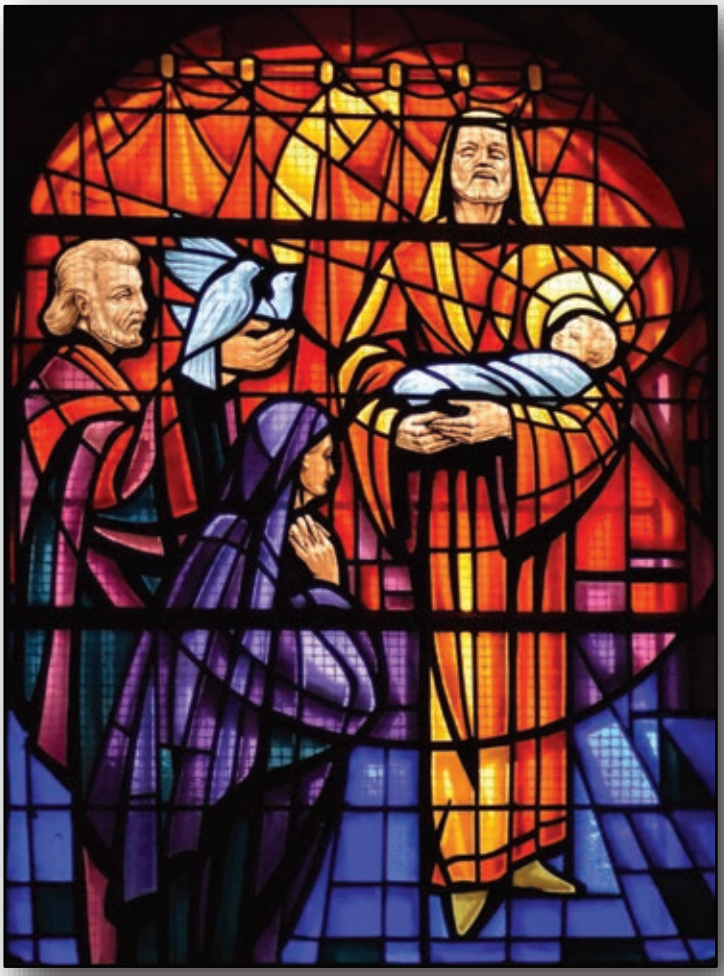
Saint Monica Catholic Church



"Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted…"
Luke 2:34

Our Parish is Served by:

Reverend Alex Enriquez
Deacon Christian Knoebel

We invite you to celebrate with us

Masses

MON. TO THURS. 9 am
SATURDAY 4 pm
SUNDAY 9 am & 11 am
11 am also live-streamed @
www.saintmonica.com
and on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/
ParishofStMonica/

679 W. Veterans Highway
Jackson, New Jersey 08527
Phone: (732) 928-0279
Fax: (732) 928-1853
Email: stmonicanj@yahoo.com
Website: www.saintmonica.com
Twitter: @StMonicaParish

Confessions

Saturdays
3:15 pm
to 3:45 pm
or
by appointment

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.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph – December 27, 2020

Mass Intentions

* Indicates Live Streamed Mass

Saturday, December 26
4:00 pm Rosanne Borrello (Merwin Family)

Sunday, December 27
9:00 am Rosanne Borrello (Paula Schiro)
*11:00 am Anne M Berardone (Arlene Z Toth)

Monday, December 28
9:00 am Intentions of Zia M Gould (David & Marie Gould)

Tuesday, December 29
9:00 am Available

Wednesday, December 30
9:00 am Jane Keigh (David & Marie Gould)

Thursday, December 31
9:00 am Available

Friday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary
* 9:00 am Intentions of the Piznik Family (Dee & Denis Balint)
11:00 am All the Deceased from the Coronavirus (St Monica)

Saturday, January 2
4:00 pm Rosanne Borrello (Mary Boyd)

Sunday, January 3
9:00 am Anne Savasta (Ciro & Ada Trematerra)
*11:00 am Patricia Hogan (Edward & Elizabeth Schultz)

