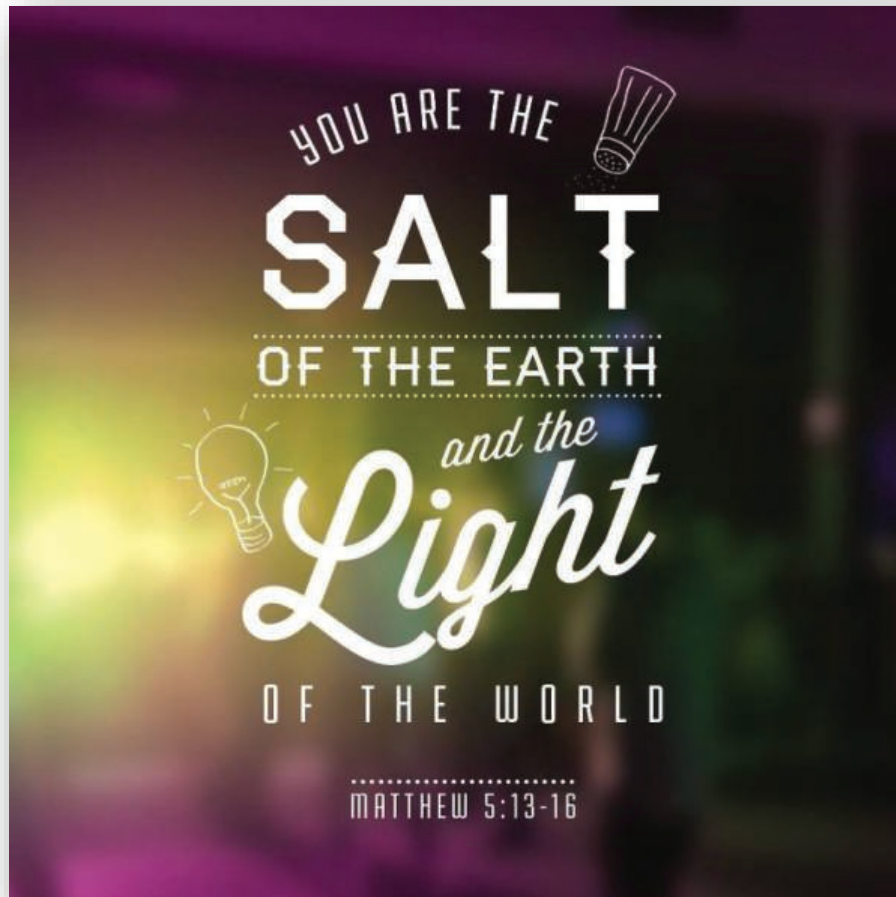


SAINT MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH



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/)

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 5, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 4

4:00 pm Mr & Mrs Anthony Norbut
(Carol Munt)

Sunday, February 5

9:00 am Maria Marotta
(Kim & Keith Merwin)

11:00 am Brian Purcell
(Bob & Barbara Purcell)

Monday, February 6 - 9

No 9:00 am Mass

Saturday, February 11

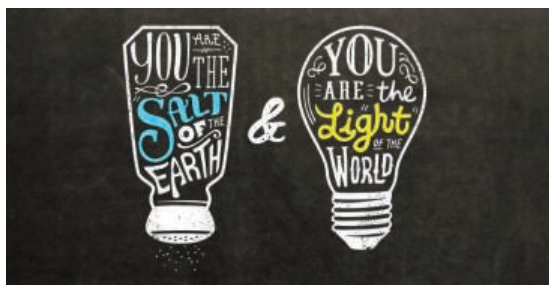
4:00 pm Rosemarie Moore (Ina Poss)

Sunday, February 12

9:00 am Rosemarie Moore
(The Mahons & Marueen)

11:00 am Arlene Vogel (Mary Boyd)

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, 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, Cheryl Vega, Taylor Dlugosz, Cameron Dlugosz, Domenick DiCicco, Irene Kislán

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 – FEBRUARY 5, 2023

Monday: Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Mk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7; Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10

Sunday: Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Monday, February 6 to Thursday, February 6

Liturgy of the Word with Communion will take place instead of the usual 9:00 a.m. daily Mass.



In honor of World Marriage Day 2023

Fr. Alex and Fr Tony will confer a Blessing of Marriages at all Masses next weekend, Feb 11 & 12.

FROM THE BISHOP

The World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in the Church this week on Thursday, February 2, 2023, and in parishes over the weekend of February 4-5, 2023.

Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

WOMEN OF ST. MONICA

SOUPTACULAR!!

Next weekend, February 11 & 12, members of the Women of St. Monica group will be selling take-out soup and chili after all Masses.

At \$5 per container these delicious soups will not be around for long. Please note: Beef Barley soup and Chili will be \$7 per container. Stop by on your way out of church for some homemade soup to-go in the coldest month of the year!

