

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 2, 2021**



Today's Bible Verse of the Day Reflections

Are you willing to let yourself be pruned? Pruning is necessary if a plant is to produce an abundance of good fruit or beautiful flowers. If, for example, a grapevine is left to grow without pruning, it will produce many small grapes that are good for nothing. But if care is taken to prune the vine, the maximum number of good grapes will be produced. But unless we are willing to go through the purification of spiritual pruning from time to time, we will not be the instruments that God can use.

Spiritual pruning takes the form of letting God eliminate the vices in our lives so that the virtues can be properly nourished. This is especially done by letting Him humble us and strip away our pride. This can hurt, but the pain associated with being humbled by God is a key to spiritual growth. By growing in humility, we grow ever more reliant upon the source of our nourishment rather than relying upon ourselves, our own ideas and our own plans. God is infinitely wiser than us and if we can continually turn to Him as our source, we will be far stronger and better prepared to let Him do great things through us. But, again, this requires that we let Him prune us. Being spiritually pruned means we actively let go of our own will and our own ideas. It means we give up control over our lives. This requires a true death to ourselves and a true humility by which we acknowledge we are completely reliant upon God in the same way a branch is reliant upon the vine.

Without the vine, we shrivel and die. Being firmly attached is the only way to life,

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading ~ (Acts 9:26-31)

Psalm ~ I will praise you, Lord,
in the assembly of your people.
(Psalm 22-26)

Second Reading ~
Children let us love not in word or
speech but in deed and truth.
(John 3:18-24)

Gospel ~ Remain as I in you,
says the Lord. Whoever remains
in me will bear much fruit
(John 15:1-8)



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



Living God's Word

We can ask God to give us that joy that the world cannot give, a joy that is found rooted in our faith in God, in our trusting that the God who raised Jesus up will also bring us to fullness of life.

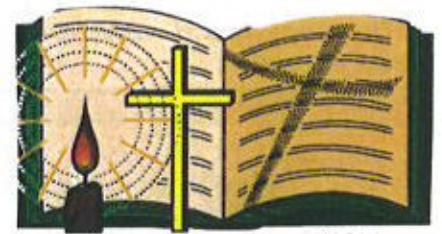
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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday 1 Corinthians 15:1-8
Psalms 19:2-3, 4-5
John 14:6B, 9C
John 14:6-14
- Tuesday Acts 14:19-28
Psalms 145:10-11, 12-13AB, 21
Luke 24:46, 26
John 14:27-31A
- Wednesday Acts 15:1-6
Psalms 122:1-2, 3-4AB, 4CD-5
John 15:4A, 5B
John 15:1-8
- Thursday Acts 15:7-21
Psalms 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10
Alleluia John 10:27
Gospel John 15:9-11
- Friday Acts 15:22-31
Psalms 57:8-9, 10 and 12
- Saturday Acts 16:1-10

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter
- Monday: Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles



Celebrating the Life of

Latonia Sutherland

Saturday May 8, 2021

1:00 - 2 P.M.

**ELITE CHAPEL, Building #2,
11525 Blue Ridge Blvd, KCMO 64134**
Friends may sign the Guest Book
and review the Pictorial Display.

3:00 p.m.

Memorial Service

Family Only

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 \$150,000. by October 2021

So far, we have received \$66,694.00, and **\$83,306**, still to go.

OUR SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

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
Edith Bolder Holmesdale Care Center

Jeanette Hamilton Evans, 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, Flora Waddell, Home, Delores Bazy, Home, Vera Brown, Home, Ovell Thomas, Home, Joann James, Home, Dorothy Wyatt, Home, Terese Spears Chambers, Home, John Johnson, Home, Vauncille Bartlet, Home, Mary Ann Grayson, Home, Herman Lovett, Home, Donald and Mable Parson, Home.

THE LOOK OF LOVE

What does love look like?

It has feet to go to the poor and needy.

It has eyes to see misery and want.

It has ears to hear the sigh and sorrows of others.

St. Augustine

LET'S CONTINUE TO KEEP IN TOUCH

Dear St. Monica Church Family,
Due to the Covid -19 Distancing Order, We will communicate via mail, and telephone calls, especially with our Shut-In members.

We have received many returned envelopes with 'NO LONGER AT THIS ADDRESS'.

We are also asking for an update of your telephone numbers.

Please help us keep your Family File current.

Call, 816-471-3696, or Send your updated information by email: stmonica1616kc@hotmail.com



JUNE 5, 2021 9AM-3PM | 1616 PASEO KC. MO 64108

CELEBRATE SPRING BY GETTING RID OF YOUR GENTLY USED ITEMS CLUTTERING YOUR HOME & SPRING INTO SUMMER WITH TREASURES FROM OUR PARKING LOT GARAGE SALE.

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO CHURCH'S "FORWARD IN FAITH" CAMPAIGN. TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Deadline for Bulletin Entries: Wednesday –
NOON

St. Monica's Garage Sale of the Year!

"A Real Treasure Hunt"

Saturday, June 5, 2021 9am-3pm Parking Lot

Celebrate spring by getting rid of those gently used priced items cluttering your homes and *spring* into summer with useful treasures from our church garage sale!!

Best of all, you're making a donation to "Forward in Faith" campaign without writing a check since **ALL PROCEEDS** go to the church. With your sales you're making a tax deductible donation.

You have your very own reserved parking lot space to sell....sell....sell your items! What doesn't sell, we'll haul away and donate to charity.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

1. Sign up after mass
2. Bring gently used **priced** items to parking lot on June 5
3. Set up 7am. Sale 9am-3pm
4. **Sell** items
5. Donate **ALL funds** to church
6. Buy refreshments
7. Buy church t-shirts
8. Enjoy music
9. Chat with everyone and have FUN...FUN...FUN!

Don't have items to sell. Stop by anyway. You may find a "treasure" you can't live without! And, reconnect with folks you haven't seen for several months.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Signup sheets after mass, or email a Stewardship Committee member stating where you'd like to serve. Below is a list of committees:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Transportation | Loading/unloading truck | Ken Bacchus |
| 2. Vendors | Application/set up | Marilyn Scott |
| 3. Music | Entertainment for the day | Al Brooks |
| 4. Reserve Space | Set up/break down | Lawrence Blankinship |
| 5. Refreshments | Preparation/Sales | Elton Lombard |
| 6. Security | Police officer | Al Lomax |
| 7. Floaters | Wherever needed | Jenise Comer |
| 8. Signage | Sign(s) placement | Carolyn Greene |
| 9. Committee Assignments | | Angela Curry |

Thanks for joining a committee and signing up to participate in the garage sale!