

CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA

Ash Wednesday



Mass Schedule
9 am & 7 pm
with Ashes

Distribution of
Ashes Service
4:30 pm

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

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
Deacon John L. White

We invite you to celebrate with us

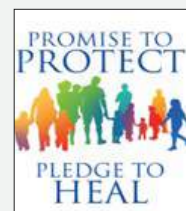
website: www.saintmonica.com
Parish Office: 732-928-0279
Email: parishoffice@saintmonica.com
Fax: (732) 928-1853
Religious Education: 732-928-4038
Email: stmonicacd@yahoo.com

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
1st Thursdays 7pm
or by appointment

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



SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 11, 2024

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 10

4:00 pm Mimma Constantine
(Barbara & Joseph Constantine)

Sunday, February 11

9:00 am James E Deefendorf, III
(Eileen & Jack Fecht)
11:00 am Intentions of the Rookey Family
(Ernie & Barbara Rookey)

Monday, February 12

9:00 am Parishioners & Families

Tuesday, February 13

9:00 am Vincent Rubio
(Carle Family)

Ash Wednesday, February 14

9:00 am Pasquale Fallone (Gerarda Fallone)
7:00 pm Parishioners & Families

Thursday, February 15

9:00 am Eileen Hmieleski
(Denis & Dee Balint)

Saturday, February 17

4:00 pm Robert & Luke Noble, Jr
(Mary & Robert Kelley)

Sunday, February 18

9:00 am Edward Coyle
(Denis & Dee Balint)
11:00 am William Carragher, Jr
(Marie Gould)

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, 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, Dorothy Palumbo, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Jennie D'Angelo, Paul Hetteroth, Cheryl Vega, Irene Kislán, Renee Brady, Carol Spezzano, Michael Seiler, Shannon Hubert, Ronald Nuzzola, Ray Kijowski, Nicholas Biddle, Matthew Biddle, Dennis Shwiner, Bob Dushanek

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 11, 2024

Monday, February 12, 2024 Jas 1:1-11 Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76 Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 Jas 1:12-18 Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, February 15, 2024 Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Lk 9:22-25

Friday, February 16, 2024 Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15

Saturday, February 17, 2024 Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Lk 5:27-32

Sunday, February 18, 2024 Gn 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9. 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15



Ash Wednesday, February 14
 9:00 am Mass
 4:30 pm Service
 7:00 pm Mass
 (Ashes will be distributed at all)

Stations of the Cross
 Fridays during Lent: 7:00 pm

Daily Mass
 Thursday February 15
 Tuesday - Thursday February 20 - 22
 Monday - Thursday February 26 - March 21
 Monday through Wednesday March 25 - 27
 9:00 am

Adoration/Benediction
 Wednesday, March 6
 following 9:00 am Mass

Lenten Penance Service
 Wednesday, March 6
 7:00 pm

Adoration/Benediction/Confessions
 Thursday, March 7
 7:00 pm

Tenebrae Service
 Wednesday, March 27
 7:00 pm

Holy Thursday, March 28
 (No 9:00 am Mass Today)
 Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 pm
 Church remains open for Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 pm

Good Friday, March 29
 Liturgy of the Passion and Death of Our Lord
 Holy Communion
 Veneration of the Cross
 3:00 pm
 Stations of the Cross: 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday, March 30
 Blessing of Easter Food 11:00 am
 (No 4:00 pm Mass)
 Easter Vigil Service 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday, March 31
 Masses:
 9:00 am and 11:00 am

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP
 CONTRIBUTIONS JAN 22 - 28, 2024**

Total \$4,702.51
Thank you for your contributions as we support the ministries, programs and facilities of our parish.

HELP NEEDED

St Monica is in need of volunteers to assist with general maintenance of our facilities. If you're handy and available to offer your time and talent periodically, on your schedule, please contact Liz Hills in the parish office at:
 732-928-0279 or
 parishoffice@saintmonica.com

Where will the Eucharistic Miracles Display be in February and March?

