

**TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 1, 2019**

You have approached Mount Zion
and the city of the living God.
— *Hebrews 12:22a*



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HUMILITY

Humility is a virtue we don't see much in our times. It seems that bragging, swaggering, and arrogance dominate our fashion for everything and our Internet conversations. Who hasn't been irritated by the "trolls" who try (usually with bad grammar and poor spelling) to start an online fight with those whose opinions do not align with theirs? Our stores, catalogs, and online shopping sites are full of useless items geared in use and price to the very rich, as ordinary, useful things seem to fade off the sales scene. As the rich get richer, the poor get poorer and the middle class is fading away. What is the antidote to this? Humility is a good place to start. Devotion to God is worth more than riches. "The father of orphans and the defender of widows is God in his holy dwelling. God gives a home to the forsaken; [God] leads forth prisoners to prosperity."

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Conduct your affairs with humility
(*Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29*).

Psalm — God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor
(*Psalm 68*).

Second Reading — You have approached the city of the living God
(*Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a*).

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Edith Bolder	Bishop Spencer's Place
Jeanette Hamilton Evans	Home
Eddie Jennings,	V.A.Rehab Cameron
Inell Hunter	Home
Margaret G. Jones	Research Hospital
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
Cathy Johnson	Home
Chaunceyetta Mize,	Home
Flora Waddell	Home

FAMILY MEMBERS

Please inform Father Leonard, when a loved-one has become homebound, or has been hospitalized. Call, 816-471-3696, or email: leombuthia@yahoo.com

**SEPTEMBER 8th ASSIGNMENTS
One Mass 9:00 a.m.**

SERVERS *Coordinator: V. Ammons**
All Servers

LECTORS *Coordinator, Rose Palmer**
9:00 a.m. Syrtiller Kabat,
Darwin Dupree, Jr.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
*Coordinator, Dianna Miller**
9:00 a.m. Ben Gruber, Joann James,
Margaret Jones, Syrtiller Kabat, Carrie Miller, Dwight Miller, Chaunceyetta Mize, Paulette Monroe, Dorothy Mustin, Paula Nix,

USHERS *Coordinators, Kim Urenda, Mary Pearson **
9:00 a.m. **Team D:**

Paul Alexander, Jeanette Countee,
Elaine Lomax, Emmanuel Okonta, Grace Okonta, Genia Palmer, Dasia Butler

WELCOME: Mary Ann Grayson

COUNTERS: TEAM #2
Team Leader: Paul Alexander

3RD SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP
HOST: Eucharistic Ministers

MEETINGS / DATES / TIMES



Registration Forms, for the Fall –
Religious Education Classes, are
available in the Church Vestibule.

Sunday School Teachers Needed
Dear Church Family, if you are interested in working with our youth, for 1 or 2 Sundays per month, please contact the director of Religious Education, Ramonda Doakes, (816) 457-5538, or rdoakes@gmail.com

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP,
will reconvene in October
Coordinators: John & Debra Johnson

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP
Coordinators: Eric & Burnetta Burtin, Elton & Phaedra Lombard

CONFIRMATION CLASS, 2020
Parents of Adolescents (age 15, or above), it's time to sign up your son or daughter, for the Confirmation Class of 2020. *Training Team: Rose Alexander, Remona Miller, and Linda Hall.*

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Meetings are held on Sundays, in the Small Chapel, following the 10:00 Mass. *Deacon Ken Greene, Instructor*

KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER
3rd Degree Knights 1st Sat 1:00 p.m.
4th Degree Knights 1st Sat. 1:45 p.m.
Fr. Constantine Ct. 1st Sun. 9:00 a.m.
Ladies of Grace 4th Sun. 2:00 p.m.
Jr. Daughters 2nd Sat. 2:00 p.m.
Jr. Knights 1st Sun. 4:00 p.m.

MONDAY - CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED.

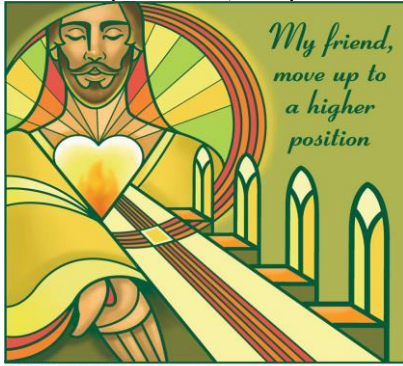


Labor Day

WEDNESDAY
9:00 a.m. Mass
6:00 p.m. Prayer Service

SATURDAY
8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast/Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Women's Breakfast/Bible Study
New members are welcome. Meetings are held in the Church Administration Building (St. Monica Room)

GOSPEL—Those who humble themselves will be exalted
(Luke 14:1, 7-14).



