

FEBRUARY 10, 2019

JESUS SAID TO SIMON,
"PUT OUT INTO
DEEP WATER AND
LOWER YOUR NETS
FOR A CATCH."

Luke 5:4

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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SUNDAY MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL 5:00 P.M.,
SUNDAY 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 A.M.
AND 5:00 P.M.

DAILY WEEKDAY MASS

6:30 AND 8:15 A.M.
8:00 A.M. SATURDAYS

CONFESSIONS

3:30 –4:30 P.M. SATURDAY
OR BY APPOINTMENT

Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. This weekend’s readings attest to the fact that God’s “call list” is littered with seemingly unworthy people. And God’s call has come — and still comes — in countless ways, including in lofty visions, among crowds of people, and in the midst of unabashedly simple work. The presence of the so-called “Hound of Heaven” is everywhere. Thinking “I am not worthy” didn’t work for others, and it won’t work for us. We may as well put our energy into watching and listening.

Next weekend will be the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. In these politically-charged times, we often question one another’s values. We assume we can identify our own, but it is not always easy. At some point, we all need to consider where our faith is rooted and what difference that makes in our life choices. Next weekend’s readings address these centuries-old questions quite directly. They matter, because who and what we believe in undergirds every aspect of our lives. What would our personal inventories reveal?

Principal Search: The Search Committee has been formed to seek our new principal. Mr. Joe Wientge is the chairman of the committee. It had its first meeting last Thursday evening, February 7. Please watch the bulletin, and the school newsletter, for more information. Also now, more than ever, please join with us on Wednesday mornings 7:45 as we pray the Rosary for the school: students, faculty, and staff. We also pray for the entire parish.

Our 40 Hours Devotion, is weekend of the Presidents’ Day Holiday: February 17, 18, and 19. We will begin with Evening Prayer and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:00 P.M. Sunday, February 17. Exposition will be all night, until prior to the 6:30 A.M. Mass. We will have the “normal” time between the 6:30 and 8:15 Masses, then, following the 8:15 Mass, around 8:45 A.M., we will have Exposition in the small chapel “Cry Room.” At 7:00 P.M. on Monday there will be a Holy Hour, with prayer and praise and an outreach to some of our younger parishioners who prefer that style of prayer. Following that there will be Exposition again all night, with the same schedule on Monday night, as we had on Sunday. All morning / early afternoon on Tuesday we will have Exposition again. We will close the 40 Hours with “Mid-Day Prayer” from the Divine Office and Benediction. **Weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** will resume on Wednesday, February 20, following the 8:15 A.M. Mass, until the evening when Deacon Jim Martin will repose the Blessed Sacrament at 9:00 P.M. **There are sign up sheets for Forty Hours and a COMMITMENT to WEEKLY Adoration on Wednesdays available in the MAIN LOBBY of the Church.** PLEASE prayerfully consider spending some time with Jesus, not only during Forty Hours, but weekly. As of this time there are only about twenty slots filled ... from a parish this size? I’m sorry but I just don’t understand. PLEASE sign up for this spirit filled opportunity.

A couple people asked me “what’s 40 hours”? (And these weren’t YOUNG people!) So, here is a BRIEF history of the devotion. *Forty Hours Devotion is a special forty-hour period of continuous prayer made before the Blessed Sacrament in solemn exposition. Of course, the focus of this devotion is on the Holy Eucharist. As Catholics, the words of our Lord burn in our hearts: “I myself am the living bread come down from Heaven. If anyone eats this bread, He shall live forever; the bread I will give is my flesh for the life of the world” (John 6:51).*

Affirming our belief in the real presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, the Vatican Council II taught that the Holy Eucharist is “the source and summit of the Christian life” (Lumen Gentium, #11).

Continue on next page.....

While the Mass is the central act of worship for us Catholics, an act which participates in the eternal reality of our Lord's passion, death, and resurrection, Vatican Council II upheld and encouraged the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament outside of Mass. Of course such devotion derives from the sacrifice of the Mass and moves the faithful to both sacramental and spiritual communion with our Lord. As Pope Pius XII taught, "This practice of adoration has a valid and firm foundation." Pope St John Paul II repeatedly "highly recommended" public and private devotion of the Blessed Sacrament, including processions on the Feast of Corpus Christi and the 40 Hours Devotion.

