

CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA

The
kingdom
of heaven
is like a
treasure
buried in
a field.

Matthew 13:44



July 26, 2026

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

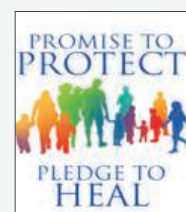
website: www.saintmonica.com
Parish Office: 732-928-0279
Email: parishoffice@saintmonica.com
Fax: (732) 928-1853
Religious Education: 732-928-4038
Email: stmonicacd@yahoo.com

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/



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JULY 26, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 25, 2026

4:00 pm Eleanor H. Hintenach
(Donna & Dale Harms)

Sunday, July 26, 2026

9:00 am Catherine Magauran
(Mary Gould)

11:00 am Michael Scott
(Janet Noordzy)

Monday, July 27, 2026

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist
No Mass Intentions

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist
No Mass Intentions

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist
No Mass Intentions

Thursday, July 30, 2026

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist
No Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 1, 2026

4:00 pm Eileen Salegna
(Fran Hackett & Family)

Sunday, August 2, 2026

9:00 am Thomas Carragher
(Mary Gould)

11:00 am William Boyd
(Mary Boyd)

If you had masses scheduled for this week please contact the office to reschedule your Mass intention.

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, Ray Kijowski, Nicholas Biddle, Matthew Biddle, Dennis Shwiner, 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, Bernadette VanDerberg, Elizabeth Maras, Charles Thompson, Kim McCafferty, Janet Noordzy, Jennifer Aponte

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 – July 26, 2026

Monday Jer 13:1-11 Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21 Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday Jer 14:17-22 Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday Jer 15:10, 16-21 Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18 Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Thursday Jer 18:1-6 Ps 146:1B-2, 3-4, 5-6ab Mt 13:47-53

Friday Jer 26:1-9 Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14 Mt 13:54-58

Saturday Jer 26:11-16, 24 Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34 Mt 14:1-12

Sunday Is 55:1-3 Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18 Rom 8:35, 37-39 Mt 14:13-21

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.



To help you navigate your path in life, God offers His light and His love.

If you are seeking:

- to know more about the Catholic faith
- Baptism
- Holy Communion
- Confirmation

Come explore the teachings and truths of the Catholic Church through our parish's **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)**.

Parish Info & Contacts:

Deacon John L. White
Mr. Kyle Martin (teens)
Registration Begins in August
732-928-0279 Parish Office
parishoffice@saintmonica.com

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS
JUNE 20 — JUNE 21, 2026**

Weekly Offerings \$ 2,869.50

Online Giving \$ 1,428.00

Total \$ 4,297.50

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



Wednesday, Aug 19th 7:00pm

Missing something in your life? Why not try an hour of serenity, stories and spirituality. The Men's COR Prayer Group just might be for you. We don't sit around and just pray; we watch, listen and learn about the life of figures from long ago. Stories woven expertly from the teachings of Deacon John White. You will not be disappointed and you will leave enlightened and invigorated and refreshed for more.

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JULY 26, 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. During the summer meetings are at St. Monica every Tuesday at 5:30 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, July 25

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, July 26

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

Monday, July 27

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

Tuesday, July 28

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

5:30 pm Legion of Mary

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Wednesday, July 29

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

Thursday, July 30

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

Saturday, August 1

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, August 2

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

12:00 pm Women of St. Monica Meeting

Monday, August 3

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

Tuesday, August 4

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

5:30 pm Legion of Mary

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Wednesday, August 5

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

9:30 am Adoration

Thursday, August 6

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

Saturday, August 8

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass (Haitian Missionary Speaker)

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Sunday, August 9

9:00 am Mass (Haitian Missionary Speaker)

11:00 am Mass (Haitian Missionary Speaker)

Monday, August 10

9:00 am Mass

Tuesday, August 11

9:00 am Mass

5:30 pm Legion of Mary

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Wednesday, August 12

9:00 am Mass

Thursday, August 13

9:00 am Mass

6:30 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Grief Support Group

A Journey From Grieving to Healing

**Program Intro
September 13th,
2026**

**At 12:15 pm
Main Church**



Weekly Support Group Fall Session Begins

Sept 19th - Nov 14th 2026 (9 weeks)

