

CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA



September 6, 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/



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 5, 2026

4:00 pm Father Joseph Manapuram
(The Vada Kara Family)

4:00 pm Simon & Mary Vada Kara
(The Vada Kara Family)

Sunday, September 6, 2026

9:00 am Pasquale Fallone
(Gerarda Fallone)

11:00 am All Bulletin Prayer Intentions
(Thoughts & Prayers from the
Women of Saint Monica)

Monday, September 7, 2026

Labor Day—Church & Offices Closed
No Masses Scheduled

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

9:00 am Maryrose McEnery
(Marie Gould)

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

9:00 am Michael Stupinski & Family
(Barbara & Jerry Santangelo)

Thursday, September 10, 2026

9:00 am Paul Starr
(The Piacentino Family)

Saturday, September 12, 2026

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

4:00 pm Robert John Armstrong
(Kenneth McNally)

Sunday, September 13, 2026

9:00 am Kathleen Donohue
(The Loftus Family)

11:00 am Raymond Durborow
(William & Linda Patullo)

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, John Catena, Stevie Borrello

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 – September 6, 2026

Monday 1 Corinthians 5:1-8 / Psalms 5:5-6, 7, 12 / Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30 / Psalms 13:6ab, 6c / Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

Wednesday 1 Corinthians 7:25-31 / Psalms 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17 / Luke 6:20-26

Thursday 1 Corinthians 8:1b-7, 11-13 / Psalms 139:1B-3, 13-14ab, 23-24 / Luke 6:27-38

Friday 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27 / Psalms 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12 / Luke 6:39-42

Saturday 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 / Psalms 116:12-13, 17-18 / Luke 6:43-49

Sunday Sirach 27:30-28:7 / Psalms 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 / Romans 14:7-9 / Matthew 18:21-35

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.



On behalf of St. Monica's, I am deeply grateful to all those parishioners who gave of their time, talent and energy in making St. Monica's festival a successful event. A special acknowledgment to all volunteers whose stamina was untiring throughout the day. Knights of Columbus in setting the stage for mass, good spirit from the choir and musicians, The Women of St. Monica who managed the food tables, serving and cleanup, those manning the barbecue, volunteers to sell tickets, manage sales and keep the day running smoothly and all the donations received. The Cassville Fire Department and the Petting Zoo added a pleasant surprise.

Your dedication and effort do not go unnoticed. Thank you for doing your best in making the festival a huge success — Alice Stephens, Festival Chair.

And thank you Alice & Ken Stephens for all your coordinating and non-stop behind the scenes preparing and planning that goes on for many months before the event that you do to make the day a success. The St. Monica family thanks you!

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP COLLECTIONS**AUG 1 — AUG 2, 2026**

Weekly Offerings \$ 3,684.65
 Maintenance Fund \$ 367.67
 Online Giving \$ 1,628.00
 Total \$ 5,680.32

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

Attention Altar Servers!

The Altar Server appreciation party will be held on Saturday, September 19th at 12 noon in the church.

We thank you for your service to the parish and Church, so bring your appetite for pizza and a party on September 19th at 12 noon!



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

PRAYER FELLOWSHIP FRATERNITY

Drawing into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through

Come Join Us - All Men Are Welcomed

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, Sept 16th at 7:00pm.**

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - SEPTEMBER 6, 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, September 5

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, September 6

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

12:00 pm Women of St. Monica Meeting

Monday, September 7

Labor Day - Church Offices closed - No Mass

Tuesday, September 8

9:00 am Mass

5:30 pm Legion of Mary

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Wednesday, September 9

9:00 am Mass

Thursday, September 10

9:00 am Mass

6:30 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Friday, September 11

A Day of Remembrance and Prayer

Saturday, September 12

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, September 13

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

12:15 pm Grief Support Introduction

Monday, September 14

9:00 am Mass

Tuesday, September 15

9:00 am Mass

5:30 pm Legion of Mary

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

Wednesday, September 16

No Mass or Liturgy of the Word on this day

7:00 pm Men's COR Prayer Group

Thursday, September 17

9:00 am Liturgy of the Word w/Eucharist

Saturday, September 19

10:00 am Grief Support Group (Little Church)

