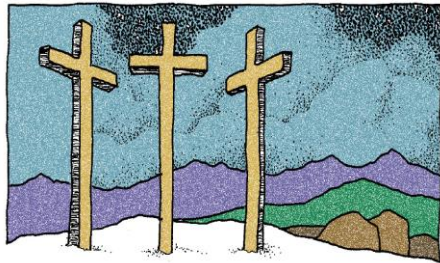


**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup> BULLETIN**

While we were still sinners  
Christ died for us.  
~ *Romans 5:8*



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**THIRSTING FOR LIFE-GIVING WATERS**

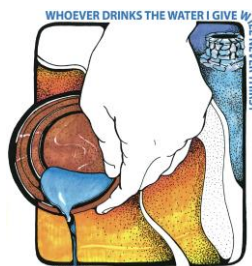
Especially during the Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter seasons, the prayer texts of the Eastern Church revel in paradoxical images of Christ: the eternal life who is put to death, the host of the supper who is also its meal, the thirsty crucified one with living water streaming from his side. These images flow from the evangelists' portrayals of Jesus and from his very ministry, during which he often upset or reversed people's expectations about him or the ways of God. This "reversal" is at play in today's Gospel, as Jesus speaks to an enemy foreigner who is also a woman beneath his status. In addition he, the thirsting one, shows the woman to be the one truly thirsting. He—whose parched lips will say "I thirst" before he dies—is the source of life and life-giving water. Lent calls upon us to dwell on how each of us is thirsting for Christ, and it leads us, ultimately, back to the life-giving waters of our baptism into his Body.

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — When the people grumbled to Moses for water in the desert, the LORD heard and brought forth water from the rock for all to drink (*Exodus 17:3-7*).

**Psalm** — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (*Psalms 95*).

**Second Reading** — God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (*Romans 5:1-2, 5-8*).



**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	Home.
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
Terese Chambers	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](mailto:stmonica1616kc@hotmail.com)*

**MARCH 26<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. Cynthia Eastman, Rosalind Smith  
10:00 a.m. Guyetta Mabin, Rose Roos

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**  
*Coordinator, Dianna Miller\**  
8:00 a.m. Dianna Miller, Julia Price,  
Rita Womack, Gerald Buckman

10:00 p.m. Mary Ann Grayson, Ben Gruber,  
Joann James, Margaret Jones, Syrtiller Kabat,  
Lydia Ramirez, Carrie Miller, Paulette Monroe,  
Dorothy Mustin, Paula Nix

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

10:00 a.m. **Team B:** Shannon Fields, Kim  
Urenda, Vickie Shackelford, Carolyn Jones,  
Leah Henderson, Cynthia Urenda

**WELCOME:** *Jamika Uno*

**COUNTERS: TEAM 4**

**MEETINGS – 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

**FRIDAY**

**6:00 P.M.** *(Sanctuary)*



*Followed by a 'simple supper' in Ferguson Hall*

**SATURDAY**

9:00 A.M. *St. Monica Building*  
~ Men's Breakfast & Bible Study Class  
~ Women's Breakfast & Bible Study Class

**THANK YOU**

To Fr. Tom, and the St. Monica Church Family, Thank you so much for the love shown to our family, at the loss of our loved one, **Michael Hawkins**. A very special thank you to the Knights & Ladies of Peter Claver #57, the Altar & Rosary Society, Church Choir, and to every, one who helped our family through a trying time. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

We love you,  
**Michael, Chaunceyetta, and the Mize Family**

**Bulletin Deadline – Wednesday - Noon**

## TODAY'S GOSPEL

— Ask, and you will be given living water so that you will never thirst again (John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]).



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35  
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19  
Thursday: Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23  
Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34  
Saturday: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38  
Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41[1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Lent  
Monday: St. Joseph; Spring begins  
Thursday: St. Toribio de Mogrovejo  
Friday: Abstinence  
Saturday: The Annunciation of the Lord

## DCCW - LENTEN PROJECT

Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, was the start of our Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) project for this quarter. As in the past, the St. Monica Altar & Rosary Society will be collecting personal hygiene items, for women and children, living in shelters, after fleeing abusive situations. This formerly was called the "Shoebbox Project". It is no longer necessary to put your items in a "shoebbox." All of the items received, will be divided amongst four agencies. **Toothpaste & toothbrushes, combs & hair brushes, shampoo, soap, deodorants, etc.** - all will be appreciated. A special bin will be placed in the vestibule.

## SECOND COLLECTION

NEXT SUNDAY- MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup>

## Catholic Relief Service

Your donation will help **Jesus in disguise**, by providing humanitarian aid and resettling displaced individuals and families, and advocating on behalf of the vulnerable. Please visit [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief) to learn how you are making a difference.

