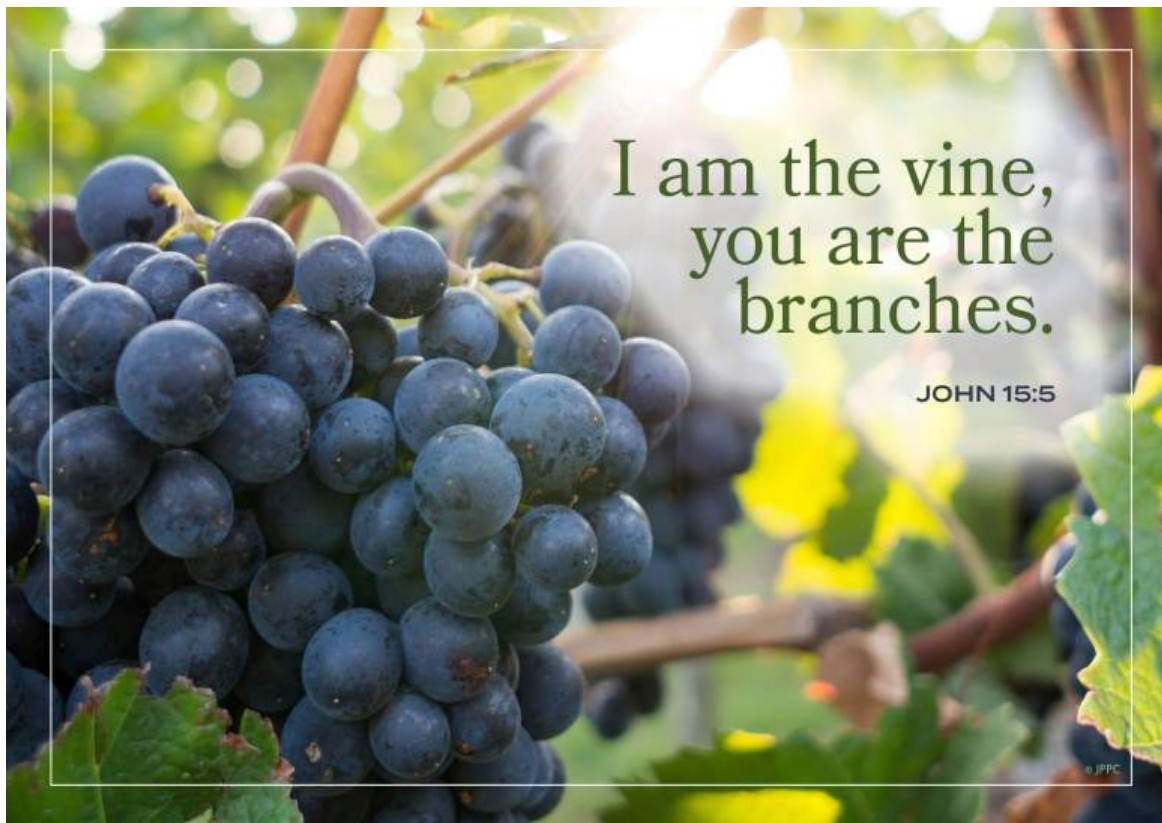


# CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA



**APRIL 28, 2024**

*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](http://www.saintmonica.com)**

**Parish Office: 732-928-0279**

**Email: [parishoffice@saintmonica.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintmonica.com)**

**Fax: (732) 928-1853**

**Religious Education: 732-928-4038**

**Email: [stmonicacd@yahoo.com](mailto:stmonicacd@yahoo.com)**

*Confessions*

Saturdays

3:15 pm

to 3:45 pm

1st Thursdays 7pm

or by appointment

Facebook:

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

[ParishofStMonica/](http://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.*



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - APRIL 28, 2024

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, April 27

4:00 pm Denise O'Brien (Elaine Giblock)

#### Sunday, April 28

9:00 am Silvana Fallone (Gerarda Fallone)

11:00 am Sophie Bove  
(Edward & Elizabeth Schultz)

#### Monday, April 29

9:00 am John Mitchell (Monique Sasso)

#### Tuesday, April 30

9:00 am John James Devenney  
(Lou & Julie Holman)

#### Wednesday, May 1

9:00 am Robert Constantino  
(Patricia Durkin)

#### Thursday, May 2

9:00 am Kaitlin Cascardi (Jackie Neglia)

#### Saturday, May 4

4:00 pm Raymond Humphrey  
(Carol & Andy Sabine)