Second, the number forty has always signified a sacred period of time: the rains during the time of Noah lasted 40 days and nights; the Jews wandered through the desert for 40 years, our Lord fasted and prayed for 40 days before beginning His public ministry. The 40 Hours Devotion remembers that traditional "forty-hour period" from our Lord's burial until the resurrection. Actually in the Middle Ages, the Blessed Sacrament was transferred to the repository, "the Easter Sepulcher," for this period of time to signify our Lord's time in the tomb.

Forty Hours Devotion can be seen almost like a parish mini-retreat or mission. Such practices are evidenced in the history of this devotion. The practice of Forty Hours Devotion originated in Milan about the year 1530. Granted, prior to this time, the Church did have exposition and benediction, Eucharistic processions, and devotions to the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle. In 1539, Pope Paul III responded to a petition from the Archdiocese of Milan asking for an indulgence for the practice. While this pronouncement seems to be the earliest official approval by the Church of this devotion, the Forty Hours Devotion spread rapidly.

By 1550, both St Philip Neri and St Ignatius Loyola had also instituted this practice, especially for the reparation of sin. Recognizing the tremendous graces offered through this devotion as well as the dangers threatening the Church, Pope Clement VIII in 1592 proclaimed, "We have determined to establish publicly in this Mother City of Rome an uninterrupted course of prayer in such ways that in the different churches, on appointed days, there be observed the pious and salutary devotion of the Forty Hours, with such an arrangement of churches and times that, at every hour of the day and night, the whole year round the incense of prayer shall ascend without intermission before the face of the Lord." He also issued regulations for the devotions, which were later collected and promulgated by Pope Clement XI in 1705. In our own country, St John Neumann (1811-60), the fourth bishop of Philadelphia, was a strong promoter of the Forty Hours Devotion. While the practice had already existed in individual churches throughout the city (as well as in other places in the country), no organized, cohesive diocesan schedule for it had ever before been attempted. St. John had a tremendous devotion to our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, and desired to foster such a spiritual life in his people.

The Forty Hours Devotion provides a wonderful opportunity for the spiritual growth of each person and the parish as a whole. In a world where temptation and evil abound, where devotion to the Mass and our Lord in the Holy Eucharist have declined, where the practice of penance and confession have been forgotten, we need the Forty Hours Devotion more than ever.

So, please try to come and spend some time in prayer before the Lord exposed in the Monstance during this special week! Thank you!

May God's blessings descend on us all.
Father Joe Weber

PARISH SUPPORT FEBRUARY 3: Envelopes \$17,205.00; Loose \$1,087.11; Online Giving \$ Candlemas Day \$379.00; Pro-Life \$990.00; School \$555.00; St. Louis Review \$330.00; St. Vincent De Paul \$140.00; and Tithing for the Poor \$45.00.

ROAR (RETAILERS OFFERING ADDED REWARDS)—Gift cards available every Sunday after Masses. Let us start the new year off right and support our weekly fundraiser for St. Monica Parish. Questions, call MJ 314.434.3312.

MASS INTENTIONS FEBRUARY 11-16

MONDAY	<i>OUR LADY OF LOURDES</i>
6:30 A.M.	PATRICIA BAROLAK
8:15 A.M.	RICHARD SANDER, JR
TUESDAY	<i>WEEKDAY</i>
6:30 A.M.	CHARLES RIZZO
8:15 A.M.	JERRY BENNETT
WEDNESDAY	<i>WEEKDAY</i>
6:30 A.M.	DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE MERRILL FAMILY
8:15 A.M.	NOREEN FARON
THURSDAY	<i>STS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS</i>
6:30 A.M.	JANET HILD
8:15 A.M.	GIANNA PAGANINI
FRIDAY	<i>WEEKDAY</i>
6:30 A.M.	MARILYN TAYLOR
8:15 A.M.	MICHAEL SWIT
SATURDAY	<i>WEEKDAY</i>
8:00 A.M.	NICK IPPOLITA
5:00 P.M.	JOANN DOUGHERTY

