

CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA



December 28, 2025

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: stmonicaccd@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

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/ParishofStMonica/



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY - DECEMBER 28, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 27

4:00 pm Kathie Abramson (Sickler)
(Janet DaCruz)

Sunday, December 28

9:00 am Intentions of Zia Gold
(Marie Gould)

11:00 am Anne M. Berardone
(Arlene Toth)

Monday, December 29

9:00 am Joyce Yaccarino
(The Bereavement Ministry)

Tuesday, December 30

9:00 am Egidijus Jusys
(Rita Jusys)

Wednesday, December 31

9:00 am Joyce Yaccarino
(Stephanie Kujawski)

Thursday, January 1, 2026

Solemnity of Mary—Holy Day of Obligation

9:00 am Available
7:00 pm Available

Saturday, January 3

4:00 pm Jack Tully
(Merwin Family)

Sunday, January 4

9:00 am Joyce Yaccarino
(Gerarda Fallone, Mary Boyd)
11:00 am Concetta LaRossa
(Sunrise of Jackson)

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

*To secure your Mass Intentions,
contact the Parish Office.*

Micki Smith, Joyce Picon, Carol Atherton, Beth Kujawski, Toni Hetteroth, Dianne Smith, Andy Sabine, Elaine Giblock, Doris Garbarino, Melissa Staiger, Bonnie Holton, Arlene Toth, Judy Bocchicchio, Leo Diaz, Glory D'Acunto, Catherine Dalfonso, Christopher Dalfonso,, Josephine Brennan, Frank Trimboli, Gabrielle D'Acunto, Anthony Pelle, Jr, Phillip Wenz, Mary Miniscalchi, Lane Morell, Frank Falesto, Jean Stein, Ann Rosetto, Tom Martin, Dorothy Palumbo, Jacob Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Paul Hetteroth, Cheryl Vega, Carol Spezzano, Br. Michael Seiler, Shannon Hubert, Grace Nuzzola, Ray Kijowski, Nicholas Biddle, Matthew Biddle, Dennis Shwiner, Laura Stoyer, Mike Scott, Andrew G Sabine, A.J. Sabine, Stephen Alexander, Angela Belmont, Danny Merwin, Diane Hromiko, Kathy Reynolds, Margie Smith, Kevin Finnerty, Mark Hoffman, Lisa Sassone, Mark Legato, Anita Bertram, Tom and Carol Ringwood, Bob Toth

*Contact the Parish Office to let us know of anyone to be
remembered in prayer, so we may include them or, if they can*

Readings for the Week – December 28, 2025

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

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

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

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

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

Saturday 1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 Jn 1:29-34

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

TEARDROP MINISTRY PRAYER

Blessed Monica, mother of St. Augustine, we give thanks to our Father in Heaven who looked with mercy upon your tears over your wayward son. His conversion and heroic sanctification were the fruit of your prayers.

Dear St. Monica we now ask you to pray with us for all those sons and daughters that have wandered away from God, and to add your prayers to those of all mothers who are worried over their children. Pray also for us that, following your example, we may, in the company of our children, one day enjoy the eternal vision of our Father in Heaven. Amen. St. Monica pray for us.



Attention all those who signed up or who want to sign up to be an Altar Server—There will be a training meeting on **Saturday, January 10th at 10:00 a.m. and on Saturday, December 17th at 10:00 a.m. in the Church.**

All new Altar Servers are required to attend. Any boy or girl who is interested in becoming an altar server is invited to join and attend! We hope to see you there!


FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS
Nov 17—Nov 23, 2025

Weekly Offerings \$3,608.23

Utilities \$ 522.00

Online Giving \$1,628.00

Total \$5,758.23

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



Church of St Monica
2025 Advent/Christmas/New Year
Schedule of Services

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Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 6 Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday, December 7 9:00 am & 11:00 am Mass

Monday, December 8

Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)

9:00 am & 7:00 pm Mass

Advent Parish Penance Service

Wednesday, December 10 7:00 pm

Daily Masses:

Monday – Thursday

9:00 am (through December 18)

Simbang Gabi – Christmas Novena Rosary & Masses

Friday, December 19

Rosary 6:30 pm

Mass 7:00 pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Sunday Obligation)

Saturday, December 20- 4:00 pm

Sunday, December 21- 9:00 & 11:00 am

Tuesday, December 23 - No 9:00 am Mass

Christmas Eve - Wednesday, December 24 (Holy Day)

4:00 & 10:00 pm

Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25 (Holy Day)

9:00 am & 11:00 am

New Year's Eve - Wednesday, December 31

9:00 am

Solemnity of Mary - Thursday, January 1 (Holy Day)

Mass 9:00 am & 7:00 pm

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY - DECEMBER 28, 2025

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

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 class or take the convenient online presentation. Please call the Parish Office to register for the class held on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00pm. Or stop by the Parish Office to pick up a DVD copy of the class.

Knights of Columbus Council #11529

The Knights of Columbus were founded in 1882 by Blessed Father Michael McGivney. It is an international order of more than 2 million Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others, and defend Catholic values in busy changing world. St Monica Council #11529 has a long history of support for the parish and any local charities. If you would like to join just scan the QR Code or go to KofC.org/join & enter council #11529.



St. Monica's "Teardrop" Ministry

The St. Monica Teardrop Ministry is a prayerful initiative where individuals and the community come together to intercede for loved ones who have drifted away from their faith, drawing inspiration from St. Monica's unwavering dedication to her husband and son's conversion. Prayer is very powerful, it only took 1 Hail Mary for Jesus to come to earth.

