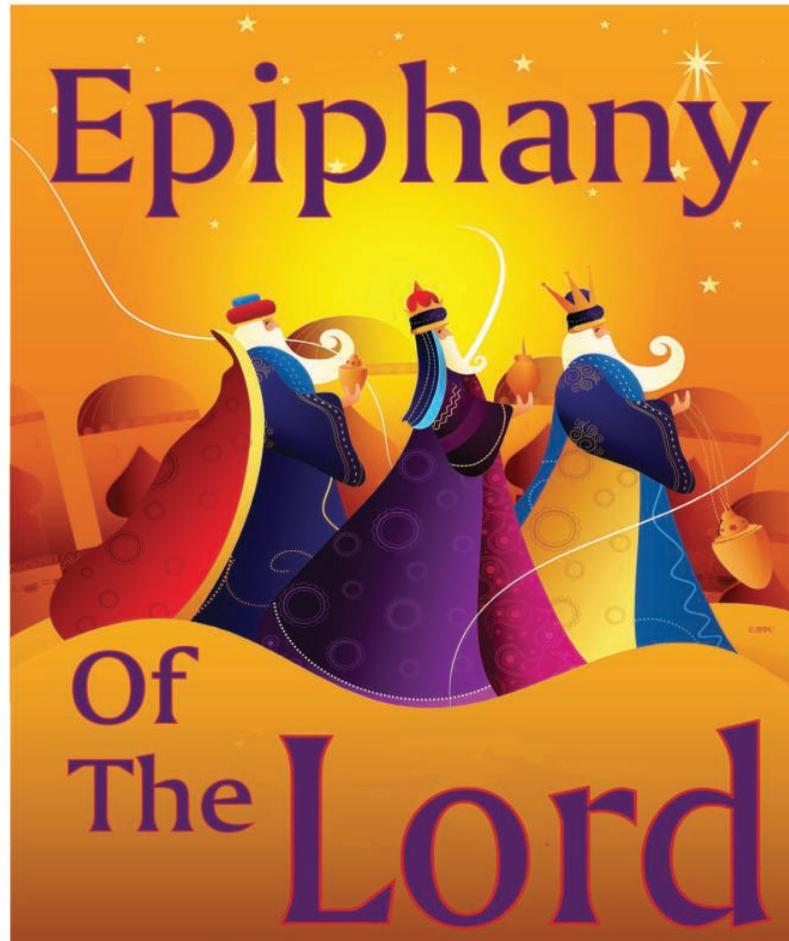


SAINT MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH



Masses

Mon. to Thurs. 9 am
Saturday 4 pm
Sunday 9 am & 11 am

679 W. Veterans Highway
Jackson, NJ 08527



Our Parish is Served by:

Reverend Alex Enriquez, Pastor
Deacon Christian Knoebel

We invite you to celebrate with us

Parish Office: 732-928-0279
Religious Education: 732-928-4038
Fax: (732) 928-1853
Email: stmonicanj@yahoo.com
website: www.saintmonica.com

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.

Confessions

Saturdays
3:15 pm
to 3:45 pm
or
by appointment

Twitter:
[@StMonicaParish](https://twitter.com/StMonicaParish)
Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/
ParishofStMonica/](https://www.facebook.com/ParishofStMonica/)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - JANUARY 8, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 7

4:00 pm Kenneth Kowaleski
(Karen & Marvin Badach)

Sunday, January 8

9:00 am Rosario Salvatore Guarnieri
(Linda Yglesias)
11:00 am Nick DeLuca (Debiak Family)

Monday, January 9

9:00 am Mary Ann Dunn
(Marie & Dave Gould)

Tuesday, January 10

9:00 am Jerry Gries
(Caroline & John White)

Wednesday, January 11

9:00 am Vincent Reeves
(Susan & Frank Radosti)

Thursday, January 12

9:00 am Maryann Lipari (Family)

Saturday, January 14

4:00 pm Father James Redstone
(Margie & Family)

Sunday, January 15

9:00 am Valerino Grandilli
(Bereavement Ministry)
11:00 am Dakota Neron
(Deborah Zollo)

