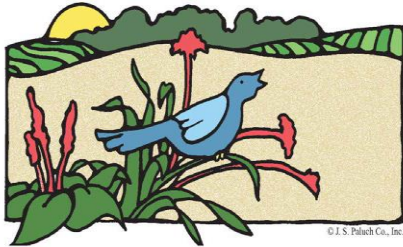


**TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2019**

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,  
that we may shout for joy and  
gladness all our days.

— *Psalm 90:14*



**POST-SUMMER CHALLENGES**

With any luck, summer delights will continue a while past last weekend's Labor Day: refreshing recreation (with maybe an occasional swim) or enjoyable relaxation on the deck (with tasty outdoor grilling). Truth is, for some of us, this year's Labor Day came way too early. With many schools back in session for a while already, mealtimes and driving schedules needed readjustment to coordinate youth sports with adult commitments. Some religious education and parish programs resumed, too. No surprise, then, that this weekend's scriptures sound a little like post-summer challenges. For instance, Wisdom reminds us that believers in God can never be content with "timid deliberations" and "unsure plans." Paul challenges longtime friend and follower Philemon to "let the good you do be voluntary." Jesus instructs "great crowds" traveling with him—including us—on three things necessary for all true disciples to accomplish. On this early autumn weekend, our scriptures describe disciples' lifelong labors.

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**FIRST READING** — You sent your holy spirit from on high and thus were the paths of those on earth made straight (Wisdom 9:13-18b).

**PSALM** — In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge (*Psalm 90*)

**Second Reading** — Paul asks Philemon to accept back his slave Onesimus as a brother (*Philemon 9-10, 12-17*).

**GOSPEL** — Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion?

(*Luke 14:25-33*).

**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	Bishop Spencer's PL
Flora Waddell	Home
Dwight Miller, Jr.	Truman Medical Ctr

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

**SEPTEMBER 15<sup>th</sup> ASSIGNMENTS**

**SERVERS** *Coordinator: V. Ammons\**  
*All Servers*

**LECTORS** *Coordinator, Rose Palmer\**

**8:00 a.m.** Michele Jones, Sharon Hardy

**10:00 a.m.** Mary Ann Grayson,  
Carolyn Greene

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

*Coordinator, Dianna Miller\**

**8:00 a.m.** Crystal Miller, Dianna Miller,  
Julia Price, Rita Womack

**10:00 a.m.** Rose Palmer, Barbara Parks, Lydia Rameriz, Rose Roos, Katie Steward, Kirk Thaw, Shirley Thaw, Patricia Williams, Deborah Buckley, Terese Chambers

**USHERS** *Coordinators, Kim Urenda, Mary Pearson\**

**8:00 a.m.** Elaine Johnson,  
Lawrence Blankinship

**10:00 a.m. Team A:**  
Issac Taitt, Shannon Fields, Leah Henderson, Carolyn Jones, Alex Perez, Vicki Shackelford, Kim Urenda Fields

**WELCOME:** Mary Ann Grayson

**COUNTERS: TEAM #3**

**Team Leader:** Janice Smith

**MEETINGS / DATES / TIMES**



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DAY  
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>**

for

St. Monica's Religious Education/Sunday School Registration, and Welcome. For Parents, Guardians & Children, ages Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade.

*Lite Refreshments*

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

*What greater or better gift can we offer the republic than to teach and instruct our youth?* —Cicero

*Dear Church Family, if you are interested in working with our youth, for 1 or 2 Sundays per month, please contact Director Ramonda Doakes, (816) 457-5538, or [rdoakes@gmail.com](mailto:rdoakes@gmail.com)*

**JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP,**

Will reconvene in October

*Coordinators: John & Debra Johnson*

**SENIOR YOUTH GROUP**

Will resume in October

*Coordinators: Eric & Bumetta Burtin, Elton & Phaedra Lombard*

**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**

3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knights 1<sup>st</sup> Sat 1:00 p.m.

4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. 1:45 p.m.

Fr. Constantine Ct. 1<sup>st</sup> Sun. 9:00 a.m.

Ladies of Grace 4<sup>th</sup> Sun. 2:00 p.m.

