

– Second Collection Next Sunday

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.
In good times and bad, sister Theresa and the senior religious shown here have dedicated themselves to God's work. Together with nearly 30,000 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests in the United States, they educated the young, tended the sick, and ministered to the needy. Today, they pray for a world that is hurting. Yet many religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Your tax-deductible gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous. Please be generous. Envelopes are available for this collection. *Please check with your employer matching about gifts.*

CELEBRATING THE LIVES OF

Mr. and Mrs. "Jack"son Bush
Jack and Marcheita Bush

WATKINS HERITAGE CHAPEL
4000 Emanuel Cleaver Boulevard
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6th
VISITATION: 1:00 – 4:00 a.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7th
Private Service: 10:30 a.m.

ON-LINE SERVICE:
www.mstcsunset.com



CONDOLENCE

The St. Monica Church Family extends our condolence to Lydia Ramirez, whose father, **Mr. Greg Ramirez**, passed on to be with our Lord, last week. Our prayers are with you and your family, during this time of mourning. Trust in the Lord, and He will comfort and strengthen each of you throughout this time of mourning.



END OF THE YEAR APPEAL

If you did not receive the end of the year appeal from **Catholic Charities** and would like to make a difference for those less fortunate, there is still time.

Please contact Patrick Savageau, Donor Stewardship Specialist, to make a donation at psavageau@ccharities.com. We would also ask that you consider making this a monthly gift and see if your employer is willing to match your donation.

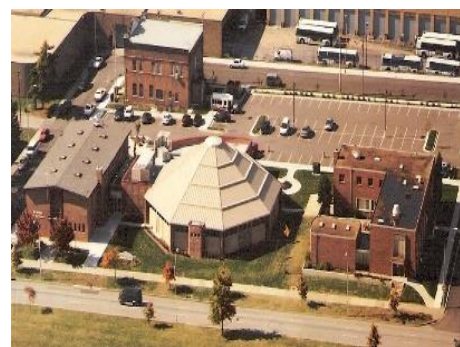


CHRISTMAS SHINING STAR

Catholic Charities KCSJ is recruiting angels to adopt children participating in our Christmas Shining Star project.

Or more information or to select a child and share the magic of Christmas, contact :Linda Hopkins, Volunteer. Coordinator at lhopkins@ccharities.com or 816-659-8205.

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 2020.

So far, we have received **\$47,411.20**, and **\$102,588.50**, still to go.

The goal is huge, but God is faithful.
God bless you all,

Deadline for Bulletin Entries:
Wednesday / NOON.

