

SAINT MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Monica, pray for us



Our Parish is Served by:

Reverend Alex Enriquez, Pastor
Deacon Christian Knoebel
Deacon John White

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

Confessions

Saturdays
3:15 pm
to 3:45 pm

or
by appointment

Facebook:

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

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

679 W. Veterans Highway
Jackson, NJ 08527



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 27, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 26

4:00 pm Sylvester Cascio & Joseph Anzalone
(Anzalone Family)

Sunday, August 27

No 9:00 am Mass today - Parish Festival
11:00 am Our Parishioners and Families

Monday, August 28

9:00 am Frank Schifando (Ina Poss)

Tuesday, August 29

9:00 am Anthony T Vitale
(Arlene Toth)

Wednesday, August 30

9:00 am Adam Schpakow
(William & Linda Patullo)

Thursday, August 31

9:00 am John Piacentino, Sr
(Piacentino Family)

Saturday, September 2

4:00 pm Teresa Debiak
(Kate Scott & Bob Maras)

Sunday, September 3

9:00 am Christina Romanelli
(Bereavement Ministry)
11:00 am Intentions of Deacon John White
(Merwin Family)

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, Frank Diolosa, Theodore Dunyak, Andy Sabine, Elaine Giblock, Baby Tripp Ravenfeld, Marie Gould, Christopher Diolosa, Steve Andolora, Doris Garbarino, 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, Patrick Abeel, Robin Trombino, Mary Miniscalchi, Lane Morell, Frank Falesto, Jean Stein, Ann Rosetto, Eileen Morello, Elaine Stemmler, Tom Martin, Sarah Thomas, Dorothy Palumbo, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Jennie D'Angelo, Paul Hetteroth, Cheryl Vega, Domenick DiCicco, Irene Kislán, Renee Brady, Carol Spezzano, John Lanteri, Michael Seiler, Shannon Hubert, Ronald Nuzzola, Ray Kijowski

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 – AUGUST 27, 2023

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-3, 4-6; Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Mt 25:14-30

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

PLEASE NOTE

There will be no 9:00 a.m. Mass
on Labor Day,
Monday, September 4th,
and parish offices will be closed.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Wednesday, September 6th following the
9:00 am Mass

HAWAI'I WILDFIRES DISASTER RELIEF

Catholic Charities Hawai'i in the Diocese of Honolulu has appealed for donations to help the agency meet the housing, food, and other needs of what could be thousands of victims from wildfires raging on the island of Maui that wiped out an entire town and drove people to seek refuge in the ocean. A link to Catholic Charities Hawai'i Maui Relief is here:

<https://www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org/maui-relief/>



MAUI

WOMEN OF ST. MONICA FUNDRAISER

Heads up! Subs and a Bake Sale are coming up on the weekend of September 23 & 24 after all Masses, courtesy of the Women of St. Monica. A portion of the proceeds will be used to purchase our 2023-24 church missals. Place your sub orders on the table in the back of the church. The sub choices are: Italian and Turkey/Provolone for \$10.00 each.

For questions, contact Mary Ann at 732-928-2177 or Linda S. 732-928-1286. Thank you for your support.

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS
AUGUST 7 - 13, 2023**

Total \$5,116.00

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



We are the
BODY
of **CHRIST**

2023 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Goal: \$18,000.00

Pledged: \$15,835.00 (88% of Goal)

Paid: \$15,115.00 (84% of Goal)

Total Donors: 90

Total Gifts: 100

Average Gift: \$158.35

We currently need \$2,165 to meet our goal.



Experience the EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT



Based on the works of the
Blessed Carlo Acutis

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish
Holy Family Community Center

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH



This traveling exhibit has been created to assist those who will experience it to affirm belief in the Real Presence of the Jesus in the Eucharist. It is based upon the website created by Blessed Carlo Acutis to catalogue all the eucharistic miracles that have taken place worldwide.

The exhibit is circular and is divided into seven sections or rooms. In the first six rooms, information about the Eucharistic miracles is displayed. Each panel names a miracle, recounts the story of its occurrence and the country where it took place. The panels are arranged in chronological order from the early Third Century to 2013. Be sure to notice the date on the timeline and some of the world events that will help you to place in within the historical era.

All of the rooms point to the center of the exhibit. This is to intentionally remind us that the historical miracles we are learning about on the walls of the exhibit are all pointing to the miracle in front of us—Jesus, present in the Most Holy Eucharist! In the seventh room, the Eucharist is clearly visible in the monstrance and a place has been prepared for you to rest a while in His presence.

"Only in God is my soul at rest" (Psalm 62:1)



PUBLIC VIEWING TIMES

The exhibit is open to the public.
Bring your family and friends!

The Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit will be open at our parish:

Mon-Fri:

12PM-8PM

**The 7pm Spanish daily mass will be moved to Holy Family Church while the exhibit is present.*

Sat & Sun:

Before and after ALL weekend masses



Sponsored by the Diocese of Trenton as part of the Eucharistic Revival Mission.