Jr. Daughters 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. 2:00 p.m.

Jr. Knights 1<sup>st</sup> Sun. 4:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

**9:00 a.m. Mass**

**6:00 p.m. Prayer Service**

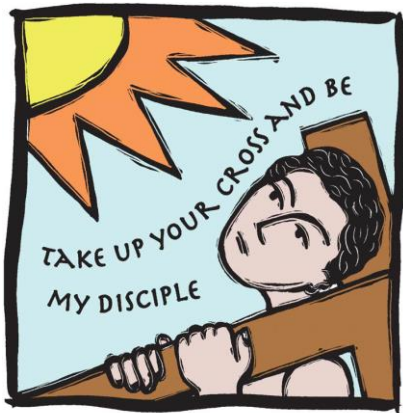
**SATURDAY**

**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 Old St. Monica School Building, St. Monica Room.*

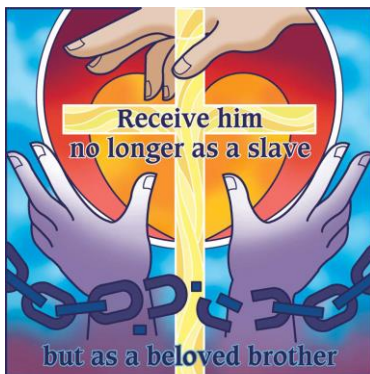


**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Col 1:24 — 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11  
**Tuesday:** Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11; Lk 6:12-19  
**Wednesday:** Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab; Lk 6:20-26  
**Thursday:** Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 6:27-38  
**Friday:** 1Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42  
**Saturday:** Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17  
**Sunday:** Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19; 1Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32 [1-10]

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday:** Twenty-third Sunday In Ordinary Time; Grandparents Day  
**Monday:** St. Peter Claver  
**Wednesday:** Patriot Day  
**Thursday:** The Most Holy Name of Mary  
**Friday:** St. John Chrysostom  
**Saturday:** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



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**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians share a love for the Byzantine liturgy because it is during the Eucharist that the Church is most true to its identity, expresses its integrity, and discovers its vocation. Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians celebrate essentially the identical liturgy, with only very slight variations. It is a fairly complex ritual weaving together three separate layers of prayers: a liturgy prayed in the sanctuary by priests, often hidden by a curtain or screen; a liturgy sung by the assembly and led by a deacon in front of a screen formed of painted icons; and a third layer of private prayer by the priest, who prays in support of the deacon and the faithful. It is an eye-wide-open experience, gorgeous in visuals, and filled with the sound of God's people singing prayer. The energy of the worship centers on the presence of Christ, largely through an awareness of heaven touching earth when the Church gathers to celebrate.

In the late twentieth century, Latin Rite Catholics were encouraged to embrace a style of worship that was "full, conscious, and active," a value that has never been lost in the East. The liturgy has great impact in its beauty, in its poetry and contemplation, and by the actions of bowing, signing with the cross, and chanting that are required of the assembly. Contact with the Eastern Church reveals some key values that have been obscured in our own Church and are slowly being recovered.

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



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SEPTEMBER 21<sup>st</sup> ~ JERICO WALK**  
**- at St. Monica ~ 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.**

\*Join us in the 6<sup>th</sup> 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**

**SECOND COLLECTION - NEXT SUNDAY: LATIN AMERICAN APOSTOLATE MISSION**

**SPECIAL EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER**

**15<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY SCHOOL MEET & GREET**  
 For Parents, Guardians, & Children, K-5<sup>th</sup> grades

**21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL JERICO WALK**  
 (Fundraiser / St. Jude Children's Hospital)

**28<sup>th</sup> ST. MONICA MUSIC MINISTRY**  
 Presents  
**"Praise Dancing Before the King"**

**DEADLINE** -To Order 2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES, for Each **Registered/Active Family**, at St. Monica. *Please Let Us Know If You Need To Update Your Information:*

**CHANGES:**

- Name,
- Address,
- Phone Number.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:chastain@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.*

## 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*

**Visit our new website: [stmonicakc.org](http://stmonicakc.org)**