

SCRIPTURE READINGS

When we give to God, we are the primary beneficiaries.

*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down,
shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.
For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" (Luke 6:38).*

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM 72:1-7,10-14

Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
That the mountains may bring
prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the
moon shall be no more.
The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall
pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.
He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
He shall redeem their lives from
oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was

given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

THE HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**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:

✠ those in special need, especially Bob & Kate: Kevin & Mackenzie; Casey; Kay; Tillie; Ta-ree and Jayna; Larry & Leslie; Michael; Kay; Taylor; Casey; Dianna & Kelly; Don; Doug; Wally; Kay; Jay; Kelsey; Brody; Shoney; Robert; Lori; Keira.

FOOD PANTRY
Spam, oatmeal packets, cookies,
shampoo, conditioner

BLESSING BAGS
Travel size or individually wrapped please
Cheez-its, travel sized Goldfish, Rice Krispie treats

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE ARE AT THE END OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, SO WE WILL BE DE-GREENING THE SANCTUARY THIS SATURDAY, JANUARY 12 AT 11:00 A.M. Refreshments will be available. Please join us by letting Fr. Jackson know by either email (bjackson@stjohnsaz.org) or by calling the church office (623-582-5449). That way, we'll know how much in refreshments to have available. But, if you forget to let us know, don't let that stop you from being there to join in the fun.

FROM DAN BASCHE: OUR FIRST SOUP KITCHEN VISIT OF 2019 IS THIS TUESDAY. I still have quite a bit of winter things to give out, serving the food, along with candy, choc. milk, and toiletries so it will be good if we have some help. Try to be there by 4p.m..I have the new calendars of the 2019 visit dates if you want one. Let me know if you have questions.

A NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, USING THE SERENDIPITY BIBLE, led by Rev. Carmen, begins Wednesday, 3 PM. Come find out what it's all about. See Rev Carmen, Mary Brooks or Janet Lennon for more details.

THIS SATURDAY WE WILL CONTINUE OUR WORK ON THE BARRAZA FAMILY HABITAT HOUSE. If all stays on schedule, we will be painting. Lunch and tools will be provided. Work starts at 7:30 a.m. so we will carpool from the church at 7:00 or you can meet us at 9240 W. Mobile Ave. in Peoria. All are invited to come help out!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today	Holy Eucharist Rite I	8 AM
	Healing Litany / Holy Eucharist Rite I	8 AM
	Nursery care	9:30–11:15 AM
	Sunday School (CH 2 & 8)	9:45 AM
	Youth Group (CH 6)	9:45 AM
	Healing Litany / Holy Eucharist Rite II	10 AM
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM
	Campaign Leaders meeting (PH)	6 PM
Tue.	Chris Becker Dining Hall	4 PM
	Tuesday Night Bible Study	6 PM
	Joyful Noise Practice	7 PM
Wed.	Serendipity Bible Study	3 PM
	Holy Eucharist Rite II	6:30 PM
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:15 PM
	Vestry meeting (CH 3)	7:15 PM
Thu.	Women's Bible Study (PH)	3 PM
Fri.	Thrift Shop (CH7)	9 AM—1 PM
Sat.	Habitat Build Day	7:30 AM
	Thrift Shop (CH7)	9 AM—1 PM
Sun.	Holy Eucharist Rite I	8 AM
	Nursery care	9:30–11:15 AM
	Sunday School (CH 2 & 8)	9:45 AM
	Youth Group (CH 6)	9:45 AM
	Holy Eucharist Rite II	10 AM
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM