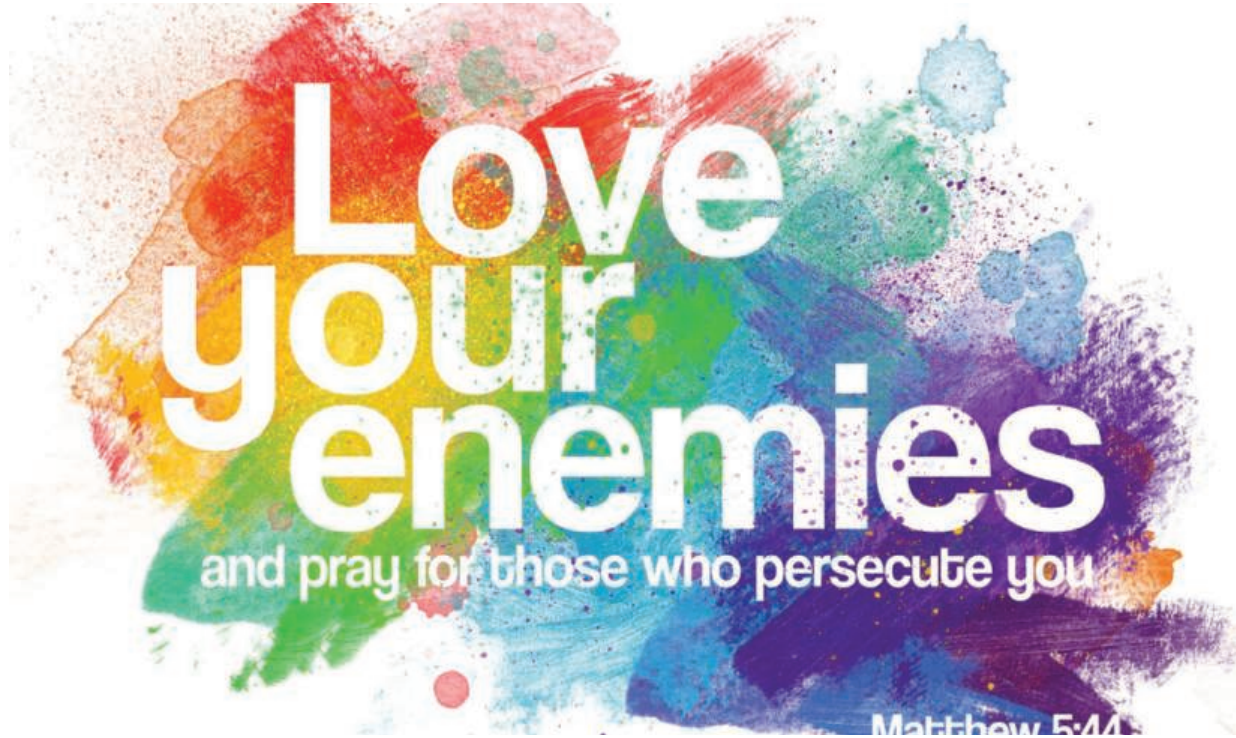


## SAINT MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH



### 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](mailto:stmonicanj@yahoo.com)  
website: [www.saintmonica.com](http://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/)

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 19, 2023**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, February 18**

4:00 pm Rosemarie Moore  
(Terry Stahlhut)

**Sunday, February 19**

9:00 am William Carragher, Jr  
(Marie Gould)

11:00 am Maria Marotta  
(Nicole & Chris Merwin)

**Monday, February 20**

9:00 am No Mass

**Tuesday, February 21**

9:00 am Raymond Charzewski  
(Lana & Frank Castellano)

**Wednesday, February 22**

9:00 am Claudia Frances  
(Kathleen & Larissa Scanlon)

7:00 pm Carmine "Camey" Falcone  
(Tommy & Carol Ammirata)

**Thursday, February 23**

9:00 am Anthony Yopez  
(Tvaroha Family)

**Saturday, February 25**

4:00 pm Vincent Reeves (St Monica)

**Sunday, February 26**

9:00 am Lawrence Finnerty  
(Wednesday Faith Group)

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, Renee Brady, Carol Spezzano

*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 19, 2023**

**Monday:** Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29

**Tuesday:** Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37

**Wednesday:** Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday:** Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

**Friday:** Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

**Saturday:** Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 5:27-32

**Sunday:** Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19;

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

*Dear Parishioners,*

*Pledge Sunday for the Annual Catholic Appeal is February 18th and 19th throughout the Diocese of Trenton.*

*Each year the Bishop seeks the support of all the members of the diocese to further the work of our ministries. Each of us has a vital part in all we do in Christ's name, and each of us can share in all we do with a gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal.*

*Our single Act of Faith propels the works of love that build up our Church. You make that happen with a generous gift to the ACA.*

*This year St Monica's share of the goal is \$18,000. As the people of the Diocese of Trenton, you have an opportunity to help others see Christ working in our midst. I ask you to take a moment and truly reflect on any help you can give. We truly need everyone to participate. This year we are again striving to reach our goal of \$6.5 million.*

*I am always grateful and moved by the level of support you give to our parish. I thank you for this support, and may God continue to bless you and your family.*

*Fr Alex*

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS  
JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 5, 2023**

Total \$4,911.00

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

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE**

There is no 9:00 a.m. Mass on Monday, February 20, and all Parish Offices will be closed.

There are no Religious Education Classes Monday, February 20 or Tuesday, February 21

**Ash Wednesday is February 22**

9:00 a.m. Mass

4:30 p.m. Service

7:00 p.m. Mass

(Ashes will be distributed at all)

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**Stations of the Cross begin  
Friday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m.**  
led by Barbara Rookey

**2022 CONTRIBUTION REPORTS**

If you wish to receive a report of your 2022 contributions, please complete a request form located at the entrances to the Church and place in the collection basket or contact Liz Hills in the Parish Office.





SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 19, 2023

**ANNUAL ITALIAN DINNER**

**Sunday, February 26 at 2:30 pm**

Please come enjoy a wonderful Italian dinner in St. Monica Parish Hall. The menu includes: spaghetti & meatballs; sausage, peppers & onions; lasagna; antipasto salad; bread & butter; dessert; coffee & tea.

**Tickets \$10 for Adults**

**Children 5 & under admitted free**

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses.

Questions? Contact Linda Thompson at 908-770-0681 or [lthompsons@aol.com](mailto:lthompsons@aol.com)

**Save the Date...Come Hungry!**

Proceeds will be used to purchase Missals for the parish.



**ST. JOSEPH'S MIRACLE EXHIBIT**

**Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit Schedule**

Sat.	Feb 18	1pm-4:30pm/6pm-7:30pm
Sun.	Feb 19	8am-2pm & 4pm-8pm
Mon.	Feb 20	3pm-6pm
Tues.	Feb 21	3pm-6pm
Wed.	Feb 22	3pm-6pm
Thu.	Feb 23	3pm-6pm
Fri.	Feb 24	3pm-6pm
Sat.	Feb 25	1pm-4:30pm/6pm-7:30pm
Sun.	Feb 26	8am-2pm & 4pm-8pm

Enter the exhibit via the steps on the Hooper Ave side of the Church. In addition to the exhibit there will be Eucharistic Adoration in the basement during visitation hours.

**SEE: Page 8 for more information...**



**NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival**

*"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."*

**JOHN 6:51**



**Intercessions for Life**

**February 19, 2023  
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

For married couples struggling with infertility:  
May the Lord help them trust in His love and sustain them with His peace.  
Lord hear our prayer.



### CALENDAR

#### Saturday, February 18

Catholic Appeal at all Masses  
3:15 pm Confessions  
4:00 pm Mass

#### Sunday, February 19

Catholic Appeal at all Masses  
9:00 am Mass  
11:00 am Mass/New EM Commissioning  
11:15 am RCIA Dismissal (Little Church)  
12:15 pm Grief Support (Little Church)

#### Monday, February 20

No Religious Education Classes  
Parish Offices Closed  
No 9:00 am Mass  
1:00 pm Legion of Mary (Little Church)

#### Tuesday, February 21

No Religious Education Classes  
9:00 am Mass  
7:30 pm Adult Choir  
8:00 pm K of C Officers Mtg. (LC)

#### Wednesday, February 22

Ash Wednesday  
9:00 am Mass / Ash Wednesday  
4:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service  
7:00 pm Mass/Ash Wednesday

#### Thursday, February 23

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

#### Friday, February 24

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

#### Saturday, February 25

3:15 pm Confessions  
4:00 pm Mass

#### Sunday, February 26

9:00 am Mass  
11:00 am Mass/RCIA Dismissal  
12:00 pm Baptism  
12:15 pm Grief Support  
2:30 pm Italian Dinner

#### Monday, February 27

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 28

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

#### Wednesday, March 1

9:00 am Mass  
9:30 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

#### Thursday, March 2

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

#### Friday, March 3

6:00 pm Youth Group Mtg. (LC)  
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross/Youth Grp.

### PASTORAL PATTERNS

World Library Publications  
*a division of GIA Publications, Inc.*  
giamusic.com

Called by the Holy Spirit, we gather together today in praise and thanksgiving to worship the Lord. We sing “Alleluia” as an acclamation of joy to greet our Lord as he speaks to us in the Gospel. But in just a few days we will pause this joyous exclamation. On Wednesday, Lent will begin and we will take our annual opportunity to focus on our sinfulness, our need for forgiveness, and the sacrificial suffering and death of our Lord. May the joy of our faith in the risen Lord sustain us during the coming penitential season.

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” we hear God say to Moses in the first reading. Love of neighbor, we realize, is one of two foundational principles of the entire law. Just as we did last week, we go on to hear how Jesus broadens and deepens this ancient instruction. Returning to God’s holy mountain for Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, let us learn from the master teacher just as his first disciples did two thousand years ago.





# SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 19, 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
STORY OF HOPE	WEEKLY INTENTION	DID YOU KNOW?	REFLECTION	ACT	MEATLESS FRIDAY	LEARN
<p><b>OUR FATHER,</b> As we begin Lent, let our hearts be filled with your Spirit so that we may grow deeper in your love. May our prayer lead us to a sincere desire to be close to you. May fasting help us rely on you and transform us into better people. May our almsgiving be a chance to serve our one human family around the world. <b>AMEN</b></p>	<p><b>WEEKLY INTENTION</b></p>	<p><b>DID YOU KNOW?</b></p> <p> Track your Lenten journey. Check the box each day as you complete your reflection!</p> <p> When you see a bowl, share your pictures and reflections on your social media using #CRSRiceBowl.</p>	<p><b>REFLECTION</b></p> <p><b>BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY</b></p> <p> <b>FEBRUARY 22</b></p> <p>This Lent, let's stand shoulder to shoulder with our global family in Christ to ensure all people can reach their God-given potential.</p> <p>Write your Lenten promise on your CRS Rice Bowl.</p> <p> <b>Ash Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>ACT</b></p> <p>Prayer helps us experience God's love and share that love with others. Say a prayer today for each member of your family.</p>	<p><b>MEATLESS FRIDAY</b></p> <p><b>24</b></p> <p>Each Friday of Lent we abstain from eating meat to remind us of our hunger for God.</p> <p><b>GIVE \$3</b> if you cooked a meatless meal.</p>	<p><b>LEARN</b></p> <p><b>25</b></p> <p>Eating healthy foods in the first 1,000 days of a baby's life is important to helping that child grow and learn.</p> <p><b>GIVE \$1</b> if you have a baby brother or sister at home.</p>
<p><b>WEEK 1</b></p> <p><b>26</b></p> <p>This Lent we'll meet families in Honduras, the Philippines and Kenya who are overcoming challenges through hard work, perseverance and sacrifice.</p> <p><b>Read this week's story at</b> <a href="http://csrcebowl.org">csrcebowl.org</a>.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>We pray for our planet, our family. May we recognize how our actions affect the environment and people who depend on the land for growing food and earning a living.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Amen</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Lenten aims to CRS Rice Bowl support CRS' work in more than 100 countries.</p> <p><b>GIVE 25 cents</b> for every country you can name in Asia.</p>	<p><b>MARCH 1</b></p> <p>"All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Pope Francis; Laudato Si', 14</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Do a few chores today without being asked.</p> <p><b>GIVE 50 cents</b> for each chore you did.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>A typical meatless meal might save your family up to \$15 in groceries.</p> <p><b>GIVE</b> the money you save by abstaining from meat to CRS Rice Bowl!</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Almost one-third of the world's population lives in dry, hot areas where crops can't grow well. Drink only water today.</p> <p><b>GIVE \$1</b> for each drink you gave up that wasn't water.</p>
<p><b>WEEK 2</b></p> <p><b>5</b></p> <p>In Honduras, Rony and Reina are learning new ways to farm so they can grow crops even when there is little rain.</p> <p><b>Read this week's story at</b> <a href="http://csrcebowl.org">csrcebowl.org</a>.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>We pray for Rony and Reina and for all farmers who grow crops in areas with severe weather changes. May they receive the training and resources needed to become more resilient to a changing climate.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Amen</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>The Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve—a protected area of rainforest and mountains in Honduras—is home to many different plants and animals.</p> <p><b>GIVE 50 cents</b> for each plant in your home.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>"I only ask God for the strength to work, to see my children grow up and have a better future."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Reina, Honduras</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>God calls us to care for creation. As a family, talk about what you could do to care for the Earth.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Cooking a meatless meal as a family is a great way to spend time together. Today try Bean Soup with Crayote Squash and Rice, a meatless dish from Honduras.</p> <p><b>GIVE \$5</b> if you cooked dinner as a family.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>In areas like Honduras that are experiencing more droughts—times of little rainfall—farmers are learning water-smart practices like planting cover crops to protect and restore soil and water resources.</p>
<p><b>WEEK 3</b></p> <p><b>12</b></p> <p>In the Philippines, people like Raul and Rhodora are expanding their farms by raising fish, pigs and chickens so their children and grandchildren can attend school.</p> <p><b>Read this week's story at</b> <a href="http://csrcebowl.org">csrcebowl.org</a>.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>We pray for Raul and Rhodora and for all families. May they have nutritious food on the table each day so that their children and grandchildren can grow, learn and study hard.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Amen</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>The Philippines is made up of over 7,000 islands and has over 175 languages.</p> <p><b>GIVE \$1</b> for each language you can speak.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>"Aspire not to have more but to be more."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Saint Oscar Romero</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Thank your teachers today for helping you learn in school.</p> <p><b>GIVE 50 cents</b> for each teacher you thank.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Abstaining from meat helps us to practice living more simply. Today try Ginataang Gulay, a meatless recipe from the Philippines.</p> <p><b>GIVE</b> the money you save by eating simply to CRS Rice Bowl!</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>A tilapia fish can take over six months to grow from a fingerling—a baby fish—into full size.</p> <p><b>GIVE \$1</b> if you have a pet fish in your home.</p>



