

CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA

"WHERE EVERYONE IS FAMILY"



4th Sunday of Advent

Our Parish is Served by:

Reverend Alex Enriquez
Deacon Michael Principato
Deacon Christian Knoebel
Deacon Gene Moir

We invite you to celebrate with us

679 W. Veterans Highway, Jackson, New Jersey 08527

Phone: (732) 928-0279 • Fax: (732) 928-1853

Email: stmonicanj@yahoo.com

Website: www.saintmonica.com

Traveling? Call Mass Times (858) 207-6277

or online at www.masstimes.org

For the times of Masses and location of the nearest Catholic Church within the U.S. www.dioceseoftrenton.org

The Eucharist - St Monica

Masses & Reconciliation

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am

Holy Days As Noted

Reconciliation Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm or by appt.

Exposition of the Holy Sacrament & Benediction

1st Wednesday of each month 9:30 am

Parish Office Hours

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

Baptisms

Celebrated during 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.

Little Disciples

Meet the First Friday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Open to children between Communion and Confirmation age.

Knights of Columbus Council #11529

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Visit our website: www.kofc11529.org

St Vincent de Paul Society

Emergency Assistance Helpline: 732-370-0098

Bereavement Support Group

Please contact the parish office for more information.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:00 pm in the Parish Hall

New Parishioners

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

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.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

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

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 K-8. Registration is held annually at the end of March. Classes are held Monday and Tuesday, Sept. thru May at St Monica.

Karen Badach, Coordinator of Religious Education
732-928-4038 or stmonicaccd@yahoo.com

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 18, 2016

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 17

4:00 pm Nora Mastrian (Jim Mastrian)

Sunday, December 18

9:00 am Kristen Harmon (Harmon Family)

11:00 am Anne M Berardone (Arlene Toth)

Monday, January 19

9:00 am Intentions of the Guzman Family (M Rosa)

Tuesday, December 20

9:00 am Colet Spuhler (Family)

Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm Christmas Mass Remembrance Intentions

10:00 pm Christmas Mass Remembrance Intentions

Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25

9:00 am Christmas Mass Remembrance Intentions

11:00 am Christmas Mass Remembrance Intentions

Monday, December 26

9:00 am Mary Tenreiro (Tenreiro Family)

Tuesday, December 27

9:00 am Charles Pearsall (Diane Stanaway)

Intentions followed by the names of those making the offering.

To secure your intentions, please contact the Parish Office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .



Jackie Wilson, William Cole, Jr., Diane Black, Frank Colbert, Matthew Strout, Bob Wilson, Micki Smith, Annette Petercsak, Joyce Picon, Bob Wythoff, Peter Laudati, Scott Samu, Joseph Mays, Michael Bocchicchio, Carl Bocchicchio, Betty Cole, Dianne Smith, Clark, Joanne Baldachino, Ryan Connell, Vera Dzumyk, Sal and Anna Morrello, Matthew Wolansky, Myron Wolansky, Frank Potenza, Karen Bressi, Kathleen Lucchese, Gloria Trachtenberg, Ann Marie James, Walter C Vonah, Frances Panicola, Cathy Jetter, Tom O'Prandy, Michael Nagy, Carol Atherton, Larry St Laurent, Zesis Schelest, Ryan Walters, Marilyn Mays, Amado Enriquez, Wayne Herrnkind, Beth Kujawski, Jennifer Green, Rich Sassano, Dcn Gene Moir, Barbara Vonah, Mark Brower, Cassandra Hrelja, Monica Buono, Mary Green, Sue Bocchicchio, Margarita Ulloa and the O'Loughlin Family, Beatty Family, Paul Gallo, Arlene Toth, Meghan Badach, Michael Seiler, Josephine Brennan, Michael Warchal, Frances Duhamel, Joseph Belluardo, Tony Yanis

Call 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.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

COLLECTIONS DECEMBER 3 - 4, 2016

Weekly Collection	\$3,114.00
Building Maintenance	\$341.95
Online Giving (41)	\$1,281.50
Total	\$4,737.45

Thank you for helping to support our Parish

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF

December 18, 2016

Monday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Tuesday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Thursday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Friday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Saturday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Sunday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 (1-5, 9-14)



Please Remember In Your Prayers:

Andrew James Johnson

The deceased members of St Monica,

The souls in Purgatory

Those who died serving Our County

May they enjoy peace in their new life with Christ Jesus.

**DECORATE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT 12:00 PM**

Anyone interested in volunteering for our Decorating Committee to assist decorating our Church for Christmas is invited to join us. Children are welcome to assist, but must be accompanied by an adult.

CHRISTMAS YOUTH CHOIR

Last practice is Monday, December 19 at 7:30 pm in the Church.

PLEASE NOTE

The Parish Hall is unavailable December 22 and 23 for floor maintenance. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, December 26.

ST MONICA TUESDAY SOCIAL

Come join our Social on Tuesdays which begins with the celebration of the 9:00 Mass, followed by fellowship, good conversation and refreshments.