To secure your intentions, please contact the Parish Office.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Jackie Wilson, Diane Black, Micki Smith, Annette Petercsak, Joyce Picon, Peter Laudati, Joanne Baldachino, Vera Dzumyk, Carol Atherton, Beth Kujawski, Paul Gallo, Rosemarie McNab, Chuck Smith, Toni Hetteroth, Brian Scott, Dan Sweeney, Frank Trimboli, Dianne Smith, Douglas Merwin, Kathleen Gillespie, Cheryl Bottega, James Picon, Stephen Trimboli, Tony Catapano, Bert Bumbera, Paul Wilson, Jr., Joann DiCapua, Evelyn Manvell, Joan Myhal, Carol Spezzano, Carol Sabine, Baryt Schone, Victor Mota, Fran DeLuca, Nick DeLuca, Dorothy Palumbo, Frank Diolosa, Theodore Dunyak, Theresa Debiak, Sabine, Elaine Giblock, Frank Diolosa, Sr, Barbara Holst, Baby Tripp Ravenfeld , Marie Gould, Cindy Andolora, Christopher Diolosa, Steve Andolora, Wayne Calsetta, Doris Garbarino, Bettina Morell, Melissa Staiger, Bonnie Holton

Call the Parish Office to let us know of anyone to be remembered in prayer, so we way include them or, if they can be removed.

Readings for the Week – December 27, 2020

Monday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 ; Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18

Friday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

New Year's Mass Schedule

Daily Masses
Monday to Thursday 9:00 am

New Year's Eve
Thursday, December 31
9:00 am

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Friday, January 1
(holy day of obligation)
**9:00 am & 11:00 am

Social distancing, masks, and in-Church limit of 100 attendees at all Masses

*** The 9:00 am holy day on New Year's Day will be livestreamed at* www.saintmonica.com

Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Wednesday, January 6 following the 9:00 am Mass

Online Giving

This program enables you the convenience of having your weekly offering, special collections such as Christmas, Easter, and all other second collections automatically debited from your checking account or credit card. You choose how much to give, the frequency, the fund, and method of payment. If you are in a position to contribute, please consider Online Giving. Start here and scroll down:

www.saintmonica.com

Or

www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=255

Online Giving

Financial Stewardship Collections
December 7 - 13, 2020

Immaculate Conception	$ 196.00
Weekly Collection	$1,627.00
Various	$ 167.00
Mail In Contributions	$1,818.00
Online Giving	$2,333.00
Total	$6,141.00