On Saturdays at 10 am in Little Church

To Register Call Parish Office 732-928-0279

or email – parishoffice@saintmonica.com

Or sign-up sheets in the back of the church

Church of St. Monica

679 W Veterans Hwy, Jackson, NJ 08527



The weekend of August 8th and 9th we welcome **Dan O'Sullivan**, representing the Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti. In December 2010, Hospice St. Joseph and Haitian Ministries were merged into Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti, Inc. From its beginnings, the mission of Hospice St. Joseph emphasized the importance of providing educational opportunities and access to health care to Haitians in their struggle to secure a better life. These services have been provided from Hospice's original campus in the Christ Roi neighborhood of Port-au-Prince. Also, Hospice St. Joseph has operated a guest house for international volunteers and visitors, as well as for patients from villages who are seeking medical care in the capital. Dan will be speaking at each mass and asking for help to support his ministries. The **second collection** at each mass will go to the Outreach to Haiti.

Reflection

By Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

If you say that someone is a wise guy, you dislike the fact that they think they are very clever and always have an answer for everything. Or that they are cocksure, conceited, and often insolent. Nothing to be proud of as a reputation. Surely not the type of person the Lord urges us to be when He urges us to be wise.

In the context of His speaking of the kingdom of God, He means for us to be the opposite of arrogant but rather to be both docile and desirous of one thing in life: to be part of God's kingdom. That's our one real "job" in this life. Wise people know it and live for it. The question the gospel asks is "Are you one of the wise?"

Asking that of ourselves on a Sunday morning after Mass and we are practically bound to answer "For sure." But it's not the same ready answer a few days or nights later in the week. Or perhaps when we are faced with a personal or family health challenge. Or financial stress. Or parental difficulty with one's teenager. The list seems to change and lengthen as time moves along.



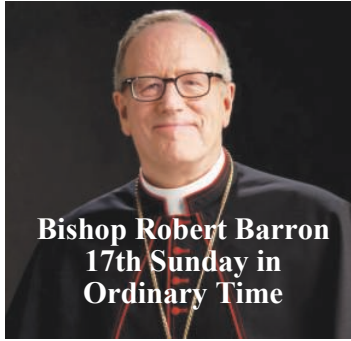
Yet there comes a point in life, acknowledged in the Bible and in our unwritten biographies where we attain a real but elusive "senior wisdom." We've "been there and done that" to the point where we can offer sage advice to the young among us who have the sense to ask us. Of course, in this case the young have to take the initiative. Unsolicited advice is never accepted no matter how wise.

Our Lord Jesus only asks that we get our priorities straight, no matter our age. Yet, it is essential that we have signs and markers along the way. Otherwise, we fall victim to a defective human only wisdom that entices us away from the genuine straight and narrow path. We can get lost. The Bible, Church teaching, and the example of some good older people are those markers,

Once upon a time the young new president of a bank made an appointment with his predecessor to seek some advice. "Sir," he began, "I wonder if you would kindly share with me some of the insights you have gained from your years here that have been the keys to your success."

The older man looked at him with a stare and replied: "Young man, two words: good decisions." The young man responded. "Thank you very much, sir, but how does one come to know which is the good decision?" "One word young man: experience." "Buy how does one get experience?" "Two words, young man: bad decisions."

God love you and guide your decisions this week.



Bishop Robert Barron
17th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Peace be with you. Friends, this week, I want to look at our first reading which is from the first book of Kings. It has to do with Solomon, the great Israelite king who built the temple and puts us right at the beginning of Solomon's kingly career. He's untried, inexperienced, beset by all kinds of self-doubt, most likely as anyone would be beginning a position like that. The Lord appears to Solomon in a dream. Ask something of me, and I will give it to you. Most of you who follow me know that a key moment in the tradition when my spiritual hero, St. Thomas Aquinas, is praying before a crucifix, and the voice comes, Thomas, you've written well of me. What would you have as a reward? And Thomas' answer I'll have nothing except you, Lord.

What's Solomon's answer to what do you want? He says, give your servant an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. God is so pleased with this answer that he promises that he will give it to Solomon. He'll make him the wisest man who's ever lived. Listen, because you've asked for this, and not for long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor the life of your enemies, I will do as you requested. What pleases God is always what brings us to deeper life. Make that an interpretive key whenever you read the scriptures.