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

Visits to the Sick and Homebound

St Vincent de Paul Society

Emergency Assistance Helpline: 732-370-0098

Youth Group

Open to all children of St Monica registered families and we would love to have you join us. For more information, call Theresa Calsetta 732-299-0261.

OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

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

New Parishioners

Welcome to our parish family! Registration forms may be downloaded at www.saintmonica.com Please contact the parish office for further info.

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 request 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 on-going Religious Education classes. Our program includes grades 1-8. Please contact Belinda Azzollini, Coordinator of Religious Education 732-928-4038 or stmonicaccd@yahoo.com

Legion of Mary

Members participate in the life of the parish through a program of prayers and service. The Legion of Mary is open to all Catholic men and women over 18 years of age who have the good will to want to serve God through Mother Mary. Meetings are at St. Monica every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. The Legion is always looking to recruit new members. If you discern a divine connection to the Blessed Mother, and feel she is calling you to join, please contact the Parish Office.

Women of St Monica

A Ministry of Catholic women of the parish striving to fulfill their spiritual needs, sharing their faith, promoting community, and conducting fundraisers throughout the year and enhance parish life in a variety of ways. Please contact the parish office for more info.



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

CALENDAR**Saturday, December 27**

11:00 am Miles Wade Samson Won Baptism
 3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, December 28

9:00 am Mass
 11:00 am Mass
 12:30 pm Norcia Wedding

Monday, December 29

9:00 am Mass

No Religious Ed Classes

Tuesday, December 30

9:00 am Mass

No Religious Ed Classes

No Legion of Mary Meeting

Wednesday, December 31**New Year's Eve—Parish Offices Closed**

9:00 am Mass

Thursday, January 1**HAPPY NEW YEAR!—Parish Offices Closed****Solemnity of Mary—Holy Day of Obligation**

9:00 am Mass

7:00 pm Mass

Saturday, January 3

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 4

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

Monday, January 5

9:00 am Mass

4:30 pm Religious Education Classes

6:15 pm Religious Education Classes

Tuesday, January 6

9:00 am Mass

5:30 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Legion of Mary

Wednesday, January 7

9:00 am Mass

9:30 am Adoration

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, January 8

9:00 am Mass

7:00 pm OCIA Classes

7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Saturday, January 10

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

Prayer for the New Year

God, our loving Father,
 you sent your Son,
 Jesus Christ, into this world
 to counter all the forces of evil:
 sin, suffering and death,
 and to overcome evil
 with the force of good;
 hatred with the power of love,
 your great love for us in Jesus.

Help us never to curse the darkness,
 but to join with you in bringing
 Your light into this world,
 the light that is your Son,
 born of the Virgin Mary, in Bethlehem.
 Help us to be instruments of your light
 and love by doing one special act of
 kindness
 or by being your special instrument
 of reconciliation this New Year.

May the Christ Candle we
 light symbolize
 our desire to bring light into a world of
 darkness
 and hope into a world of despair.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.



Reflection

By Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

I suppose it's something that comes naturally when today's Feast of the Holy Family rolls around. Many people start making a "Compare and Contrast List" of their own clan with that of the Holy Trio and conclude with an obvious difference or two...that, in fact, is precisely our Church does *not* want us to do.

It brings to mind a clever joke the late wise and witty Fr. Benedict Groeschel once told a group of priests on retreat, as he was praising the humility of St. Joseph. He said, "Imagine the strain on good St. Joseph coming to the breakfast table with the Divine Redeemer and the Mediatrix of all Graces!!"



It is true that at this time of the year, beginning with Thanksgiving and continuing with Christmas, we see more of our families and perhaps interact with them more than during another time of the year. So, we see them "close up and personal." We might just see flaws not noted before. But this feast points to the profound reality of God's choice to love all of us just as we are and not as we should be.

What that decision implies for me is no less than God's astounding humility. He could have said, "I'll only love you if you're perfect." Furthermore, the Gospel tells us that for the first three decades of His time on earth, our Lord subjected Himself to two imperfect creatures as parents in a dusty backwater named Nazareth. That last was no badge of honor when He came to preach to His chosen people. Yet the name of that very town was acknowledged on the sign Pilate had made to hang

above our Savior's sacred Head on the cross.

It became quite natural for the Church Jesus founded to be a family of families, but that immediately meant there would be problems and disagreements from time to time. So, it is for each of our parishes. So, it is for the universal Church. A union of hearts and souls, saints and sinners, under the successor of Peter whom we call "Papa," the "Holy Father, the pope.

This feast urges us to renew our love of family, with forgiveness of past hurts, and to celebrate present joys, and to support each other on the path to heaven. And to find humor. On that score, it seems that hubby came home from work, tired and bedraggled. As he entered the door, he moaned: "Honey, I've had a tough day. If you have any bad news, please keep it until later this evening." "O.K." she chirped. "No bad news. But I have some good news. At last count, we had three kids, remember? Well, two of them did not break their arm today."

God love you and enjoy your family.

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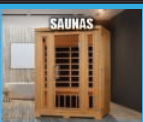
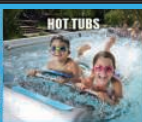
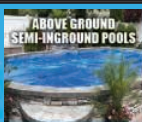
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