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

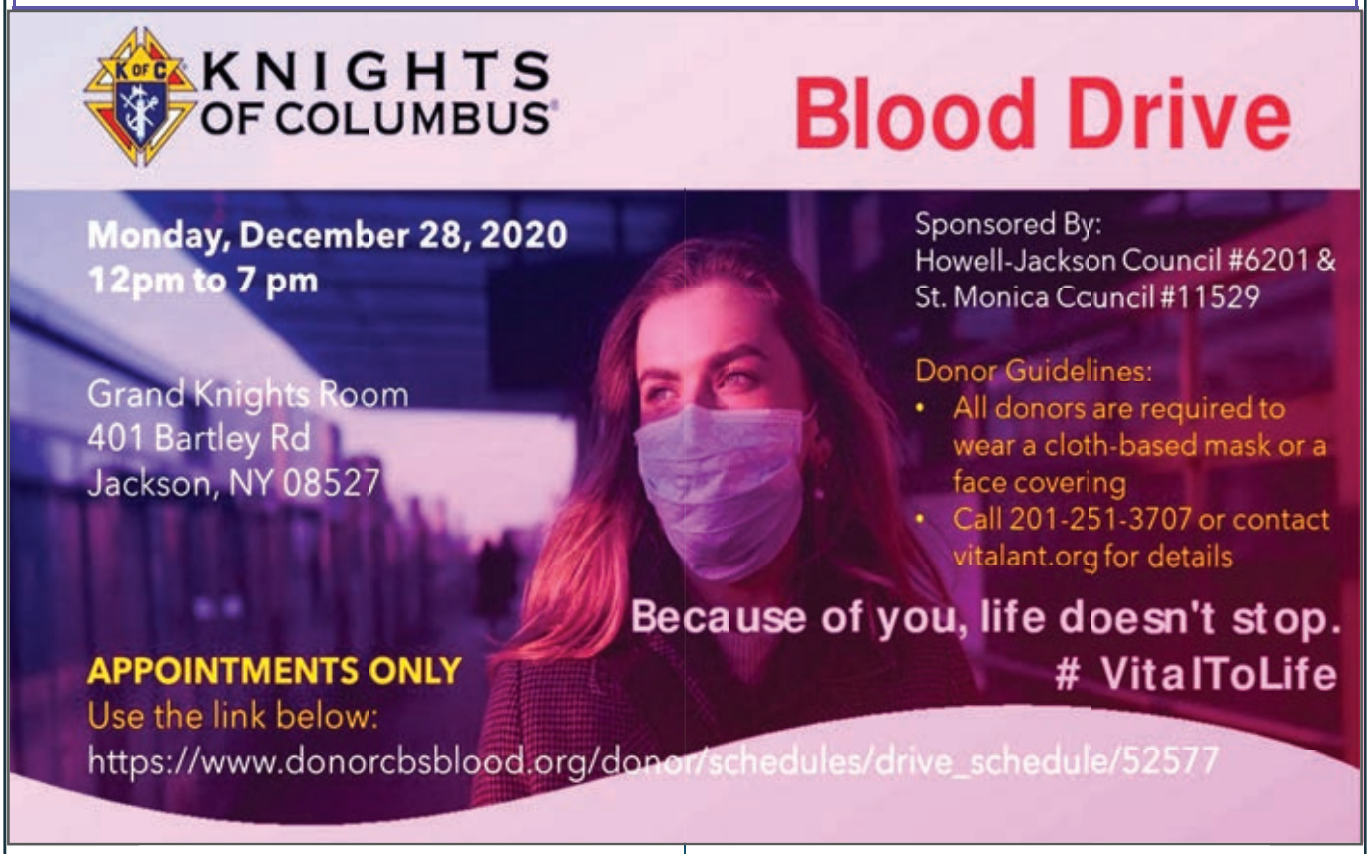
Donations to Religious Retirement $241.00

Please Note

Parish Offices will be closed
Thur., Dec. 31, 2020 & Fri., Jan. 1, 2021
Masses for the Solemnity of Mary
on January 1st
(holy day of obligation)
will be at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
The 9:00 a.m. Mass will be livestreamed at
www.saintmonica.com

2021 Calendars

Religious calendars for 2021 are available in the Parish Office.



A PRAYER FOR A PANDEMIC

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.
May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.
May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options.
May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no place to go.
May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.
During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.
Amen.

Fr. Larry Tensi, St. Columban Parish - Archdiocese of Cincinnati

NATIONAL CONFERENCE CATECHETICAL LEADERSHIP

Calendar

Please wear your mask and observe social distancing in Church. In-Church limit of 100 people.

* Indicates Live-streamed Mass @ saintmonica.com & Audio Only on Radio 87.9 FM in the parking lot

Sunday, December 27
9:00 am Mass
*11:00 am Mass

Monday, December 28
9:00 am Mass

Tuesday, December 29
9:00 am Mass

Wednesday, December 30
9:00 am Mass

Thursday, December 31
9:00 am Mass
Parish Offices are closed

Friday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary
* 9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass
Parish Offices are closed

Saturday, January 2
3:15 pm Confession
4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 3
9:00 am Mass
*11:00 am Mass

Monday, January 4
9:00 am Mass

Tuesday, January 5
9:00 am Mass

Wednesday, January 6
9:00 am Mass
9:30 am Adoration

Thursday, January 7
9:00 am Mass
9:30 am Rosary

Holy Family Prayer

May the Holy Family, who had to overcome many painful trials, watch over all the families in the world, especially those who are experiencing difficult situations. May the Holy Family also help men and women of all cultures and their political leaders so that they may defend the institution of the family, based on marriage, and so that they may sustain the family as it confronts the grave challenges of the modern age! . . . may Christian families find the light and strength to be united and to grow as the 'domestic church' especially in their diligent participation in the celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday.