So what's he asking for precisely when he asks for this wise heart? He's asking to see the whole of his life and work from the standpoint of God. Thomas Aquinas says wisdom is the view from the hilltop. That means from the standpoint of the highest cause. That's what wisdom means. With wisdom in his mind and heart, he'll be able to choose the right things. Let's say he becomes wealthy, and indeed, Solomon was very wealthy. With wisdom, he'll know what to do with that wealth. Let's say he becomes powerful, and indeed, Solomon was very powerful. With wisdom, he'll know what to do with that power. He won't abuse it. He won't use it for his own ends.

The man of wisdom knows what to do with the victory when it comes to him. Suppose he's given length of life. Okay, with wisdom, he'll know what to do with those years, he won't squander them. He won't use them for his own destruction. He'll use them for his own enhancement. Without wisdom, it'll turn on you. It'll destroy you in short order. What happens to most young people? More often than not, those very qualities they so coveted became the source of their own destruction because they received them without wisdom. So I want you to put yourself now in this position. You're Solomon. The Lord is standing right in front of you. What do you want? What do you seek? What's your answer? And, you know, I'm saying this to myself, too. I'm preaching to myself. If I'm really spiritually honest, gosh, I can feel it even now. I can feel the temptation. Oh, if the Lord answered, I'd ask for one of these worldly goods.

How many great figures in life are undone because they asked for the wrong thing. So there you are now. You're before the Lord. What do you seek? You hear the voice of Jesus asking, what do you want me to do for you? You know the right answer. You ask for wisdom. You ask to participate in the perspective of God. You ask for faith, hope, and love. Because with those three virtues that allow you to participate in the very being of God, you will know what to do with whatever happens to you in your life. And without them, you will not know what to do. And those very things that you sought will turn on you. I think everybody should take that to the bank spiritually. It's one of the most basic teachings of the Bible. What do you want? What do you seek? I'll give you whatever you ask. What would you ask for? And may God bless you.

OLIVERIE - UPCOMING EVENTS

July 8: Lunch & Learn Veteran's Benefits

11am-1pm at The Wisteria, Jackson

Please RSVP by calling 732-719-7250



July 18: Paper Shredding - Manchester

10am-2pm at Oliverie Funeral Home

Manchester Parking Lot

No RSVP needed

August 12: Summer Bingo - Jackson

2pm-4pm at The Wisteria, Jackson

Please RSVP by calling 732-719-7250



August 30: Blood Drive- Manchester

9am-2pm at Oliverie Funeral Home

Manchester

Please RSVP by calling 732-657-4900



September 29: Lunch & Learn Q&A Panel on Senior Benefits

11am-1pm at The Wisteria, Jackson

Please RSVP by calling 732-719-7250


OLIVERIE
FUNERAL HOME
A Life Celebration Home
2925 Ridgeway Rd, Manchester, NJ 08759
732-657-4900
G. Oliverie, Mgr NJ Lic#3833

ST. MONICA
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Registration
for the **2026-2027**
SCHOOL YEAR IS NOW OPEN!

**STUDENT REGISTRATION:**

We are pleased to announce that registration for our Religious Education Program is now available online through Parish Giving. All families enrolling children in the program must create a Parish Giving account and complete the online registration form, including tuition payment. Registration can be accessed by scanning the QR code, clicking the registration link, or visiting the Religious Education page on the parish website. Please make sure to register early—before class sessions fill up and before July 31st—to avoid any late fees.

- ✓ Once you scan the QR code or click the registration link, the registration page will open, allowing you to create your account and begin the enrollment process.
- ✓ Applications are available in multiple languages. To select your preferred language, click the drop-down menu located in the upper-left corner of the application.
- ✓ If you have any questions or need assistance with creating your account or completing the registration process, please contact the Parish Giving Help Line using the information provided at the top of the application. Their support team is available to assist you with any questions you may have.

The QR Code will take you directly to the
REGISTRATION FORM
OR CLICK ON LINK BELOW
to start your account.



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Click here for Step-by-Step
Instructions →
2026-2027 Registration Instructions



Families must be registered parishioners of St. Monica Parish to enroll their children in Religious Education.