PRAY FOR OUR HOSPITALIZED, HOMEBOUND AND SICK

John Barolak, Ruth Begnaud, Janet Collins, Carol Diggins, Shirley Dunker, Estelle Flanakin, Billie Grief, Charlotte Griffaw, Bill Guiot, Christina Hartley, Mary Ann Honti, Bob Huseman, Sylvia Indelicato, Ronald Kalupa, Benjamin Kimzey, Michael Kisling, John Krause, Gloria Luca, Lourdes Manalo, Mary K. Mc Carthy, Eileen McDonough, Deacon Ray Miller, Rose Miller, Ann Miller, Fred Mueller, Jack Powers, Mary Renner, Bob Reuther, Joseph Ritacco, Jim Sallwasser, Joe Schmitz, Rose Slee, Joe Sonderman, Brent Spaeth, Jack Stretch, Stan Thomas, and Fr. Timothy Vowels.

WELCOME TO

Charles and Katheryn Scauzzo and their son Roman (Ambrois Dr); Alexander and Suzanne Manzo (Legend Lane Ct); JoAnn Peterson (Craig View Ct); and Brianne and Amit Sood and their son, Derek (Lighthouse way Dr) who recently joined our Parish Community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Kate Marie Odum, daughter of Brian and Lauren Odum who was baptized into our Parish Community.

Looking for **HOST FAMILIES** for high school exchange students coming in August from Europe, Asia and South America. If interested, call Celia 314.973.1802

PARENT CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION MEETING

Wednesday, February 13 in the St. Monica Parish Hall. Confirmation preparation begins this spring for the fall of 2019. The meeting is for parents of all students desiring confirmation including children attending a private Catholic school. Contact Jim Combs jcombs@stmoniststl.org by February 11.

"ENOUGH"

This is a regional ministry for women to rejuvenate their souls with worship, meditation, reflection, and community every third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is February 19 at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish in Crestwood from 7:30 P.M.-9:00 P.M. This month begins our journey through the year of discovering "The Feminine Genius." Our worship leader is Mary-Kate Buncher and our featured speaker is Emily Kopff.

FRIENDS OF BIRTHRIGHT

St. Clement and St. Gerard Majella annual card party and luncheon Wednesday, April 10, 10:30 A.M. 2:30 P.M. at St. Clement Parish Center, 1508 Bopp Rd. All proceeds benefit Birthright. Play your favorite card or dice game: Bridge, Gin Rummy, Canasta, or Bunko! \$30.00 per person. Make your reservation by sending your name and those playing with you, and your check made out to "Birthright" to: Jane Johans, 12335 Ironstone, Des Peres, MO 63131. Gluten free lunches also available. Raffle Tickets sold after all the Masses at St. Clement and St. Gerard March 24.

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2/10 CHILDREN'S LITURGY
- 2/11 PARISH CHILDREN'S CHOIR
RCIA
MON@MONICA'S (LADIES GUILD)
- 2/12 NO CORNERSTONE BIBLE STUDY
ROOM AT THE INN
MEN'S ACTS
AA
- 2/13 MOPS
PSR
BIBLE STUDY PM
- 2/14 ADULT CHOIR
- 2/16 SATURDAY CIRCLE
- 2/17 CHILDREN'S LITURGY
BLOOD DRIVE

LOOKING AHEAD

PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday, February 20 in Church Meeting Room.

PSR News:

Feb 13 Class #21

Feb 20 Class #22

ST. MONICA BLOOD DRIVE Sunday, February 17 from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. with the vans in front of the church. All presenting donors will receive a voucher to redeem a "Love to Give" t-shirt. To make an appointment, contact Diann Bomkamp 314.432.7719 or dbomkamp@sbcglobal.net. You may also go to www.bloodcenterIMPACT.org and use the sponsor code 9241 to schedule online. Walk-ins are also welcome. Giving blood not only saves lives but also helps generate the MVRBC Life\$aving grant that gives \$250 plus a dollar for each donor to benefit our St. Monica School.

50+CLUB NEWS: Members will meet for lunch at McAlister's Deli Thursday, February 14, 11:15 A.M.

We will be at the Dierberg's Heritage Location, (12515 Olive Blvd). Contact Gene Adelman, 314.432.1289 to sign up by Wednesday, February 13. Hope to see you there!

