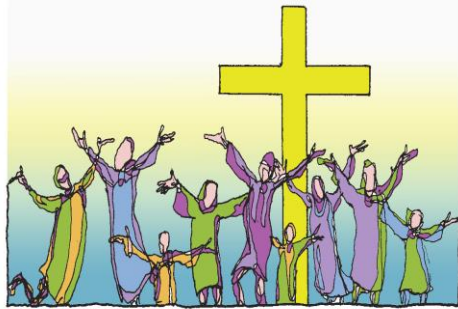


**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

**JUNE 21, 2020**

Sing to the LORD,  
praise the LORD,  
for he has rescued the life of the poor.

— **Jeremiah 20:13**



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**ENTHUSIASM AND GRAMMAR**

There is a good reason that the writings of St. Paul don't show up as examples in grammar textbooks. Today's reading is a case in point. It begins with one of those long Pauline run on sentences that leave lecturers gasping for breath. So what? Take a closer look at how Paul's fervor for his subject matter derails the grammar. There is something admirable about being so caught up in his convictions that the words cannot come fast enough to express them, much less in an orderly fashion. Scripture scholars usually take this grammatical ineptness as a sign of a passage's early importance in the Christian community, something they were so ardent about that their language never got refined.

What leaves us in this condition? Re-telling the plot line of an action movie or the play-by-play of a sporting event? When was the last time any of us was so excited by our faith in Christ that we were left grasping for words, stumbling over our own errors in speech? It may be bad grammar, but it is an excellent way to inspire others with the message of Christ!

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**FIRST READING** — The LORD has rescued the poor from the clutches of the wicked (**Jeremiah 20:10-13**).

**PSALM** — Lord, in your great love, answer me (**Psalms 69**).

**SECOND READING** — The grace of God overflows for all (**Romans 5:12-15**).

**GOSPEL** — All who acknowledge Jesus before others will likewise be acknowledged by Jesus before the Father (**Matthew 10:26-33**).

**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](mailto:leombuthia@yahoo.com)



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday:** 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps 60:3-5, 12-13; Mt 7:1-5
- Tuesday:** 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Ps 48:2-4, 10-11; Mt 7:6, 12-14
- Wednesday:** Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17 Day: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1-3, 13-15; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80
- Thursday:** 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Mt 7:21-29
- Friday:** 2 Kgs 25:1-12; Ps:137:1-6; Mt 8:1-4
- Saturday:** Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps 74:1b-7, 20-21; Mt 8:5-17
- Sunday:** 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ps 89:2-3, 16-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42

**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 and Recorded)

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Sunday:** Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Father's Day
- Monday:** St. Paulinus of Nola; Ss. John Fisher and Thomas More
- Wednesday:** The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
- Saturday:** St. Cyril of Alexandria; Blessed Virgin Mary



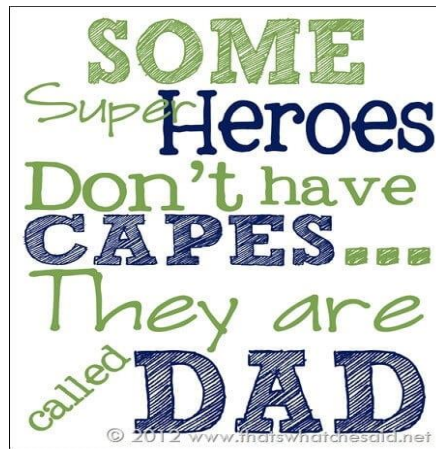
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**SAINT JOHN FISHER** (1469-1535)  
AND **SAINT THOMAS MORE** (1477-1535)

June 22

From Robert Bolt's classic *A Man for All Seasons* to *Showtime's* edgy *The Tudors*, Thomas More endears himself still: lawyer-statesman of impeccable integrity, remarried widower and affectionate father delighting in a lively household—four children, a pet monkey, even a paid jester! And challenges still: humanist-reformer, yet champion of Catholic faith and papal primacy. John Paul II named him Patron of Statesmen and Politicians, citing More's generous work, both as a lawyer and in government service, on behalf of the poorest and most marginalized people of his time, as well as his promotion of education for all sectors of society. More's decision for principle over politics, conscience over convenience prompted his final words: "I die the king's good servant, but God's first." Alone among England's bishops, John Fisher dared challenge Henry VIII's divorce and repudiation of the papacy. When the Pope named the imprisoned Fisher a cardinal, Henry thundered: "Don't bother sending Fisher's red hat here; I'll send Fisher's head to Rome!" Whose "good servants" are we first? Isn't a right conscience worth the pain of standing alone?

