

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2017**



*"If two of you agree on earth  
about anything for which they are to pray,  
it shall be granted to them  
by my heavenly Father."  
~ Matthew 18:19*

**GOD'S WATCHERS**

In the ancient world watchmen were extremely important people. They kept communities safe, and were there to alert them to any impending danger or attack. Before locks, alarms, and security systems, watchmen were the protectors, the safety measure. So when the Lord charges Ezekiel as a watchman today, it is a weighty charge. So weighty, we learn, that if Ezekiel fails to sound the alarm for those around him and they perish in a state of wickedness, Ezekiel will be held responsible! This profound connection between God's will on earth and in heaven is repeated in today's Gospel, where Jesus instructs us that we are to be the security force, the watchers placed on alert that nowhere in the Body of Christ, the church, will there be any two members of the one Body who are not reconciled. Scripture tells us that Jesus reconciled all things in heaven and on earth through the blood of his cross. But we are given the mission to continue that reconciliation on earth as in heaven through our ceaseless efforts to be, as Paul would write, ambassadors of reconciliation. Let us not get too comfortable thinking that we are responsible only for keeping our own lives from the path of wickedness and disagreement. We are also held accountable for the lives of the members of Christ's body around us.

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Warn the wicked, trying to turn them from their ways (Ezekiel 33:7-9).

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

**Second Reading** — Owe nothing to anyone, except mutual love (Romans 13:8-10).

**Gospel** — If two agree about anything for which they pray, it shall be granted to them (Matthew 18:15-20).

**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                     |
| 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                     |
| Terese Chambers         | Home                     |
| Toice Woods             | Home                     |
| Mary Brown              | Home                     |
| Hargett Hayes           | Home                     |
| Earnestine Nard         | Home                     |
| Ryckey Harper           | Home                     |
| Darlene Dearborn        | Carondelet Nursing Home  |

**FAMILY MEMBERS:** Please inform Father Leonard, [leombuthia@yahoo.com](mailto:leombuthia@yahoo.com), when a loved-one is home-bound, or has been hospitalized.

**SEPTEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> ASSIGNMENTS**

- SERVERS** Coordinator: V. Ammons\*  
**8:00 & 10:00 a.m. All Servers**
- LECTORS** Coordinator, Rose Palmer\*  
**8:00 a.m.** Diane charity, Rosalind Smith  
**10:00 a.m.** Al Lomax, Guyetta Mabin
- EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**  
 Coordinator, Dianna Miller\*  
**8:00 a.m.** Dianna Miller, Julia Price  
 Rita Womack, Gerald Buckman  
**10:00 a.m.** Lydia Ramirez, Paulett Monroe,  
 Carrie Miller, Terese  
 Chambers, Katie Steward, Kirk  
 Thaw, Shirley, Patricia  
 Williams, Dorothy Buckley, Diane Charity
- USHERS** Coordinators, E. Burtin\* J.Gillis\*  
**8:00 a.m.** Lawrence Blankinship,  
 Hargett Hayes, Elaine Johnson  
**10:00 a.m. TEAM A:** Jan Wallace,  
 Chauncyette Mize, Phaedra Lombard,  
 Mary Alexander, Stephanie Yeager,  
 Sharon Dunmore
- WELCOME** Ramonda Doakes  
**COUNTERS:** TEAM 3

**MEETINGS / DATES / TIMES**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:**  
**The Rite Of Christian Initiation For Adults (RCIA) Class, Will Begin, September 17<sup>th</sup>.**  
 Classes Are Held Every Sunday, Immediately Following The 10:00 A.M. Mass, In The Small Chapel. *Deacon Kenneth Greene, Instructor*  
**First Communion and Sunday school**  
**Classes will begin on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.**  
*Ms. Ramonda Doakes, Director*

Health Ministry 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 1:30 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>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.

**WEDNESDAY**

**9:00 a.m.** Mass  
**6:00 p.m.** Prayer Service

**SATURDAY**

**8:00 a.m. - Men & Breakfast & Bible Study**  
**9:00 a.m. - Women's Breakfast & Bible Study**

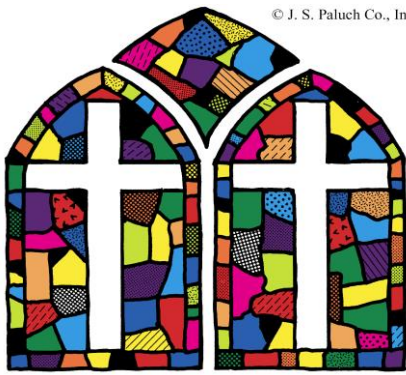
**REVIVAL**

*"Strengthen Your Faith"*  
 with



**Father Manuel Bragg Williams, C.R.**  
**St. Monica Catholic Church**  
**1616 Paseo KCMO 64108**  
**September 17-20, 2017**  
**7:00 PM**

**ALL DENOMINATIONS ARE WELCOMED!**  
 Father Manuel Bragg Williams was ordained on May 23, 1987 as a member of the Congregation of the Resurrection. He has preached revivals and missions throughout the U.S. and has also lectured in the areas of Black Catholic spirituality and history, as well as fundraising and development. Since July of 1990, Father Williams has been director of Resurrection Catholic Missions of the South and pastor of Resurrection Catholic Church, both in Montgomery, Alabama.



## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

On Good Friday, at the heart of the Triduum, the commemoration of the Lord's Passion is colored by sobriety and decorum, but this Thursday the mystery comes in a luminous celebration of Christ's victory. In its deepest origins, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is the feast of a dedication of a church, since in the year 335 the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was dedicated on September 13, and on the following day the "true cross" discovered by St. Helena was brought outside to the faithful for veneration. It is a great feast of the Eastern Church, which often marks it by having the whole assembly prostrate themselves on the floor honoring the life-giving cross.

At the core of the tradition is the quest of Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine, to acquire the cross and the nails of the Crucifixion from the ruins of Jerusalem. When she was satisfied that she had found them, thanks to the healing of a sick man whose body was placed on the cross, she had her son fund the building of the great basilica. The history of the relic is complicated, especially because it was carried off by invading Persians in the year 614 and "went missing" for fifteen years. Thursday's feast does not celebrate the relic, but rather the life-giving cross from which salvation flows. It's a good day to look around your house or office: Don't those walls look bare without a cross? *What better day to remedy that?*

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

### OFFERING ENVELOPE, 2018

Please be aware, that during the month of December, our Envelope Company will send the year's supply of offering envelopes, for 2018, to the Church Office. We are in the process of preparing the list of Active Members, who will receive envelopes. Please email, or call the church office, to make sure that you are on the Active Members' list.

### REPORT CHILD ABUSE

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



REMEMBER 9/11  
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## MR. WALTER L ALLEN, SR.

On Thursday, August 31, 2017, the Knights and Dames of Malta, the Knights and Ladies of the Holy Sepulchre, Knights of Columbus and Knights of Peter Claver and Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary honored St. Monica's Walter L. Allen, Sr. for his work within his Parish, Diocese, and the nation. Also present, were Archbishop Joseph Naumann, Archbishop Emeritus James Keleher of the Archdiocese of Kansas City Kansas, Fr. Ken Riley, Vicar General and Chancellor; our own Fr. Leonard Gicheru, and several priests and religious from both sides of the State line.

The group of knights and ladies was formed about four years ago to share ideas and assist the local ordinary in carrying out his functions. The honoree last year was Bishop Johnston.

His Excellency, Bishop James V. Johnston, Jr., in honoring Mr. Allen, spoke at length about his work with the Knights of Peter Claver, rising to the rank of Deputy Supreme Knight. He also expressed his appreciation to Brother Allen for his tireless efforts to bring the message of Christ, by his work with the Knights of Peter Claver and the various parishes that he has been affiliated with, especially the Men's Bible Study Group at St. Monica.

Cynthia Eastman, speaking about her father stated, "My Daddy is a faithful, loyal, and all around good man. I watch him as I age, there's nothing he won't do for someone else. For his family, he may fuss, but he is steadily making sure that no one is in need. He is a faithful man. I believe that he learned at an early age, from his grandfather, Clint West. God that knew he would need a man in his life, to raise him to be one. God gave him Clint. To Daddy, Clint was the man of all men. Imagine a child in the country, with the responsibilities of living on a farm, and the work that goes into it, but still, he was allowed to run, to be free, to be happy, to be loved and to love in return. Daddy has paid this forward."

He was introduced to Jesus at an early age, and he has known Him a long time now. He continuously serves in the Knights of St. Peter Claver. His Father in Law, Ben Givens, Sr. introduced him to the Knights. Cynthia states; "He has been a Loyal and Faithful servant of that organization, throughout my entire life".

As his family and friends are called to Jesus, the members of the Knights of St Peter Claver have become a bigger part of his life. His phone rings and his Brothers are calling, and they talk "Big Business". He is happy.

Sometimes I think that I can tell Daddy what to do., then, he gets me straight, "I'm still the Daddy, "You don't tell me what to do, mind you own business". He makes me laugh.

Compiled by Victorr Ammons

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Col 1:24 — 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11
- Tuesday: Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11; Lk 6:12-19
- Wednesday: Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab; Lk 6:20-26
- Thursday: Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
- Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
- Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-7; Lk 6:43-49
- Sunday: Sir 27:30 — 28:9; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents Day
- Monday: Patriot Day
- Tuesday: The Most Holy Name of Mary
- Wednesday: St. John Chrysostom
- Thursday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- Friday: Our Lady of Sorrows
- Saturday: Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

17<sup>th</sup> RCIA Class Begins

17<sup>TH</sup> – 19<sup>TH</sup> **REVIVAL**

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday School Begins

24<sup>th</sup> 1st Communion Class Begins

