

CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA

Living WATER

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March 8, 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

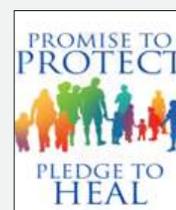
Religious Education: 732-928-4038

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



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 8, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 7, 2026

4:00 pm Cheryl Vega
(The Castellano Family)

Sunday, March 8, 2026

9:00 am Sereida Kopitskie

11:00 am Veronica Trach
(Mary Boyd)

Monday, March 9, 2026

9:00 am Available

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

9:00 am Available

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

9:00 am Marie Gould
(The Levy Family)

Thursday, March 12, 2026

9:00 am Available

Saturday, March 14, 2026

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

Sunday, March 15, 2026

9:00 am Columba Bina LoCicero
(The LoCicero Family)

11:00 am Joseph & Josephine Zappulla
(Arlene Toth)

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 8, 2026

Monday 2 Kgs 5:1-15b Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday Dn 3:25, 34-43 Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday Dt 4:1, 5-9 Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 Mt 5:17-19

Thursday Jer 7:23-28 Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 Lk 11:14-23

Friday Hos 14:2-10 Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 Mk 12:28-34

Saturday Hos 6:1-6 Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab Lk 18:9-14

Sunday 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Eph 5:8-14 Jn 9:1-41 or Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

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.

**EUCCHARISTIC
ADORATION**



TUESDAY MAR 10TH

All CCD Students & Staff
(Grades 1-8)

Must Attend Adoration
Please arrive for 6:15pm
ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN

Parents are welcome to join their children and spend this peaceful, face to face time with our Lord.

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS
JAN 26—FEB 1, 2026**

Weekly Offerings \$ 4,483.51
Maintenance \$ 507.00
Online Giving \$ 1,455.00
Total \$ 6,445.51

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

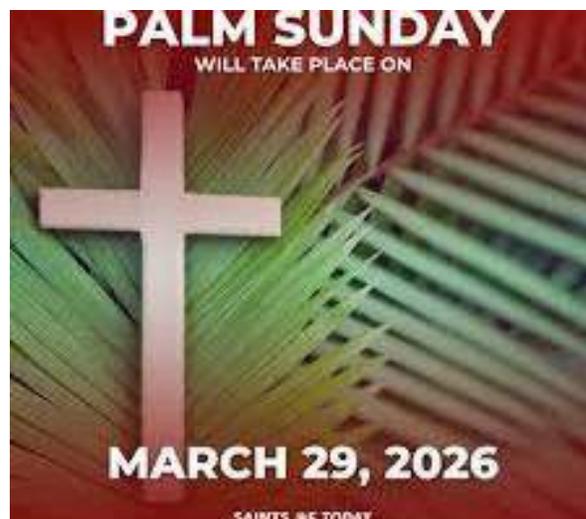
COR

Men's Prayer Group
3rd Wednesday of Each Month
7:00pm in Little Church



Drawing into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through
**PRAYER
FELLOWSHIP
FRATERNITY**

Come Join Us - All Men Are Welcomed



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 8, 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 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



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, March 7

- 10:00 am Grief Support—Little Church
- 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
- 6:30 pm Operations Meeting
- 7:30 pm Lenten & Liturgical Meeting

Tuesday, March 10

- 9:00 am Mass
- 6:15 pm CCD Adoration
- 7:00 pm Legion of Mary

Wednesday, March 11

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

Thursday, March 12

- 9:00 am Mass
- 7:00 pm OCIA Classes

Friday, March 13

- 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross
- 8:00 pm BLD Trenton

Saturday, March 14

- 9:00 am Breakfast with the Easter Bunny
- 10:00 am Grief Support—Little Church
- 3:15 pm Confessions
- 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, March 15

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

Monday, March 16

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

Tuesday, March 17 - St. Patrick's Day

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

Wednesday, March 18

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

The Knights of Columbus &
Women of St. Monica
present

Breakfast
with the
Easter Bunny



SATURDAY
MARCH 14TH
9:00 AM

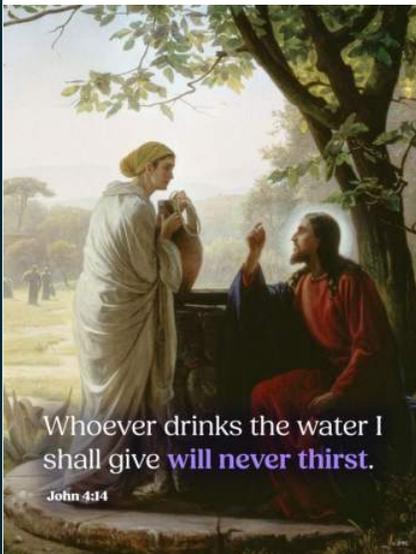
-
FOOD
GAMES
50/50
PHOTOS WITH THE
EASTER BUNNY

Reflection

By Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

The phrase “Mirror, Mirror on the Wall” is arguably one of the most recognizable lines in the English language, instantly conjuring images of the classic fairy tale, Snow White, but beyond its fairy tale origins, the phrase has permeated our culture, becoming a symbolic representation of vanity, self-perception, and the elusive search for objective truth.

We remember how the evil Queen asks the mirror who is the fairest in the kingdom. She reveals both her vanity and insecurity. The mirror’s response dictates her emotional state, highlighting the dangerous dependence on external validation that many people experience. There is something of the queen in the main character Jesus met that day at Jacob’s well when He stopped there for a rest. The unnamed Samaritan woman. She meets more than a mirror, but the very embodiment of all Truth in Jesus.



The dialogue between them makes for good drama. She plays little games with Jesus in her responses, but He will not allow it to go on before He confronts her with the whole truth of her present existence. But He does so with loving purpose. He wants to offer her a whole new way of being free from shame and half-truth about herself. She ultimately responds with the comfort and joy of knowing that Jesus is indeed a special Person, and one who loves her into being more of a person herself.

Allow me to choose just one conclusion from this story, namely that our Loving Lord always sees the possibilities in us, and never “writes us off” unless we choose to walk away. In that way, He is like water in the desert to slake our thirst for truth and a sense of purpose in our lives.

We do ourselves no favor if we insist on griping about the trials of our lives, or blame God for their occurrence instead of either on sin in the world or our own failure to call on the grace of God readily available through prayer and the sacraments, especially in the Holy Mass.

God never holds up a magic mirror calculating how best to salve our occasional insecurity. Rather does He let us see the scars left behind on His loving Face from thorns that once dug into His skin. Or those left by nails and sword on His hands, feet, and side. Then we can note our part in His pain at the same time we experience His loving forgiveness.

Meanwhile, so live that when the priest has ended his remarks over your grave, those present will not think they have attended the wrong funeral.

God love you and give you an honest self-perception.

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