To secure your intentions, please contact the Parish Office.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Micki Smith, Joyce Picon, Carol Atherton, Beth Kujawski, Chuck Smith, Toni Hetteroth, Brian Scott, Dianne Smith, Douglas Merwin, Baryt Schone, Fran DeLuca, Frank Diolosa, Theodore Dunyak, Andy Sabine, Elaine Giblock, Baby Tripp Ravenfeld, Marie Gould, Christopher Diolosa, Steve Andolora, Doris Garbarino, Bettina Morell, Melissa Staiger, Bonnie Holton, John Jennings, Arlene Toth, Deborah MacInnes, Judy Bocchicchio, Leo Diaz, Glory D'Acunto, Josephine Brennan, Frank Trimboli, Gabrielle D'Acunto, Anthony Pelle, Jr, Joey Brune, Phillip Wenz, Tina Sherry, Patrick Abeel, Robin Trombino, Mary Miniscalchi, Lane Morell, Denis Balint, Frank Falesto, Jean Stein, Ann Rosetto, Eileen Morello, Elaine Stemmler, Rose Thompson, Tom Martin, Sarah Thomas, Christos Lambrou, Dorothy Palumbo, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Cathy Sedano, Jennie D'Angelo, Jake Higgins, Sue Herrmann, Paul Hetteroth, John C Purfield, Fran Morin, Cheryl Vega, Taylor Dlugosz, Cameron Dlugosz

Contact 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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK – JANUARY 8, 2023

Monday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10; Mt 3:13-17

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11; Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-7, 8; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

WOMEN OF ST. MONICA

Sunday, January 8

12:00 pm Next Meeting (Little Church)

We welcome all women of the parish to join us at our meetings. If you would like more information about our group, please contact Theresa Calsetta at 732-299-0261 or dakota16@optonline.net



On Friday Jan. 20, 2023, the faithful of the Diocese of Trenton will come together in prayer and solidarity to proclaim the sanctity of all human life.

All are invited to a Mass for Life celebrated by Bishop David M. O’Connell, C.M., in St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, 61 Georgia Rd., Freehold, beginning at 11 a.m. Mass will be livestreamed on:

youtube.com/trentondiocese

The Mass will be followed by a luncheon and speaker seminar in the Co-Cathedral’s Dentici Hall. Author and speaker Dr. Charles Camosy will be our keynote speaker.

His talk and conversations that follow are intended to help us build a Culture of Life in this post-Roe world by working together as one church and stepping out of the politics and divisions that often separate us. Advanced registration to attend the luncheon and seminar is required by Jan. 10, 2023. Registration and information can be found here: dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP
COLLECTIONS DECEMBER 19 - 25, 2022**

Total \$6,899.00

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

PLEASE NOTE

Should you need Communion brought to you at Mass, kindly alert an usher before Mass.

THANK YOU

Many thanks for the beautiful Christmas decorations, the glorious music, the open hearts, and inspiring Masses at Christmas this year. A special thanks goes to the Children’s Choir which never sounded better, the elegant Adult Choirs, and all the generous donations for our neighbors in need. Our Social Concerns Committee, liturgical ministers, decorators, donors, clergy, and volunteers helped make it possible for us to celebrate Christ’s birth with joy. May that joy continue to animate our parish in the new year!



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - JANUARY 8, 2023



Basketball Free Throw Contest

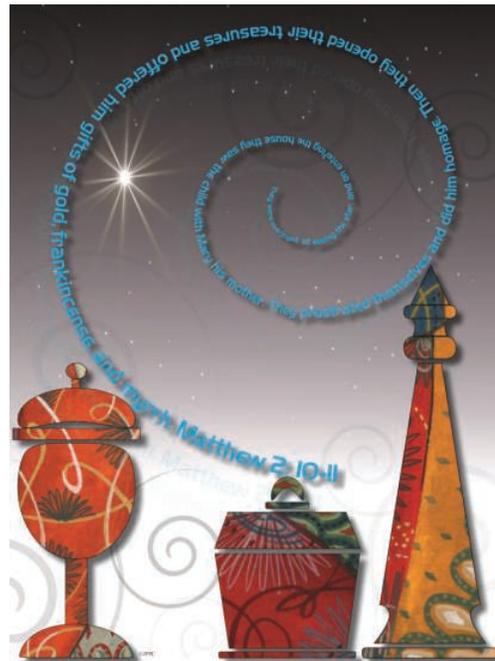


St Veronica Gym 4219 Route 9 North, Howell, NJ
January 15, 2023 12:30pm



Knights of Columbus Council 6201 (Howell/Jackson) is sponsoring the annual Basketball Free Throw Contest. All boys and girls ages 9 through 14 are invited to participate. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. and the competition will begin at 1:00. Winners of the competition will move onto the district competition.