CALENDAR

Saturday, August 26

10:00 am Wedding
 3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, August 27

No 9am Mass
 11:00 am Parish Festival: Mass & Picnic

Monday, August 28

9:00 am Mass
 1:00 pm Legion of Mary (LC)

Tuesday, August 29

9:00 am Mass
 7:00 pm Adult Choir (Church)
 7:00 pm K of C Officer Mtg. (LC)

Wednesday, August 30

9:00 am Mass
 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (Church)
 6:00 pm Girl Scouts (Little Church)

Thursday, August 31

9:00 am Mass
 6:00 pm Religious Ed. Catechist Mtg (LC)

(Friday, Sept. 1 Parish Office Closed)**Friday, September 1**

6:00 pm Youth Group Mtg. (LC)

Saturday, September 2

3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, September 3

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

Monday, September 4

Labor Day
 Parish Offices Closed
 No 9:00 am Mass

Tuesday, September 5

9:00 am Mass
 7:00 pm Adult Choir (Church)

Wednesday, September 6

9:00 am Mass
 9:30 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 7:00 pm K of C Installation (Church)

Thursday, September 7

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

Friday, September 8

Parish Office Open 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

WE ARE THE WOMEN OF ST. MONICA

But who ARE we? We are parishioners who are dedicated to our Catholic faith, to our families, and to our Church. We meet monthly to plan future activities like fundraisers for our parish needs or for other worthy organizations; to listen to informative speakers on topics of interest; to occasionally join in “just for fun” activities, and more!

We Women of St. Monica are looking for new members to join us, and we invite you to attend our next meeting, **Sunday, Sept. 3rd after the 11:00 a.m. Mass.**

If you are interested but unable to attend this meeting, be aware our meetings are regularly held the first Sunday each month at 12:00 p.m. in the parish meeting room called Little Church. We are really looking forward to meeting you!

FUNDRAISING CONCERT TO SUPPORT

Catholic Radio Stations

Sunday, September 10, 2023
3:00 p.m. at the Norte Dame High School Theater
Lawrenceville, NJ

Church Media CEO and Program Host Jim Manfredonia and his family will cover the songs of yesteryear, backed up by the 17-piece “Summer Swing Orchestra.”

Seats are reserved and cost \$35, with all proceeds going to support the work of Domestic Church Media, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, to help keep Catholic and Media on the air in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

For tickets and more information, please go to the Domestic Church Media website at:
www.DomesticChurchMedia.org
 or call 609-882-9357

OVERVIEW

The mission of the National Eucharistic Revival is to renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. This revival movement is in answer to a call by the Holy Spirit, and all the fruits belong to him.

The revival is an unprecedented movement of Catholics across the United States—healed, converted, formed, and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist—sent out on mission “for the life of the world.”

The Eucharistic Revival is not a step-by-step plan or a series of meetings. Rather, the revival is a grassroots call and a challenge for every Catholic across the United States to rekindle the fire of love and devotion for the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus.



St. Monica Parish will officially launch our **Year of Parish Revival** on October First. At that time parishioners will be invited to join in a number of activities, all devoted to reinvigorate worship and inspire liturgies, in hopes of truly encountering the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. You will be asked to **Come and See** Jesus in Eucharistic Processions outside on our property, in Small Study Groups, in evening Adoration each month, in Pilgrimages to holy places in our area, and of course, in the Eucharist at Mass. And this is just the beginning! Father Alex, our Deacons, and our Adult Faith Formation Team are starting a fire, not a program! **Come and See!**

P.S. Our first Pilgrimage is on Friday, October 13. Save the date, more info soon.



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





Why Become a Hospice Volunteer?

The simplest gifts are often the most profound. If you've got time, empathy, and compassion, you have the ability to support those nearing end of life. If you have been searching for meaningful ways to spend your time, we invite you to explore the role of hospice volunteer with VNA Health Group.

Companionship visits in patient's homes or facilities in Ocean County, pet therapy, administrative projects, or comforting phone calls from our Toms River office, are just some of the ways in which our volunteers support patients and their families.

Training will be provided by members of the VNA Hospice Team on 3 consecutive Wednesdays: September 13th, 20th & 27th 2023 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Advanced registration is required. *Volunteers must attend all 3 sessions.*

1433 Hooper Ave, Toms River NJ 08753

To register or for more information please contact:

Pauline De Palma, BSW Director Volunteer Services (732) 224-6933

2023 DIOCESE OF TRENTON

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BLESSING

All couples celebrating 1st, 25th, or 50⁺ anniversary
of Catholic marriage during the 2023 calendar year

Ocean & Monmouth Counties
Oct. 8, 2023
3pm Mass

SCAN TO LEARN MORE
AND REGISTER ONLINE



...or visit the Parish
Office to register by
September 30, 2023

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 - Thursday 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.

Grief Support

For those grieving the loss of a loved one or close friend. This is a Catholic centered Support Group offering a caring, compassionate, and confidential environment to support your journey from grieving to healing. For registration and details contact Deacon John White 848-992-1652 or dcnjohnw@gmail.com

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.



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 someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965 or via email at: abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org

Reflections for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time — August 27, 2023

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. | [formed.org](https://www.formed.org)

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