#### Sunday, May 5

9:00 am Pasquale Fallone  
(Gerarda Fallone)

11:00 am Jean Alexander  
(Ernie & Barbara Rookey)

*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, Dianne Smith, Frank Diolosa, Theodore Dunyak, Andy Sabine, Elaine Giblock, 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, Elaine Stemmler, Tom Martin, Dorothy Palumbo, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Jennie D'Angelo, Paul Hetteroth, Cheryl Vega, Irene Kislak, Renee Brady, Carol Spezzano, Michael Seiler, Shannon Hubert, Ronald Nuzzola, Ray Kijowski, Nicholas Biddle, Matthew Biddle, Dennis Shwiner, Bob Dushanek, Laura Stoyer, Ruth Biele

*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 - April 28, 2024

**Monday, April 29, 2024** Acts 14:5-18 Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 Jn 14:21-26

**Tuesday, April 30, 2024** Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 Jn 14:27-31a

**Wednesday, May 1, 2024** Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday, May 2, 2024** Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 Jn 15:9-11

**Friday, May 3, 2024** 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 Jn 14:6-14

**Saturday, May 4, 2024** Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 Jn 15:18-21

**Sunday, May 5, 2024** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 1 Jn 4:7-10 Jn 15:9-17

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE**

On Wednesday, May 1 there will be Adoration following the 9:00 am Mass.

On Thursday, May 2 at 7:00 p.m. there will be Adoration, Benediction, and Confessions

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS  
APRIL 8 - 14, 2024**

Total \$5,518.14

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



**To the 19 students who will receive the Holy Eucharist for the first time on Friday, May 4th:**

May you always know the peace of Jesus, the light of His love, and the joy of His life within you. May God, who brought you to this special day, continue to direct your life in His perfect way. May this life-giving Bread always feed your soul and nourish your spirit. May you always live your faith with joy. Amen.

**BEWARE OF SCAMS**

Parishioners have reported receiving scam messages which appear to be coming from Fr. Alex. Please be aware Fr. Alex would **never** send a message requesting money, gift cards or asking to contact him. Do not open the text or email unless you are positive it is from Fr. Alex. Please feel free to contact the parish office if you wish to verify it's authenticity.

**MOTHER'S DAY REMEMBRANCES**

Mass Remembrance envelopes for Mother's Day are on the table at the entrances to the church. Anyone wishing to honor their Mothers (living or deceased) may do so by filling out the intention envelope.

To ensure your intentions will be published in our bulletin on Mother's Day, please return your offering by placing it in the collection basket no later than May 5.

**2024 MOTHER'S DAY PLANT SALE**

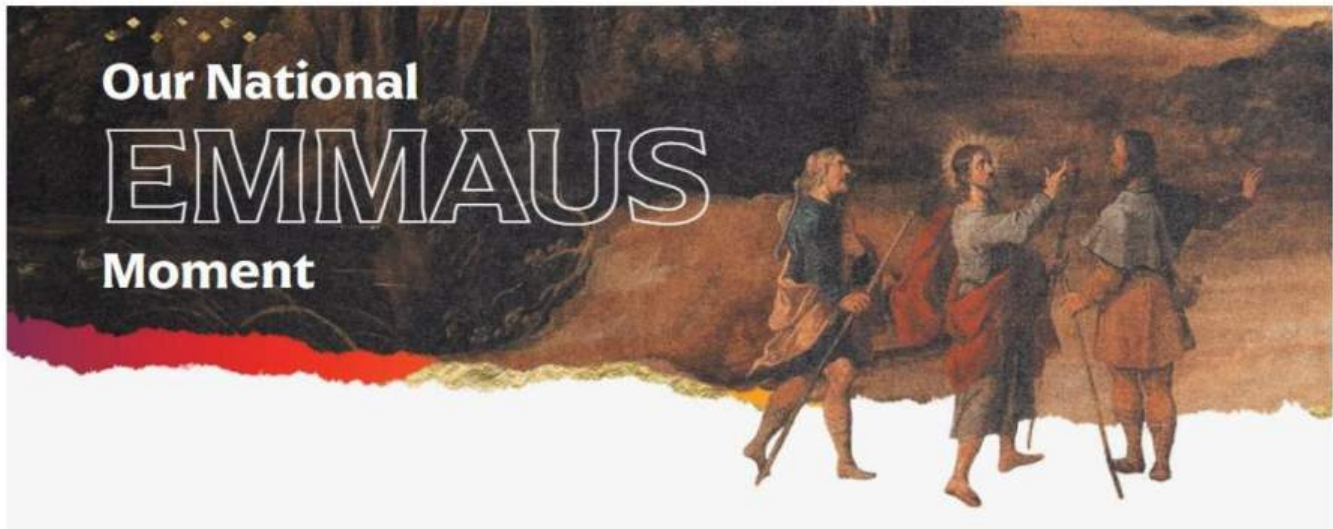
Once again members of St. Monica's Youth Group will be offering for sale beautiful 10" hanging baskets and potted plants on Mother's Day Weekend. Come on out and enjoy these beautiful plants that are suitable for all your gift giving needs! There will be lots of colors and arrangements to choose from after and between all Masses on Mother's Day weekend.

