

February
3
2019

Before I formed you
in the womb I knew you,
before you were born
I dedicated you,
a prophet to the nations
I appointed you.

Jeremiah 1:5



Fourth 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 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Who really wants to be called upon to change, let alone promote it in others? The prophets surely didn't, and Jesus early on heard the reaction to his sermon among his own people. This weekend's readings remind us that our faith is grounded in God's word. That always involves the call to be and live differently. Just as God's love sustained others, we are equipped with spiritual gifts, especially love, to respond to that same call.

The Feast of Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, is celebrated each year on February 3. This year today is the day! The priests here at Saint Monica will give a "general blessing," permitted in the Book of Blessings, to all who are in attendance at Mass Saturday evening and Sunday. If you would like to have an individual blessing, during the recessional hymn you may come up and we will give you an individual blessing. I'm sure you all know about the blessing of throats, with the story that Saint Blaise cured the throat of a young girl who had a fish bone stuck in the throat. Since that time there has been a devotion to him for "ailments of the throat and every other evil." This is a powerful sacramental, so I hope you would avail yourself of the opportunity.

Next weekend we will celebrate the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Next 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.

Catholic Schools Week: "A great time was had by all." Thanks to ALL who helped put together this year's Catholic Schools Week. Even though the weather didn't cooperate well for the special celebration that was planned for Wednesday, it still happened! May God bless all of you for your support of our Parish School.

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

Scout Sunday. Today is officially "Boy Scout Sunday," but we will be honoring all those Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts who have received their religious emblems this year during the 9:30 A.M. Mass today. Their names are listed elsewhere in the bulletin. Congratulations to these scouts, their parents, and leaders, in assisting them to grow in the faith of the Lord Jesus. A number of these scouts, while being recognized here today, will actually receive their awards from Bishop Mark Rivituso this afternoon at a service at the Cathedral at 2:30 P.M. All scouts and their families are invited to attend.

The annual **Catholic Men for Christ Conference** was Saturday. Although this is being written far in advance I know that we had a good number of our parishioners attend. I was scheduled for a couple of hours of celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is always a great opportunity for our men to grow in Christ.

Continue on next page.....

The annual **Catholic Women for Christ Conference** is coming up on Saturday, March 9. Ladies: treat yourselves to a great day of prayerful reflection at the beginning of Lent. I know it will be great. Check out www.catholicwomenforchrist.org for information. It will be at the Blanche Touhill Center at UMSL. Price for attending is \$45. If you want to go, but can't afford it, please call me!

While we have a number of spiritual events coming up here, I would remind you that Father Jim Benz, Pastor of Saint Cletus Parish, in Saint Charles, invites our parishioners to **A PARISH MISSION** with Father Simeon Gallagher, OFM Cap. He will give a four-evening Mission at St. Cletus Parish, 2705 Zumbahl Road. St. Charles, from Monday, February 11, through Thursday, February 14. Each session will begin at 7:00 P.M. and end at 8:30 P.M. Father Simeon's topic will be "A Spirituality for Relationships." Please call St. Cletus 636.946.6327 for more information. All are welcome!

Upcoming is our 40 Hours Devotion, the 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. on Sunday, February 17. Exposition will be all night, until prior to the 6:30 a.m. Mass. We will have the "normal" time between 6:30 and 8:15 Masses, then, following 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 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. **We have 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. Thank you.

Our **Pre-Lenten Parish** Mission, with lay evangelist, **HECTOR MOLINA**, will be at 7:00 P.M., on the Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday leading up to Lent: March 4, 5, and 6, just a month from now. I'll have more on that next week. By coincidence Hector had a pilgrimage group in the Holy Land the same time as we did. We met up with him at the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, the Church of the Pater Noster (on the Mount of Olives), and his group stayed at the Notre Dame Center several of the same nights as we did. A number of our fellow parishioners got to meet him! It really IS a SMALL world! God's blessings on us all. Saint Blaise, pray for us.

Father Joe Weber

PARISH SUPPORT JANUARY 27: ENVELOPES \$13,451.00; LOOSE \$1,541.12; ONLINE GIVING \$5,563.67; CANDLESMASS DAY \$1.00; HURRICAN RELIEF \$20.00; PRO-LIFE \$145.00; SCHOOL \$117.00; ST. LOUIS REVIEW \$406.00; ST. VINCENT DE PAUL \$164.75; AND TITHING FOR THE POOR \$69.00.

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 4-9

MONDAY	WEEKDAY
6:30 A.M.	JAMES SUELLENTROP
8:15 A.M.	DR. SLY FLOTTE
TUESDAY	<i>ST. AGATHA</i>
6:30 A.M.	JOHN KESSELRING
8:15 A.M.	DAN CROGHAN
WEDNESDAY	<i>ST. PAUL MIKI</i>
6:30 A.M.	LEE ADAMS
8:15 A.M.	CONNIE MARTIN
THURSDAY	WEEKDAY
6:30 A.M.	MARGARET KESSELRING
8:15 A.M.	TERRANCE BOYLE
FRIDAY	WEEKDAY
6:30 A.M.	PHILLIP CARUSO
8:15 A.M.	RICHARD EWYER
SATURDAY	WEEKDAY
8:00 A.M.	CHARLES CONROY
5:00 P.M.	GIANNA PAGANINI

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, Sarah Vogel, and
 Fr. Timothy Vowels.

PARENT CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION MEETING

Wednesday, February 13 in the St. Monica Parish Hall.
 Confirmation preparation will begin this spring
 for confirmation in the fall of 2019. This meeting is for
 all parents of all students desiring confirmation.
 If you have a child attending a private Catholic school
 desiring confirmation, contact Jim Combs
jcombs@stmoniststl.org by February 11.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCOUT LEADERS who
 were presented the "Spark Plug Award" at the Boy
 Scouts of America New Horizons District Dinner for
 their inspiration and creativity to the youth in
 St. Monica's scouting programs. Thank you!

