

CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA



August 9, 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/



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - AUGUST 9, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 8, 2026

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

4:00 pm John Cannizzo
(Deacon John & Caroline White)

Sunday, August 9, 2026

9:00 am Delores Burkshot
(Jon & Maryanne Tvaroha)

11:00 am Felicia Skrowronski
(William & Linda Patullo)

Monday, August 10, 2026

9:00 am Robert Delello & John Fumo (living intentions)
(Fran Hackett and Family)

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

9:00 am Kristin J. Goraj
(Cas & Lynne Witek)

9:00 am Efrain Enrique Santana
(Joe and Esty)

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

9:00 am Paul Gallo
(The Bereavement Ministry)

Thursday, August 13, 2026

9:00 am Paul Gallo
(John and Maria Dublon)

9:00 am Mary Klepnow
(Mary Boyd)

Saturday, August 15, 2026

4:00 pm Colomba Bina LoCicero
(The LoCicero Family)

4:00 pm John Cannizzo
(Pat Culton)

Sunday, August 16, 2026

9:00 am Jackie Lareau
(Val Smith)

11:00 am Cheryl Vega
(The Anzalone 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, 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 – August 9, 2026

Monday 2 Cor 9:6-10 Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 Jn 12:24-26

Tuesday Ez 2:8—3:4 Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22 Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Mt 18:15-20

Thursday Ez 12:1-12 Ps 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62 Mt 18:21—19:1

Friday Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63 Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 Mt 19:3-12

Saturday Vigil 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2 Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 1 Cor 15:54b-57 Lk 11:27-28

Saturday Day Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 1 Cor 15:20-27 Lk 1:39-56

Sunday Is 56:1, 6-7 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Rom 11:13-15, 29-32 Mt 15:21-28

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.



Check out Deacon John's new Website
www.thedeaconservant.com

SAVE THE DATE!

ST. MONICA PARISH
FESTIVAL

AUGUST 30, 2026

PICNIC 12-4PM AFTER

11AM OUTDOOR MASS

Only 11 AM MASS ON SUNDAY AUGUST 30, 2026



- Wristbands sales will begin next week & continuing after masses
- Adults \$12; Children 2-12 \$3.
- Donations for Tricky Tray, homemade salads or desserts are welcome
- Bring a friend



- Volunteers needed see sign-up sheets in back of church
- DJ, Games, Tricky Tray, raffle and petting zoo

Join in for a day of Fun, Food and Fellowship

Where Everyone Is Family

For further information contact the Parish office 732-928-0279

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS
JULY 4 — JULY 5, 2026

Weekly Offerings \$ 3,336.00

Online Giving \$ 1,618.00

Total \$ 4,954.00

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



Many thanks to Cicconi Farms for supplying
the many wonderful flowers adorning
in and around our church



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. Next meeting is **Wednesday, August 19th at 7:00pm.**

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - AUGUST 9, 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, August 8

3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass (Haitian Missionary Speaker)

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

Saturday, August 15

3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, August 16

9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass

Monday, August 17

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

Tuesday, August 18

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist
5:30 pm Legion of Mary
7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Wednesday, August 19

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist
7:00 pm Men's COR Prayer Group

Thursday, August 20

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

Saturday, August 22

3:15 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass (Special Prep Reconciliation)

Sunday, August 23

9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass

Monday, August 24

9:00 am Mass

Tuesday, August 25

9:00 am Mass
5:30 pm Legion of Mary
7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Wednesday, August 26

9:00 am Mass

Thursday, August 27

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 **James Michel**, representing the Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti. From its beginnings, the mission of the Outreach to Haiti emphasized the importance of providing educa-

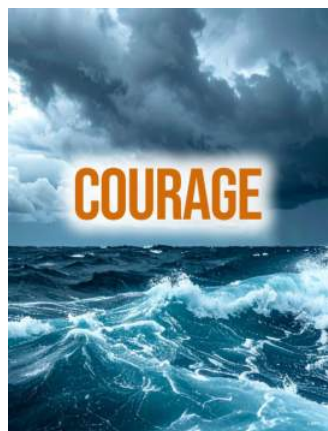
tional opportunities and access to health care to Haitians in their struggle to secure a better life. James is a Haitian American with family in Haiti that he visits regularly as well as the mission. He is a very enthusiastic speaker, and a lot of fun. James is a veteran of the United States Army Reserve and was honorably discharged in December 2002 as an officer after 18 years of service. James has a MBA from the Barney School of Business at the University of Hartford and earned his BS in Accounting at Brooklyn College. James 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 time travel were possible, I would enjoy a relaxed conversation with St. Peter about his past fears, especially his fear of drowning. My own fear of the same happened many years ago when I was a boy on a lakeside summer vacation with my family. I was wading carefree in the cool water when suddenly the soft ground beneath me disappeared, and I started to sink. My arms flailing about happily caught the lifeguard's attention, and I soon felt the power of his strong arms around me as he carried me to shore. My fear of deep water born that day has been with me ever since. This despite several failed efforts to learn how to swim.