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** 1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13; Lk 4:16-30
- Tuesday:** 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Lk 4:31-37
- Wednesday:** Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10-11; Lk 4:38-44
- Thursday:** Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-6; Lk 5:1-11
- Friday:** Col 1:15-20; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 5:33-39
- Saturday:** Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8; Lk 6:1-5
- Sunday:** Wis 9:13-18b; Ps 90:3-6, 12-17; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** 22nd Sun. in Ordinary Time; World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
- Monday:** Labor Day
- Tuesday:** St. Gregory the Great
- Friday:** First Friday
- Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary; First Sat

SAVE THE DATE!
SEPTEMBER 21st ~ JERICHO WALK
– at St. Monica ~ 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

*Join us in the 6th Annual Jericho Walk, a fund raiser supporting the work of St. Jude children’s Research Hospital. The walk symbolizes the journey of the Hebrew people in the Old Testament, who at God’s command, walked seven times around the walls of Jericho before they came crumbling down. Our Jericho Walk represents our determination to join St. Jude’s in their aim to reduce childhood deaths through cancer. **RSVP** to join us in the WALK . . . Donations accepted in advance, or at the sign-in table, on the day of the event.

The Black Catholic Implementation Team

TREASURES . . .

The readings today center on mindfulness, awareness of where we stand in God’s plan. The mountain of Sinai carries a message of the majesty and distance of God, while Jesus’ presence as host of the banquet speaks of intimacy and mystery. September’s shadow calls us all to mindfulness as we prepare to return to life outside of summer. The Christian life holds these two places of knowledge of God in careful balance. Even in the accounts of the Passion we see the table of the upper room in balance with the Mount of Olives.

Altar means “high place,” yet it is also a table. The former liturgy of the Latin Rite began with the priest bowing at the foot of the altar’s three steps, chanting *Intrabo ad altare Dei*, or “I will go to the altar of God,” followed by the altar servers’ response, “The God who gives joy to my youth.” Many parishioners can recall and recite this scene by heart. As with so many things in liturgy, there are layers of meaning in our worship. The altar table evokes memories of the high places once reserved for encounter with the holy, and the intimacy of the table where hospitality draws us to share food and drink. —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Homegoing Celebration - for Mr. Joseph Harper, (father of Granee’ Harper, former member of Risen Christ Parish).: Saturday, September 3, 2019, St. Stephen Baptist Church, 1414 Truman Rd.-
Visitation: **9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**
Masonic Service - **10:00 a.m.**
Funeral: **11:00 a.m.**

—CATHOLIC CHARITIES THANKS YOU

Thank you also to everyone who helped to provide school supplies through the Catholic Charities School Supply Drive. The month of August, with all the back to school obligations, can put a real strain on many of our area families. Your support helped to relieve their burden. School supplies are needed throughout the year. *If you’re interested in donating, please contact Nancy Butters, Development Manager, at nbutters@ccharities.com or 816-659-8266.*

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

AT SAINT MONICA MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 8th SAINT MONICA FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

(ONE) MASS

9:00 a.m.

Followed by food, entertainment and activities for all.

**Sign-up Sheets are in the vestibule.*

- **Volunteers are needed**
- **Meal – Potluck**
- **Meat will be provided**

Once the day is over, and the festivities have ended, all parishioners are able to pick up their games and activities that they donated for the event.

Please contact Maya Burtin at maya@burtins.com if you have any questions. “Thank you.”



PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. **Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and**
2. **Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and**
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, **report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at: 816.812.2500, or**

crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.
The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

Bulletin Deadline – Wednesday – Noon

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners and friends of St. Monica,

This coming Sunday, as a parish family we will celebrate the patronal feast of our parish. St. Monica is a saint that I have come to know and love because she reminds me of my grandmother.

My grandmother was a woman of simplicity but of great faith. I remember seeing her everyday praying her rosary. She would pray the rosary while working or even walking. Every small break from her chores meant catching on her beads. She prayed constantly.

As a young boy I would wonder, "Why does grandma pray so much. Is it because she does not receive what she prays for?" And so one day I decided to ask her, "Grandma why do you pray so much, day after day, don't you get what you always pray for." To which she told me, "my grandson, **we become what we pray.**" In other words, prayer helps us to see ourselves better, and then forms us to be the persons God intended us to be.

This is true when we think about the life of St. Monica. She was not only a woman who persistently prayed for the conversion of her husband and her son. But eventually what happened is that as she continued to pray for her family, her prayers and tears started to change her from within, to become the woman God intended her to be; a saintly woman. For persistent prayer helped her to be more compassionate, more loving, more patient and eventually growth in perseverance. In other words she became the first, beneficially, of her prayer.

And so, as a parish community under the patronage and guardianship of St. Monica, we just don't emulate her prayer life so that God can grant us all our individual private needs. But as a parish community, we enter into prayer and worship so that we can align our wills to that of God and become a saintly people.

I would like to extend a word of welcome to all visitors and friends of St. Monica.

Fr. Leonard

