

SAINT MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH



"...you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." Mt. 16:18

Our Parish is Served by:

Reverend Alex Enriquez
Deacon Christian Knoebel

*We invite you to
celebrate with us*

679 W. Veterans Highway
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Phone: (732) 928-0279

Fax: (732) 928-1853

Email: stmonicanj@yahoo.com

Website: www.saintmonica.com

Masses

MON. TO THURS. 9 am

SATURDAY 4 pm

SUNDAY 9 am & 11 am

11 am also live-streamed @
www.saintmonica.com

and on Facebook at

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/ParishofStMonica/)

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Confessions

Saturdays

3:15 pm

to 3:45 pm

or

by appointment

The Church of St. Monica is a warm, accepting, and caring parish that worships God, teaches and lives the message of Christ, seeks to support and strengthen family life, and serves those in need through parish ministries and organizations.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 23, 2020

MASS INTENTIONS

*Live-Streamed Mass

Saturday, August 22

4:00 pm Cory Yglesias (Carle Family)

Sunday, August 23

9:00 am Dcn Gene Moir (Campbell & Maralla Families)

*11:00 am Rosario Grasso (Debra Kruse)

Monday, August 24

9:00 am Frances Dodd
(Barbara & Jerry Santangelo)

Tuesday, August 25

9:00 am Michele White (Mary Boyd)

Wednesday, August 26

9:00 am Intentions of Brianna Ruiz
(Liz Annino & John Kubicka)

Thursday, August 27

9:00 am Intentions of Brianna Ruiz
(Liz Annino & John Kubicka)

Saturday, August 29

4:00 pm Gerylgn Martzen
(Gatyas Family)

Sunday, August 30

9:00 am Francisca Negron Medina
(St Monica)

*11:00 am Gloria Stephens (Barbara Poli)

To secure your intentions, please contact the Parish Office.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Jackie Wilson, William Cole, Jr, Diane Black, Micki Smith, Annette Petercsak, Joyce Picon, Peter Laudati, Joanne Baldachino, Vera Dzumyk, Carol Atherton, Beth Kujawski, Paul Gallo, Anna and Sal Morrello, Rosemarie McNab, Chuck Smith, Toni Hetteroth, Brian Scott, Dan Sweeney, Frank Trimboli, Sr. Theresa Colbert, Dianne Smith, Douglas Merwin, Gail Reale, Kathleen Gillespie, Cheryl Bottega, James Picon, Stephen Trimboli, Tony Catapano, Bert Bumbera, Maria Covino, Paul Wilson, Jr., Joann DiCapua, Evelyn Manvell, Joan Myhal, Carol Spezzano, Baryt Schone, Victor Mota, Fran DeLuca, Nick DeLuca, Dorothy Palumbo, Theodore Duniak, Theresa Debiak, Andy Sabine, Elaine Giblock, Frank Diolosa, Sr, Barbara Holst, Baby Tripp Ravenfeld, Marie Gould, Cindy Andolora, Christopher Diolosa and Frank Diolosa

Call the Parish Office to let us know of anyone to be remembered in prayer so we may include them or, if they can be removed.

**Parish Office Summer Hours
Mon - Thu 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Fri 9:00 am - 12:00 noon**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK – AUGUST 23, 2020

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21; Mk 6:17-29

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

SOCIAL CONCERNS SAYS THANK YOU

Thank you all for responding to our request for food donations to refill our **Food Pantry**. Your response was beautiful and very generous! We are restocked and ready to continue to provide food to those in need.

Thanks also to Wayne Calsetta for helping to get the word out about the need to restock our Food Pantry.

May the Lord Bless You All for Your Generosity!

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS

Weekly Collection	\$2,462.00
Utility & Energy	\$ 196.00
Online Giving	<u>\$1,976.00</u>
 Total	 \$4,634.00

Thank you for your contributions as we support the ministries, programs and facilities of our parish.