3:15 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, September 20

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

1:00 pm Toy Story 5 Movie (in main Church)

Monday, September 21

9:00 am Mass

Tuesday, September 22

9:00 am Mass

5:30 pm Legion of Mary

7:15 pm Adult Choir Practice

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



Labor Day 2026 occurs on Monday, September 7. The holiday pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is observed each year on the first Monday of September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Labor Day weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans and is celebrated with parties, cookouts, parades and athletic events. On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade in U.S. history.

The idea of a “workingmen’s holiday,” celebrated on the first Monday in September, caught on in other industrial centers across the country, and many states passed legislation recognizing it. Congress would not legalize the holiday until 12 years later, when a watershed moment in American labor history brought workers’ rights squarely into the public’s view..

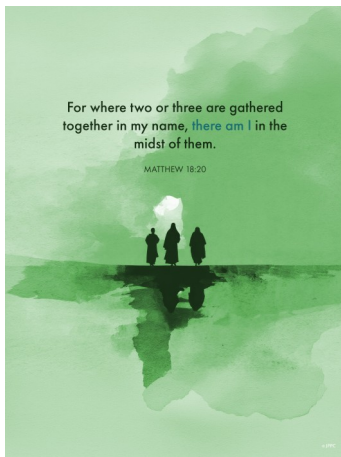
And most US holidays fall on Mondays thanks to the “Uniform Monday Holiday Act” passed by Congress and signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1968. It was thought moving mid-week holidays to Monday reduced workplace absenteeism and stopped mid-week work disruptions and promoted tourism and economic growth.

Reflection

By Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Long before Labor Day became known as the unofficial end of summer and the vacation season, the day of the last beach barbecue and the opening of the school year, it was the one annual federal holiday that “honors the social and economic achievements of the American labor movement. It recognizes the sacrifices and contributions workers have made to build the nation’s strength, prosperity, and standard of living.”

The holiday is rooted in the harsh realities of the late 19th-century Industrial Revolution and the brutal conditions that then existed. “At the time, the average American worked 12-hour days, seven days a week, often in unsafe and unsanitary conditions, while children as young as 5 toiled in factories and mines.”



For where two or three are gathered
together in my name, *there am I* in the
midst of them.
MATTHEW 18:20

Those times are well past, although we also know that developments in artificial intelligence (AI) pose a new threat to workers. We will need new guidelines and protections. Pope Leo’s new encyclical is a very good source for the same.

All of this leads up to a consideration of the guidelines and protection Our Lord offers in the Gospel for the difficult labor of what we call “fraternal correction.”

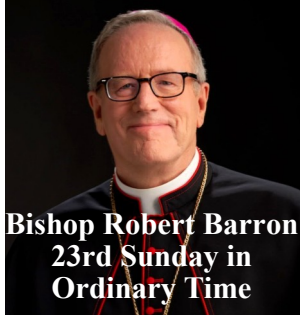
Sometime in life, nearly all of us will face the sad event of a family member or a close friend who is slowly but surely slipping into a life-altering problem. Most often, that takes the form of some addiction, whether to alcohol, drugs, gambling (even online), food, or fame. We note its development. We want to help. We hesitate to hurt. We know we will likely face the other’s denial, anger, and strong resentment of our perceived intrusion.

That’s when we must bear in mind that such intervention is a form of that brotherly or sisterly Christian love to which fidelity to Christ compels us. It is certainly difficult, but a lot less difficult than the love the Lord has for each of us, made manifest and proven by His crucifixion and death, and so often unrequited by us sinners.

We also need to remember the spiritual strength we receive from the Holy Eucharist. St. Paul makes that declaration in his letter to the Philippians (4:13): “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

All that’s left then, for you and me, is a firm resolve to get to work, as we are doing a labor of love.