Questions? Contact Linda Thompson at 908-770-0681 or lthompsons@aol.com



**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS
JANUARY 23 - 29, 2023**

Total \$4,706.75

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.

GRIEF SUPPORT

St. Monica's is pleased to offer support for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one or close friend. This Catholic-centered Support Group offers a caring, compassionate, and confidential environment to support your journey from grieving to healing.

An introduction to the program will be held on **Sunday, Feb 5 at 12:15** in the Church. All are welcome to attend.

Nine weekly sessions will begin on **Sunday, Feb 19 at 12:15** in Little Church. For registration and details contact John White 848-992-1652 or jlwhite2271@gmail.com

This week, our sanctuary candle burns for the intentions of David Gould, Jr. and Family.



Requested by David Gould, Sr. and Marie.

ST MONICA ITALIAN DINNER
Sunday, February 26 at 2:30 pm

Please come and enjoy a wonderful dinner at St Monica in our parish hall. The menu includes: spaghetti and meatballs; sausage, peppers and onions; lasagna; antipasto salad; bread and butter; dessert; coffee and tea. Tickets \$10 for Adults; Children 5 & under admitted free.

Save the Date....Come for the Food....
Come for the Fun....Come Hungry

God Bless Us All
Questions? Contact Linda Thompson at
908-770-0681 or ltompson@aol.com



**RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER
THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE**

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of Feb. 10 - 12, 2023 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit:

www.HelpOurMarriage.org
or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230.

All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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Eucharistic
Revival**

"If we want to work for the benefit of the poor we have to be worshipping Jesus. If we want to face the darkness, the poverty, and the violence in our society without getting tired or angry or cynical or apathetic, we have to be going to Jesus."

BISHOP MARK BARTOSIC
Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago

USCCB.ORG

Intercessions for Life

**February 5, 2023
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

For the sick, especially those nearing life's end: May they be cared for with tenderness and compassion as they prepare to enter eternal life.

Lord hear our prayer.



CALENDAR

Saturday, February 4

- 3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, February 5

- 9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass/RCIA Dismissal
12:00 pm Women of St. Monica Mtg. (LC)
12:15 pm Grief Support Intro. (Church)
1:00 pm Grief Support Grp. Reunion (Hall)

Monday, February 6

- 9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w. Communion
1:00 pm Legion of Mary (Little Church)
4:30 pm Religious Education Classes
6:15 pm Religious Education Classes

Tuesday, February 7

- 9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w. Communion
5:30 pm Religious Education Classes
7:30 pm Adult Choir

Wednesday, February 8

- 9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w. Communion

Thursday, February 9

- 9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w. Communion
7:00 pm K of C Mtg. (Parish Hall)

Friday, February 10

- 7:30 pm AA Meeting (Parish Hall)

Saturday, February 11

- World Marriage Day
3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass
Women of St. Monica Soup & Chili Sale

Sunday, February 12

- World Marriage Day
9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass
Women of St. Monica Soup & Chili Sale

Monday, February 13

- 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, February 14

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

Wednesday, February 15

- 9:00 am Mass
5:30 pm 1st Reconciliation Practice

Thursday, February 16

- 9:00 am Mass
6:00 pm 1st Reconciliation (Church)

STORIES THAT UPLIFT

Matthew 5:13-16

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Fr. Michael Brizio, IMC

Website: www.frnichaelbrizio.com

Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Don Sutton had not won a game in eight weeks. A critical press was suggesting that he be dropped from the starting lineup. The future looked bleak, and Sutton felt terrible. Then, before a game, Dodgers manager Walter Alston tapped him on the shoulder. "I'd like to speak with you, Don," he said. Sutton prepared himself for the worst.

"Don," said Alston, "I know how the past couple of months have been for you. Everyone's wondering whether we can make it to the play-offs. You know there is a lot of pressure. I have had to make a decision."

Sutton had visions of being taken off the mound. Then Alston continued. "If the Dodgers are going to win this year," he said, looking Sutton in the eye, "they are going to win with Don Sutton pitching. Come what may, you are staying in the starting job. That is all I wanted to say."

Sutton's losing streak lasted two more weeks, but because of his manager's encouragement, he felt different about it. Something in him was turning around. He found himself pitching the best ball of his career. In the National League pennant drive, he won 13 games out of 14.

** There are all kinds of theories about how to motivate people. We can do it through guilt, fear, or shame. But these were not Jesus' methods. Jesus motivated through positive messages of hope and encouragement. Consider today's Gospel where Jesus says to his followers, "You are the light and the salt of the world." †*



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

BY FR. LARRY RICE

In many Catholic parishes at this time of year, groups of people are gathering to begin the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This is the formal process through which adults become members of the Catholic Church.

