

CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA



January 25, 2026

Masses

Mon. to Thurs. 9 am
Saturday 4 pm
Sunday 9 am & 11 am

679 W. Veterans Highway



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

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/](http://www.facebook.com/ParishofStMonica/)
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3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 25, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 24

4:00 pm Marie Gould
(The Hills Family)
Sylvester Cascio & Joseph Anzalone
(The Anzalone Family)

Sunday, January 25

9:00 am Marie Gould
(Kim Merwin)
11:00 am John Thomas LoPiccolo
(The Bereavement Ministry)

Monday, January 26

9:00 am Mikalina & Petras Vaisvilas
(Rita Jusys)

Tuesday, January 27

9:00 am Jennie D'Angelo
(Janet Noordzy)

Wednesday, January 28

9:00 am Joyce Yaccarino
(Elaine Manion)

Thursday, January 29

9:00 am Branislava Dzimidaviciute
(Rita Jusys)

Saturday, January 31

4:00 pm Marie Gould
(The Debiak Family)

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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, Tom and Carol Ringwood, Bob Toth, Ashley & Cameron Dlugosz, Bernadette VanDerberg

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 – January 18, 2026

Monday 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19 Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday 2 Sm 7:4-17 Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30 Mk 4:1-20

Thursday 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29 Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14 Mk 4:21-25

Friday 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11 Mk 4:26-34

Saturday 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17 Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 Mk 4:35-41

Sunday Zep 2:3; 3:12-13 Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 1 Cor 1:26-31 Mt 5:1-12a

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.

We are recruiting new Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Lectors proclaim the Scripture Readings at Mass, and Extraordinary Ministers assist with the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass and to the sick.

If you feel called to serve the parish in one or both of these ministries, please add your name and contact information to the sign up sheets at the back of the church.

Training sessions will be held in February and March. Lector training will take place on Saturday, February 21, after the 4:00pm mass, and on Wednesday, February 25th at 7:00pm. Extraordinary Minister training will be held on Sunday, March 8th after the 11:00am mass, and on Wednesday, March 11th at 7:00pm.

Attendance at one training session is required. Each session will last approximately one hour


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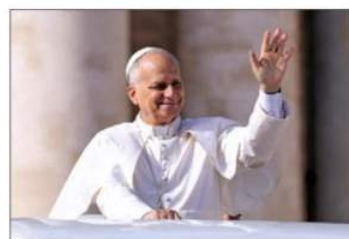
Weekly Offerings \$4,685.35

Maintenance Fund \$ 394.00

Online Giving \$2,513.00

Total \$7,592.35

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

Holy Father's Monthly
Prayer Intention


Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 25, 2026

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 dcjohnw@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



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, January 24

3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 25

9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass

Monday, January 26

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

Tuesday, January 27

9:00 am Mass
5:30 pm Religious Education Classes
7:00 pm Legion of Mary

Wednesday, January 28

9:00 am Mass
7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, January 29

9:00 am Mass
10:00 am Grief Support Group
7:00 pm OCIA Classes

Saturday, January 31

3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, February 1

9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass
12:00 pm Women of St. Monica Meeting

Monday, February 2

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

Tuesday, February 3

9:00 am Mass
5:30 pm Religious Education Classes
7:00 pm Legion of Mary

Wednesday, February 4

9:00 am Mass
9:30 am Adoration
7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, February 5

9:00 am Mass
10:00 am Grief Support Group
7:00 pm OCIA Classes

Saturday, February 7

3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass
5:00 pm Women of St. Monica Soup Sale

St Monica Grief Support Group Program

Find Comfort, Connection, and Healing

Program Introduction

January 18, 2026

At 12:00 pm

Main Church



Weekly Support Group Spring Sessions

Jan 29th - March 26th 2026 (9 weeks)

Thursdays at 10 am – TBD Saturdays

To Register Call 732-928-0279

or email – jwhite@dioceseoftrenton.org

Church of St. Monica

679 W Veterans Hwy, Jackson, NJ 08527



Offerings at Francis House of Prayer

Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center and Retreat House
84 Wainford Road • Allentown, NJ 08501
609-877-0509 or FHOP@verizon.net

Please check www.FHOP.org for dates, registration, directions and for our other offerings!

All programs will be offered online and in-person unless otherwise indicated.

