

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 26, 2017

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
~ Psalm 23:1



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### CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT

The future king, David, in today's first reading, is an example of a type of character present throughout the Hebrew scriptures. He is the child born out of place (not the eldest or most favored) who ends up receiving the promise of the covenant. The spirit of God's anointing rushes upon him. In this way, he is similar to the man born blind from today's Gospel. David's family and the blind man's community did not expect the miraculous grace of God's love to work through them. Perhaps they, too, were "blinded" by the expectations and assumptions of those around them. Yet, after being touched by God, they both came to "see" the presence of God's will for them. Both became messengers of God's will. That same Spirit of God's anointing rushed upon us at our baptism; we were given a candle as a sign of our membership in the Body of Christ, the Light from Light. Our vocation, then, is to fulfill that enlightenment, that anointing, as Ephesians tells us, by living as "children of the light."

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### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David and remained with him from that day forward (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

**Psalm** — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

**Second Reading** — You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord. Live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8-14).



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**I**  
came  
so that those who  
do not see might see

### 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
Janae Green	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)

### APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> ASSIGNMENTS

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

**LECTORS:** Coordinator, Rose Palmer\*  
8:00 a.m. Gerald Buckman, Darthene Buckman  
10:00 a.m. Youth Sunday

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Coordinator, Dianna Miller\*  
8:00 a.m. Mary Graham, Maxine Harvey,  
Christine Johnson, Elaine Johnson

10:00 p.m. Rose Palmer, Barbara Parks, Lydia Ramirez, Carol Robinson, Rose Roos, Terese Chambers, Katie Steward, Kirk Thaw, Shirley Thaw, Linda Williams

### USHERS:

Coordinators, E. Burtin\*, J. Gillis\*  
8:00 a.m. G.L. Blankinship, Elaine Johnson, Hargett Hayes,  
10:00 a.m. Team C: Phyllis Weaver, Naomi Holt, Shirley Thaw, Barbara Parks, Paulette Monroe, Mary Pearson

**WELCOME:** Kenzie Bacchus

### COUNTERS: TEAM 1

Coordinator, Burnetta Burtin\*

### 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

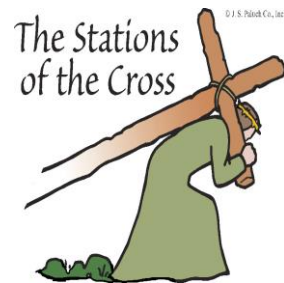
3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knights 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. 1:00 p.m.  
4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. 11:45 a.m.  
Fr. Constantine Ct. 1<sup>st</sup> Sun. 9:00 a.m.  
Ladies of Grace 4<sup>th</sup> Sun 2:00 p.m.  
Jr. Daughters 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat 2:00 p.m.  
Jr. Knights 1<sup>st</sup> Sun 4:00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



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Followed by a 'simple supper'  
Ferguson Hall

### SATURDAY

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

### ANNUAL CHURCH FUNDRAISER

#### GOSPEL DINNER PLAYHOUSE

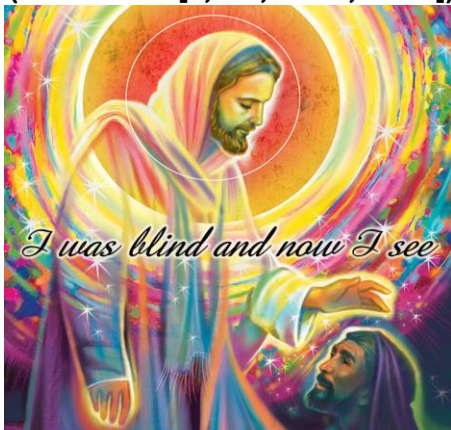
If you have been approached about being a cast member in this year's Gospel Dinner Playhouse, Marilyn Scott needs your response *This Week*.

Please contact us at:

816-861-7688 (h), 913-530-4773 © or  
[marilyn Elaine@kc.rr.com](mailto:marilyn Elaine@kc.rr.com) Thank you!

**GOSPEL** — The man who was blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash. When I washed, I was able to see!

**(John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38])**



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54  
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16  
 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30  
 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47  
 Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
 Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53  
 Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent  
 Friday: Abstinence  
 Saturday: First Saturday

### HONORING OUR MOTHERS ON MOTHERS' DAY

The **Junior Knights** WILL ASSIST THE this year **Crowning of Mary** with the **First Communion** candidates. We will also have a brochure dedicated to mothers. This year, we are increasing the wordings from a paragraph to a full page; and to include photos. Photos will be included if received by or before April 30<sup>th</sup>. Photos are not necessarily a requirement to submit a dedication. The individual can be any lady in your life (e.g., mothers, aunty, friend, female role model, etc.).

