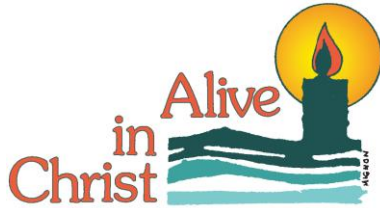


**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

**JULY 2, 2017**

Think of yourselves as dead to sin  
and living for God in Christ Jesus.

~ *Romans 6:11*



**THE RICHNESS OF LIFE IN CHRIST**

Today we have the beautiful story of the woman promised a child, the wonderful exhortation about life in Christ, and a powerful instruction from Jesus. An embarrassment of riches? Not if we take Jesus' words about "welcome" to heart. The many challenges and blessings offered to us today by Elisha, Paul, and Jesus should be cause for rejoicing, and welcomed heartily into our lives. And, like the great treat that they are, they should be enjoyed and shared generously with others.

Today's reading from Romans was chosen very early in the liturgical life of the Church to be the sole apostolic instruction received by candidates for baptism at the Easter Vigil. This illustrates its importance as a core belief, and as a means of comprehending the story of the Resurrection. Christ's resurrection is not merely a story about something that he underwent once upon a time, but it is our story, the story of how we joined the other members of the one Body of Christ, the church. We were not only dead, but we were buried; not ultimately buried, but raised to eternal life with Christ.

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Elisha promises a baby son to the hospitable woman  
(*2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a*).

**Psalm** — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (*Psalm 89*).

**Second Reading** — We shall live in newness of life as Christ was raised from the dead (*Romans 6:3-4, 8-11*).

**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
Betty Givens	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
Dewey Dickinson	Home
Terese Chambers	Home
Toice Woods	Home
Mary Brown	Home

**FAMILY MEMBERS:**

Please inform Fr. Leonard :[leombuthia@yahoo.com](mailto:leombuthia@yahoo.com)  
or call 816-471-3696, *com* when a loved-one is home bound or has been hospitalized.

**JULY 9<sup>TH</sup> ASSIGNMENTS**

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

**LECTORS** Coordinator, Rose Palmer\*

8:00 a.m. Rita Womack, Cynthia Eastman  
10:00 a.m. Bernadette Cook,  
Carolyn Greene

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Coordinator, Dianna Miller\*  
8:00 a.m. Dianna Miller, Julia Price, Rita Womack, Gerald Buckman  
10:00 p.m. Syrtiller Kabat, Carrie Miller, Paulette Monroe, Dorothy Mustin, Cristina Ramirez, Rose Palmer, Barbara Parks, Lydia Ramirez, Rose Roos, Terese Chambers

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

8:00 a.m. G.L. Blankinship, Elaine Johnson, Hargett Hayes  
10:00 a.m. **Team A:** Jan Wallace, Chaunceyette Mize, Phaedra Lombard, Mary Alexander, Shephanie Yeager, Sharon Dunmore

**MEETINGS DATES TIMES**

**SUNDAY:**

*Religious Education Classes  
will resume in September*

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. 1:45 a.m. Fr.  
Constantine Ct. 1<sup>s</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. Communion Service  
6:00 p.m. Prayer Service

**SATURDAY**

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

**Church Offices will be closed, on  
Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, in  
observance this National Holiday.**



**THANK YOU**

Greetings to all: Sincere thanks to you for your kindness and generosity, as I celebrated my 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the Priesthood, and as I said farewell to you, on June 11<sup>th</sup>. My four short years with you were a learning and memorable experience. I appreciate the patience and guidance you showed me the past few years. I will keep you in my prayers, as I hope you keep me in yours.

God bless,  
*Fr. Tom*

**JULY WELCOMER:** Rick Hughes

**JULY 9<sup>th</sup> COUNTERS:** **TEAM 2**  
Coordinator, Burnetta Burtin\*

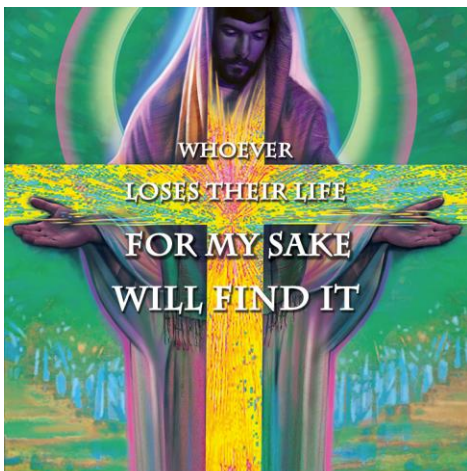
**TODAY'S GOSPEL** — Whoever gives but a cup of cold water to another will surely be rewarded (*Matthew 10:37-42*).