LOOKING TO INCLUDE INFORMATION IN OUR BULLETIN ?

If you have information to publish in our weekly bulletin, please contact Liz Hills in the Parish Office at 732-928-0279. For business ads, please contact our publisher, John Patrick Publishing at 800-333-3166.

Sharing the 'Joy of the Gospel' on Catholic radio! Tune into **WFJS Catholic Radio 1260AM/89.3FM**. Download the WFJS smart phone app. Or listen on line@ www.DomesticChurchMedia.org



*Advent/Christmas/New Year
Schedule of Parish Services*



Masses:

Daily

(through December 22)

Monday – Thursday

9:00 am

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm and 10:00 pm

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25

9:00 am and 11:00 am

New Year's Eve

Saturday, December 31

4:00 pm

Solemnity of Mary

Sunday, January 1

9:00 am and 11:00 am

YOU'RE INVITED!

GRAND MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE WITH FR ALEX

From Barcelona to the French Riviera, Italian Riviera, Stunning Greek Isles & Rome. September 9 - 20, 2017. Information is available at the tables near the entrances to the Church.

HAVE YOU PURCHASED YOUR ST MONICA CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT?

Our newest youth group, The Little Disciples, are selling ornaments for \$10 each. All proceeds benefit The Little Disciples Youth Group. Ornaments have a picture of St Monica as indicated -- available for purchase after our weekend Masses.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Karen Badach, Religious Education
732-928-4038 or stmonicaccd@yahoo.com

UPCOMING CALENDAR

Monday, December 19

4:15 pm CCD Class
6:00 pm CCD Class

Tuesday, December 20

4:15 pm Class
6:00 pm 8th Grade Class

Monday, December 26

No Class Today

Tuesday, December 27

No Class Today

Monday, January 2

No Class Today

Tuesday, January 3

4:15 pm Class
6:00 pm 8th Grade Class

OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. 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, report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or e-mail abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT SERVING AT MASS ?

If you would like more information about any of the following ministries, please contact the Parish Office or speak with Fr Alex.

Eucharistic Minister
Lector/Reader
Altar Server
Usher
Greeter

WOSM (WOMEN OF ST MONICA)

Sunday, December 18

12:00 pm Decorate Church for Christmas

Sunday, January 8

12:00 pm Meeting/Luncheon (Parish Hall)

Sunday, February 5

12:00 pm Meeting (Little Church)

We welcome all women of the parish to join us. If you would like more information about our group, please contact Eleanore Althaver 732-691-5463 or Mary Ann Tvaroha 732-740-4785.

LITTLE DISCIPLES OF ST MONICA NEWS

Who are The Little Disciples? We are the youngest members of St Monica Church who have come together to have fun and make new friendships while also helping the Church and our community. Our group meets the First Friday of each month at the Church from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. It is open to any child between Communion and Confirmation age. There is a sign up sheet at the back of the Church. If you have any questions please contact Theresa Calsetta at 732-961-7161 or email dakota16@optonline.net.

LEGION OF MARY

All parishioners, both male and female, are invited to join the Legion of Mary Ministry, a lay Catholic organization whose members are giving service to the Church on a voluntary basis. The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of each individual. The members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick, both in their homes and in hospitals and through collaboration of the many active parish ministries assisting Fr Alex to fulfill pastoral needs. Meetings are now on Tuesdays at 7:15 pm at St Monica. "All Are Welcome". Please call Xenia Gallo 732-580-4456 or email xgallo22@aol.com.

SAINT MONICA PARISH CALENDAR

EVENTS

Sunday, December 18

9:00 am Mass
 10:00 am Adult RCIA (Parish Foyer)
 11:00 am Children's Mass
 12:00 pm Decorate Church for Christmas
 5:00 pm Choir Practice

Monday, December 19

9:00 am Mass
 10:00 am Funeral Mass (Johnson)
 4:15 pm CCD
 6:00 pm CCD
 7:30 pm Youth Christmas Choir Practice

Tuesday, December 20

9:00 am Mass
 9:30 am Tuesday Social (Parish Hall)
 4:15 pm CCD
 6:00 pm CCD – 8th Grade
 7:15 pm Legion of Mary (Little Church)

Wednesday, December 21

9:00 am Mass
 7:00 pm AA Meeting (Parish Hall)

Thursday, December 22 - Friday, December 23

Floor Maintenance, Parish Hall Unavailable

Thursday, December 22

9:00 am Mass
 9:30 am Thursday Rosary

Christmas Eve, December 24

4:00 pm Mass
 10:00 pm Mass

Christmas Day, December 25

9:00 am Mass
 11:00 am Mass

Monday, December 26

9:00 am Mass
 11:00 am Filipino Priest Mass/Gathering
 No CCD Class Today

Tuesday, December 27

9:00 am Mass
 9:30 am Tuesday Social (Parish Hall)
 7:15 pm Legion of Mary (Little Church)
 7:30 pm K of C Officer Meeting (Parish Hall)

