

# CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA



*Listen to him*

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## March 1, 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](http://www.saintmonica.com)  
**Parish Office:** 732-928-0279  
**Email:** [parishoffice@saintmonica.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintmonica.com)  
**Fax:** (732) 928-1853

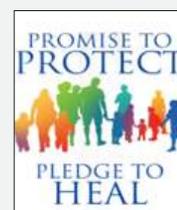
**Religious Education:** 732-928-4038

*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

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## 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 1, 2026

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, February 28, 2026

4:00 pm Albinas Mozuraitis & Family  
(?Raminta)

#### Sunday, March 1, 2026

9:00 am Jim Morell  
(Janet Noordzy)  
11:00 am Columba LoCicero  
(The Bereavement Ministry)

#### Monday, March 2, 2026

9:00 am Available

#### Tuesday, March 3, 2026

9:00 am Marie Gould  
(The LaTorre Family)

#### Wednesday, March 4, 2026

9:00 am Available

#### Thursday, March 5, 2026

9:00 am Pasquale Fallone  
(Gerarda Fallone)

#### Saturday, March 6, 2026

4:00 pm Cheryl Vega  
(The Castellano 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, 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, Bob Toth, Ashley & Cameron Dlugosz, Bernadette VanDerberg, Elizabeth Maras, Charles Thompson, John Catena

*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 - March 1, 2026

**Monday** Dn 9:4b-10 Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 Lk 6:36-38

**Tuesday** Is 1:10, 16-20 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 Mt 23:1-12

**Wednesday** Jer 18:18-20 Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 Mt 20:17-28

**Thursday** Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Lk 16:19-31

**Friday** Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

**Saturday** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

**Sunday** Ex 17:3-7 Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

**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.

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



**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026**

**2-4PM**

**RSVP TO 732-719-7250**

**BYOB**

**THE WISTERIA BALLROOM**

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**COR**

**Men's Prayer Group**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of Each Month  
7:00pm in Little Church



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## 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 1, 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org)

### CALENDAR

#### Saturday, February 28

- 10:00 am Grief Support Group  
 3:15 pm Confessions  
 4:00 pm Mass

#### Sunday, March 1

- 9:00 am Mass  
 10:15 am Special Communion Prep (LC)  
 11:00 am Mass  
 12:00 pm Women of St. Monica Meeting

#### Monday, March 2

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

#### Tuesday, March 3

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

#### Wednesday, March 4

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

#### Thursday, March 5

- 9:00 am Mass  
 10:00 am Grief Support Group  
 6:00 pm Pre-Baptismal Training

#### Friday, March 6

- 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross  
 7:30 pm BLD Trenton

#### Saturday, March 7

- 10:00 am BLD Trenton  
 3:15 pm Confessions  
 4:00 pm Mass

#### Sunday, March 8

- 9:00 am Mass  
 10:15 am Special Communion Prep (LC)  
 11:00 am Mass

#### Monday, March 9

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

#### Tuesday, March 10

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

#### Wednesday, March 11

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

## Here are the prominent saints with feast days in March

March 3: [St. Katharine Drexel](#)

March 4: [St. Casimir](#)

March 7: [Saints Perpetua and Felicity](#)

March 8: [St. John of God](#)

March 9: [St. Frances of Rome](#)

March 17: [St. Patrick](#)

March 18: [St. Cyril of Jerusalem](#)

March 19: [St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary](#)

March 23: [St. Turibius of Mogrovejo](#) and [St. Rafqa](#)

March 24: [St. Oscar Romero](#)

March 25: [The Annunciation of the Lord](#)



# Reflection

By Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

One of the most widely read and highly acclaimed religious books for over twenty years, *God of Surprises*, takes readers on a spiritual journey of discovery and change. Jesuit Gerard Hughes encourages you and me to realize the truth of Jesus' words—"The Kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field"—and suggests ways to find that treasure within ourselves.

We cannot know their inner lives, but we can know for sure that three holy leaders of the early Church, namely the apostles Peter, James and John got a personal invitation from their Master to know Him as "the God of surprises." As Matthew calmly declares, in a matter-of-fact tone: "He was transfigured before them." Forced to avert their eyes, the three men were shocked and in awe. They saw, for a brief time, what we all desire to see for eternity: the Divine Face of Christ.



It is a good thing for us to know, this showing of Christ's divinity. That is so because in this life we are marked men and women, marked, that is, with Christ's favor, that often looks like disfavor when it comes into our lives disguised as pain.

Let us face facts. Our God is a demanding Person. Never asking us to endure hurt and pain that is beyond our strength to do so but suffering any way you care to define it. He has that right. He has made wonderful promises to us if we obey and accept the troubles that are sent our way to test us. He wants us to succeed. And we will. If we remember the transfiguration.

THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED;  
**listen to him.**

MATTHEW 17:5

The man Abraham, featured in our First Reading today, certainly learned that God is a God of Surprises. Here he was, at age 75, long past the time to put his feet up and enjoy his grandchildren, when God asks him to pull up stakes, march to a new and strange land, and only

set up his tent when he reaches the new landscape.

Abraham, Peter, James, and John all belong to a long line of persons lovingly created to give God glory that includes you and me, are asked to love deeply and "walk humbly with our God." When it is time for us also to see Him "as He is" He has promised is we will be happily surprised.

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