In our gospel scene today, we see wonderfully impetuous St. Peter leap from the storm-tossed boat when he heard his Lord invite him to join him by simply saying "Come!" But it wasn't an easy ocean walk. The big fisherman felt small as he started to sink. His one prayer became: "Lord, save me!" Afterward, Jesus had to ask our first pope: "Why did you begin to have doubts, O man of little faith?"



Jesus had always insisted that people should look at a situation in its entirety before they acted (Matthew 16:24-25). He was always completely honest with people, as He still is with us. He urged any who would follow Him to see the difficulties of doing so before they joined Him on "the Way." A thread runs through Christian history of people's failure to count the cost of a decision and not act on impulse or emotion. Dare I cite Judas as an example?

So, it is well to have our own emotions in check when we are considering doing something "for Jesus' sake." Prudence is a virtue. It is not so much a harness on our generosity as it is a cautionary blinking yellow light on our internal switchboard. The rent money, after all, has a built-in purpose.

Like all of us, St. Peter and the chosen Eleven had to learn the truths of the Lord the hard way. Experience is a hard teacher because first you get the test and then the lesson. So, it is wise to pay attention to life lessons from Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

At the Milan Cathedral in Italy there are three inscriptions over the respective doorways. Over the right-hand door there is this motto: "All that pleases is but for a moment." Over the left-hand door the words are: "All that troubles is but for a moment." But over the central door there is a simple sentence: "Nothing is important save that which is eternal."

God love you and give you prudence.



Bishop Robert Barron
19th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Peace be with you. Friends, our Gospel for today is from the wonderful 14th chapter of Matthew, and it's his account of the calming of the storm and the walking on the water. It's a real event, but it's now being presented to us in an iconic way so that we can see all of its theological and spiritual implications. After he had fed the people, Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side while he dismissed the crowds.

Now, the disciples in a boat—that's code. The disciples in a boat is a symbol always of the Church. The apostles, the immediate followers of Jesus in the boat, symbolize the Church. After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. The risen Lord has sent the Church out into the world. Where's Jesus? Well, he's not, in the physical sense, in the boat with them. Where's

the physical Jesus now? He's on the mountain praying. A symbol here, it seems to me of the ascended and risen Christ, now in the heavenly place, interceding for the Church with the Father. What's Jesus doing all day? He's guiding his Church. He's interceding for his Church with the Father.

So it's 2,000 years later, but we're all in the ship of the Church. We're making our way through the waters of space and time, and Jesus, ascended and risen, is interceding for us. Okay? When it was evening, he was there alone. Meanwhile, the boat, already a few miles offshore was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night— now, this is code for the darkest time of the night and it's stormy. The disciples saw him walking on the sea, and they were terrified. I mean, they remembered this so vividly, but let's read it theologically and spiritually.

The Church is being buffeted by waves. They're afraid. At the darkest time, Jesus comes walking on the stormy waters. See, notice, not only managing to swim in them, He's walking on the water. Go right back, everybody, to the opening verse of the entire Bible when we hear, the stormy, the watery chaos. And the Spirit of the Lord hovers on the surface of the water.

This is the creative power of God, listen, bringing order out of chaos. When the Israelites come up against the Red Sea, through the power of the Lord, that sea is split, and they're able to walk through it. So here, the divine Christ is able to walk even on the stormiest waters there are. Praying for his Church all the time, we're meant to take an enormous comfort in this. But notice what precedes the comfort. They saw him walking on the sea, and they were terrified. See, this is the proper response to the power of God. When you see somebody walking on the stormy waters, you know you're not dealing with an ordinary human agent. You're dealing with the power of God. It's the fear of the Lord, if you want, that gift of the Holy Spirit. At once, Jesus spoke to them, take courage. It is I. Do not be afraid. So the power here is Jesus announces to them his own divinity. And it's only in that divinity that we are going to find salvation in the stormy times of life. When we participate in his divinity, we find courage and we find peace.

