

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 27, 2017**

“Whatever you bind on earth
Shall be bound in heaven;
and whatever you loose on earth
shall be loosed in heaven.”

~ **Matthew 16:19**

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



BE A ROCK

Peter's history as a follower or friend of Jesus is a bit spotty. It might be natural to wonder if Jesus, in giving him the keys to the kingdom, didn't feel a bit like a parent giving a teenager the keys to the family car. But it was at the moment when God's power and presence broke through everything else to raise up Peter's great profession of faith in Christ as Messiah that Jesus chose to establish the bond between the loving, forgiving mercy of heaven and our vocation to be witnesses of that love, mercy, and forgiveness on earth.

Like any parent, Jesus no doubt foresaw the failings, the irresponsible maneuvers or impaired senses, the collisions that the church would be headed for. But, most importantly, he also saw us at that moment as God prefers to see us: capable of manifesting great faith, with a willingness to remain at the feet of Christ to understand what it truly means to be Messiah and Christ. As the letter to the Romans points out to us today, we have not known the mind or the wisdom of God, but God knows us and still chooses to manifest the reign of justice, joy, beauty, and peace through us. Let this be our vocation. Let us always strive to be solid ground on which the church of Jesus Christ can be founded and on which it can continue to be built. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING — Eliakim is destined by God to be a father to those who live in Jerusalem (Isaiah 22:19-23).

PSALM — Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands (Psalm 138).

SECOND READING — How deep are the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! (Romans 11:33-36).

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Charles Nicholson | Home |
| Edith Bolder | Home |
| Mable Allen Reed | Sr. Living Center |
| Marguerite Hamilton | Home |
| Jeanette Hamilton Evans | Home |
| Eddie Jennings | V.A. Rehab. /Cameron, MO |
| Inell Hunter | Home |
| John Martinez, Jr. | Home |
| Margaret G. Jones | Home |
| Martha Melton | Benton House Center |
| Bertha Beatty | Home |
| Marcheita Bush | Home |
| Johnny Chambers | Home |
| Bob Motley | Home |
| Lorna Lewis | Home |
| Carlos Nix | Home |
| Delores Bazy | Home |
| Georgia Willoughby | Home |
| Lavel McCullough | Home |
| Rosa Birch | Home |
| Sandra Cloyd | Home |
| Kevin Brown | Home |
| Jackie Countee | Home |
| Jacob Armstrong | Home |
| Terese Chambers | Home |
| Toice Woods | Home |
| Mary Brown | Home |
| Hargett Hayes | Home |
| Earnestine Nard | Home |
| Ryckey Harper | Home |

FAMILY MEMBERS: Please inform Father Leonard, leombuthia@yahoo.com, when a loved-one is home-bound, or has been hospitalized.

SEPTEMBER 3RD ASSIGNMENTS

- SERVERS** Coordinator: V. Ammons*
8:00 & 10:00 a.m. All Servers
LECTORS Coordinator, Rose Palmer*
8:00 a.m. Sharon Hardy,
 Lawrence Blankinship
10:00 a.m. Youth Day
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
 Coordinator, Dianna Miller*
8:00 a.m. Dianna Miller, Julia Price, Rita
 Womack, Gerald Buckman
10:00 a.m. Deborah Buckley, Diane
 Charity, Jenise Comer, Bernadette Cook,
 Angela Curry, Pamela Green, Ronald
 Green, Carolyn Greene, Ben Gruber

- USHERS** Coordinators, E. Burtin* J. Gillis*
8:00 a.m. Lawrence Blankinship,
 Hargett Hayes, Elaine Johnson
10:00 a.m. TEAM D: Paul Alexander,
 Jeanette Countee, Elaine Lomax, Genia
 Palmer, Emmanuel Okonta, Ngozika
 Okonta

WELCOME Ramonda Doakes
COUNTERS: TEAM 1

SUNDAY

SAINT MONICA FEAST DAY



MEETINGS DATES TIMES



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Registration For 1st Communion, Sunday School, Junior & Senior Youth Groups, and RCIA, Every Sunday, In August.

Classes Will Start In September.