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



**HAPPY FATHERS'  
DAY  
TO ALL OF THE  
FATHERS  
AT SAINT MONICA !**

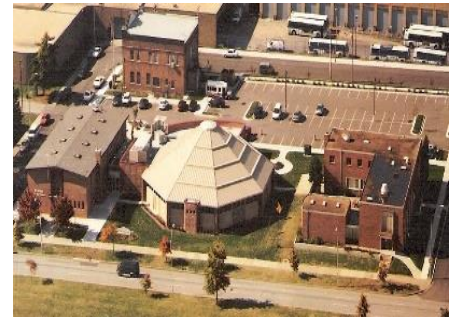
**HELP WANTED!**

**One of our Families, is in need of assistance, to help keep their Mom at home. She has Alzheimer's Disease. We need someone who is willing to sit with her at least four (4) days a week, or someone to spend one night a week with her.**

**Please contact Carolyn Greene for more information.**

**816-522-8630**

**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*

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

The Eucharistic Prayers at the heart of our liturgy have a long history, beginning with the extemporaneous prayers of the early Christians. The presiders gave thanks from their hearts, not from any prearranged text, over the gifts of bread and wine. When the assembly had the sense that enough was said, someone would call out "Amen!" and that was that. For the most part, the plan flowed directly from Jewish meal prayers, which always recalled God's mighty deeds. Some other markers and signposts were added almost everywhere fairly early, like the presider's call to attention: "Lift up your hearts!"

Scholars have provided us with translations of many early texts. These have actually helped us craft new liturgical prayers, because until the liturgical reforms of forty years ago, no one could recall any prayer but the Roman Canon, now called Eucharistic Prayer I. For hundreds of years in the West, it was our only Eucharistic Prayer, and it was only in Latin. But the history of our Eucharistic Prayers is amazingly fruitful, and models have come down to us that have yielded new insights and expressions. The old custom of improvising texts according to a master plan has not endured, but we have now rediscovered a plan of standardizing the text while allowing for a great variety.

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

# Freedom in Christ Unbound Series Begins June 28, 2020



## Based on the book Unbound: A Practical Guide to Deliverance by Neal Lozano

### SUMMER SERIES:

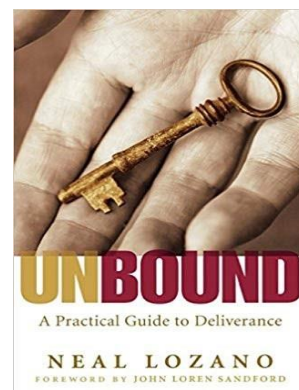
St. Thomas More Parish  
11822 Holmes Road, Kansas City, MO 64131  
**Sundays, June 28 - August 16, 2020**  
**1:30p.m. - 3:30p.m.**  
Cost: \$25 for materials.  
Registration deadline: June 21, 2020

**Register by email:**  
**[unbound.kc@gmail.com](mailto:unbound.kc@gmail.com)**

*Unbound Ministry is based on the idea that the gospel has the power to make a difference in a person's life. It is a way of prayer, using the **Five Keys**, that empowers a person to open their hearts and respond more fully to Jesus' invitation of abundant life. Unbound is essentially moving a person through a conversion experience.*

### The Five Keys are:

1. Repenting of sin and expressing faith in Jesus.
2. Forgiving oneself and others.
3. Renouncing the lies, spirits, and tactics of Satan.
4. Taking authority over the works of Satan.
5. Receiving the Father's blessing.



Visit <https://www.heartofthefather.com> for more information