Cash and checks made payable to *St. Monica* will be accepted. For info or any questions, please contact Theresa Calsetta at 732-299-0261.

**WOMEN OF ST. MONICA SPRING AHEAD**

The Women of St. Monica will hold their monthly meeting next Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. All women of the parish are welcome to attend. The meeting will be held in Little Church.





**Diocese of Trenton: Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday May 28, 29, 30, 2024**



Leaving from New Haven, Connecticut, the eastern arm of the Pilgrimage will begin near the Atlantic coast, journey through our nation's oldest diocese, and cross the Appalachian Mountains.

The Seton Route will be punctuated by many meaningful stops. Pilgrims will visit holy sites, embrace the sacraments daily, and publicly proclaim Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist as they accompany him on his way to the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. Make your plans now to meet up with this historic Pilgrimage!



**ABOUT THE INTERCESSOR**

The route is named after St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first American-born saint to be canonized by the Catholic Church. A lifelong protestant, the young mother was drawn to the Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. St. Elizabeth Ann opened the first free Catholic school for girls in America in 1810. Her work laid the foundation for what is now the parochial school system.

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, pray for us!**

### CALENDAR

#### Saturday, April 27

3:15 pm Confessions  
4:00 pm Mass

#### Sunday, April 28

9:00 am Mass  
11:00 am Mass

#### Monday, April 29

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

#### Tuesday, April 30

9:00 am Mass  
5:30 pm Religious Education  
7:00 pm Adult Choir  
7:30 pm K of C Officer Mtg. (LC)  
7:30 pm Legion of Mary (Foyer)

#### Wednesday, May 1

9:00 am Mass  
9:30 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
5:00 pm 1st Communion Practice

#### Thursday, May 2

9:00 am Mass  
5:00 pm 1st Communion Practice  
7:00 pm Adoration /Benediction /Confessions

#### Friday, May 3

6:00 pm Youth Group Mtg. (LC)

#### Saturday, May 4

10:00 am 1<sup>ST</sup> Communion  
1:00 pm Baptism  
3:15 pm Confessions  
4:00 pm Mass

#### Sunday, May 5

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

#### Monday, May 6

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

#### Tuesday, May 7

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

#### Wednesday, May 8

9:00 am Mass

#### Thursday, May 9

9:00 am Mass  
The Ascension of the Lord is transferred to  
Sunday, May 12



## NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

### A HISTORIC JOURNEY

Throughout the National Eucharistic Revival, local communities are gathering tinder in response to God's invitation for renewal, calling on the Holy Spirit to bring the flame.

In keeping with this vision, the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will accompany Jesus from city to city, lighting hearts on fire along the way. Then, at the National Eucharistic Congress in July 2024, all these flames will blaze together.

**Explore the interactive map below to follow the four routes across the United States and register for one of the many free events coming to an area near you!**



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - APRIL 28, 2024

TUESDAY MAY 28, 2024

The Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption - Msgr. Joseph Roldan

151 N Warren St, Trenton, NJ 08608 - (609) 396-8447

*Primary language will be Spanish.*



Procession route.



Secure Parking –  
next to the  
Cathedral, across  
the street from big  
parking lot, across  
the street in Bank St  
parking garage.