- Feb. 11 - Feb. 24, 2024 Christ the King Church, Haddonfield, NJ (Camden)
- Feb. 25 - Mar. 5, 2024 St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton, Abescon, NJ
- Mar. 6 - Mar. 23, 2024 St. Benedict, Holmdel, NJ
- Mar. 23 - Apr. 6, 2024 Assumption Feasterville, Trevoese, PA (Pennsylvania)



Fridays in Lent
7:00 p.m.

February 16: Led by Deacon Christian Knoebel
February 23: Led by Adult Faith Formation Team
March 1: Led by Deacon John White
March 8: Led by Youth Group
March 15: Led by Women of St Monica
March 22: Led by Knights of Columbus
March 29: Led by Fr Alex Enriquez



SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 11, 2024



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

January 23, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During the days and weeks of penance that lie ahead --- from **Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024, until Holy Thursday morning, March 28, 2024** --- the Catholic Church throughout the world commemorates the penitential season of Lent ending with the Sacred Triduum of Holy Week. The model Jesus gave us for "these forty days" was his own experience in the desert and the temptations that followed him there where he encountered Satan face to face. And yet, Jesus, there in the desert --- alone, fasting and in intense prayer --- beat back the devil and triumphed over temptation, as strong and as unrelenting as it was throughout those forty days.

We enter the desert of Lent like Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, to face our devils, our temptations head on. But we are not alone. The Lord Jesus Christ is with us. And so, too, is the Church, the entire community of faith observing Lent. Here is what the Catholic Church in the United States requires of us as baptized Catholics:

1. The days of FAST (only one full meal) and ABSTINENCE (no meat) are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No dispensations are granted on these solemn days except for reason of sickness or those provided in canon law below. ALL OTHER FRIDAYS OF LENT are days of ABSTINENCE.

The pastor of a parish has the faculty to give a dispensation to individual parishioners in his parish and the Diocesan Bishop alone has the authority to dispense groups of Catholics but only for a serious reason.

2. Those who are automatically dispensed from fast and abstinence regulations outside the age limits noted below include: the physically or mentally ill, especially individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also included in the dispensation are women who are pregnant or nursing. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.
3. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to FAST (only one full meal) as noted above. From the age of 14, people are also obliged to ABSTAIN: this obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat.
4. The obligation to observe the laws of fast and abstinence is a serious one for Catholics. Failure to observe one penitential day in itself is not considered a serious sin. It is the intentional failure to observe any penitential days at all, or a substantial number of penitential days, that must be considered a serious matter.
5. The obligation, the privilege really, of receiving the Eucharist at least once a year --- often called "**Easter duty**" --- for those in the state of grace should still be fulfilled during the period from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 17-18, 2024, to Trinity Sunday, May 25-26, 2024**. However, the Church's law does permit this precept to be fulfilled at another time during the year when there is a just cause.

I want to encourage all Catholics, especially those who are conscious of serious sin, to go to Confession and to make use of the sacrifices and traditions that have always been part of our Lenten practices in the Church.

We do, indeed, fast and pray with the Lord Jesus and with our fellow Catholics. May this Lent be a time of Penance leading to grace and joy for us all at Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M.
Bishop of Trenton

Please refresh your understanding of fasting, abstinence, and sacrifice by reading this notice from our Bishop.

CALENDAR

Saturday, February 10

- 3:15 pm Confessions
- 4:00 pm Mass (Marriage Blessing)
Soup & Chili Sale after Mass

Sunday, February 11

- 9:00 am Mass (Marriage Blessing)
Soup & Chili Sale after Mass
- 11:00 am Mass (Marriage Blessing)
Soup & Chili Sale after Mass
- 12:15 pm Grief Support Mtg. (LC)

Monday, February 12

- 9:00 am Mass
- 4:30 pm Religious Education
- 6:15 pm Religious Education

Tuesday, February 13

- 9:00 am Mass
- 5:30 pm Religious Education
- 7:00 pm Adult Choir
- 7:30 pm Legion of Mary (Little Church)