IN PERSON ONLY

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Saturday, January 31 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Explore the unique manner of praying as a couple, adapting the Ignatian Spirituality to discernment, scriptural contemplation, and quiet moments of reflection. Discover how the *Examen Prayer* invites deep, spiritual intimacy when prayed together as spouses. Led by Rev. Jim Grogan. Donation: \$50 per couple, lunch included.

LIVING IN THE PRESENT MOMENT

THE RUTHLESS ELIMINATION OF HURRY!

Tuesday, February 3 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Are you getting hints from God, others and maybe even your own body that it's time to slow down a bit? Lent is around the bend. This morning retreat may be a jump start to a great Lenten practice to help us pay attention, do one thing at a time and live in the presence of God as we learn about the 10 symptoms of "hurry sickness" and their cure. *Hurry* and sign up! Led by S. Marcy. Donation: \$30, includes materials and lunch. Zoom: \$25

PERSONAL RETREAT DAY

Wednesday, February 11 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Take a day away from the busyness of your life. Come to Francis House for silence, personal prayer and optional spiritual direction. The day begins and ends with a brief prayer together. Please bring a bag lunch. Come to as many as you can. Donation: \$10; \$40 with spiritual direction.

ST. TERESA OF AVILA OVERNIGHT RETREAT

February 12 – 13

Begins 4:30 PM Thursday – Ends 2:00 PM Friday

The life of Teresa of Avila is remarkable and surprisingly relevant to our times! We will have an overnight pajama party and enjoy watching Teresa on her rocky road to sanctity. Led by Teresa herself with the help of S. Marcy. Donation: \$100, meals included. Commuters are welcome.

UNDERSTANDING & BEFRIENDING DIFFERENCES

Monday, February 16 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Why is it so difficult to relate to those who are different from us? If you need a little understanding and compassion in dealing with challenging personalities, including your own, please come and join our Interns in Spiritual Direction to learn the art of accepting and appreciating people with personalities contrary to our own. Led by S. Marcy. Donation: \$50. Please bring your own lunch.

Reflection

By Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

As a “late to the table” lover of history, I realize that I must choose a topic. So, I can join the tots who can rattle off the names of prehistoric lizards like Tyrannosaurus Rex and Triceratops. Or I can join the ranks of those who rate Ken Burns’ treatment of the Civil War as a masterpiece. Or I can take an interest in the record of NASA. But with my calling as a priest factored in, I know I will always revert to the story of God’s involvement in human history as the best historical topic of all. Today’s Gospel passage reminds me of that wonderful, recorded walk along the shore of Jesus Christ, God’s Son.

St. Matthew chronicles the event in somewhat stark terms in today’s Gospel passage. We yearn for some details, like facial expressions or voiced responses. But Matthew’s interest is how quick and unreserved the two sets of brothers give Our Lord in response. Little do they know what is ahead.



Surely the Holy Spirit has a message here for all of us who hear or read about this incident. What response would you or I have given Jesus that day? What response do we give Him this day? How would we write our personal history?

I came across a respected scholar who calls what Matthew is describing this way: “Covenant grace builds upon, perfects and elevates our human nature.” The bond we have with God sets the stage. Sadly, it is a bond largely forgotten by our secular culture. So, events get recorded with not even a nod to God’s part. Take God out of the human story and it is a dull one all around.

So, we can perk up with Isaiah’s timeless announcement of a new day. We can join St. Paul’s unity campaign. Why? Because despite the downward pull the world around us seems to exert, goodness and light always break through. You will notice it in every good person you know. Especially if they are authentic Christians. What a good feeling it is to know that Our Lord Jesus Christ notices us; He loves us and wants our personal history to be bound up with His. That is what happens every time we go to Mass. Never let any obstacle get in your way and remember that He calls us by name to join Him. He guarantees that: “The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.”

God love you and give you His peace

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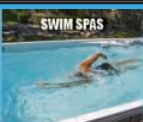
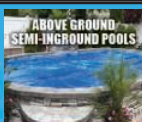
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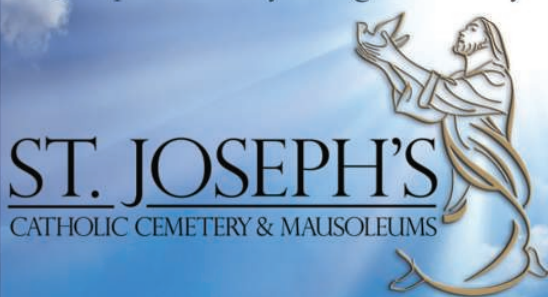
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