Please submit your dedication to victor at [victorammons@aol.com](mailto:victorammons@aol.com) or any bring it to Church and give it any Junior Knight or victor.

### DCCW - LENTEN PROJECT

DEADLINE, SUNDAY APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>

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.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The church slowly developed customs of reserving some portion of the eucharistic sacrifice for the sake of the dying. Today's custom of placing this portion in a tabernacle for prayer and adoration by the faithful cannot be traced back much beyond the year 1,000, much to almost everyone's surprise. There is simply no historical evidence of the Blessed Sacrament being present in a church for the purpose of having the faithful visit it or pray before it earlier in the church's history. People did visit, of course, but the center of their attention was the altar, symbol of Christ's sacrifice and the touchpoint between heaven and earth. Shrines and devotional altars abounded in medieval churches, but anything we might describe as a Blessed Sacrament chapel would be hard to find.

Amazingly, the Eucharist was first kept in private houses for the purpose of Holy Communion at home. As for church, the custom gradually developed of suspending a vessel shaped like a dove somewhere in the church, often over the altar. In the hovering bird, a few hosts, enough to satisfy the pastoral needs of the dying, would be secreted. The priest would lower the dove on a pulley as needed, but it wasn't a focus of devotion by visitors to the church. It was simply a way of reassuring bishops who were nervous about safeguarding the Eucharist. The dove solution caught on in England and France after Crusaders came in contact with the custom in their travels in the Orthodox East.

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

**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



Greetings on this Fourth (Latere) Sunday of Lent! We are moving into the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of Lent. Is it downhill from here? Do we let up a bit? Some people might think so. However, we must be thinking and doing the exact opposite. This is no time to start taking the easy way out; letting up or even loosening up on whatever sacrifices we are making for Lent. We should be well into whatever we are doing and even tightening up a bit. The hardest part (Holy Week) is yet to come.


In the first reading today, God chooses David, a ruddy youth from among many to be king. A ruddy youth! God sure makes some weird choices huh? Or does he? God knew exactly what he was doing when he chose David as king. We know the rest of the story. We know the good David did as king, and we know the bad David did as king. God chose David for his good-ness, and his bad-ness; for the great things he could accomplish despite his flaws and mistakes. David offered himself to God good and bad. Do we? God has chosen us like he chose David to be his 'king', to be his servant. We too are 'ruddy' and we too have flaws along with our good traits. We have the ability to accomplish whatever it is that God asks of us or else he would never have asked us. So, like David, are you willing to make the sacrifices necessary to accomplish what God is asking of you? As we move through the season of Lent we have to keep our eyes on the ultimate goal, and be willing to make the sacrifices necessary to reach that goal. Keep in mind that any sacrifice we are making is supposed to be something that will have a lasting impact in our lives. Is this still true for whatever it is that you are doing? As I have been doing for Lent, I am leaving with another quote: One life is all we have and we live it as we believe in living it. But to sacrifice what you are and to live without belief, that is a fate more terrible than dying. ~Joan of Arc  
 Make it a great Lent; make the most of your sacrifice.

Fr. Tom

**Bulletin Deadline – Wednesday - NOON**



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

DATE	FRIDAY	LEADING GROUPS
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	5 <sup>TH</sup>	Knights, Ladies, Junior Knights and Junior Daughters and Africa Rising
April 7 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>TH</sup>	Parish Council, Finance Council, Leaders of Parish Organizations and Committees
APRIL 12 <sup>H</sup>	WEDNESDAY 6:00 P.M.	 <p>© J. S. Palach 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”

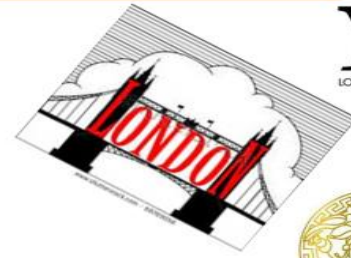
PARIS

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

HERMÈS  
PARIS



New York



LV  
LOUIS VUITTON



FENDI

VALENTINO

**DATE: APRIL 29, 2017**

**Tickets are available every Sunday, after Mass.**  
**See Melba Myers or Carolyn Greene**

**YOU ARE INVITED: 3 GIFTS, 3 DAYS, 1 HOLY WEEK, AT THE ST. PETER'S PARISH**

End your Lenten journey with Christ. Fr. Richard Gielow, C.M., Director of the Vincentian Parish Mission Center, will lead a Lenten Mission at St. Peter's Church and share the gifts of love, faith and hope found in the great events of Holy Week .*Love, Faith, Hope*: April 10, 11, and 12.

St. Peter's Church, 701 E. Meyer Blvd, Kansas City, MO.  
 Mass at 7 p.m. Reception following.