God love you and give you His strength.



Bishop Robert Barron
23rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Peace be with you. Friends, if there's one absolute in our secular culture today, I would say it's non-judgmentalism, right? To critique someone else is simply an arrogant imposition of one's own perspective on somebody else. Moreover, it gives rise to terrible feelings of inadequacy and self-reproach, culminating in self-harming and even suicide. Furthermore, some people seeking to defend this point of view from a biblical perspective will point to Jesus' famous enjoinder, judge not and you will not be judged, right? I mean, Jesus himself says that, so why do we keep judging people? They also will point to Jesus' great practice of open table fellowship. He had this radically inclusive way of being. He was friend not just to the saints, but to sinners too, not just to the righteous, but to tax collectors and prostitutes. So shouldn't we have a similarly non-judgmental inclusive attitude? Now, what should be clear is that this can't mean, I mean, whatever

Jesus is meaning here, it can't mean that we never point out moral failures. Now, why do I say that with such confidence? Well, because Jesus does that all the time, right? I mean, take an honest look at the Sermon on the Mount, which is a summary of Jesus' teaching. You tell me there's not one word of moral judgment in that sermon.

Or look at Jesus' interactions with the scribes and Pharisees. I mean, a fellow who shouts, you whitewashed sepulchers, impressive on the outside, but on the inside filled with all filth and dead men's bones, I mean, doesn't sound to me like a contemporary inclusive guy. So, how do we interpret Jesus' words in light of our own preoccupation with non-judgmentalism? Well, it seems to me it means we should never assume the stance of moral superiority. We should never lord it over people with our moral rectitude. We should never use the law to aggress others and put them down. Because, you know, fellow sinners, we all do this all the time.

We delight in gossiping. Why? Because we're kind of taking the high ground. Or we use the law precisely as a weapon of aggression. Now, am I doing it to help you? No, I'm doing it to express my own superiority or to give vent to my aggression. I think that's what the Lord means when he says don't judge.

Furthermore, I mean, we should always be in an attitude of welcome and invitation, as the Lord is. I mean, he welcomes sinners and prostitutes and tax collectors. Does that mean he's approving their lifestyle? No, by no means. He clearly doesn't approve and tells them to repent. But the first step in that process is indeed an attitude of welcome and invitation.

So I think that's clear what Jesus means and doesn't mean when he says don't judge. Actually, our second reading today from Paul to the Romans is rather eminently helpful here. Paul says simply and incisively that love is the fulfillment of the law. See, Paul was a man of the law. He went to Jerusalem as a young man to study the Torah, and all the attendant regulations of Jewish life. How do you sum up all these hundreds and hundreds of regulations? And Paul saw it very clearly in the command to love.

And what's love? Love is willing the good of the other. And that's why propagation of the law in a judgmental way is so ridiculous. For the bad attitude undermines the whole point of the law. Think of a parent who'd be so concerned with hurting his child's feelings that he never intervenes when drug abuse or reckless driving or keeping the company of the wrong people became marks of the child's behavior. Is that love? Hardly. That's a kind of cowardly self-protection. No, to love, to will the good of the other, is sometimes indeed to judge, is to intervene and say, this is wrong and it has to stop. Never an attitude of superiority. Never an aggression. It can't mean that. How precisely do you correct another, judge if you want, and stay within the bounds of love? Well, our gospel for today, from Matthew's, is extremely helpful in this regard. If I can put it this way, it's a sort of process of subsidiarity. In the Catholic social teaching, subsidiarity means that problems should be adjudicated at the most local level first, and only when they can't be adjudicated there they should be moved to the next level of authority. So you move slowly and don't run to the highest level. The Lord says, "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone." How simple that sounds, yet how difficult it is. How much easier to complain, to trumpet out on Facebook, to gossip and backstab. That's what we tend to do, we sinners. Jesus says, go to the person one-on-one, and bring the matter to his attention. Go over your life. How many heartaches could have been avoided if we'd followed this rule? Now, if he listens to you, changes his life, terrific. You've successfully judged, but in the context of love.