K OF C BLOOD DRIVES

This summer and fall, St Monica's Knights of Columbus Council #11529 will be co-sponsoring **Blood Drives** with St. Aloysius's Council #6201. This partnership allows both Councils to help local hospitals in desperate need of blood.


Blood Drives will be on the Fourth Monday of each month beginning Monday, August 24th and ending in December.

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Place: Grand Knights Room,
401 Bartley Rd in Jackson.

Vitalant continues as our blood bank provider. Appointments are necessary and can be arranged by contacting Knight Ray Smink at raymondsmink@gmail.com

OR by visiting Vitalant's website:
<https://donor.cbsblood.org/donor/schedules/centers>

As an incentive, Vitalant is currently offering free COVID19 Antibody testing for all donors. Please Donate and Save a Life! 

**K of C Councils
#11529 & #6201**
Co-sponsoring a
vitalant
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DRIVE**

Monday, August 24
2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
401 Bartley Rd., Jackson
Appointment required:

<https://donor.cbsblood.org/donor/schedules/centers>

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 23, 2020

UPDATE FROM BISHOP O'CONNELL

Given all current public health and safety reports, I am extending the dispensation from Sunday obligation to attend Mass beyond the aforementioned September 7 date listed in our Diocesan Directives “until further notice.”

The faithful are certainly encouraged but not required to attend Sunday Mass in their parishes whenever possible or to participate in outdoor or live-streamed parish Masses offered online until the dispensation ceases “to keep holy, the Lord’s Day.”

Please continue to remember one another in prayer, especially the sick, the departed and all those providing care for them at this time.

Most Reverend David M. O’Connell

UPDATE FROM DIOCESAN DEPT. OF EVANGELIZATION AND FAMILY LIFE

The 2020 Bishop’s Anniversary Blessing events scheduled for October 4 and October 25, 2020 have been canceled due to Covid-19. Please **save the dates** for 2021 – **October 3, 2021** for Burlington and Mercer County Parishes at the Cathedral of St. Mary in Trenton, and **October 10, 2021** for Monmouth and Ocean County Parishes at the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine in Freehold. All couples celebrating their 1st or 2nd anniversary, their 25th or 26th anniversary and 50th or more anniversary in 2021 will be invited to attend.



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Please check www.FHOP.org for directions and for our other offerings!

MONDAYS WITH MERTON

4 Mondays ——— 1:00 – 2:30 PM

September 14 October 5 November 9
December 7

Thomas Merton will be our guide to the contemplative way of life. In this series, we will use his book, *Contemplative Prayer*. Time will also be given to experience *Lectio Divina* and contemplative prayer. Donation: \$75, incl. book

CLASSICS ON CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

9 Tuesdays ——— 6:30 – 8:30 PM

September 15 December 8 March 2
October 13 January 5 April 13
November 10 February 2 May 11

Treat yourself to an evening of prayer each month. Grow in the practice of contemplative prayer by coming to these monthly sessions. The evenings include two 20-minute contemplative prayer periods, with *Lectio Divina* between. We will view a DVD series by Fr. Thomas Keating and read Thomas Merton on Prayer by John Higgins, SJ between sessions. This is a wonderful group of pray-ers! Donation: \$175, includes book.

FRIENDS OF ST. TERESA OF AVILA

9 Wednesdays ——— 9:30 – 11:30 AM

September 16 December 9 March 3
October 14 January 6 April 14
November 11 February 3 May 12

St. Teresa has the great gift of writing about her relationship with God in such a way that helps us know that intimacy with God is an invitation and gift to us all. Come join us as Teresa leads us on our journey to full union with God. This journey is for all of us. Donation: \$175, includes book.