Wednesday, February 14

- Ash Wednesday
- 9:00 am Mass with Ashes
- 4:30 pm Service with Ashes
- 7:00 pm Mass with Ashes

Thursday, February 15

- 9:00 am Mass
- 7:00 pm Men's Prayer Group (Church)

Friday, February 16

- 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 17

- 10:00 am Baptism
- 3:15 pm Confessions
- 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, February 18

- 1st Sun of Lent
- 9:00 am Mass
- 11:00 am Mass
- 12:15 pm Grief Support Mtg. (LC)
- 6:30 pm Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible
(Church)

Monday, February 19

- Parish Offices Closed
- No 9:00 am Mass
- No Religious Education

Tuesday, February 20

- No Religious Education
- 9:00 am Mass
- 7:00 pm Adult Choir
- 7:30 pm Legion of Mary (Little Church)

MARRIAGE DAY & MARRIAGE WEEK

The Beauty of Catholic Marriage

This year *World Marriage Day* is being celebrated on Sunday, Feb. 11th, and *National Marriage Week* is from February 7th to the 14th.

Catholic Marriage is unique among other marital relationships because it is a sacrament that makes Christ present in our world. The relationship between husband and wife mirrors the relationship of Jesus Christ for his people.

Pope Francis says, "Married love clearly reveals that the vocation of the human person is to love one other person forever and that the trials, sacrifices and crises in the life of the couple or the family are stages for growth in goodness, truth and beauty."

There will be a blessing for all married couples at every Mass this weekend, Feb. 10 & 11. Please join us.



8-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

Many Catholics want to read the Bible but get bogged down by the long stretches that seem not to make sense or get lost among the sea of Old Testament names and places.

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, an eight-part Bible study, helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture, so you can get the “big picture” of the Bible and understand what it’s all about. Aided by a unique color-coded *Bible Timeline*[™] Chart that arranges the key people, places, and events of the Bible in chronological order, *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* will help you pick up the Bible with confidence and understand how you fit into God’s plan.

St. Monica will begin the *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* study on **Sunday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the church.** Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship.

For more information or to register contact:

Ernie Rookey at 732-637-7047 or
ernest.rookey@gmail.com

DIOCESAN MARRIAGE MINISTRIES

**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 will be held February 16 - 18, 2024 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.



A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,

During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.

Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.

Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul, remind me of the grace and simplicity.

May this season be grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.

Amen.

The Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time



CNS file photo/Jon L. Hendricks

Today is World Marriage Day!

On this World Marriage Day, we thank our heavenly Father for the gift and blessing of marriage and the family. As we strive to live our particular vocations and respond to the Lord's grace in our lives, let's also consider how we might dedicate renewed prayer and attention to marriage and the family.

As a start, here are possible areas we might consider:

First, we begin with prayer: Let's remember to pray with and for marriages and families throughout our nation: for marriages in crisis, for families struggling with unemployment, for broken or wounded family relationships.

Second, let us reclaim Sunday as the Lord's Day, a day of rest when we can focus on being together as a family. The celebration of Holy Mass together is the first essential way to honor this day. But is there something more the Lord is inviting us to when we go back home? Set aside some time to pray a decade of the rosary, enjoy the outdoors together, play ball, eat dinner together, have a game night!

And third, let us remember that the Church is the family of God and a family of families. As a family, how can we share Christ with other married couples and families? Do we have any friends and family members who are struggling in their marriage, alone during this time of isolation, or particularly afflicted by this pandemic? When was the last time we checked on our elderly neighbors? Is there someone in the parish that we haven't seen in a while? How can we—as a family—reach out to those who are in need?

Ash Wednesday
is February 17!



SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - FEBRUARY 11, 2024



27th Annual

CATHOLIC MEN FOR JESUS CHRIST CONFERENCE



Join Us

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023 | 8 AM - 3 PM
Doors open at 8 AM for bagels and coffee; Lunch also included



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Joe Klecko

New York Jets NFL Hall of Famer is an American former professional football player who was a defensive lineman in the National Football League (NFL), primarily with the New York Jets and was a member of the Jets' famed "New York Sack Exchange". He also appeared on EWTN Life On The Rock show. He is a member of Catholic Athletes for Christ and speaks on the subject of manhood and faith. Klecko was a guest on Blessed2Play hosted by Ron Meyer where he talked about his Catholic faith and career in the NFL.



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.



Tim Glemkowski

Catholic Evangelist

Tim Glemkowski is the CEO of the National Eucharistic Congress. Previously, he served in the Archbishop's Office for the Archdiocese of Denver as the Director of Strategy, helping to set up the archdiocese for a time of apostolic mission. Tim authored Made for Mission: Renewing Your Parish Culture, which was released in Fall 2019 through Our Sunday Visitor. He is an international speaker who has also consulted for many organizations, dioceses, and parishes. His writing has appeared in numerous print and web-based theological and catechetical publications. Tim and his wife, Maggie, live in Littleton, CO with their four young children.



Xavier Reyes-Ayral

Speaker, Author, Evangelist

Best selling author of, "Revelations - the hidden secret messages and prophecies of the Blessed Virgin Mary," along with being a nationally sought after podcast guest and speaker. He studied eight years in France under the Churches world renown expert and theologian on Mariology, Fr. René Laurentin. He's a 4th degree Knight of Columbus and Grand Knight, but, most of all, a devoted husband, father and Catholic Man for Christ and His Church.

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

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

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am

Holy Days As Noted

Reconciliation -Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm
 -1st Thursday of the month 7:00 pm
 -or by appt.

Exposition of the Holy Sacrament &**Benediction**

1st Wednesday of each month 9:30 am

1st Thursday of each month 7:00 pm with

Confessions

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.

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

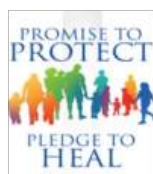
Children are expected to receive a Catholic-Christian upbringing in their family life, to worship regularly at Sunday Mass, and to participate in ongoing Religious Education classes. Our program includes grades 1-8. Please contact Karen Badach, Coordinator of Religious Education 732-928-4038 or stmonicaccd@yahoo.com

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 on the Readings for the 6th Week of Ordinary Time - February 11, 2024

LIFE TO THE FULL

Have you ever had a moment of silence where you realized that the mundane tasks of life were preventing you from living to the fullest? While we do need to take care of the daily necessities, sometimes we live a half-hearted life of “just getting by.” But Jesus wants to give us life to the full. He wants to remove the things in our life that prevent us from appreciating the beauty around us, the gifts in our life, and truly experiencing the plans he has in store for us.

PRAYER

We learn from the First Reading today that lepers are cast out from society and are forbidden to be around healthy people. But, in today’s Gospel, a leper ventures out from the segregated leper colony and presents himself to Jesus, with faith and expectation in his healing power. He trusts that Jesus has the power to do anything. What amazing faith!

What do you long to be healed from? What keeps you from being fully alive and able to live freely in all areas of your life? Are you willing to risk exposing your weakness to others in order that you may be healed? Do you trust Jesus’s ability to heal your ailment? Do not be afraid to ask Jesus for healing. He always wills your highest good.

RESOLUTION

Take the time to present your need for healing to Jesus this week. Do not be afraid to do what he asks. This may mean Confession, counseling, asking someone’s forgiveness, and so on. Do so boldly, without fear of being exposed, for Jesus will be the one sending you forth so that you may live freely. | [formed.org](https://www.formed.org)

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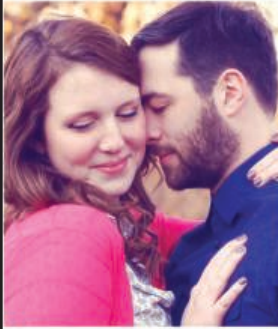


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Ellen Bollinger

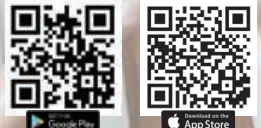
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