**5:00 – 6:00 PM: Arrival and food**

**6:00 – 7:00 PM: Talks for various groups: Ages: 4-12 y/o, 13-18 y/o (English)/  
men, women (Spanish).**

**7:00 PM: Arrival of National Eucharistic Revival Pilgrims.**

**7:15 – 8:15 PM: Celebration of the Mass**

**8:15 PM: Adoration and worship**

**9:00 PM: Candle Procession around the block.**

**9:30 PM: Final blessing.**





FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - APRIL 28, 2024

**THURSDAY MAY 30, 2024**

**Mary, Mother of the Church Parish – Fr Martin O'Reilly**

**45 Crosswicks St, Bordentown, NJ 08505**

**609-298-0261**



 **Procession Route**

**9:00 AM: Mass**

**After Mass: Process through Bordentown-to-Bordentown Hilltop Park – Farewell.**

**Drive to Walking bridge in Trenton, NJ – and walk over the bridge to Morrisville, PA.**



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

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 &amp; 11:00 am

Holy Days As NotedReconciliation 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**

Did you know that the Founder of the Knights of Columbus, Blessed Michael McGivney, was also a heck of a ballplayer. He paved the way for a long history of baseball players who would join the Knights, including Connie Mac Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio. Catholic gentlemen 18 years and older can join online. Use Promo Code [BlessedMcGivney](#) for one year of free membership. Our local Council is #11529.

**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](mailto: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](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.



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](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org)

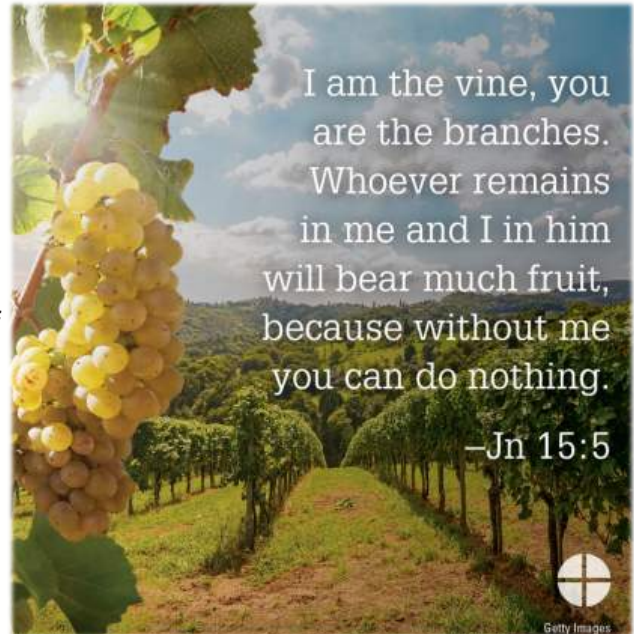
## Reflections on the Readings for the 5th Sunday of Easter - April 28, 2024

### HABITS

When St. Paul commands us to “pray always” in his first letter to the Thessalonians, we tend to let it go in one ear and out the other. “Of course, he can’t possibly mean that! He really just means to pray a lot.” We so easily filter the words of Scripture based on what we think God wants from us, but then we end up missing his true message. God actually wants us to always be praying, just like St. Paul told us!

But how can that be? It might make more sense to us if we better understand what prayer truly is. Prayer is not only reciting the rosary, mental Scripture prayer, or going to Mass. Prayer is being in communion with God. To ‘pray always’ is nothing other than to always stay connected to the Lord—in other words, to become a saint.

Our readings today point towards this vision God has for us, particularly when Jesus gives us the image of the vine and the branches. He promises that if we remain in him, we will bear much fruit. If always staying connected to the Lord seems out of reach, then let’s remember that when God gives a command he always gives us the grace to respond. How can we stay attached to the vine and learn to pray always?



### PRAYER

Return to the Gospel for today. At the Last Supper, on the final night of his earthly life, Jesus is preparing to leave his disciples, and he teaches them how to remain with him even after his Death, promising that he will remain with them and bear fruit through them.

Take the word that comes to mind and reflect on what it means to you personally. For example, the phrase, “without me you can do nothing,” might have stuck out to you. Ask yourself what this means in your own life. Is Jesus trying to convict you to let him into your life more so that he can continue to transform you?

### RESOLUTION

When we remain on the vine, we are promised that we will bear fruit and glorify the Father. This experience gives our lives the purpose for which we are all searching. We each long to be a gift to others, to matter, to make an impact. We despair when we feel isolated and as if our life has no meaning. True happiness comes from bearing fruit to others—and that only comes from building habits that keep us attached to the vine.

This week try to get in touch with your desire to have purpose in your life. Sometimes we can bury it deep to cope if we don’t believe we can have meaning in our lives. If we didn’t believe in God this could be terrifying, but we are blessed to know God is real and has a good plan for our lives. Don’t be afraid to open your heart to your desire for purpose. God made you that way, so that you can become who he created you to be! [formed.org](http://formed.org)



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Daniel McGeehan  
732-597-3832  
daniel.mcgeehan@kofc.org

Contact me today to learn more.

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