## ANNUAL DINNER PLAYHOUSE

If you have been approached about being a cast member in this year's Gospel Dinner Playhouse, Marilyn Scott needs your response *This Week*. Please contact us at: **816-861-7688 (h), 913-530-4773 © or [marilynelaide@kc.rr.com](mailto:marilynelaide@kc.rr.com)** Thank you!

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Long ago, the custom of sending some pieces of consecrated bread from the Lord's table began to take hold. Originally it was a way of assuring the sick and imprisoned of their bonds of faith and affection with the community from whom they were separated. By the third century, at least in Rome, we have evidence that the bishop would consign some of the sacred elements to presbyters or deacons.

There was a crisis in the unity of the church early on, called the quartodeciman controversy, since some people wanted to celebrate the Pasch on the fourteenth day (quartodecima) of the Jewish month Nissan, even if it didn't fall on a Sunday. The debate so fractured the church that the historian of the era, Eusebius, reported a new development to the pope. He wrote that the churches holding to the Lord's Day sent out consecrated bread to the disgruntled people of the quartodeciman pastors with whom they were quarreling. Meanwhile, bishops complained about people taking the Eucharist home. St. Cyprian told a cautionary tale of a sinful woman who tried to open the "casket" containing the consecrated bread in her home. She was deterred from receiving, he said, by flames erupting from the box. Clearly, he wanted people to think twice before bringing Communion home!

The Council of Nicaea defined the "old rule of the church" as allowing for reserving the eucharistic bread for the sake of the dying. The same council could foresee circumstances of persecution when people might have the Eucharist on hand to administer to one another in a time of great danger, literally, at the point of a sword. The first and enduring purpose for reserving the Eucharist is viaticum for the dying.

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

## FROM FATHER'S DESK



Greetings! Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Lent and tomorrow we 'celebrate' the first day of Spring (Woo hoo). Most often by the middle of March (if not before) we are ready to put winter behind us. We are ready for some sunny, warmer days. We are ready for new life to emerge from the ground, the trees. We are ready to see some 'green' again. The fact that the first day of Spring occurs in the middle of our Lenten Season is sort of ironic. During the season of Lent we are challenged to die to ourselves; to die to our own will, and to allow the will of God to occur more readily in our life. Only when we die to ourselves can new life begin. The woman in the gospel today knew this. This story of the Samaritan woman is one of my favorite stories. The story is jam-packed with images and lessons for us to learn. It is a well written story. The woman knew exactly what she was doing, what she was saying. Yet, so did Jesus. Jesus knew exactly what she was doing, and exactly what she was saying. At the end of the story the woman was telling anyone and everyone all about Jesus, and what he did for her. This is a great conversion story. Conversion requires sacrifice. Sacrifice requires effort. What effort are we putting into the sacrifice that is requires of us to die to ourselves that we might have new life? Once again, as in previous Sundays, here is a quote: He who would accomplish little must sacrifice little; he who would achieve much must sacrifice much; he who would attain highly must sacrifice greatly. ~James Allen


Enjoy the first days of Spring. Maybe some of you will go to one of the local St. Joseph's Day tables? Whatever you do, make it a great Lent; make the most of your sacrifice.

*Fr. Tom*

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



## STATIONS OF CROSS 6:00 P.M.

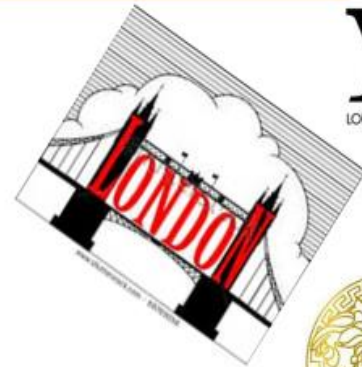
DATE	FRIDAY	LEADING GROUPS
March 24 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>TH</sup>	Altar & Rosary Society, Health Ministry, Lectors, Stewardship Committee
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	5 <sup>TH</sup>	Knights, Ladies, Junior Knights and Junior Daughters and Africa Rising
April 07 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>TH</sup>	Parish Council, Finance Council, Leaders of Parish Organizations and Committees
<b>APRIL 12<sup>H</sup></b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	 <p>© J. S. Pabst Co., Inc.</p> <p><b>Ferguson Hall</b>  <b>Reservations required</b>  <b>See Chaunceyetta Mize</b>  <b>after Sunday Mass</b>  <b>\$8.00</b></p>

### “INTERNATIONAL FLAIR OF FASHION” “SAVE-THE-DATE”

# PARIS

HERMES  
PARIS

LV  
LOUIS VUITTON



- St. Monica Catholic Church
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fashion Show
- April, 2017

New York



VALENTINO

F FENDI

**Models are still needed. Sign - up Sunday, after Mass.**

**See Melba Myers or Carolyn Greene**