CUB SCOUT PACK - Jeff Koeninger
SCOUT TROOP - Craig Buescher
VENTURE CREW - Emery Corley

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCOUTS
 Scout Religious Awards**

Today we are celebrating Scout Sunday. Please
 congratulate these Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts who
 have earned religious awards.

KINDERGARTEN GIRL SCOUT TROOP 942: My Promise,
 My Faith pin: Rebecca Lopez, Ava Pupillo,
 Gianna Fischer, Malina Watson and Alice Schildroth.

1ST GRADE GIRL SCOUT TROOP 3987: My Promise, My
 Faith pin: Myla Smith, Gabby Wientge, Lucille Motz,
 Hannah Hortenstine, Parker Riggle, Kerstin Stoltman
 and Catherine Kelly.

3RD GRADE GIRL SCOUT TROOP 1974: My Promise, My
 Faith pin: Riley Clay, Brigid Feldman, Julia Hortenstine,
 Adrianna Hotra, Camila Lopez, Sophia Lucchesi,
 Audrey Motz, Laughflyn Riggle, Oriana Watson,
 Karolyn Wientge and Lia Worland.

9TH GRADE GIRL SCOUT TROOP 2336: Mary the First
 Disciple Award: Sandra Cisowska, Katie Corley,
 Lily Gordon, Emily Hacker, Allison Jansen and
 Jasmine Saliba. The Marian Medal will be presented
 to them Sunday afternoon at the Cathedral Basilica.

CUB SCOUT PACK 809: Light of Christ Award -
 George Howard. Parvuli Dei Award - Jack Howard.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 809: Ad Altare Dei Award -
 Simon Matthews and Andrew Siemer. Pope Pius XII
 Award - Garrett Slosson. These medals will be
 presented to them Sunday afternoon at the
 Cathedral Basilica.

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2/3	CHILDREN'S LITURGY DONUT SUNDAY HOSTED BY THE ST. MONICA BOYS AND GIRL SCOUTS
2/4	SMALL FAITH PARISH CHILDREN'S CHOIR RCIA
2/5	CORNERSTONE BIBLE STUDY MEN'S ACTS
2/6	PSR BIBLE STUDY PM
2/7	ADULT CHOIR
2/9	SATURDAY CIRCLE
2/10	CHILDREN'S LITURGY

LOOKING AHEAD:

ST. MONICA BLOOD DRIVE FEBRUARY 17, 8:00 A.M. TO
 1:00 P.M. PLEASE HELP US TO MEET OUR QUOTA.

PSR News:

Feb 6 Class # 20 God's Own Making, grades 4 -7.
Parent Mtg for 1st Communion Parents 6:50 P.M.

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS AND PARISHIONERS

Mary Ottenberg from JS Paluch will be working on setting up the advertising sponsorships for our bulletin. Advertisements can be purchased for a business, family or a sponsor ad. Their generosity allows us to enjoy free bulletin publication all year!

Call Mary Ottenberg 314.757.7598, or email ottenbergm@jspaluch.com.

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!

GRIEF MINISTRY SUPPORT PROGRAM AT INCARNATE WORD

The loss of a loved one can be painful, emotional, lonely and confusing. If you or someone you know is in need of consolation after losing a loved one, you are invited to participate in a Grief Support Program at Incarnate Word Parish. *Seasons of Hope* will be Tuesdays March 5-April 9, 7:00-9:00 P.M. There you will find support and fellowship through prayer, conversation, faith sharing and home activities. To register or for information contact Deacon Ron Reuther 636.675.1364 or deaconron-reuther@yahoo.com.

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

During the fourth quarter, our St. Monica St. Vincent DePaul Society served 51 people with needs such as utilities, rent, thrift store vouchers, and referrals, distributing \$4,219. We also served 45 individuals with Room at the Inn and 75 with our food pantry. Room at the Inn was also able to replace the 30-year-old mattresses with new ones and sheets and pillows. To donate to SVDP, you can use the blue envelopes included with your envelope packet. For online giving, go to 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. Thank you for your generosity. 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. There will be a sign-up poster in the vestibule in church if you would like to participate by witnessing and praying at Planned Parenthood. You can contact dbomkamp@sbcglobal.net 314.431.7719 or Julio Lagos juliolagos@sbcglobal.net 314.576.7494 for more 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

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.

This week’s **FORMED** Pick of the Week is a movie based on the best-selling novel written by a pope and saint. *The Jeweller’s Shop* brings to life the story, written by John Paul II, about the struggles and triumphs in the marriages of three couples.

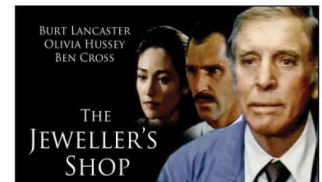
This week, go to formed.org and watch *The Jeweller’s Shop*.

FORMED PICK

The Jeweller’s Shop

See True Love Lived Out in Marriage

Based on Pope John Paul II’s best-selling book, this film tells of the struggles and triumphs in the marriages of three couples and provides insight into the sacrament and the meaning of love.



“This is an amazing gift to have a Hollywood quality film using the script and story written by Pope Saint John Paul the Great!”

—Thomas C.

Watch on formed.org

Advertisement for the movie 'The Jeweller's Shop' featuring a couple looking at a tablet and a quote from Thomas C. The ad includes the title, a description, a star rating, and a call to action to watch on formed.org.

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