In most places, the majority of new Catholics are children born and raised in the faith. They learn about Catholic Christianity from their parents. But for someone interested in Catholicism later in life, the Church has a lengthy process of initiation that uses the initials RCIA, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. The RCIA process is much more than just a series of classes in Catholic belief and doctrine. It's more a journey of faith which asks its participants to pray, reflect, and grow into a relationship with Christ and his Church.

After a period of inquiry, which may include formal classroom instruction, inquirers are formally recognized as people on the way to initiation and are accepted as catechumens. This process and terminology mirrors the initiation process used by the Church in its first few centuries.

The catechumens continue their study and reflection and are often "dismissed" from Sunday worship so that they can pray and reflect on the scriptures together. In the Spring, the season of Lent becomes a time of particularly intense formation for the catechumens, who are now called the "Elect." Their journey culminates in the celebration of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Their integration into the community of faith continues after Easter, during a time that goes by the arcane name of "mystagogia."

Through all of this process, adults seeking initiation into the church are doing much more than classroom learning. They are developing in mind, heart, and spirit, seeking God's presence in their lives, at the same time as he is calling them forward. For more information on the RCIA process, and how you might become involved, visit your local Catholic parish and talk to the staff. They'll welcome your interest.



Catholic
Current

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FACT OF FAITH





Saint Scholastica

DATES: 480-547

FEAST DAY: FEBRUARY 10

Scholastica and her brother, St. Benedict, were born to a wealthy Christian family in Nursia, Italy. Details of their lives come from the Dialogues of St. Gregory the Great. After Benedict established his monastery at Monte Cassino, she founded a convent at Plombariola, and was its abbess for many years. The siblings met once a year outside Monte Cassino. At their final meeting, Scholastica begged Benedict to stay the night and, when he wouldn't, she asked God for help. A violent storm ensued and Benedict had to stay. They spent the night discussing the joys of heaven, and she died three days later. Scholastica is the patron saint of Benedictine nuns and convulsive children.



CNS/Cruxiana



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Current

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SAINT OF THE WEEK



ADULT FAITH



Thousands sought Jesus during his life. Only a few followed him to Calvary.

What will you do?

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, **No Greater Love** is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you—and grow closer to Jesus.

St. Monica Church, 6:30 p.m. Sundays:

- March 5
- March 12
- March 19
- March 26
- April 2

Cost: \$26.95 for Book and Workbook

For more information and to register, contact Barbara Rookey at: barookey@gmail.com 732-904-8152

2022 CONTRIBUTION REPORTS

If you wish to receive a report of your contributions, please contact Liz Hills in the Parish Office or complete a request form located at the entrances to the Church and place in the collection basket.

GRIEF SUPPORT

Grief Support Group

A Journey From Grieving to Healing

Program Introduction

February 5th, 2023

At 12:15 pm

Main Church



Support Group Sessions Begin Sunday Feb 19th, 2023 at 12:15 pm in Little Church (9 weeks)

To Register Call John 848-992-1652, or email - jlwhite2271@gmail.com

Church of St. Monica

679 W Veterans Hwy, Jackson, NJ 08527

THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON

is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors.

PROMISE TO PROTECT



PLEDGE TO HEAL

If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan

ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965

or via e-mail at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org.

The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

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 for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 5, 2023

SALT AND LIGHT

In order to understand what Jesus is telling us in today's Gospel, we need to consider what salt and light meant in his time. Because we can buy all the salt we could ever need at our local grocery and we have light anytime we want at the flip of a switch, we may not realize how special both were in ancient Israel. Salt was so valuable it was part of the pay of Roman soldiers. Light came only in the form of fire or small oil lamps. In both cases, salt and light were valuable.

That's what Jesus is telling us in this week's Gospel: We must be valuable signs of God's love and grace for the world. We need to season and preserve the world like salt and illuminate the darkness of sin and despair like a light in the night.

But how do we do that? It's not enough to just go to Mass each Sunday and then hide out the rest of the week under the barrel of daily life. We have to learn how to take our faith out of the box of the church and take it into the world. We have to live every moment of our lives as true witnesses to the Faith we have received. This is more than just a good idea. It's one of Jesus's basic instructions on how we are to live as children of God.

PRAYER

Imagine Jesus saying to you, "You are the light of the world." What does that mean to you? Does it make you feel encouraged or overwhelmed? Now, in the stillness of your being, ask Jesus to reveal to you a way that you can become a light to the world. What comes to mind? Is it something you are currently doing or something new that you are being called to do?

RESOLUTION

Now hear Jesus say, "Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." What is one good deed that you can do this week that will glorify the Father? Choose a specific day and time to do it so that it doesn't go the way of unfulfilled good intentions. |[formed.org](https://www.formed.org)



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