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 23

9:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 11:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 and Live-streamed Mass @
 saintmonica.com & Audio only
 on Radio 87.9 FM in parking lot

Monday, August 24

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)
 6:00 pm Confessions for Confirmandi

Tuesday, August 25

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)
 4:30 pm Confirmation Practice

Wednesday, August 26

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)
 4:00 pm Confirmation
 5:30 pm Confirmation

Thursday, August 27

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)
 9:30 am Rosary in the Sanctuary
 6:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, August 29

3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass (limit 100 people)
 6:00 pm Wedding

Sunday, August 30

9:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 11:00 am Mass (limit 100 people)
 and Live-streamed Mass @
 saintmonica.com & Audio only
 on Radio 87.9 FM in parking lot
 12:00 pm Baptism

Monday, August 31

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)

Tuesday, September 1

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)

Wednesday, September 2

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)
 9:30 am Adoration, Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, September 3

9:00 am Mass (limit 25 people)
 9:30 am Rosary in the Sanctuary

Saturday, September 5

3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass (limit 100 people)

HELP WANTED

Calling all Master Gardeners! Volunteers are needed to care for the flower beds around our parish property. If you like working outside and know the difference between a weed and a perennial, please call the parish office at 732-928-0279.



CONFIRMATION

Please add your prayers to those of our young people who will be Confirmed this week on Aug. 26th:

Lord, you send out your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in you and in Jesus whom you sent. Look kindly on our candidates for Confirmation as they listen to your voice. Open their hearts to your Spirit and bring to fulfilment the good work that you have begun in them.



The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



The new school year is about to begin! Start off the school year with a prayer. We're praying for you and your families.

Prayer to Begin a School Year/Semester

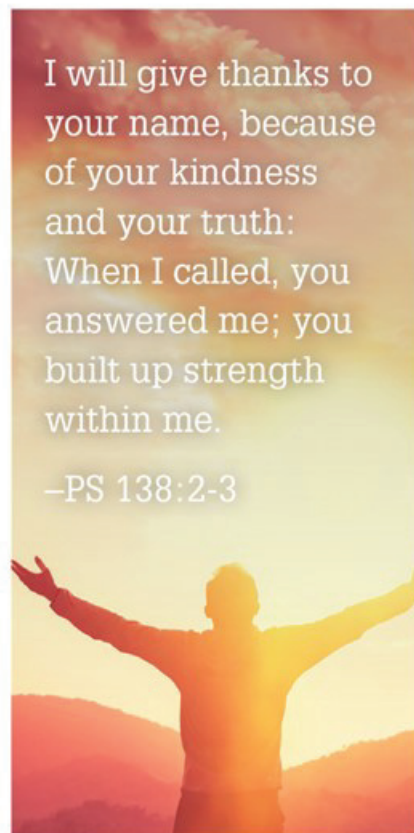
Blessed are you, Lord God,
Creator of body and mind and heart;
you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge
to guide your people in all their ways.

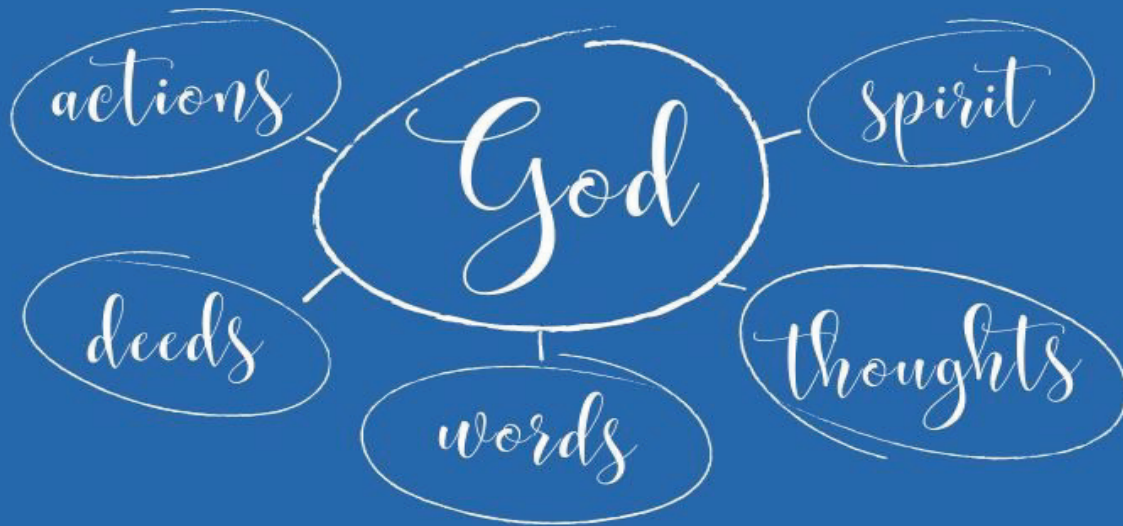
At the beginning of this new school year
we implore your mercy:
bless the students, teachers, and staff of N.,
that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love
as we learn from you and each other
how to follow your Son Jesus.

