

**THIRD SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JANUARY 22, 2017**

Wait for the LORD with courage;  
be stouthearted,  
and wait for the LORD.

~ *Psalm 27:14*



**LIBERATION AND REFORM**

While you might have to reach for an atlas to determine that Isaiah is speaking about Galilee, today's first reading (part of which was read at Christmas) is prophetic of Jesus' future ministry in that province. The light that brings salvation and rejoicing is, ultimately, Christ. Liberation is the theme: liberation from both ignorance ("darkness") and sin (the "yoke").

As Isaiah identifies a place, so Paul describes an attitude: the attitude that develops, even among good people, of equating their own will with the common good. This always brings dissension, and so it has done in Corinth. Paul will not allow this; we are all members of "Christ's party." The gospel is not to divide us.

Matthew quotes from Isaiah in today's Gospel, presenting Jesus as the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecies. The theme is "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17). To spread this message, Jesus begins to select disciples, four of whom we meet today: Peter, Andrew, James, and John.  
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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**FIRST READING** — The burdens that were once laid upon the people have been vanquished (*Isaiah 8:23 — 9:3*).

**PSALM** — The Lord is my light and my salvation (*Psalm 27*).

**SECOND READING** — Paul exhorts the believers at Corinth: As there is one Christ, so too must there be no divisions among you. (*1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17*).

**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      | Truman Medical Center. |
| Lavel McCullough        | Home                   |
| Rosa Birch              | Home                   |
| Sandra Cloyd            | Home                   |
| Kevin Brown             | Son of Vera Brown      |
| Jackie Countee          | Home                   |
| Muriel Hayes            | Home                   |
| Jacob Armstrong         | 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*

**JANUARY 28<sup>th</sup> ASSIGNMENTS**

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

**LECTORS** *Coordinator, Rose Palmer\**  
8:00 a.m. Angela Curry, Everette Curry  
10:00 a.m. Leah Henderson,  
Dewey Dickinson

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

*Coordinator, Dianna Miller\**  
8:00 a.m. Dianna Miller, Julia Price,  
Rita Womack, Gerlad Buckman  
10:00 p.m. Dorothy Mustin, Rose palmer,  
Barbara Parks, Lydia Rameriz, Carol  
Robinson, Terese Chambers, Rose Roos  
Katie Steward, Kirk Thaw, Shirley Thaw

**USHERS:** *E. Burtin\*, J. Gillis\* Coordinators*  
8:00 a.m. G.L. Blankinship, Elaine  
Johnson, Hargett Hayes,

10:00 a.m. **Team D:** Paul Alexander,  
Jeanette Countee, Elaine Lomax, Genia  
Palmer, Emmanuel. Okonta, Ngozika Okonta  
**WELCOME:** *Myra and Cyla Scales*

**COUNTERS:** *Coordinator, Burnetta Burtin*  
**TEAM 5**

**MEETING – DATES - TIMES**

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

**Health Ministry** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 11:30 a.m.  
**Ushers Ministry** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11:30 a.m.

**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. 11:45 a.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.   |

**MONDAY**

9:00 a.m. Mass

**WEDNESDAY**

9:00 a.m. ~ Communion Service  
6:00 p.m. ~ Prayer Service

**SATURDAY**

- 9:00 a.m. ~ Men's Breakfast &  
Bible Study Class  
~ Women's Breakfast &  
Bible Study Class  
10:00 a.m. ~ **DEANERY 1 & 2 MEETING**  
Ferguson Hall

**FINANCE**

<b>MONTHLY GOAL</b>	<b>\$38,000.00</b>
<b>FORECASTED WEEKLY BUDGET</b>	
Regular Offering Goal	\$7,700.00
Debt Reduction Goal	1,800.00
Weekly Offering Goal	\$9,500.00

**OFFERING ENVELOPES ~**

*New Method Of Distribution*

Registered Parishioners will no longer receive weekly envelopes by mail. Boxed envelopes will be available for pickup in Ferguson Hall, after each Mass, on Sundays, and during the week:

**MONDAY, 12:00 Noon – 3:00 P.M.**  
**WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY,**  
**9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

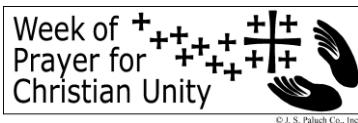
*Please call the Church Office. 816-471-3696, if you plan to pick up your envelopes during the week. We will assist you.*

**GOSPEL** — After calling his first disciples, Jesus goes throughout Galilee teaching, proclaiming the gospel, and curing the people (**Matthew 4:12-23 [12-17]**).