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
STORY OF HOPE	WEEKLY INTENTION	DID YOU KNOW?	REFLECTION	ACT	MEATLESS FRIDAY	CATHOLIC TEACHING
<p><b>WEEK 4</b></p> <p><b>19</b> In Kenya, people like Rebecca and Loliang are benefiting from new water wells to care for their livestock and water their crops, ensuring their children can have healthy food to eat.</p> <p><b>Read this week's story at <a href="http://crsricebowl.org">crsricebowl.org</a>.</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> We pray for Rebecca and Loliang and for all communities who live in hot, dry areas, that they can have easier access to clean water for drinking and for growing crops.</p> <p>Amen</p>	<p><b>21</b> Kenya is filled with exciting wildlife. On a safari, you might spot lions, elephants, zebras or giraffes.</p> <p><b>GIVE</b> 50 cents for each animal in your house.</p>	<p><b>22</b> "The natural environment is a collective good, the [property] of all humanity and the responsibility of everyone."</p> <p>—Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 95</p>	<p><b>23</b> Fresh water is a valuable resource that everyone needs to live. Take a shorter shower today to help conserve water.</p> <p><b>GIVE</b> 50 cents for each minute of your shower.</p>	<p><b>24</b> Abstaining from meat helps us trust in God for the things we need. Today try Mukimo, a meatless recipe from Kenya.</p> <p><b>GIVE</b> the money you save by eating simply to CRS Rice Bowl!</p>	<p><b>25</b> Producing bottled water sends 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide into the air each year and uses valuable natural resources. Make a plan with your family to use refillable water bottles instead of bottled water.</p>
<p><b>WEEK 5</b></p> <p><b>26</b> Families in Honduras, the Philippines and Kenya are building a hopeful future for themselves and giving their children an opportunity to reach their full potential.</p> <p><b>Read this week's story at <a href="http://crsricebowl.org">crsricebowl.org</a>.</b></p>	<p><b>27</b> We pray for the families we met in Honduras, the Philippines and Kenya, and for our global family. May all people live with dignity as children of God.</p> <p>Amen</p>	<p><b>28</b> Kenya is famous for the massive flocks of pink flamingos that gather on the shores of Lake Nakuru.</p> <p><b>GIVE</b> \$1 in thanksgiving for the wonder and beauty of all God's creatures.</p>	<p><b>29</b> "As a community, we have an obligation to ensure that every person lives with dignity and has sufficient opportunities for his or her integral development."</p> <p>—Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 118</p>	<p><b>30</b> Begin your day with a spirit of gratitude. Write a list of all the things you are grateful for.</p> <p><b>GIVE</b> 25 cents for each item on your list.</p>	<p><b>31</b> Abstaining from meat helps us be more aware of the needs of others.</p> <p><b>GIVE</b> the money you save by eating simply to CRS Rice Bowl!</p>	<p><b>APRIL 1</b></p> <p>Eating colorful fruits and vegetables keeps us healthy and gives our brains a boost so that we can do well in school.</p> <p><b>GIVE</b> 50 cents for each vegetable or fruit you ate today.</p>
<p><b>HOLY WEEK</b></p> <p><b>2</b> Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. What have you learned on your Lenten journey so far? How will you walk with Jesus this week?</p> <p><b>Reflect on this sacred week at <a href="http://crsricebowl.org/holy-week">crsricebowl.org/holy-week</a>.</b></p> <p><b>✦ Palm Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> We pray for our sisters and brothers around the world, especially for people who are most vulnerable. May we be moved to put our faith into action and build a more just world for all.</p> <p>Amen</p>	<p><b>4</b> During Holy Week, one tradition in Honduras is to fill the street with carpets of colored sand that are made into pictures of Jesus.</p>	<p><b>5</b> The word passion means suffering. Reflect on the Passion of Jesus to remember how much God loves us and how we can show that love to others in our community and around the world.</p>	<p><b>6</b> In the Philippines, Holy Week is a reflective time to remember the suffering of Jesus through prayerful processions and plays. Spend five minutes in prayer today meditating on Jesus' love and sacrifice.</p> <p><b>✦ Holy Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> Today, Catholics from the ages of 18 to 59 are asked to fast and abstain from eating meat to remember Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. What other sacrifices can you make today?</p> <p><b>✦ Good Friday</b></p>	<p><b>8</b> Growing a garden refreshes our spirit and brings a sense of peace. As you patiently await the resurrection of Jesus, try planting something inside or outside today.</p> <p><b>✦ Holy Saturday</b></p>
<p><b>9</b> Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia! May this joyful day inspire us to put our faith into action and transform our world so that all people can live with dignity.</p> <p><b>✦ Easter Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>Don't forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl to your parish or school—or give online at <a href="http://crsricebowl.org/donate">crsricebowl.org/donate</a>.</b></p> <p><b>Thank you for changing lives this Lent!</b></p>					



