

CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA

*I am the
resurrection
and the life.*

JOHN 11:25



March 22, 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/)



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 22, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 21, 2026

4:00 pm Eleanor H. Hintenach
(Deacon John & Caroline White)

Sunday, March 22, 2026

9:00 am Norcia Pasquarosa
(Gerarda Fallone)

11:00 am Charles Calabrese
(Phyllis Calabrese)

Monday, March 23, 2026

9:00 am Available

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

9:00 am Marie Gould
(The LaTorre Familu)

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

9:00 am Available

Thursday, March 26, 2026

9:00 am Elizabeth Annino
(Barbara & Jerry Santangelo)

Saturday, March 28, 2026

4:00 pm Kathleen M. Rivera
(The Bereavement Ministry)

Sunday, March 29, 2026

9:00 am Veronica Trach
(Janet & Tom Noordzy)

11:00 am James Carlos, Elizabeth Scott &
Michael Scott
(Kate Scott & Bob Maras)

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 22, 2026

Monday Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or Dn 13:41c-62 Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday Nm 21:4-9 Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday Is 7:10-14; 8:10 Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11 Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38

Thursday Gen 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Jn 8:51-59

Friday Jer 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 Jn 10:31-42

Saturday Ez 37:21-28 Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 Jn 11:45-56

Sunday Mt 21:1-11 or Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 Phil 2:6-11 Mt 26:14—
27:66 or 27:11-54

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.

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS
FEB 9—FEB 15, 2026**

Weekly Offerings \$ 3,487.00

Online Giving \$ 1,373.00

Total \$ 4,860.00

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

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COR

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



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Come Join Us - All Men Are Welcomed

PALM SUNDAY

WILL TAKE PLACE ON



MARCH 29, 2026

SAINTS #F TODAY

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 22, 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 21

9:00 am BLD Trenton
 10:00 am Grief Support—Little Church
 3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, March 22

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

Monday, March 23

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

Tuesday, March 24

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

Wednesday, March 25

9:00 am Mass
 5:30 pm Confirmation Practice
 7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, March 26

9:00 am Mass
 4:00 pm Confirmation
 6:30 pm Knights of Columbus meeting
 7:00 pm OCIA Classes

Friday, March 27

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

Saturday, March 28

9:00 am Breakfast with the Communicants
 10:00 am Grief Support—Little Church
 2:00 pm Dossous Baptism
 3:15 pm Confessions
 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday

9:00 am Mass
 11:00 am Mass

Monday, March 30

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

Tuesday, March 31

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

Wednesday, April 1

9:00 am Mass
 9:30 am Adoration

St Monica 2026 Schedule of Lenten Services

Ash Wednesday, February 18

9:00 am Mass
 4:30 pm Service
 7:00 pm Mass
 (Ashes will be distributed at all)

Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent: 7:00 pm

Daily Mass

Monday - Thursday March 24 - March 26
 Monday - Wednesday March 30—April 1
 9:00 am

Adoration/Benediction

Wednesday, April 1
 following 9:00 am Mass

Lenten Penance Service

Wednesday, March 18th
 7:00 pm

Palm Sunday Masses

Saturday, March 28

4:00 pm

Sunday, March 29

9:00 and 11:00 am

Tenebrae Service

Wednesday, April 1
 7:00 pm

Holy Thursday, April 2

(No 9:00 am Mass Today)

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 pm

Church remains open for Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 pm

Good Friday, April 3

Liturgy of the Passion and Death of Our Lord

Holy Communion

Veneration of the Cross

3:00 pm

Stations of the Cross: 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday, April 4

Blessing of Easter Food 11:00 am

(No 4:00 pm Mass)

Easter Vigil Service 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 5

Masses:

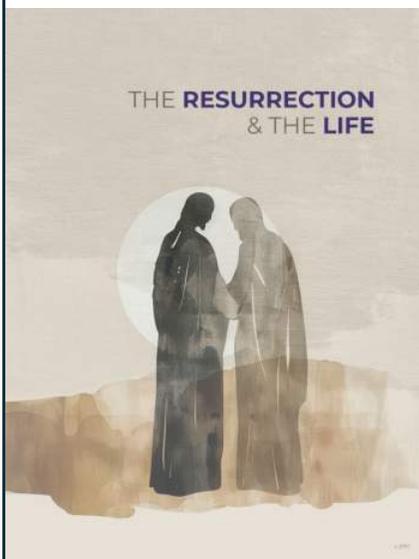
9:00 am and 11:00 am

Reflection

By Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

It can come to us while reading a novel, or hearing a weather advisory, or even in the midst of a conversation. I am referring to a phrase or a sentence that you might say “stops us in our tracks” (if you will accept a railroad term). We automatically know that we will remember the words and what it caused us to ponder. This is especially true of words from the Bible. Specifically, words from or about Jesus our Lord.

We have such a sentence right in the middle of today’s annual reading of the Gospel story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. It is verse thirty-five of the forty-five tableau. Just two words: “Jesus wept.”



Without any intention on my part to detract from the main lesson here, namely Our Lord’s power over death, those two words, to my way of thinking, deserve a pause in the vocal recount of the story as read at Mass, something like the pause we all make after the words of Jesus’ death.

Why? Because they give chase to any thinking that God is a distant person, aloof in His humanity from any of our emotional reactions to the pains inherent with our lives on this earth.

We know that Lazarus and his sisters Martha and Mary were good friends of Our Lord. Definitely Jesus felt comfortable with them when He made His frequent visits and paused from His work. The four of them surely enjoyed a good meal, and sharing stories about their lives and happenings in the village. Obviously, a glass or two of the fruit of the vine passed their lips and sent a gentle lift to their senses to sweeten the conversation. (Parenthetically I ask: Wouldn’t you like to have been present, just to hear Our Lord’s voice and His laughter?)

More to the point, we all know those times inevitably come along when we start to cry. Especially when the event involves something bad happening to people we love or have loved. Or even something happening in your own life that you did not expect. Does that mean we are weak, as some would have us believe? Or overly emotional? Only an outlook that holds we are made of metal or wood, could think such.

“Jesus wept.” Two words that hold out so much comfort to us because they mean “God understands your pain. He is with you as no other god men have invented could ever be.” Time for thanks and rejoicing.

One day a single friend asked a father of four, “Why do you love your kids?” The father thought for a minute, but the only answer he could produce was “Because they’re mine.”

God love you and give you His powerful comfort.

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