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Ps 98:1-6; Mk 3:22-30, or any of a number of readings for the Day of Prayer
- Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11; Mk 3:31-35
- Wednesday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
- Thursday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 4:21-35
- Friday: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34
- Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 1:69-75; Mk 4:35-41
- Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13; Ps 146:6-10; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12a



**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Sunday: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children; St. Vincent; St. Marianne Cope
- Tuesday: St. Francis de Sales
- Wednesday: The Conversion of St. Paul; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends
- Thursday: Ss. Timothy and Titus
- Friday: St. Angela Merici
- Saturday: St. Thomas Aquinas; Chinese New Year 4715

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

**LITURGICAL WORKSHOPS**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>**  
 The Diocese will host a Liturgical Workshop, Saturday, January 28th, at the Catholic Center, 20 W 9th Street, K.C.MO 64105.

**COST: \$20.00, for Reader / Lector or Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion Training. If you choose to do both, trainings. The cost is \$40.00. As usual, this amount will be billed directly to the parishes. St. Monica parishioners: Please call the Church Office to register.**



**DEANERY 1 & 2**  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
**January 28<sup>th</sup>**  
 St. Monica Church,  
 Ferguson Hall

**9:30 a.m. Registration**  
**10:00 a.m. Mass or Rosary, Luncheon**  
*\*Members: Bring a small gift for door prizes.*  
**Guests are welcome.**

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

It's still months away, but parish ministers, especially if they are involved in the catechumenate, have their eyes on Lent and the Easter Triduum. Until fairly recent times, the last few days before Easter were shaped by an awareness of the Passion, but the faithful were left to their own devices about how to engage with these mysteries. A thousand years ago, the Easter Vigil as a solemn and central moment of initiation had vanished. By the early 1950s it was a minor moment in parish life, celebrated on Holy Saturday morning, usually with only the priests and a handful of invited guests. Most people understood it as necessary only for blessing the paschal candle and preparing the Easter water. People who were children during World War II sometimes remember that the weekly noontime test of the air-raid sirens on Holy Saturday signaled the end of Lent.

Today, of course, we see Holy Saturday as entirely within the paschal fast, and hardly the time for children to be tearing through the plastic grass looking for jelly beans and chocolate eggs. These memories point to a total collapse of the once-central liturgies of the Christian year. This impoverishment of the liturgy was mostly an accident of history. The root cause was the loss of Lent as a time focused on the final formation of catechumens for the Easter sacraments. By 1880, scholars began to piece together a vision of what once had been, and slowly, at first in a handful of monasteries in Europe, pieces of the tradition were rediscovered and celebrated.

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



**FROM FATHER'S DESK**

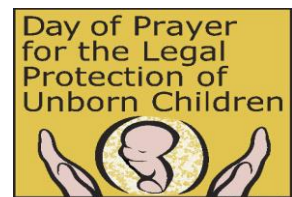
Greetings!  
 We have moved into the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. The

first reading's message from Isaiah is similar to the reading that we heard on Christmas Eve. As we move back into ordinary time, the Church brings us back to the beginning; the earliest proclamations of the coming of Christ, as well as the early beginnings of his ministry that we heard in the gospel; the beautiful story of John's apparent arrest, and his withdrawal to the desert, and the calling of the first disciples. "Come after me", Jesus says to the fishermen. The story tells us immediately they left their boats and their old ways of life behind to follow the Lord.

We just finished celebrating the Christmas season. Now, it is up to us to listen to the inspirational words of the prophet Isaiah, and to follow the example of the disciples. We go about our lives day after day in most normal ways. Do we proclaim the coming, the very presence of Christ? We are the disciples of Christ in the world today. Are we as His disciples ready and willing to follow Jesus? What ways have we left behind? What ways must we still leave behind? What changes have we made so that we can more readily follow in His ways?

The Christmas season is over; the tree is gone, the poinsettias are gone, the manger scene is packed away until next year. Did you pack away your resolve to proclaim and follow Christ more closely?

Make it a great week!  
**Fr. Tom**



*Bulletin deadline: Wednesday – Noon*