Saint John Paul II, – Prayer from Angelus Message for the Feast of the Holy Family 2004

The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

DECEMBER 27, 2020

We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on the first Sunday after Christmas! This feast day is a reminder to us of the example Mary and Joseph set for all of us in welcoming Jesus into their lives. The Holy Family serves as a model for us all in which to live in faith and simplicity.

Add an additional prayer to your family routine today and brainstorm ways you might help each other grow in faith throughout this New Year.

Photo Credit

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, January 1st is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

"Mary is more blessed in receiving the faith of Christ, than in conceiving the flesh of Christ."
St. Augustine, *On Holy Virginity*, 3

Catholic Current

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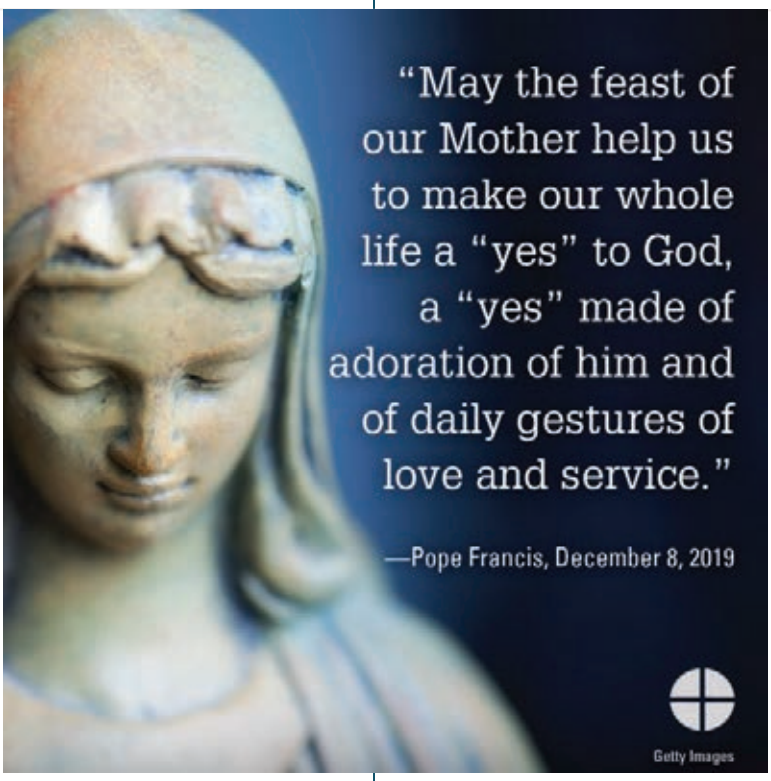
BULLETIN

My soul rejoices
in my God.
—Is 61:10b
Getty Images


"May the feast of
our Mother help us
to make our whole
life a "yes" to God,
a "yes" made of
adoration of him and
of daily gestures of
love and service."
—Pope Francis, December 8, 2019
Getty Images

Pope Francis announces "The Year of St. Joseph"

Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.

On the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Holiness Pope Francis has used the feast day to declare the year ahead, beginning December 8, the "Year of St. Joseph," her blessed spouse and the foster-father of the Lord Jesus. In an apostolic letter released today entitled "**Patris corde**" ("With a Father's Heart"), marking the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as "Patron of the Universal Church" by Blessed Pope Pius IX, Pope Francis indicated that the "aim of this apostolic letter is to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtue and his zeal." The Holy Father noted that "after Mary, the Mother of God, no saint is mentioned more frequently in the papal magisterium than Joseph, her spouse. My predecessors reflected on the message contained in the limited information handed down by the Gospels in order to appreciate his central role in the history of salvation."