As we rejoice during this Easter season, let us continue to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. May our Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving enable us to love more deeply and serve others as one family in Christ.

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SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 19, 2023

ADULT FAITH: LENT

NO  
GREATER  
LOVE  
A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH  
CHRIST'S PASSION

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  
from [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com)

For more information and to register,  
contact Barbara Rookey at:  
[barookey@gmail.com](mailto:barookey@gmail.com)

Check out this great line-up of speakers!



**CHRIS STEFANICK**  
AUTHOR, TV HOST, EVANGELIST  
Founder and president of Real Life Catholic, Chris is an internationally acclaimed author (19 books) recently named by Forbes, Time, Inc., and Entrepreneur. His live seminars, TV, radio, and video ministry have reached millions. Chris is a recipient of the Papal Silver Medal which was personally given by the Pope for military work, but today is given for achievement in ministry.



**BISHOP DAVID M. O'CONNELL, CM**  
We are pleased to have our Bishop, the Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, return as the presider and homilist for celebration of the Holy Mass.



**GERRY COONEY**  
Retired boxer, businessman, radio announcer, author: In the wild and wicked world of boxing, Gerry Cooney is a fighter who has enjoyed success in and out of the ring. As a world-class heavyweight, Cooney advanced to #1 contender in 1982. Cooney faced the unbeaten RBC World Heavyweight Champion Larry Holmes in a title fight of such magnitude that it was hyped on the cover of "Star" magazine. Cooney went on to engage in high profile bouts vs. Michael Spinks and George Foreman. He retired in 1995, having compiled a pro mark of 29-3 with 24 knockouts and was ranked 53rd on Ring Magazine's list of 100 greatest punchers of all time.



