

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

JULY 5, 2020

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.”

— *Matthew 11:28*



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SHARE THE BURDEN

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). These words of our Savior seem to be in stark contrast to the previous chapter from the same Gospel, when we were told that if we do not take up our crosses, we are not worthy of Christ. Connecting these two messages might help us on our faith journeys. Being a follower of Christ surely means that we must embrace the cross, in its mystery of both suffering and triumph. This is something that we need not do alone, for the burden is often too heavy for us to carry by ourselves. Who, then, do we turn to? We can turn to the Body of Christ—the community of disciples gathered for worship. When we find the burden too heavy, let us remember that we can share that burden with our Christian sisters and brothers, who can help bring us rest.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Rejoice heartily, O Jerusalem! For see, your savior comes (*Zechariah 9:9-10*).

Psalm — I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God (*Psalm 145*).

Second Reading — The one who raised Christ from death will give life to your mortal bodies also (*Romans 8:9, 11-13*).

GOSPEL — Come, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest (*Matthew 11:25-30*).

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Edith Bolder | Holmesdale Care Center |
| Jeanette Hamilton Evans | Home |
| Eddie Jennings, | V.A. Rehab Cameron |
| Inell Hunter | Home |
| Martha Melton | Addington House Ctr |
| Marcheita Bush | 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 |
| Mable Parson | 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 |

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

Call, 816-471-3696, or

email: leombuthia@yahoo.com

MASS TIMES

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

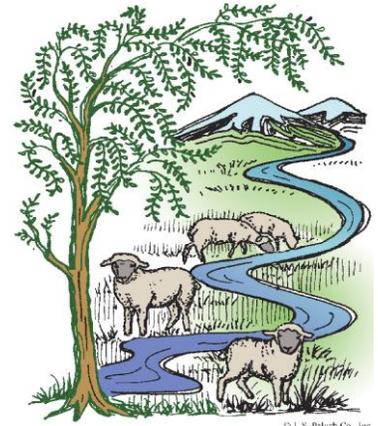
SUNDAY:

8:00 a.m. (Live)

10:00 a.m. (Live and Recorded)

WEDNESDAY:

9:00 a.m. (Live)



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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33

Sunday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 [1-9]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Maria Goretti

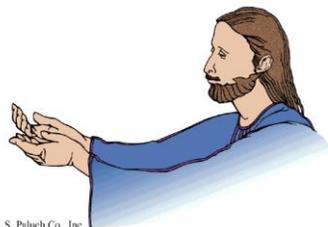
Thursday: St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions

Saturday: St. Benedict

THE RIGHT DIRECTION

If we walk one step toward God, God will run ten steps toward us.

—Anonymous



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2020

GRADUATES

CONGRATULATIONS !

Your St. Monica Church Family is PROUD of you!

Please send to the Parish Office.

- 1) **your name,**
- 2) **name of your school,**
- 3) **parents or guardians' names.**

We will publish your name in the weekly bulletins and Facebook, during the month of JULY.

Email:

stmonica1616kc@hotmail.com



Congratulations

Mr. and Mrs. Duane Murff, Sr.

Celebrating their



July 11, 1970 – July 11, 2020



ATTENTION ST. MONICA PARISHIONERS:

Have you moved recently?
Changed your phone number?
Changed your name?

Please help us keep your Personal Church File current.

Please call us 816-471-3696, or send your updated information by email:

stmonica1616kc@hotmail.com

SAINT MARIA GORETTI

(1890-1902)

July 6

Does anything match a mother's pride in her children? First Communions, confirmations, graduations, weddings: how these delight a mother's heart! Imagine, then, Assunta Goretti, the only mother ever to attend her child's canonization! In poverty-stricken rural Italy, widowed Assunta tended fields for the Serenelli family, whose eighteen-year-old son, Alessandro, propositioned her barely twelve-year-old Maria; then, when she resisted, crying, "It is a sin! God forbids it!" he stabbed her fourteen times. As she lay dying, Maria assured the attending priest, "Yes, I forgive Alessandro! I want him to be in Paradise with me someday." Imprisoned, unrepentant, Alessandro changed after dreaming that a radiant Maria had offered him fourteen lilies. "I've kept my promise," she smiled. "You'll be here with me someday." Upon release, he rushed to beg Assunta's forgiveness. "Jesus has forgiven you," she replied, "my Maria, too. How can I refuse?" Next morning, mother and murderer walked arm in arm to church and knelt side by side for Communion.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

—Whoever gives but a cup of cold water to another will surely be rewarded
Matthew 10:37-42.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Hello Friends and Parishioners of St. Monica, Happy 4th of July! Hope this finds you well. This is such a great week as we commemorate the day of our independence. Maybe most you are preparing to commemorate this day by getting together as family or friends, traveling in order to be with our significant other or even taking a day off to relax with family. These are all good things to do for they enhance what we actually celebrate, the gift of freedom. But above and beyond maybe its also a day we stop and ask, what does freedom mean to me and in the society, I live in.