Expand the horizons of our minds,
that we may grow in wisdom,
understanding, and knowledge;
deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways;
and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need.

Glory and praise to you, Lord God,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever.

R/. Amen





May all our actions, words, thoughts, & spirit
be centered in God, on God, and for God!
Let us keep our passions well-disciplined
and our spirit pure and faithful.

Saint Jane Frances de Chantal

Listen in silence
before me.

Isaiah 41:1

GROWING  CATHOLICS

KINDNESS
always the right choice



Our Patron Saint

Saint of the Week

Monica

331-387

Memorial–August 27

Born in Tagaste in present-day Algeria, this North African lay woman was given in marriage to Patricius, a Roman pagan. St. Augustine of Hippo, a saint in the making, was their eldest child. Monica tried to bring him up a Christian but was also concerned for his worldly success and sent him to Carthage to study. Her prayers helped the conversion of both her husband and her mother-in-law to Christ. Her two other children, Navigius and Perpetua, were also known for righteousness, and Perpetua eventually entered religious life. But Augustine,

to Monica's dismay, joined the heretical Manichean sect. He scorned Christianity and had a son with his mistress. In 383, Monica sought his conversion and followed Augustine to Italy, where she became a follower of St. Ambrose and asked for his intervention with Augustine. Three years later, Augustine was baptized by St. Ambrose. Monica fell ill shortly after and died before their return to Africa. Years before, a bishop had famously counseled her, "It is not possible that the son of so many tears should be lost."



“ [August 27] we will celebrate the memory of St Monica, Mother of St Augustine. To the intercession of these Saints let us entrust Christian newlyweds and parents, that like Monica, they may accompany by example and prayer the journey of their children. Let us commend the sick who are most in need of comfort and constant attention as well as young people that, like Augustine, they may move towards the fullness of Truth and Love, which is Christ: he alone can satisfy the deep needs of the human heart. ”

—Pope Francis, general audience, August 26, 2015



Catholic
Current

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Image: Getty Images.



Augustine: The Sinner Who Became a Saint

354-430 / FEAST DAY-AUGUST 28

Very few men have had such an impact on Christianity as St. Augustine. He was born in AD 354 in North Africa, at that time a strong and dynamic Christian region. His father was a prominent pagan, but his mother, Monica, was a devout Christian. She intended that Augustine be baptized, but in his adolescence he distanced himself from the Church and did not want to be baptized. He studied Latin literature and became a follower of an esoteric philosophy known as Manichaeism.

He had a mistress with whom he lived for fifteen years. She bore him a son, but he later broke off with her while living in Milan, where they had gone because he had been given a teaching position there. He found himself gradually more attracted to Christianity as he listened to the preaching of St. Ambrose, the bishop of Milan. But he resisted conversion, though his mother prayed persistently for him.

