



ST. MONICA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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5th Sunday of Lent • March 17, 2024

St. Monica Staff

Fr. J.E.S., Pastor

frhanssteffen@gmail.com

Fr. John Bazimenyera, Parochial Vicar

bazimenyerajohn50@gmail.com

Parish Office - Mon - Fri: 9am - 12pm

Jennifer Lindsey

epstmonica@gmail.com

Phone: (309) 694-2061 ext. 1

CCD Office - Tues & Thurs: 10am - 3:30pm

Pre-K through 8th grade: Sept 10 - April 28

Laurie Harkness, DRE

stmonicaadreep@gmail.com

Phone: (309) 694-2061 ext. 3

Julie Feldshau, DRE Assistant

Class on Sundays: 9:30am-12:30pm (inc. Mass)

Masses

Mondays: No Mass

Tuesday - Friday: 8:00am Daily Mass

Saturday: 4:00pm

Sunday: 9:30am

Rosary - Tuesday - Friday: 7:40am

Divine Mercy - Tuesday - Friday: 8:30am

Confession - Saturdays: 3:00 - 3:45pm

St. Monica Parish Kitchen(309) 699-8458

St. Patrick Church Office(309) 444-3524

St. Vincent DePaul Help line ...(309) 264-5815

Readings for the week of March 17, 2024

Sun: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/
Jn 12:20-33

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

Tues: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Wed: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thurs: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

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

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

Observances for the week of March 17, 2024

Sun: 5th Sunday of Lent, St Patrick's Day

Mon: St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Tues: St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sat: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

Next Sun: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Holy Week begins



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."
- Jn 12:23-24

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCD

A middle-aged woman sat on the couch in my parish office and recounted to me a shocking list of terrible calamities in her life: addictions, terminal illnesses, financial loss, broken relationships, and so on. She smiled as she did so. "Please forgive me," I asked, "but you seem to be smiling as you share this." She said, "Father John, I am totally overwhelmed. But I'm smiling because I just can't wait to see what good things God does with this mess." She expected God would manifest His glory when she most needed it.

This week in the Gospel, God speaks from heaven for the third and final time in Jesus' earthly ministry. It's at a tough moment. Gentiles seek Jesus, who announces his terrible suffering, and then boldly prays, "**Father, glorify your name!**" John then writes: **Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again."** Was the task of drawing the whole non-Jewish world to himself overwhelming? Or was it the terrible specter of crucifixion? Whatever it was, the crushing weight triggers his turning to the Father with an unshakeable *expectation* of divine glory to burst through. And indeed, it did on Easter Sunday. In our burdens, our greatest strength is to turn to God and boldly ask Him for His glory.

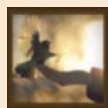
Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to list out everything which is a burden to you. Write it down. Then add these words: "Father, glorify Your name in all these things!" Put that paper in your pocket or purse when you come to Holy Week liturgies next week. You might smile at the most unlikely times.

— Father John Muir



FIFTH SUNDAY
OF LENT

*God in heaven,
Hear me as I call to you! Pour new life
into me! Renew my heart in Your word!
Help me to know You! Help me to glorify
You, worship You, and trust You. Amen.*

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RELIGIOUS ED CORNER**Upcoming Classes:**

March 17th (Confessions: 3rd-6th Gr), &
24th (Confessions: 7th-8th Gr)

**No Class on March 31st, Easter Sunday*

March Birthday:

Annette Burk 3/2

**Quick Peek at the Week**

Sun	St Francis de Sales Book Study	6:30pm
Mon	American Heritage Girls	6pm
	Light of the World (Oct) Small Group	6:30pm
Tue	KC Meeting	6:30pm
Wed	Game Day	12:30pm
	RCIA Retreat	6:30pm
Thurs	Fun After 50	4:45pm
Fri	KC Fish Fry	5:30pm
	Stations of the Cross	7pm

**St Francis de Sales Book Study/
Discussion Group**

Sunday, March 17th, 6:30 - 8:00pm

Please join us in a contemplative study of the book "Introduction of a Devout Life" by Saint Francis de Sales. All are welcome to join in at any time. We meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month in the Parish Hall. Call Kristina Russell at (309)635-4612 with questions.

Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva from 1602-1622, reminds us: "The devout life is a lovely, pleasant and a happy life." He teaches us what it means and doesn't mean to live a truly devout life with poetic and beautiful words that are as pertinent to us today as they were back when it was written. It is a practical guide to deepen our Christian faith and we hope you join us!

This month's reading is Part 3:50-Part 3:60, pgs 108-130

GAME DAY

**Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday
March 20th 12:30pm**



The Hall will be warm and unlocked for
social & game time.

Bring a snack, a game or puzzle, &
a friend or neighbor or two!

All ages are welcome!

**Fun After 50**

Thursday, March 21st

at 4:45pm in the Parish Hall

Potluck begins at 5:00pm. Bring a dish to share.

No Meat provided this month.

After the meal, it's time to Bingo!

Bring a friend or two... the more, the merrier.

Call Don & Maureen Johnson for more info at (309)694-2163

***** No Adult Bible Study (Zoom) *****

this Thursday, March 21th due to Fun After 50.

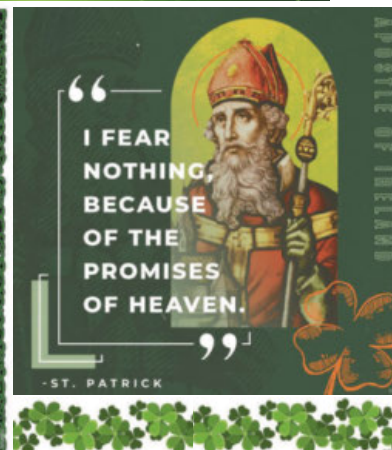
**Knights of Columbus Fish Fry**

March 22nd

5:30 - 7pm in the Parish Hall

\$10 - Fish with baked potato, side
salad, and a roll

\$5 - Hot dog with chips and
applesauce for kids

**All Fridays of Lent
7pm in the Church**

Mass Intentions & Ministry Schedule

Please note that the ministry schedule may change prior to next weekend.
The churchscheduling.com website always has the most recent volunteer information.

Mon, Mar 18 - No Mass

Tues, Mar 19 - Mike Kumer (*Eileen Bieneman*)

Wed, Mar 20 - Pat Wahrenburg (*Max & Joan Cheatham*)

Thurs, Mar 21 - Jack Richardson (*Fel Richardson*)

Fri, Mar 22 - Harold Kastl (*Don & Peggy Keck*)

Sat, Mar 23 - Ellie Maroon (*Al & Eileen Hahn*)

Sacristan: Steve Racki

Lector 1: Bonnie Kumer

Lector 2: Eugenia Shutts

Altar Servers: Rick Couri, Edison Lindsey, & Bill Rogers

Eucharistic Ministers: Joanne Bradshaw, Marilyn Cundiff, Steve Racki, Denise Underwood, & TBD

Musicians: Eileen Hahn & Jennifer Lindsey

Ushers: Jerry Campen & Irma Robbins

Sun, Mar 24 - All Parishioners

Sacristan: Larry Russell

Lector 1: Ava Jatkowski

Lector 2: Maureen Johnson

Altar Servers: Renee Fonseca, Kenny Hoosen, & Jude Palmer

Eucharistic Ministers: Eveline Durham, Eileen Hahn, Don Keck, Clairann Nicklin, & Becky Russell

Musicians: Barb Dolton & Debbie Wenzel

Ushers: Adolph Arnold, Bill Durham, Paul Flynn, & Don Johnson

Counters: Joan Kelso & Al Hahn



Louis Alcaraz, Dee Berg, Jan Bowes,

Dave Bullock, Dan Burwell, Michelle

Bush, Karen Clark, John Couri, Sue Couri, Gordon

Cundiff, John Dickerson, Mike Doering, Sue Frasco,

Leo & Betty Geier, Ray & Fran Geier, Alice & Ray

Giacoletti, Nancy Green, Virginia Hajny, Pat Hammer,

Marilyn Hawkins, Marchele Hayworth, Judy Howard,

Deb Johnson, Lori Kingery, Ian Kumer, Joe Lenac,

Kathy Malson, Sandra Marter, Ray Martin, Fr. Paul

Meisner, Kay & Phil Michael, Al Peplinski, Geri

Reeser, Ed Riley, Irma Robbins, Arlan Roberds, Pat

Rose, John & Barb Salzer, Francis Shutts, Mary Jane

Sommers, Elga Ullrich, Adam Vestal, Leonard Vestal,

Pearl Yaunk, our RCIA Candidates, all fallen-away

Catholics, & for Vocations

To update the prayer list, please call the office.

SAVE THE DATES!

March 25 - 7pm **Tenebrae Service** at St Pat's

April 29 - Diocesan **Traveling Monstrance** at St Pat's

July 17 - **National Eucharistic Congress**, Indianapolis

Sacraments & the Soul

Question: Why do some sacraments leave a character or mark on the soul? Don't all sacraments affect the soul?

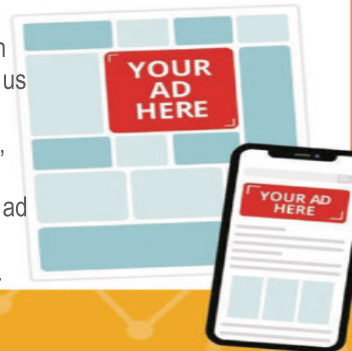
Answer: All sacraments mediate grace and connect us to Christ and to the Church. Some sustain us in our faith journey, while others help us heal from the effects of sin. Each one offers a share in God's life, giving us what we need to be faithful followers of Jesus. But some sacraments change us in ways that are irreversible. The three sacraments that leave a character are Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders. We are literally different people because of the effect of the grace of those sacraments. We are changed at the core of our being in such a fundamental way that we can not go back to what we once were.

In Baptism, we are freed from original sin, initiated into the Body of Christ as adopted sons and daughters. In Confirmation, we are given the fullness of God's Spirit, sealed in his grace and gifted with what we need to live a Christian life. In Holy Orders, a priest is marked as an 'alter Christus,' another Christ, and is once and forever a priest who offers sacrifice, forgives sin, and acts in the person of Christ. In these three sacraments, we are conformed more closely to Christ, reflecting his love and truth.

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**TENEBRAE SERVICE**

St. Patrick Church

Enter the darkness of Holy Week through the Seven Sorrows of our Blessed Mother.

Monday
March 25
7:00 pm

IN REMEMBRANCE OF *St. Monica Catholic Church Parish Families Loved Ones*

Virginia Kumer, Claribel Kluever, Dcn. Charles Robbins, Sr. Martin Therese Gensler, Albert & June Visocky, Albert & Genevieve Gianessi,
Mary Schlink, Kent Malinosky, Ron Rose, Henry & Gert Wenzel, Jeffrey Morgan, Dick & Josephine Gilbert, Clarence Geier Family, John & Agnes Couri,
Richard Aydt, Sherri Shaughnessy, Richardson-McKemy Family, Rearden-Riley Family, Ed & John Corbett, Cecilia Dolinka



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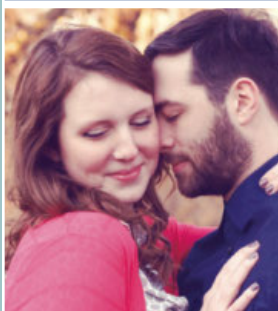
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