All contestants on the local level will be recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For more information contact Frank Schear at mrmjo4477@gmail.com.



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MUSIC MINISTRY WORKSHOP

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD, 2023
St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church
685 Hooper Ave
Toms River, NJ 08753
(in the Church)

7:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Meet & Greet with Steve

7:30 PM - 8:50 PM
Talk/Music/Teaching




Registration is free!

REGISTER HERE

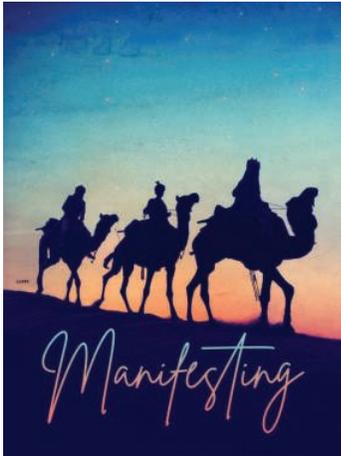
Questions? padraig@dioceseoftrinton.org
ANYONE WHO REGISTERS BEFORE JAN 29 2023
WILL BE ENTERED INTO A PRIZE DRAWING!

dioceseoftrinton.org/evening-with-angrisano

Intercessions for Life

January 8, 2023
The Epiphany of the Lord

On this Feast of the Epiphany,
may we be given the grace
to always see in others
the face of Christ our Savior.
Lord hear our prayer.



Manifesting

CALENDAR

Saturday, January 7, 2023

3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 8, 2023

Epiphany
9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass
12:00 pm Women of St. Monica Mtg. (LC)

Monday, January 9, 2023

9:00 am Mass
1:00 pm Legion of Mary (Little Church)
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes
6:15 pm Religious Education Classes

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

9:00 am Mass
5:30 pm Religious Education Classes
7:30 pm Adult Choir (Church)

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

9:00 am Mass
7:00 am RCIA (Little Church)

Thursday, January 12, 2023

9:00 am Mass
7:00 pm K of C Mtg. (Parish Hall)
7:00 pm Baptism Prep (Little Church)

Friday, January 13, 2023

7:30 pm AA Meeting (Parish Hall)

Saturday, January 14, 2023

3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 15, 2023

9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass

Monday, January 16, 2023

9:00 am No Mass (Parish Offices Closed)
No Religious Education Classes

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

9:00 am Mass
No Religious Education Classes
7:30 pm Adult Choir (Church)

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

9:00 am Mass
7:00 am RCIA (Little Church)

STORIES THAT UPLIFT
Matthew 2:1-12
Epiphany of the Lord - Year A
Fr. Michael Brizio, IMC
Website: www.frnichaelbrizio.com



So many people are taking destructive journeys in our world today, following so many false stars. A few years back the Air Force built a sophisticated unmanned jet called the Global Hawk. With no pilot aboard, this plane can fly for more than a day, scouring terrain and relaying video to a ground station 3000 miles away.

Sometime ago, one of these planes was lost in a freak accident. No, it didn't crash into a mountain. It did not run out of fuel or have one of its parts malfunction. Rather, it committed suicide. It shut its engines down, erased classified material from its computer, set its flaps in a death spiral, and smashed at 400 mph into the desert.

Here's what happened. More than 100 miles away, a team of Air Force personnel was testing a second Global Hawk aircraft. At some time in this test, this team told this second plane to terminate its flight.

Unfortunately, the first plane "overheard" this signal from more than 100 miles away and "thought" it was being ordered to terminate its flight, and it did just that. A forty-five-million-dollar plane was lost because it "listened to" the wrong voice.

** There are many journeys we can take in today's world, many voices we can listen to, many stars we can follow. But only one leads us into the path of abundant life: Jesus. †*



Catholic Principles of Migration

Our approach to migration is rooted in the Gospel and in the rich tradition of Catholic social teaching. A recent example of this teaching is in [*Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope*](#), a pastoral letter concerning migration from the Catholic Bishops of Mexico and the United States.

I. Persons have the right to find opportunities in their homeland.

All persons have the right to find in their own countries the economic, political, and social opportunities to live in dignity and achieve a full life through the use of their God-given gifts. In this context, work that provides a just, living wage is a basic human need.

II. Persons have the right to migrate to support themselves and their families.

The Church recognizes that all the goods of the earth belong to all people. When persons cannot find employment in their country of origin to support themselves and their families, they have a right to find work elsewhere in order to survive. Sovereign nations should provide ways to accommodate this right.