In a book entitled *The Confessions*, written in his later years as a spiritual and theological reflection on his life, Augustine describes the final steps to his conversion. He had felt the tension between attachment to his sinful ways and attraction to Christ and the Gospel. One day in the year 386, he went crying into the garden of



the house where he was staying with friends. He was weeping because of his inability to make a decision for conversion. But then he heard the voice of a child from a neighboring house singing the refrain, "Take it and read, take it and read." He picked up the Letters of St. Paul and read the first passage his eyes fell upon: "not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and licentiousness, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh" (Rom 13:13-14). Augustine recognized the grace of God in this reading and embraced conversion.

He was baptized by St. Ambrose in 387 and returned to North Africa in 388. In 391, while visiting the town of Hippo, he was urged by the Christian population to become a priest; he accepted, though reluctantly. In 395 he became bishop of Hippo. As a Christian, priest, and bishop, he

wrote numerous books to explain and defend Christian doctrine. His homilies and sermons were written down, and they witness to the depth and power of his preaching. He died in 430.

Augustine knew the damaging effects of sin. In *The Confessions*, he admits his own sinfulness even as a boy: "Many and many a time I lied to my tutor, my masters, and my parents, because I wanted to play games or watch some futile show or was impatient to imitate what I saw on the stage." But he also experienced the greater power of grace, of God's enabling us to overcome sin and accept the Gospel of his Son. St. Augustine knew God's mercy in the forgiveness of sins gained for us by Jesus Christ. Today Catholics encounter this same mercy and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance.



Catholic
Current

This article is an excerpt from the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults* (Washington, DC: USCCB, 2006) 230-234. Copyright © 2006, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington DC. All rights reserved. Image: *Detail L: The Baptism of Saint Augustine*, Master of the Osseveranza, The J. Paul Getty Museum.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time — August 23, 2020

KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

“Who do you say that I am?” That question, asked by Jesus to Simon Peter in today’s Gospel, sets the stage for a key foundation of the Catholic Church. Once Simon states that Jesus is the Messiah, then Jesus blesses him, changes his name to Peter (which means rock), and says that he will build his church upon that rock.

This week’s study will draw out two important themes from this passage. First, the symbolism of the rock. Solomon, the great king of Israel, built the Temple on the rock where Abraham offered his son Isaac as a sacrifice. With this background in mind, we will see that Jesus is saying that he is the new Solomon. Like Solomon, Jesus is the builder of the new temple, the Church. And just as Solomon built his temple on the rock of Abraham’s sacrifice, so Jesus will build his—though not on a physical rock, but on Peter, the new rock. This new temple, which Jesus refers to as his kingdom, will be his church—the Catholic Church.



Second, the keys. Jesus, knowing that he will not be physically present much longer, hands over the “keys of the kingdom” to Peter. We will see that in the Bible, the keys are a symbol for the king’s prime minister, the caretaker of the kingdom. By giving Peter the keys of the kingdom, Jesus is appointing Peter as his prime minister in the kingdom he is building. From that moment on, Peter and his successors, the popes, have held a central leadership role for Christ’s Church—one that recalls the prime minister of the Davidic kingdom of old.

PRAYER

Put yourself into this pivotal scene in which Jesus elevates Peter to this important leadership role in his kingdom. Picture Jesus with all of the twelve Apostles but singling out Simon and changing his name to “Rock” (Peter). Then imagine Jesus saying those sacred words to him: “You are rock and on this rock I will build my Church.” Prayerfully ponder what you think this means for you and for the Church Jesus established.

RESOLUTION

Come up with one resolution you can do this week that either helps you accept the leadership role of Peter’s successors, the popes, more in your life or helps you express greater gratitude for this gift Jesus left his Church.

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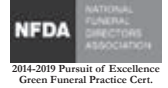
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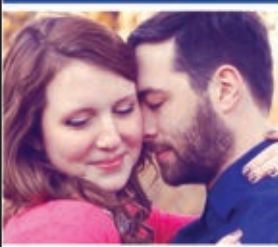
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What's My Name?

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson



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