Commenting on the apostolic letter, the Vatican News Office explained that "The Holy Father wrote **Patris corde** against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, "the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence," who nonetheless played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

Throughout the document, the Holy Father describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father, a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Diocese of Trenton will begin planning special opportunities to celebrate the universal patronage of St. Joseph throughout 2021.

The full text of the apostolic letter may be found here: **https://bit.ly/3qDOLyF**

Saint Joseph, pray for us!

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.

Sponsor Certificates

This is a form required to be a Godparent or Sponsor for Confirmation.

To receive a form, the following are required:

- Be a registered, active (attends Mass) member of the parish (for at least 6 months)
- Be at least 16 years of age
- Must have completed the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation
- If married, have a valid marriage within the Catholic Church

Visits to the Sick and Homebound

May be arranged by calling our parish office.

Knights of Columbus Council #11529

Visit our website: 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 at 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

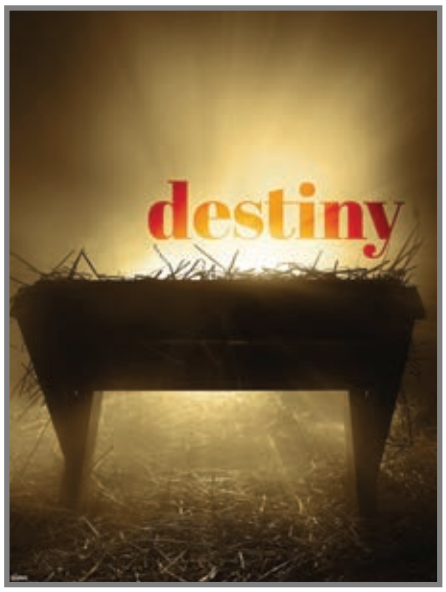
Ministry of Catholic women of the parish striving to fulfill their spiritual needs, sharing their faith, promoting community and conduct fundraisers throughout the year and enhance parish life in a variety of ways.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—December 27, 2020

THE PROMISED MESSIAH

The first two readings today focus on the relationships with our family. We are told that honoring and respecting our father is of the highest importance and, if we are faithful to this call, we will be blessed by God. When we read the Gospel, the theme changes from focusing on our earthly family to being faithful to God, our Heavenly Father. If we ought to respect our earthly father and spend so much time and energy making our earthly home virtuous and holy, how much more ought we work to have a relationship with our Heavenly Father? How often do we take the time to talk with God, or honor him by serving him or making sacrifices for him? Let us remember the words of Sirach and St. Paul this week, not just in relation to how we treat our earthly fathers, but, most importantly, in how we relate to God the Father.

PRAYER



In today's Gospel, we see the faithfulness of both prophets, Simeon and Anna, lived out. They have awaited the coming of the Messiah with great hope and expectation their whole lives. Can you imagine waiting for something your whole life? What would it be like when you finally encountered the person or thing you had hoped and prayed for? These two prophets model heroic patience for us as they wait and welcome Christ when he comes into their lives. How do you need to grow in patience in your life? Who in your family do you need to be more patient with?

Take some time to pray with the words of the Gospel. If a word or phrase stands out to you, stop and reflect on it. For example, maybe the words "righteous and devout" stand out to you. Consider how you devote your life to God and the ways in which you need to work towards being more devoted to him.

RESOLUTION

Simeon and Anna spent their whole lives waiting to meet Christ. They prepared their hearts for the moment they would finally encounter him and were ready when he appeared, as an unassuming infant with his family, in the ordinary circumstances of their day. Are you prepared to meet Christ amidst your daily routine?

Commit to finding Christ in your family this week. Prepare your heart to see him there by exercising the virtue of patience in your home. What way will you be patient with a family member this week?

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