III. Sovereign nations have the right to control their borders.

The Church recognizes the right of sovereign nations to control their territories and their borders. However, wealthier nations, which have the ability to better protect and feed their residents, have a strong obligation to

accommodate migration flows.

IV. Refugees and asylum seekers should be afforded protection.

Those who flee wars and persecution should be protected by the global community. This requires, at a minimum, that migrants have a right to claim refugee status without incarceration and to have their claims fully considered by a competent authority.

V. The human dignity and human rights of undocumented migrants should be respected.

Regardless of their legal status, migrants, like all persons, possess inherent human dignity that should be respected. Often they are subject to punitive laws and harsh treatment by enforcement officers from both receiving and transit countries. Government policies that respect the basic human rights of the undocumented are necessary.



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Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

DATES: 1620-1700

FEAST DAY: JANUARY 12

Growing up in Troyes, France, Marguerite formed a special relationship with Our Lady. She was turned away by two religious communities, but met the founder of Montreal, Canada, when he returned to France to visit his sister. He invited Marguerite to open a school in the New World; she went, despite misgivings, after praying to Mary. From that first school in an abandoned stable, her ministry grew to include teaching women crafts and founding the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame. She managed to keep her sisters uncloistered, despite opposition from the bishop, and served as superior for many years. When Pope John Paul II canonized her in 1982, she became Canada's first woman saint.



CNS Photo

KING
of KINGS
LORD of
LORDS

MARCH FOR
LIFE

January 20th 2023



Join the March for Life! Go to the March for Life website to get started:

<https://marchforlife.org/national-march-for-life/>

EQUALITY
BEGINS IN
THE WOMB

HelpOurMarriage.org
RETROUVAILLE
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

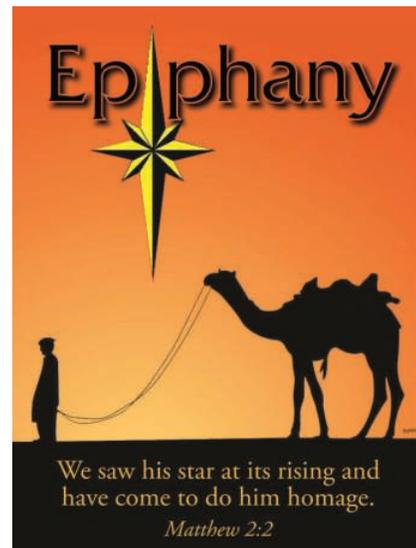
Stress In Your Marriage?

- * Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- * Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
- * Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- * Does talking about it only make it worse?

RETROUVAILLE consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions.

The upcoming Retrouvaille weekend is February 3 – 5, 2023. All inquiries are confidential.

For further information, please contact Rich Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno 732-672-0748 or email: 3024@helpourmarriage.org



The Eucharist - St Monica**Masses & Reconciliation**

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am
 Saturday 4:00 pm
 Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am
 Holy Days As Noted
 Reconciliation Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm
 or by appt.

Exposition of the Holy Sacrament & Benediction

1st Wednesday of each month 9:30 am

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Baptisms

Celebrated outside of Mass. Parents and godparents are required to attend our Baptism preparation program. Please call the parish office to register.

Visits to the Sick and Homebound

May be arranged by calling our parish office.

Knights of Columbus Council #11529

Catholic Men coming together selflessly for others through Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. Visit our Website at www.kofc11529.org.

St Vincent de Paul Society

Emergency Assistance Helpline: 732-370-0098

Bereavement Ministry

Please contact the parish office for more information.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

Fridays 7:30 - 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

For those seeking full membership in the Catholic Faith, please contact the parish office.

Youth Group

Open to all children of St Monica registered families and we would love to have you join us. For more information, contact Theresa Calsetta 732-299-0261.

New Parishioners

Welcome to our parish family! Registration forms may be downloaded at www.saintmonica.com. Please contact the parish office for further information.

Adult Faith Formation Core Team

Our mission is to encourage and support parishioners in their lifelong learning in the faith in order to grow closer to God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit through discipleship and evangelization.

Marriages

The Catholic Dioceses of New Jersey requests a one year period of preparation for marriage in the church. Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Religious Education

Children are expected to receive a Catholic-Christian upbringing in their family life, to worship regularly at Sunday Mass, and to participate in ongoing Religious Education classes. Our program includes grades 1-8. Please contact Karen Badach, Coordinator of Religious Education 732-928-4038 or stmonicaccd@yahoo.com

Legion of Mary

Members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick and assisting with pastoral needs.