All right, what if he doesn't listen to you? Go to the next level, and with the same attitude of love. Jesus says, if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you who would share the same perspective. People willing to help the other. Anyone who's been involved in a successful intervention, either on the giving or receiving end. You know what I mean? Someone who's drinking too much, or they're involved in some kind of bad behavior, and there's an intervention on the part of their family or friends. Anyone involved in this knows the power of this move. All right, what if that doesn't work? Well, Jesus says, if he refuses to listen, then tell the church. Let's say the community of those who care about that person in Christ. I love how this gospel finds the path that allows us to judge in the appropriate sense, without ever becoming judgmental. It allows us to do it in a way that respects how the basic meaning of the law is always love. So may God love and bless you.

DIOCESAN MASS OF REMEMBRANCE



CELEBRATED BY

BISHOP DAVID M. O'CONNELL, C.M.,

ON THE **25TH ANNIVERSARY**
OF THE ATTACKS OF
SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2001

FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 11, 2026
@ 7 P.M.

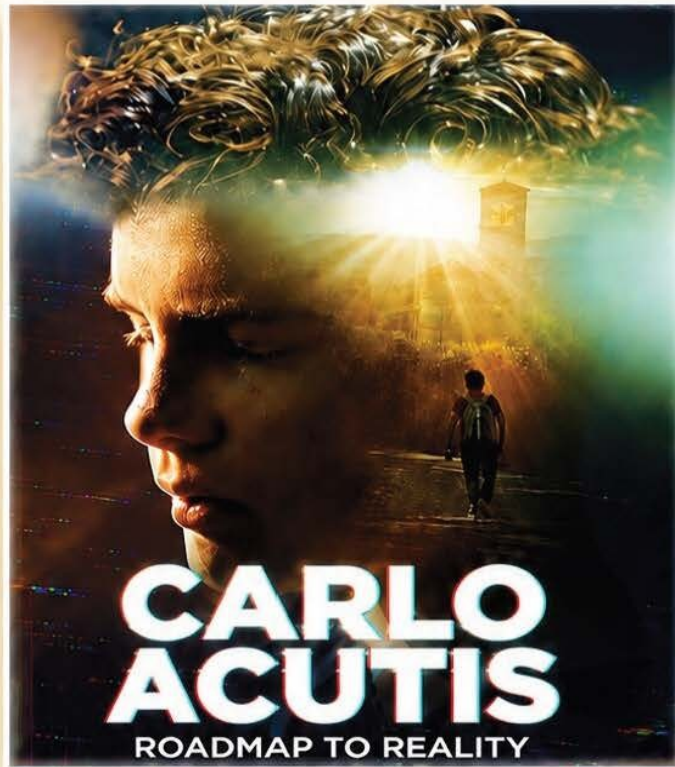
ST. MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
CHURCH, MIDDLETOWN

Mass will be livestreamed on the diocesan YouTube channel at
www.youtube.com/trentondiocese.

*Please join us as
we pray for the
souls of the victims
and their families.*

Bishop O'Connell extends an invitation to all priests and deacons
of the Diocese to participate.

∞ The Parish of ∞
Our Lady of Guadalupe
— PRESENTS —



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Subtitles in Spanish

Friday, September 25, 2026

Lakewood Strand Theater

400 Clifton Ave., Lakewood

Movie begins at **7:00 PM**

Doors open at **6:00 PM**

Concessions and drinks available



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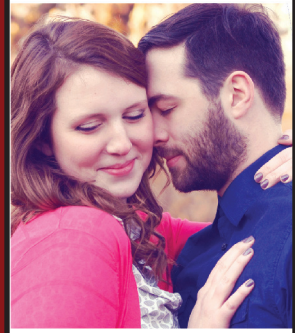
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