Families who are not yet registered parishioners may obtain a Parish Registration Form from the parish office or the parish website. For assistance, please contact Ron or Peggy.



First-time students must upload a copy of their Baptismal Certificate during registration.



Students transferring from another parish Religious Education program must upload a transfer letter from their previous parish.



Families who wish to pay tuition by cash or check should contact the DRE Belinda Mendez-Azzolini to schedule an appointment before July 31st to avoid late fees and to secure a spot before class sessions fill up.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE UPCOMING PROGRAM YEAR!**

Our Religious Education Program, which runs from mid-September through early May, is seeking volunteers who are willing to share their faith and help guide our children in their journey with Christ.

CATECHISTS NEEDED:

We are always looking for catechists who desire to deepen their own faith while helping our young people grow in theirs. Catechists work alongside parents—the primary educators of their children—to nurture the seeds of faith and help children grow in the love of Christ and His Church.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE DURING THE FOLLOWING SESSIONS:

MONDAY
4:30–5:45 PM

MONDAY
6:15–7:30 PM

TUESDAY
5:30–6:30 PM

If teaching is not your calling, there are many other ways to support our program:

- ♥ Substitute catechists for all grade levels
- ♥ Door monitors
- ♥ Parking lot attendants for Monday dismissal times (5:35 PM and 7:20 PM)
- ♥ Volunteers to assist with setting up and breaking down tables and chairs for classes and weekend Masses



Your time and talents help make our program a success and ensure a safe, welcoming environment for our children. For more information or to volunteer, please contact the Religious Education Office at (732) 928-4038 or email stmoniaccd@yahoo.com.

We look forward to another wonderful year of faith formation and spiritual growth with your family.

God bless!

Have a Blessed Summer!!!

“Many hands make light work.”





The 2026 Deacon Mike Principato Scholarship Contest

Please read the directions and questions very carefully before answering them. Your essay will be evaluated by many people. Scoring will be based on you formulating your values in the form of an essay.

This year we are adding a smaller contest to students entering High School. For the High School contest pick **one** of the 10 Commandments and show how that commandment helps you lead a good Christian life.

In order to participate in the Elementary Scholarship Contest the applicant must be entering their first year of High School and be a registered parishioner of the Church of St. Monica, or the child of a registered parishioner of St. Monica Church, or the child of a member of St. Monica's Knights of Columbus.

Prizes for the High School contest are **First place award \$50 - Second place award \$25**

For the College Contest choose **one** of the gifts you receive from the Holy Spirit and show how its life principle inspires the guidelines you base your life on. The applicant must be graduating HS and be attending college for their first semester in the Fall of 2026 or Spring 2027 and (2) be a registered parishioner of St. Monica Church, or the child of a registered parishioner of St. Monica Church, or the child of a member of St. Monica's Knights of Columbus. **First place award \$500 - Second place award \$300 - Third place award \$200. GOOD LUCK!**

Please submit all essays by email to tinman1017@optonline.net as a Word Document. Please **do not** include your name on the essay or anything that may easily identify you, but **do include** your name and contact information in the body of the email in which it's submitted. Submissions are due by July 31, 2026. -

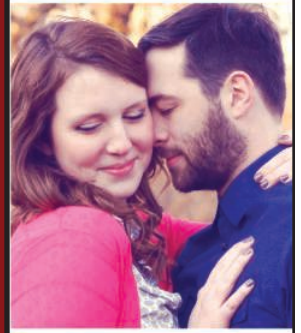
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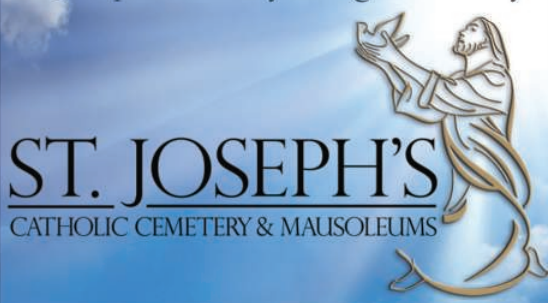
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Jackson, NJ**

62 Cedar Grove Road
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Deacon Christopher Buono, Mgr.
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