**MARK HOUCK**  
SPEAKER, AUTHOR, EVANGELIST  
Mark Houck is the Founder and President of The King's Men, Inc. He is an author and internationally known motivational speaker who developed in 2004 a highly successful ministry to help others become better leaders, producers and providers. As a former All American collegiate athlete and high school coach, Mark has drawn on his personal pursuit of excellence to inspire and mentor thousands across North America and Europe.

**YOUNG MEN'S TRACK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CATHOLIC ATHLETES FOR CHRIST**  
For young men from 8th grade to college-age. Hosted by Gerry Cooney!

**SEE PRE-REGISTRATION 360 AT THE DOOR! 15% OFF STUDENTS**  
Order tickets at: [CatholicMenForJesusChrist.org](http://CatholicMenForJesusChrist.org)

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFO: CATHOLICMENFORJESUSCHRIST.ORG**  
(609) 987-4877  
[info@catholicmenforjesuschrist.org](mailto:info@catholicmenforjesuschrist.org)

Order tickets at [CatholicMenForJesusChrist.org](http://CatholicMenForJesusChrist.org) or send your check with a self-addressed envelope to: Catholic Men for Jesus Christ, P.O. Box 898, Mariaville, PA 15067



EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT @ ST. JOSEPH PARISH, TOMS RIVER

From: Fr. Scott Shaffer

We are very excited to be welcoming the **Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit** here at Saint Joseph's on February 18 - 26! I wanted to let you know our visitation schedule so that you might be able to attend, and I want to be sure you have the information.

Just a couple years ago, on Oct. 10, 2020, young Carlo Acutis was beatified at a special Mass in the city of Assisi, which put the late teenager just one step away from sainthood and allows us Catholics to venerate him as "**Blessed Carlo Acutis.**"

Blessed Carlo died in 2006, at the age of 15. Like other boys his age, he was avidly interested in computers, video games, and the internet. He was also a devout Catholic who went to Mass daily and persuaded his mother as well to be a regular attendee. One of his pet projects was designing a webpage, exhaustively listing these Eucharistic miracles throughout the centuries associated with the bread and wine consecrated at Mass to be the most Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus.

The exhibit is fascinating and inspiring. Please know that you are welcomed and invited!

**SEE: Page 4 for more information...**



**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](http://www.kofc11529.org).

**St Vincent de Paul Society**

Emergency Assistance Helpline: 732-370-0098

**Bereavement Ministry**

Please contact the parish office for more information.

**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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:patrickaoh@hotmail.com)

## Reflections for the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 19, 2023

### LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus lays out many of his basic life teachings. Several of them are extraordinarily difficult for us to understand, much less put into practice. Two of these are the famous “turn the other cheek” and “love your enemy” admonitions. To understand what Jesus is saying and what it means to us today, we first need to understand the context in which Jesus is speaking.

He is addressing the Jews, the Chosen People. They have been given the truth about the one God and God’s commandments in the Law. God entered into a special relationship with them because God wanted them to be the means by which these truths were conveyed to the entire world. Many Jews in the first century, however, saw non-Jews, i.e. the Gentiles and especially the Romans, as enemies. They distanced themselves from the Gentiles and some fought against their Gentile oppressors. But Jesus calls the Jews to love their enemies—to love the very Gentiles who have lived an immoral life far from God and have inflicted so much suffering on the Jewish people.

One way of understanding what Jesus is saying about the need to love your enemy is to think of an iron bar. In order to bend it, you first must heat it. In the same way, if you want to move people and convert them, then you need to apply the heat of love. We can never change the world simply with the iron bar of stating the truth. The proclamation of the truth must be imbued with love.

If we merely announce the truth about such things as abortion and marriage, but we do so without loving the people we are speaking to, then it won’t make much difference. They will not change. If we want to convert a pagan, or someone from the secular culture, then we must do so by first applying the radical kind of love Jesus proposes in his teachings.

### PRAYER:

As you sit and listen to Jesus as he teaches, you suddenly hear him say, “Offer no resistance to one who is evil.” What? Aren’t we supposed to fight against evil in the world? What can this mean? Reflect for a moment on what Jesus himself did when he was arrested and crucified. What does his example mean for you right now, today, in your life?

### RESOLUTION:

This is one of Jesus’s hardest teachings. During this week, reread the Gospel and take some time to pray about how this can apply to you and your family. If there is someone you consider an “enemy,” bring that relationship before the Lord and ask to be shown how to demonstrate love to that person. | [formed.org](http://formed.org)





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