

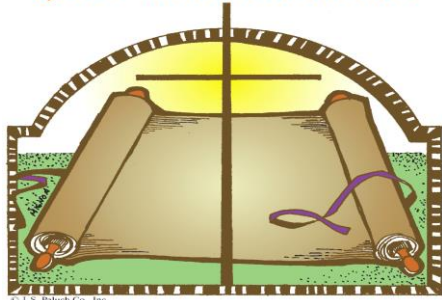
**SIXTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 12, 2017**

What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard,
and what has not entered the human heart,
what God has prepared

For those who love [God],
this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.

~1 Corinthians 2:9-10

*Obey and teach
God's commandments*



CHOICE

"If you choose you can keep the commandments," Sirach tells us. God "has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand" (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

In today's reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).

Psalms — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).

Second Reading — God's wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Charles Nicholson	Home
Edith Bolder	Home
Mable Allen Reed	Senior Living Center
Marguerite Hamilton	Home
Jeanette Hamilton Evans	Home
Eddie Jennings	Home
Inell Hunter	Home
John Martinez, Jr.	Home
Margaret G. Jones	Research Hospital.
Martha Melton	Benton House Center
Bertha Beatty	Home
Marcheita Bush	Home
Betty Givens	Home
Mary Brown	Home
Johnny Chambers	Home
Bob Motley	Home
Lorna Lewis	Home
Carlos Nix	Home
Delores Bazy	Home
Georgia Willoughby	Myers Nursing Home.
Lavel McCullough	Home
Rosa Birch	Home
Sandra Cloyd	Home
Kevin Brown	Son of Vera Brown
Jackie Countee	Home
Jacob Armstrong	Home
Dewey Dickinson	Home

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

FEBRUARY 19TH ASSIGNMENTS

SERVERS *Coordinator: V. Ammons**
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. *All Servers*

LECTORS *Coordinator, Rose Palmer**

8:00 a.m. Javan Hardy, Sharon Hardy
10:00 a.m. Ramonda Doakes, Al Lomax

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

*Coordinator, Dianna Miller**
8:00 a.m. Mary Graham, Maxine Harvey
10:00 p.m. Dorothy Musti, Paula Nix, Rose Palmer, Barbara Parks, Lydia Ramirez, Carol Robinson, Terese Chambers, Katie Steward, Shirley Thaw, Kirk Thaw

USHERS: *E. Burtin*, J. Gillis* Coordinators*

8:00 a.m. G.L. Blankinship, Elaine Johnson, Hargett Hayes,

10:00 a.m. **Team E:** Diane Bacchus, Cynthia Barrett, Don Williams, Eric Burtin, Conrad McDonald, Jenny Gillis

WELCOME: *Dominion Yarbrough*

COUNTERS: TEAM 3

Coordinator, Burnetta Burtin

3RD SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Reception Host: AFRICA RISING

MEETINGS – DATES - TIMES

SUNDAY ~ 11:30 a.m. *St. Monica Building*
~ Sunday School 1st & 3rd Sun.
~ 1st Communion, *Every Sunday**
~ Jr Youth Group, 2nd & 4th Sun.
(Ferguson Hall/Lower Level)
~ Senior Youth Group, 1st & 3rd Sun
~ Confirmation Class, 2nd & 4th Sun
~ **RCIA** Class, *(Small Chapel)*

Health Ministry 2nd Sunday 11:30 a.m.
Ushers Ministry 4th Sunday 11:30 a.m.

KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER

3 rd Degree Knights	1 st Sat. 1:00 p.m.
4 th Degree Knights	1 st Sat. 11:45 a.m.
Fr. Constantine Ct.	1 st Sun. 9:00 a.m.
Ladies of Grace	4 th Sun 2:00 p.m.
Jr. Daughters	2 nd Sat 2:00 p.m.
Jr. Knights	1 st Sun 4:00 p.m.