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc-2; Jn 20:24-29
- Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29; Ps 26:2-3, 9-12; Mt 8:23-27; or, for Independence Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Country or a City," nos. 882-886, or "For Peace and Justice," nos. 887-891
- Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Ps 34:7-8, 10-13; Mt 8:28-34
- Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19; Ps 115:1-6, 8-9; Mt 9:1-8
- Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Ps 106:1b-5; Mt 9:9-13
- Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Ps 135:1b-6; Mt 9:14-17;
- Sunday: Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Sunday: Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: St. Thomas
- Tuesday: Independence Day
- Wednesday: St. Anthony Zaccaria; St. Elizabeth of Portugal
- Thursday: St. Maria Goretti
- Friday: First Friday
- Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary



**Bulletin Deadline – Wednesday – Noon**

**WELCOME TO OUR ST. MONICA CHURCH FAMILY**



*Fr. Leonard Gicheru*



**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

It's Independence Day week, and there is a link worth tracing between the Declaration of Independence and the language of liturgy. One of the signers of the Declaration on that July 4 long ago was Charles Carroll, probably the wealthiest man in the colonies and one of the few Catholics on the political scene. As a flourish to his signature, he sought to distinguish himself from other prominent citizens bearing the same name by penning "Charles Carroll of Carrolltown"—a defiant "come and get me if you dare" postscript task of organizing the Catholic Church in this country. By 1791 he had assembled a synod, or assembly of delegates, to launch that task formally. Archbishop Carroll wanted to gain acceptance of our faith by American people who mistrusted our customs and could not comprehend our liturgy. He made the amazing proposal to Rome that our liturgy should be prayed not in Latin, but in the vernacular, English. His wish was denied, but one hundred sixty years later, his deep desire helped the American bishops and scholars at the Second Vatican Council to win the vote in favor of the vernacular not just for the United States, but for the Church throughout the world.

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

**Organization Leaders:** Reserve your space(s) on the Church Calendar. Please submit your lists of events planned for the months of July 2017 through December 2017, to Fr. Leonard, [leomvuthia@yahoo.com](mailto:leomvuthia@yahoo.com)  
Thank you

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

**FROM FATHER'S DESK**

Dear friends and Parishioners of St. Monica's Parish, As probably most of you know by now, Bishop Johnston appointed me as your Parochial administrator this past Spring. An assignment I accepted with great humility to serve you as your pastor. And although I felt honored by this appointment, I have to say that I was little anxious and concerned of how I would carry out this magnanimous task of caring of souls. And I while I was lost in my anxieties, I remember the experience of St. Paul in his missionary journey to preach the Gospel. Paul would often say, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Phil 4:13. In others words, Paul never relied on himself to effect the message of the Gospel to non-believers. His Strength and precision came from Christ alone. And so I am entrusting my self to Christ' strength to be able to serve you diligently. I thought I would also introduce myself to in brief manner. Hoping that you will get to know me more in our interactions as I look forward to meeting you.

I was born and raised in the central region of Kenya, in Africa. I come from a small family of 5. I am the oldest of three, I have a younger sister and a brother. We all lived in the country where we had domesticated animals and did small scale farming for our food

I got the desire of becoming a priest when I was 7 years old. This was because of my parent's faith and involvement in the parish life. And this would motivate me to become an altar server, where my priestly vocation was nurtured and encouraged.

After high school, I decided to join the Seminary to pursue my vocation toward priesthood. I did part of my seminary Education in Kenya, Uganda and then here in the USA.

I migrated to the USA in 2009, and after a year, I applied to study for the Diocese of Kansas City- St. Joseph. I was sent to study at Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Connecticut and then ordained as a priest for this Diocese on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014. My first assignment as a priest was at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish for two years. Then the summer of last year I was assigned as an associate pastor for St. Thomas More Parish, South Kansas and a Catholic chaplain for the VA Hospital, off Linwood. Then this past spring Bishop Johnston appointed me as the Parochial Administrator of St. Monica's Parish. I am excited to serve you as your next pastor. I look forward to meeting and get know most of you. It takes me a while to learn new names, but once I get them, they stick with me. My hobbies are reading, watching baseball and football, riding bicycle, socializing and meeting new faces.

God bless you all!  
*Fr. Leonard*

**SAVE THE DATES . . .**

**MONDAY, JULY 3<sup>RD</sup>**

**AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup>**



**“LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION”**

St. Monica's Family Movie Night

When: August 12, 2017

Where: Inside-Ferguson Hall

Time: 6:00 pm

Cost: \$2.00 - All proceeds go to Church

**FREE POPCORN !**

*Don't forget to Bring your food drink, lawn chair, as we fellowship and watch the movie.*



**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**JULY 16<sup>TH</sup>**

ST. FERGUSON HALL

Lower Level

Donation: \$5.00

*Sponsored by the Knights of Peter Claver, #57*

**REVIVAL**

**“Strengthen Your Faith”**

**with Father Manuel Bragg Williams, C.R.**

**St. Monica's Catholic Church**

**7:00 p.m.**

**1616 Paseo KCMO 64108**

**September 17-20, 2017**

*All denominations are WELCOME.*