Wednesday, December 28

9:00 am Mass
 7:00 pm AA Meeting

Thursday, December 29

9:00 am Mass
 9:30 am Thursday Rosary

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 24 - 4:00 pm Christmas Eve

Reader: Lauren Goldner, Jack Guarnieri
 Extra-Ordinary Ministers: Theresa Calsetta, Colleen Dakin, Joanne Guarnieri, Mike Hintenach, Barbara Rookey

Altar Servers: T Anastasio, E Dakin, M Dakin
 Ushers: Wayne Calsetta, Mike Debiak
 Greeters: Kim Merwin, Linda Thompson

Saturday, December 24 - 10:00 pm Christmas Eve

Reader: Sylvia Piznik, Needed
 Extra-Ordinary Ministers: Sandy Biscaha, Margaret Carle, Jim Mastrian

Altar Server: Michael Seiler
 Ushers: Michael Carle, Jim Scatigna, Needed
 Greeter: Needed

Sunday, December 25 - 9:00 am Nativity of the Lord

Readers: Betty Cole, Needed
 Extra-Ordinary Ministers: Needed
 Altar Servers: Needed
 Ushers: Rob Guimaraes, Needed
 Greeter: Trish Guimaraes, Janet Noordzy

Sunday, December 25 - 11:00 am Nativity of the Lord

Reader: Liz Mauro, Arlene Toth
 Extra-Ordinary Ministers: Val Smith, Needed
 Altar Servers: Needed
 Ushers: Needed
 Greeter: E. Dembinski

FOR THE MINISTRY SCHEDULE AND UP TO DATE CALENDAR ITEMS, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SAINTMONICA.COM

**CATHOLICS COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS
NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA**

State the day's intention and then pray the Novena Prayers.

Novena Prayers:

Exemplary mother of the Great Augustine, you perseveringly pursued your wayward son...not with wild threats but with prayerful cries to heaven. Intercede for all mothers in our day so that they may learn to draw their children to God.

Teach us to remain close to all God's children, even the prodigal sons and daughters who have sadly gone astray.

Dear St Monica, troubled wife and mother, many sorrows pierced your heart during your lifetime. Yet, you never despaired or lost faith. With confidence, persistence, and profound faith, you prayed daily for the conversion of your beloved husband, Patricius and your beloved son, Augustine.

Grant me that same fortitude, patience, and trust in the Lord. Intercede for me, dear St Monica, that God may favorably hear my plea for (names of those you are praying for) and grant me the grace to accept His will in all things, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen.

Pray Hail Mary 3 times

Pray Glory Be 3 times

St. Monica, pray for us

INTENTIONS

Day One

Today we pray for all God's people currently absent from our Home. May the Holy Spirit open their ears and hearts so they may hear this invitation to come home. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Two

Today we pray for those who were baptized Catholic, but were not blessed with families to guide them to spiritual maturity. May the Holy Spirit guide them back to our Catholic family. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Three

Today we pray for those who have been hurt by someone in the Church. May those of us in the Church today be a source of healing. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Four

Today we pray for those who take issue with the Church's teachings. May the Holy Spirit open their hearts and minds to the truth and wisdom of those teachings. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Five

Today we pray for those whose sins make them feel unworthy to come to God. May they feel the warm embrace of Our Father's loving forgiveness. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Six

Today we pray for all those who believe in their hearts but are fearful of judgment or institutions. May they find the support and joy of belonging to our Church community. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Seven

Today we pray for those who are resisting Your call due to pressures from friends and family members. May the Holy Spirit give them strength in their convictions and may the Holy Spirit fill the hearts of their friends and family with love and support. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Eight

Today we pray for those who feel abandoned by God. May they come to see God working in their lives, restore their faith in Him, and come home to His church. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Nine

Today we pray for those who are ready to come home and just need to be invited. May the Holy Spirit open our hearts and eyes to them that we may be the inviting and welcoming presence they seek. (Pray Novena Prayers)





*St Monica
Ministries*

If you are interested in becoming more involved with our parish, need assistance, or would like more information, please contact the parish office at 732-928-0279 or stmonicanj@yahoo.com

- * *Adult Formation Programs (RCIA)*
- * *Altar Server*
- * *Baptismal Preparation*
- * *Bereavement/Consolation Ministry*
- * *Catechetical Ministry (CCD)*
- * *Choir*
- * *Eucharistic Minister*
- * *Greeter*
- * *Knights of Columbus*
- * *Lector*
- * *Legion of Mary*

- * *Little Disciples*
- * *Music Ministry/Choir*
- * *New Evangelization Team*
- * *Religious Education Program (CCD)*
- * *Social Concerns & Food Pantry*
- * *St Martha's Cooks*
- * *St Vincent de Paul*
- * *Usher*
- * *Visitation/Holy Communion for
Homebound*
- * *Women of St Monica*