

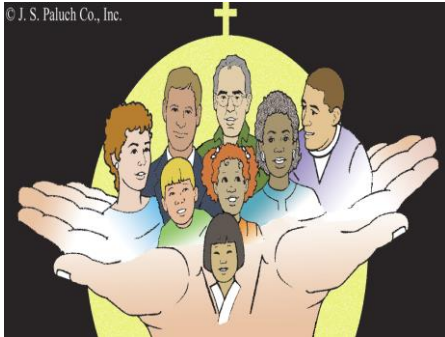
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 14, 2021

2ND SCRUTINY

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

— *John 3:17*



GOD'S MERCY

Today's reading from the second book of Chronicles contains a sort of "mini-history" of Israel. It highlights God's mercies in choosing Cyrus the Persian to be an instrument of deliverance when the people were in captivity in Babylon. Despite their sinfulness and the deserved punishment they were undergoing, God's mercy was lavished on the people in the form of a miraculous act of liberation.

The Letter to the Ephesians, in much more theological terms, gives a similar account of a God "who brought us to life with Christ—by grace you have been saved." The author stresses that it was when we were "dead in our transgressions" that God saved us, an act of pure grace. He emphasizes that it is not our own efforts that freed us from sin ("this is not from you"); rather, "it is the gift of God." This, of course, is the heart of the entire Pauline corpus, that salvation comes to us by faith in God's mercy, revealed in the death of Jesus. *Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.*

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of the chosen people (*2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23*) or *1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a*.

Psalm — Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you! (*Psalm 137*) or *Psalm 23*.

Second Reading — By grace you have been saved (*Ephesians 2:4-10*) or *Ephesians 5:8-14*.

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Edith Bolder	Holmesdale Care Ctr
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 ShackelfordAllen	Home
Earnestine Nard	Home
Earl Greene	Home
Michael Mize	Home
Chaunceyetta Mize	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
Mary Ann Grayson	Home
Herman Lovett	Home
Mabel & Donald Parson	Home
Marjorie Green	Home
Latonia Sutherlin	Home

FAMILY MEMBERS:

Please inform our Pastor, Fr. Leonard when a loved-one is home bound or has been hospitalized.
Call 816-471-3696 or
email:stmonica1616kc@hotmail.com



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

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. (Live)
10:00 a.m. (Live & Record)

WEDNESDAY

9:00 a.m. MASS (Live)
6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting

TODAY'S GOSPEL

— The Son was sent by God so that the world might be saved through him (*John 3:14-21*) or *John 9:1-41* [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rm 4:13:16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday:	Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33 Alternate readings (Year A): Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]
SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES	
Sunday:	Fourth Sunday of Lent; Second Scrutiny; Daylight Saving Time begins
Wednesday:	St. Patrick
Thursday:	St. Cyril of Jerusalem
Friday:	St. Joseph; Abstinence
Saturday:	Spring begins

FRIDAY 6:00 P.M.



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 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 2021**. So far, we have **received \$57,551.50, and \$92,448.50** still to go.

Our goal is huge, but God is faithful.

God bless you all,

Fr. Leonard

THANK YOU

From The Family of

Mr. Leroy Walker, Jr.

Dear St. Monica Church Family,

Your kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.

Thank you so very much,
Chaunceyetta (Walker) Mize

GOD UPHOLDS ME

I take for my sureties:

*The power of God to guide me,
the might of God to uphold me,
the wisdom of God to teach me,
the eye of God to watch over me, the ear
of God to hear me,
the word of God to give me speech,
the hand of God to protect me,
the way of God to go before me,
the shield of God to shelter me.*

—St. Patrick

FEAST OF FAITH

Lent, a Season of the Word

Each year on the First Sunday of Lent we hear one of the Gospel accounts of the temptation of Jesus. In Luke's account, the devil cites the scriptures repeatedly, urging Jesus to interpret them in a false, self-serving way—if God sends angels to protect those whom God loves (as it says in Psalm 91), then prove it! But Jesus resists this insidious temptation by turning to scripture passages that tell of right relationship with God—living by God's word, trusting in God, and worshipping God alone.

Jesus himself listened to the inspired word of God and let it shape and form him. Through the liturgy, we do the same. The readings we hear at Mass can teach us, but that is not their primary function. Rather, the scriptures are meant to reveal the Lord to us, to let us experience his presence, and to form us in our Christian identity. Christ's presence is realized by his spoken word, "since it is he himself who speaks when the Holy Scriptures are read in the Church" (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, 7). In the readings proclaimed at Mass, we hear the voice of Christ himself.

HELP JESUS IN DISGUISE

There will be a second collection next Sunday, to support the

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS)

Your donations help improve the lives of people around the world and those here in the United States who have experiences natural disasters, and children with special needs.

The Catholic Relief services Collection is an opportunity for you to help improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable people around the world and here in the United States. Funds from the collection support Catholic Relief services (CRS) and other organizations that aid victims of natural disasters, immigrants in need of legal assistance and resources to help them adapt to life in their new homes and refugee children with special education needs.

To address the needs of refugee children (CRS) and Local Church Partner Organizations provide educational opportunities for refugee children facing unique challenges. With the of (CRS) sponsored educational programs for special needs children.

Your donation helps the brothers and sister in the U.S. feed Jesus' hunger and suffering refugees. . . through the USCCB'S IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES. Please plan to give generously.

Bulletin Deadline-Wednesday-NOON