Women of St Monica

Ministry of Catholic women of the parish striving to fulfill their spiritual needs, sharing their faith, promoting community and conduct fundraisers throughout the year and enhance parish life in a variety of ways.

Ancient Order of Hibernians

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is an Irish Catholic fraternity looking for members to bond in Brotherhood, Unity & Christian Charity. Contact Patrick Jockel (609) 489-9221 or at patrickaoh@hotmail.com

Reflections on the Readings for The Epiphany of the Lord - January 8, 2023

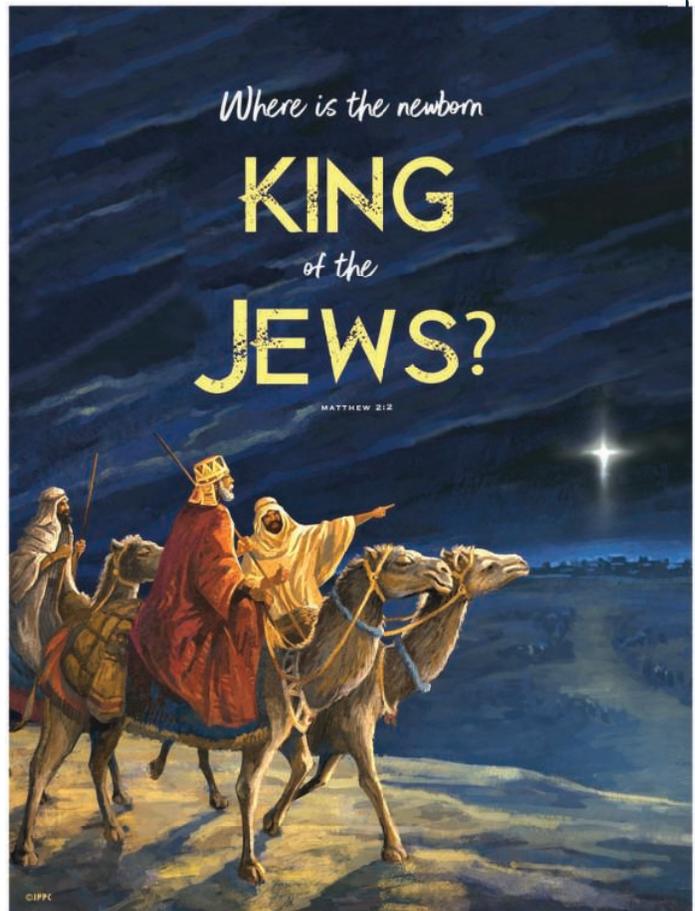
COMING BEFORE THE KING

The story of the magi, the three wise men, who traveled from the East to pay homage to Jesus as the King of the Jews, is part of our Christmas tradition. (Incidentally, the Gospels never tell us that there were three; we get that number from the three gifts they brought, by assuming each brought one gift.) The magi, after a detour to see King Herod, brought their most valuable possessions to lay at the feet of the newborn King.

As we see the scene unfold, it doesn't look much like a royal court. It simply looks like a father, mother, and child, living in humble circumstances in a tiny, backwater town in a rural province of Rome. And yet, it was there that the magi encountered the King of all creation.

In some ways, it can be the same for us at church. When we attend Mass, it can seem ordinary, almost mundane, because we do it week after week. We may even find our minds drifting to the things we are going to do when we get home instead of the fact that we are in the presence of the Lord of the Universe.

The early Church Fathers encouraged Christians at Mass to meditate on the magi. It's a good lesson for us, as well. When we think about the magi approaching the Infant Jesus, we can take that same image to prayer in our lives. As we approach the Eucharist, we can see ourselves coming before the Lord, offering our most precious possession—our very lives—as we worship and adore him as the magi did those thousands of years ago.



PRAYER

Picture yourself as one of the magi standing before Mary, who is holding the Infant Jesus on her lap. You kneel before Jesus and offer him your life, to do with as he will. What might Mary say to you? What does Jesus do? How do you feel? Now take a moment to offer words of praise and thanksgiving for the opportunity to serve the King of kings.

RESOLUTION

Today we heard how the early Church Fathers saw the visit of the magi as a symbol of the Eucharist. This week pay a visit to your church, and spend a few minutes adoring Jesus as the magi did. | formed.org

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 ... *Tim Ryan*