SVDP PANTRY AT ST. MONICA

Pantry is in need of canned spaghetti/ravioli, chili, pasta and pasta sauce and toilet paper. Our clients in need are very grateful

To donate to SVDP, use the blue envelopes included with your envelope packet. For online giving, visit www.stmonicastl.org and choose "Online Giving". Select "Give a new gift" and select "St. Vincent de Paul". These donations go directly to our local conference and 100% are used for those in need, with no overhead. We are always seeking new members and you can give as much or as little time as you would like. For information, contact Jeanne Schultz 314.432.6988.

St. Monica will participate in **40 DAYS FOR LIFE** Friday, March 29, 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. during the Lenten season. Sign-up in the vestibule in church to participate by witnessing and praying at Planned Parenthood. For information contact dbomkamp@sbcglobal.net 314.431.7719 or Julio Lagos juliolagos@sbcglobal.net 314.576.7494.

SOULCORE-Experience Soulcore at Incarnate Word Parish. Join others in nourishing the body, mind and soul with Soulcore—a prayer experience that combines the prayers for the rosary with core strengthening, stretching, and functional movement on Mondays at 9:15 A.M. No fitness experience necessary. There is no cost but a suggested donation of \$10, for those who are able. Dress in comfortable clothing or sportswear and bring a fitness mat and light hand weights if you have them. Visit www.soulcore.com for information. Contact Christine Hillenbrand at SoulCoreStLouis@gmail.com or visit Facebook page SoulCorewithChristine for additional information.

UPDATE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Does our Church database have your family membership record correct? Here is your chance to update your record for our annual Guide Book and Directory with any changes, additions, or deletions that occurred from the past year. Have you changed your phone number, email address? Have you moved? Are all of your children still at home and are they all included in your membership record? Call 314.434.4211 or email Patty Greaves at pgreaves@stmonicastl.org

GUIDE BOOK AND DIRECTORY ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

This book will contain everything our various ministries, organizations, committees, activities, functions and events plus a complete directory of all members. This book is being provided and direct-mailed to each family at no cost to our church, and it is again being subsidized by local businesses that advertise. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, call the Church Office.

Recent survey results by Guide Book Publishing show 92.1% of families would rather patronize a Guide Book and Directory advertiser over a non-advertiser. It "will pay" to advertise in our new Book.

JOIN OTHER LADIES OF THE PARISH FOR A FUN GAME NIGHT

Monday, February 11, 7:00 P.M. in the Church Hall
 Good friends, good food, good times

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon@Monica **March 11** Soup Supper

Soups provided by LG Board

6:30 P.M. Church Hall

April 6-7 Lily Sale/Fund Raiser

April 24 Wednesday-Ice Cream Social

May 6 Mon@Monica Pot Luck Dinner

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

Would you be willing to work with kids at Mass one Sunday per year? Your Archdiocesan Requirement is to complete Protecting God's Children Class. You will be at a Mass with the children for approximately 25 minutes. Volunteering includes: arriving 15 minutes early to set up and 15 minutes planning time to look over materials. This is fantastic opportunity for the children of our Parish to learn about our faith through materials that are geared towards children. Come and see how this act of service is easy and so rewarding!

Training and breakfast is March 3 from 8:45-10:45 A.M. (includes 9:30 A.M. Mass)

Contact Becky Wientge to RSVP or for information. 314.359.0981 rebeccawientge@gmail.com

REMINDERS FOR CHILDREN WHO ATTEND SUNDAY CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Activities are provided for your children. Please do not send toys with them as they attend the Liturgy.

Thank you

We are currently looking for a volunteer to oversee the ordering of our Altar Flowers for Sundays, Holydays and Special Events. If you are interested please call the Parish Office 314.434.4211 and ask for Patty.

ST. MONICA SCHOOL BOARD WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The St. Monica School Board and Principal Selection Committee needs your help identifying the skills and talents our next principal should have. We have two upcoming opportunities for you to provide feedback and comments. The first is an open-listening meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 from 7:00 to 9:30 P.M. in the School Cafeteria. The second opportunity is for you to meet one-on-one with a member of the School Board or Principal Selection Committee on

Monday, February 18, 2019 between 6:00 and 9:00 P.M. in the School Library. Please contact Matt Glisson at mrglisson77@gmail.com or 314.800.7865 if you are interested in speaking at one or both events or for more details.

We hope you can join us!

INFORMATION SHEET

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