

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

One of the primary reasons for obtaining wealth  
is to be able to give it to God.

*“ . . . remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said  
‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’ ” (Acts 20:35).*

### FIRST READING

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### PSALM 22:22-30

Praise the Lord, you that fear him; \*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.  
For he does not despise nor abhor the poor  
in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them; \*  
but when they cry to him he hears them.  
My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of  
those who worship him.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"  
All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord, \*  
and all the families of the nations  
shall bow before him.  
For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*  
he rules over the nations.  
To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow  
down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.  
My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.  
They shall come and make known to  
a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

### SECOND READING

Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

**WE REMEMBER BEFORE GOD ALL PEOPLE  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHOSE LIVES HAVE BEEN  
DISRUPTED BY VIOLENCE OR WAR.**

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO WORK FOR PEACE  
AND FOR NEW BEGINNINGS.**

- ✧ As we pray, let us remember the family of Eunice George; Shirong; Bonita; Dave & Kristie, their unborn baby & their families; the family of Jason Hale Stewart-White; Samantha; Tommy; Kim & Dan; Sean; Emily; the Tomlinson family Sue; Jeff; Timothy; Michael; Sherry; Steve; Wade; Haley & Andrew; HT; John; Robert; Mike; Randall; Lori; Hollis & Denise; Keira .
- ✧ We prayer for those who have died, especially Eunice George.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PASTORS PEGGY DIAZ AND JOEL JOA WILL SPEAK TODAY  
ABOUT CHAPEL ROCK SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES.**

**OUR LENTEN FRIDAY EVENING SERIES** — Stations of the Cross begin at 6 PM, followed by a pot luck soup supper and Lenten discussion. This season's topic is *Meeting Jesus on the Margins*. Please join us each Friday during Lent.

**TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** We gather this Tuesday at 6 PM. We will focus on The Gospel Of Mark.

**PRISON MINISTRY** With your help we have signed and sent 47 birthday cards to ladies at Perryville who will be celebrating their birthdays in March. Please mark your calendar for March 25th our next signing get together. Your continued donations of birthday cards and stamp are very much appreciated. Blessings and Thanks! Jessica, Krista & Pattie

### **LENT MADNESS — THROUGH MARCH 28TH!**

Offered in conjunction with Forward Day by Day, Lent Madness is the wild scheme of two priests to use the Lenten season as a means to inform us about the lives of the Saints. Sometimes saintly, sometimes snarky...the blogs about each Saint are always informative and entertaining. Each weekday during Lent, two Saints will face off against each other. Using the information provided in the blog (from Celebrity Bloggers, no less!) and any other research we might want to dig up; we, the people, select the Saint that we believe is most deserving to advance to the next round. The tournament starts with 32 Golden Halo aspirants, which is then narrowed down to the Saintly Sixteen, the Elate Eight, and the Faithful Four. The two winners from the Faithful Four round move on to compete for the Golden Halo. Past winners include Francis of Assisi, Charles Wesley, Luke the Evangelist (yes, THAT Luke), and Mary Magdalene. This is a fun way to engage your whole family and even friends in a season of discovery and preparation for Holy Week and Easter. You can sign up to receive the daily voting emails at <http://www.lentmadness.org/about/>. I'm looking forward to some great discussions during coffee hour!! — Deacon Kim.

**OUR ANNUAL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY EASTER EGG HUNT IS COMING SOON!** We need donations of candy that fits inside small and medium size plastic eggs. **No chocolate or candy that melts!** There are Easter baskets in the Parish Hall for your donation. Thank you!

Today and next Sunday, **FAITH THROUGH THE ARTS WILL BE ACCEPTING HANGABLE ART-WORK** for our upcoming spring exhibit. See their insert in today's bulletin

### **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

Today	Nursery care	7:45–11:15 AM
	<b>Holy Eucharist Rite I</b>	<b>8 AM</b>
	DOK meeting (CH 4 & 5)	9 AM
	Soul Food Sunday (CH3)	9:10 AM
	Sunday School (CH 2 & 8)	9:45 AM
	Youth Group (CH 6)	9:45 AM
	<b>Holy Eucharist Rite II</b>	<b>10 AM</b>
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM
Tue.	Tuesday Night Bible Study	6 PM
	Joyful Noise practice	7 PM
Wed.	<b>Holy Eucharist Rite II</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:15 PM
Thu.	Women's Bible Study (MR)	6 PM
Fri.	Military Veterans/Meal Prep (K)	10 AM
	Friday Night Lenten Series	6 PM
	<i>Meeting Jesus on the Margins</i>	
Sat.	POW-WOW	8 AM
Sun.	Nursery care	7:45–11:15 AM
	<b>Healing Litany &amp; Holy Eucharist Rite I</b>	<b>8 AM</b>
	Soul Food Sunday (CH3)	9:10 AM
	Sunday School (CH 2 & 8)	9:45 AM
	Youth Group (CH 6)	9:45 AM
	<b>Healing Litany &amp; Holy Eucharist Rite II</b>	<b>10 AM</b>
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM

### **FRIDAY NIGHT LENTEN SERIES**

Stations of the Cross 6 PM  
Soup Supper 6:30 PM  
Lenten Study 7 PM  
*Meeting Jesus on the Margins*

#### **FOOD PANTRY**

Spaghetti, pancake mix, syrup  
grape jelly, brownie mix

#### **BLESSING BAGS**

Travel size or individually wrapped please

granola bars, Cheez-its;  
snack sized cheese & crackers