The Rite Of Christian Initiation For Adults (RCIA) Class, Will Begin, **September 17th.** Classes Are Held Every Sunday, Immediately Following The 10:00 A.M. Mass, In The Small Chapel. *Deacon Kenneth Greene, Instructor*
 First Communion and Sunday school Classes will begin on Sunday, September 24th.
Ms. Ramonda Doakes, Director

Health Ministry 2nd Sunday 1:30 A.M.
 Ushers Ministry 4th Sunday 11:30 A.M.

KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 3rd Degree Knights | 1st Sat. 1:00 P.M. |
| 4th Degree Knights | 1st Sat. 1:45 A.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. |

WEDNESDAY

9:00 A.M. Communion Service
6:00 P.M. Prayer Service

SATURDAY

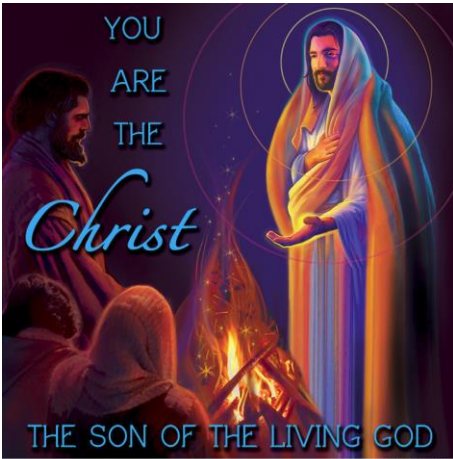
8:00 a.m.
Men & Breakfast & Bible Study Class
9:00 a.m.
Women's Breakfast & Bible Study Class



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY'S GOSPEL

— Jesus asked the disciples, “Who do you say that I am?”
(Matthew 16:13-20)



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-6; Mk 6:17-29
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17; Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12; Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30
Sunday: Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Augustine
Tuesday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist
Friday: World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation;
First Friday
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary;
First Saturday

REPORT CHILD ABUSE

Call the Missouri Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline, 800-361-2665, or the Diocesan Ombudsmn, Jenifer Valenti, 816-812-2500.



LAWN CARE – WORK DAY

Thank you Volunteers, for putting on your gardening gloves to give your time, talents, and treasures on Saturday, August 19, to beautify our church grounds. If you missed out, it is never too late for individuals or families to adopt a portion of our church grounds to maintain St. Monica Catholic Church's beauty.

We would like to give special thanks to the following: Parishioner, Verrien Smith, our Security Guard, and Parishioner, Duane Murff for spearheading this project; Parishioner, Eric Burtin for the use of his truck to haul the yard waste; Home Depot for their donation of workers and lawn supplies; and Price Choppers and HyVee for their donations of food.

Each of us can thank the Home Depot Store #3021, by calling the Corporate Office, at 1-800-931-7434.

Follow the prompt #7.

Enter: Your name:

Project: St. Monica

Store: #3021

Home Depot Employees' Names:

Johnny Merrell, Mike Hammer, & Mike Smith

Store Manager: Kevin Dunkin

Grant Coordinator: Mary Ann Brocker

**A very special Thank You! To Verrien (Pete) Smith, our Security Guard, and fateful gardener. He went to the Home Depot Store, and initiated this entire process.*

ST. MONICA'S MOVIE NIGHT

RAISED ~ \$326.50



THANK YOU TO:

Everyone who made a donation, came to, and supported our Movie Night.

The Parish Council thanks you for your support: Duane Murff, for the Love Offering he collected, charging for parking, Eric and Burnetta Burtin, for all you do for St. Monica.

Cheryl L. Jones

Bulletin Deadline – WEDNESDAY - Noon

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners and friends of St. Monica, It is with great joy we come together as a family of God to 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 up on her beads. She prayed constantly.

And so, 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.

And 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 so., 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, to grow in patience, and eventually perseverance. In other words, she became the first beneficiary 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 visitors and friends of St. Monica. In a special way, we thank Bishop Johnston for gracing us with his presence during this occasion. We thank all our parishioners, volunteers and people of good will, for making this celebration a success.

Fr. Leonard