MONDAY

9:00 a.m. Mass

WEDNESDAY

9:00 a.m. ~ Communion Service
6:00 p.m. ~ Prayer Service
5:30 p.m. ~ Finance Committee

SATURDAY

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

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH
11:30 A.M. LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE**

Ferguson Hall



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

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday – Noon

GOSPEL — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13
 Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21
 Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Ps 116:12-15, 18-19; Mk 8:22-26
 Thursday: Gn 9:1-13; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Mk 8:27-33
 Friday: Gn 11:1-9; Ps 33:10-15; Mk 8:34 — 9:1
 Saturday: Heb 11:1-7; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Mk 9:2-13
 Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day
 Tuesday: Ss. Cyril & Methodius
 Valentine's Day
 Friday: The Seven Founders of the Order of Servites
 Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

**The St. Therese Little Flower Parish
 MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION**

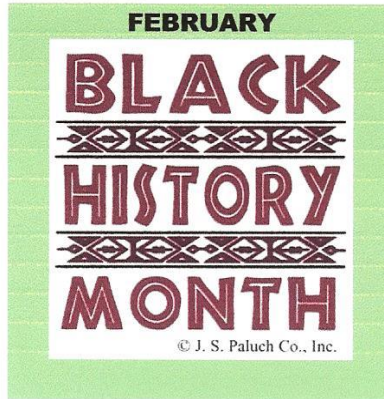
February 24, 2017

5:30 - 10:30 pm

Hillcrest Country Club,

8200 Hillcrest Road, K. C., MO 64138

Tickets \$15 in advance - \$20 at the door
 Great food, non-alcoholic beverages, great entertainment, silent auction for great gifts, and more. Wine and beer will also be available. *Will-call tickets may be reserved in advance by calling 816-444-5406 or purchased at the parish office, 5814 Euclid Ave. KCMO 64130 between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm weekdays."*



Founder: Dr. Carter G. Woodson,

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Registered parishioners will no longer receive weekly envelopes, by mail. Boxed envelopes will be available for pickup, in Ferguson Hall, after each Mass, on Sunday, and during the week, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Please remember to write your name and envelope number on your envelopes.

Here is the latest Annual Catholic Appeal Report
 As of January 31, 2017,
St. Monica's Goal: \$ 3,030.00
63 Pledge Cards returned = \$11,835.00
393% Over Our Goal



As a diocese, we have reached 91.5% of goal!
 42 of 98 parishes have reached / exceeded their goal!
 10.3% of Households making pledges

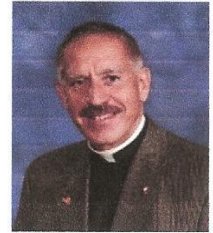


MONTHLY FINANCE REPORTS

January	Budget	Actual	Difference +/-	Debt Reduction	Food Pantry
1st	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 5,910.00	\$ 2,090.00	\$ 1,318.00	\$ 205.00
8th	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 10,236.00	\$ (2,236.00)	\$ 367.00	\$ 516.00
15th	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 7,462.00	\$ 538.00	\$ -	\$ - Weather
22nd	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 116.00
29th	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 5,073.00	\$ 2,927.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 50.00
Totals	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 28,681.00	\$ 11,319.00	\$ 1,865.00	\$ 887.00

FROM FATHERS' DESK

Greetings!
 Some of you might be confused as to why I am gone this weekend.



The reason can be summed up in two words: Super Bowl. Yes, even the Super Bowl affects the schedule of the Air National Guard. The decision was made to take our regularly scheduled ANG weekend OFF Super Bowl weekend, and change it to the 2nd weekend of the month. I'd prefer they just leave it alone, but my opinion in this matter holds little weight. So, now you know.

This 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time occurs on the heels of Valentine's Day (Tuesday), and the middle of our Black History month. Our Jr. Youth are busy providing us with tidbits of information, as well as offering us something to give to that wonderful special person in our lives. Again, thanks for your ongoing support of the Jr. Youth.

In the first reading today from Sirach he tells us "If you choose, you can keep the commandments..." The key words here are IF YOU CHOOSE. He clearly tells us that keeping the commandments are important, and that is our choice. We decide. God does not decide for us. Our ancestors do not decide for us. Our parents do not decide for us. Our teachers do not decide for us. Our priests do not decide for us. Get the point? The decision to follow the commandments, the ways of God, the Words of Jesus is a decision that each person must make of their own accord. You, I, each person here today, must make that conscious choice today and every day to keep the commandments, to follow God's way. We teach, we instruct, we show the way. We do everything we know how to do to ensure others (especially our children) become aware of these teachings, but ultimately the decision to take these words to heart remains upon them. Are these teachings part of my life?

Make it a great week!

Fr. Tom

