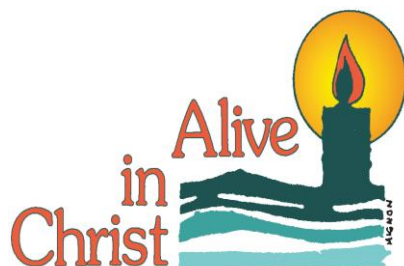


**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
JUNE 28, 2020**

**Think of yourselves as dead to sin
and living for God in Christ Jesus.
— Romans 6:11**



CHRISTIAN HOSPITALITY

Day in and day out, we are required to make judgment calls informed by tough, durable, serviceable Christian love. We do what we can do, and God takes notice. God is in charge of rewards, and a glass of water will do when that is what we have to offer with a glad and open heart.

Paul gives us a clear theology for the missionary work we do whenever anybody is close at hand. He reminds us that our work, our ministry, is carried on in concert with Christ. We have been baptized into his death and life. In any given moment both life and death are there, a kind of play of shadow and light. Sometimes it's difficult to tell where shadow leaves off and light begins. God will take care of that, too.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Elisha promises a baby son to the hospitable woman
(2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a).

Psalms — Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).

Second Reading — We shall live in newness of life as Christ was raised from the dead (Romans 6:3-4, 8-11).

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.*

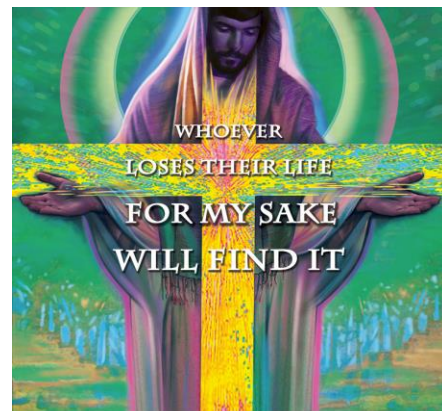
SUNDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

9:00 a.m. (Live)

TODAY'S GOSPEL — *Whoever gives but a cup of cold water to another will surely be rewarded*
Matthew 10:37-42).



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19
- Tuesday:** Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Ps 5:4b-8; Mt 8:23-27
- Wednesday:** Am 5:14-15, 21-24; Ps 50:7-13, 16bc-17; Mt 8:28-34
- Thursday:** Am 7:10-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 9:1-8
- Friday:** Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 20:24-29
- Saturday:** Am 9:11-15; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 9:14-17 or, for **Independence Day**, any readings from the Mass "For the Country," nos. 882-886, or "For Peace and Justice," nos. 887-891
- Sunday:** Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** Ss. Peter and Paul, Apostles
- Tuesday:** The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
- Wednesday:** St. Junipero Serra; Canada Day
- Friday:** St. Thomas; First Friday
- Saturday:** **Independence Day**; First Saturday; Blessed Virgin Mary

HOMEGOING



Mrs. Audrey Kemp, Mother of Delores Carson Bazy. A private funeral service was held on Saturday, June 27, 2020, for Mrs. Kemp. Please remember Delores, and the Carson, Kemp family in your prayers.

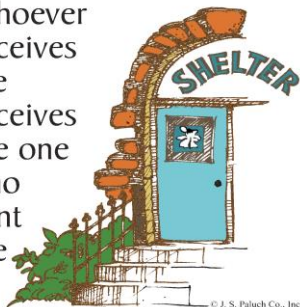
SAINT JUNÍPERO SERRA

(1713-1784) July 1

No one who has stood before the quiet majesty of Mission San Juan Capistrano, or the altogether different but no less lovely Mission Dolores in San Francisco, or any of the missions from San Diego to Sonoma can fail to bless the Franciscan *padre* who, while not founder of each, was inspiration for them all, Saint Junípero Serra. Abandoning the comfortable academic life to which his doctorate in theology entitled him, Serra journeyed to the New World where his tireless traveling, dramatic preaching, and penitential austerity converted thousands of native peoples. Saving souls and celebrating the sacraments were Padre Serra's primary mission but not his only one. Education in letters and crafts, trades and agriculture transformed the people, while roads and irrigation systems transfigured the landscape. His more than thirty years of ministry were not free from conflict with authorities or without controversy in the retrospectively critical eye of history. But when John Paul II beatified him in 1988, he praised Padre Serra for assisting his converts to use their new faith to advance their true human development.

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

Whoever
receives
me
receives
the one
who
sent
me



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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 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!*

Happy 4th of July,

Fr. Leonard

JULY 4TH



INDEPENDENCE DAY

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FREEDOM

*Those who deny freedom to others
deserve it not for themselves
and under a just God
cannot long retain it.*

—Abraham Lincoln



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2020 GRADUATES CONGRATULATIONS!

Your St. Monica Church Family is
PROUD of YOU!

Please send in your name, name of your school, and parents or guardians' names, to the Parish Office.

We will list your name in our Sunday Bulletins and on Facebook, during the month of JULY.

Email:

stmonica1616kc@hotmail.com

816-471-3696



THE CROSS AND HOPE

The cross of Christ is the true ground and
chief

cause of Christian hope.

—Pope St. Leo I

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



JUNE 26, 2020

BISHOP UPDATES TO CURRENT LITURGICAL/SACRAMENTAL PRAXIS:

- 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.