To many people in our modern day, the notion of freedom means the ability to do whatever you want. One even sometimes hears children claim, "I can't wait until I grow up, then, I can do whatever I want." But freedom does not mean doing what we want, but doing what we ought. We are not free if immoral actions and beliefs rule or lives.

The inevitable consequence of abusing freedom is losing freedom. Bad habits which start out as cobwebs can end up as chains. Our Lord himself says, the man who sins is the slave of sin. We must live in truth and act in truth if we are to remain free.

The motto of the United States Army Special Forces is: *De oppresso liber*, to free the oppressed. And isn't that the job of every Christian. For indeed, Jesus came to set captives free, to bring the light of truth to those in the darkness of ignorance, and we are to continue his work.

One way of celebrating our freedom is to be mindful of those who are still in shackles of poverty and daily financial struggles, especially those who that have been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. As an effort to bring change, enact freedom and be a beacon of hope in their lives, our Food Pantry in conjunction with the Stewardship committee are organizing a **TOILETRIES DRIVE**. All our parishioners are requested to bring toiletries as they come to Mass on Sundays or bring their donations to the St. Monica Building (**FOOD PANTRY**) on Mondays. The drive will run from **June 28th to August 3rd 2020**. We as a church are called to be the change we want to see in our community and one way of being that change is to bring hope to those that are down trodden. On the other hand, the gift of Freedom prompts us to do what we ought to do to the 'least of these' *May God bless your generosity!*

Fr. Leonard

FORWARD IN FAITH

Thanks to everyone who is participating in our “Forward in Faith” Campaign. The campaign is to take care of our accumulated diocesan assessment arrears and build reserves for our parish. Thanks to many of you, who took time to fill in pledge cards.



More pledge cards are available in the pews.

Please take time to fill one out and drop it in the collection basket. If you have any question, please don't hesitate to approach one of our Stewardship Committee members, for clarification.

Your **2020** Annual Tithing Envelopes also include “**Forward in Faith**” Envelopes. **Please use the Forward in Faith envelopes toward the campaign.**

Our goal is, to raise **\$150,000** by October 2020. So far, we have received **\$29,948.31, and \$120,051.69**, still to go.

The goal is huge, but God is faithful.

God bless you all,

Fr. Leonard



BISHOP UPDATES TO CURRENT LITURGICAL/SACRAMENTAL PRACTICE:

a) Clergy and EMHCs (with the approval of the pastor) may begin distribution of Holy Communion in a private home where all persons residing there have been absent any fever, chills, cold or coronavirus symptoms for the previous 14 days. The Communion Minister is to wear a mask the entire time in the home (no exceptions), sanitize his/her hands upon entry prior to set up that maintains six feet of distance from all persons present (except at the brief moment of distribution of Holy Communion) and sanitize one's hands after distribution of Holy Communion and again outside the residence's door and prior to entry into one's vehicle. The determination of which Communion Ministers are allowed to assist with this ministry at this time and which homebound communicants are able to receive is the Pastor's.

b) Nursing homes are still problematic due to the ongoing changes of law and health directives. Pastors are invited to contact nursing home administrators directly to begin a dialogue about these pastoral and/or communion visits that are not danger of death situations.

c) Masks remain required for all who are entering/exiting our Churches for Masses.

d) While Governor Parson and the State of Missouri has ended promulgation of additional health directives, those of the local county and/or city remain in force and to be followed (for example, KC is up to 50% occupancy through July 5 currently). The governmental, CDC, and KCSJ of our Bishop, still require six feet social distancing. Weekend Masses, weddings, funerals, and other large worship gathering still REQUIRE six feet social distancing between individuals and/or household groups. For weddings, it is best to provide the engaged couple with a template of the pews layout and have them 'assign' seats to individuals and household groups with the approved six feet separation as a master template for the presider, the (parish) wedding coordinator, and the ushers. The number of wedding guests and funeral participants, for example, is limited in ALL our parishes by this six-foot social distancing requirement that remains diocesan particular law.

e) The previously presented Large Group Gatherings published mid-May continues in force: “Large parish gathering events are currently not possible due to the above restrictions. Unless the “Phase” guidelines change, church group activities like float trips, picnics, ice cream socials, carnivals, fundraisers, auctions and other “mass gathering” events should not occur through **August 10, 2020.**” An exception to this timeline can be considered by written proposal (which may or may not be approved) of all safety steps and protocols, meeting the six foot distancing, and so on requirements submitted to Fr Ken Riley and/or Mr. Pat Miller at the chancery.

Thank you for your ongoing attention to these and related matters. As circumstances change, guidelines will be updated accordingly.

JUNE 26, 2020