So Peter speaks to the Lord. Lord, if it's you, command me to come to you on the water. Jesus says, come. And then Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. This is exactly now what I was talking about, that we borrow some of the power and the courage of the divine Christ, and then we are able, yes, even to walk on the stormiest waters. How do we get through these times? Don't rely on ourselves. It's only the power of Christ, the divine Christ. But when he saw how strong the wind was, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, Lord, save me. It's a simple point, but very important spiritually. When you're in the midst of the storm look not to the waves, but to Christ. It's always a temptation is to look first at what's threatening us. I know, it's an instinct. No, no. Keep your eyes fixed on Christ, and then you can continue to walk. The sinking comes when we turn from his divine power to what's threatening us. And then how beautifully it ends.

Jesus stretched out his hand, caught Peter, and said to him, Oh, you of little faith, why did you doubt? And they got into the boat, and the winds died down. Those who were in the boat then did him homage, saying, Truly, you are the Son of God. We're dealing here with the Lord God. And so the proper response is not just to admire him or thank him, but to worship him. Mind you, my fellow Christians, when we stop doing that, we've lost our way as a church.

When Jesus becomes just one more little interesting prophetic figure among many, forget it. We are going to go under the waves. But see, when we trust in his divinity and his power, we do him homage.

Even we can walk on the water. And may God bless you.



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CELEBRATE
THE SACRAMENTS

"I have called you by name, you are mine."

— Isaiah 43:1



For more information,
CONTACT DEACON JOHN

Come and See • Ask Questions • Find Your Faith • Take the Next Step





The next Sunday Movie at St. Monica will be on **Sunday, August 9th at 1:00pm**. It will be "**Father Stu**", a 2022 biographical drama about Father Stu, starring Mark Wahlberg, Mel Gibson, and Jacki Weaver. It tells the true story of Stuart Long, an amateur boxer and actor who overcomes a rough life and a severe motorcycle crash to become a Catholic priest despite a rare, painful illness.

PG-13 2:04 Minutes

Popcorn, candy and water will be provided



walking with purpose

CALLING ALL WOMEN! YOU ARE INVITED TO WALKING WITH PURPOSE

Do you desire to deepen your faith and connect with a circle of supportive women? Join us for *Walking with Purpose*—

A Catholic women's Bible Study program designed to help you fit faith into your busy life. Together, we will explore Scripture, share heartfelt conversations, and uncover the depth of God's love for us. No prior Bible study experience is necessary, and no walking shoes required! Come exactly as you are!



Our journey starts with *Opening Your Heart*, the place where transformation unfolds and new possibilities bloom. Together, we will explore the big questions that help us embrace all that God has in store.

Sign up by email at walkingwithpurposeklaudia@gmail.com, pick up a form at the St. Aloysius Parish Office, or download one from our website www.saintaloysiusonline.org.

For more information, call Pat at 732-370-0500 ext. 204

We meet on Thursday evenings at 7pm in Morello Hall.

We can't wait to welcome you--there's always room for one more at the table!



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CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Growing in Faith
Together as
One Family in Christ*



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STUDENT DISMISSAL

Help ensure a safe and smooth dismissal at the end of classes.



BREAK DOWN TABLES & CHAIRS

Assist on Tuesday evenings after classes in preparation for Sunday Mass.



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
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Help support a safe, secure, and welcoming environment for our students.



Your time and support help ensure that our program runs smoothly and that our students have a safe, welcoming environment in which to grow in their faith.

Calling All
**GRADES 7 & 8
STUDENTS!**



- ✓ Join our **YOUTH GROUP** which meets once a month!
- ✓ Help set up and break down tables and chairs on Tuesday nights. 
- ✓ Volunteer for our **ST. MONICA DAY FESTIVAL** Sunday, August 30, 2026!

These opportunities are a wonderful way to serve our parish community, and all volunteer service may be counted toward their **MERCY HOURS**.

**ST. MONICA
DAY
FESTIVAL**

**A DAY OF FAITH,
FAMILY & FUN!**

*Sunday,
August 30, 2026*

**I'M EXPECTING TO SEE ALL
OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
FAMILIES AT ST. MONICA DAY
FESTIVAL TO START A GREAT
KICK OFF TO OUR RELIGIOUS
ED PROGRAM!**



WE NEED YOU!

A volunteer sign-up sheet for all 3 opportunities will be available at the back of the church. 

We encourage our parents and students to participate and share their gifts through service.



If you are willing to volunteer or would like more information, please contact me as soon as possible so I can add you to our volunteer list.

Thank you for your generosity and willingness to serve our parish community! Your support makes a meaningful difference.

May God bless you and your family!

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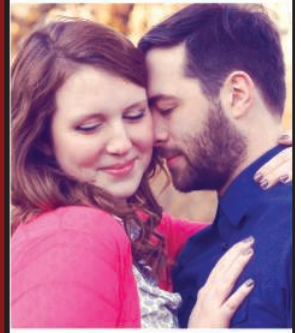
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