



March 14, 2021

St. Monica

Catholic Church



13623 Rockside Road
Garfield Heights, Ohio

Parish Office:
(216) 662-8685

Fax: (216) 662-1245
website: saintmonicachurch.net

St. Benedict: (216) 662-9380
Early Learning Center
(216) 475-3633
OCFCU (216) 663-6800

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is open 8:00am—4:00 pm. Mon., Tues. & Thurs & 8:00 am—Noon on Wed. & Fri. We request anyone who comes to the parish office to please wear a mask. Thank you.

MASSES: 7 days a week
Saturday: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.
and 10:45 a.m.
Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Bulletin Announcements due to sshepka@saintmonicachurch.net by NOON on Friday

PARISH CLERGY

Rev. Thomas A. Haren, **Pastor**
Rev. Theodore Marszal,
Senior Parochial Vicar
Rev. Jerome Lukachinsky,
Retired, in Residence
Rev. Thomas G. Montavon,
Retired, in Residence
Stan Drozell, **Deacon**

PASTORAL STAFF

Sister Helene Skrzyzniarz
SSJ-TOSF,
Parish Catechetical Leader
shelene@saintmonicachurch.net
Bob Soeder, **Director of
Liturgy and Music**
Stan Jakosh, **Business Mgr**
Susan Shepka, **Office Mgr**
Kathy Piggford,
Pastoral Council Chairman
Kathy Wendling,
Finance Council Chairman

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: We, the parish of St. Monica, work to create a Christlike family, welcoming all people where one encounters a loving God, by serving the spiritual, educational and social needs of the community.

BAPTISM: Please make arrangements in advance. Baptisms are performed on Sundays, immediately following the 10:45 a.m. Mass. Pre-Baptismal instruction is required for parents. Please call the Parish Office for time of next scheduled class.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Adults and school-age children seeking full membership in the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist can make an appt. to continue their conversion process by calling the Parish Office.

RECONCILIATION: Opportunities to celebrate God's forgiveness in one's life are available on Saturday afternoons from 3:15-3:45 p.m. Individual appointments with a Priest can be arranged.

MATRIMONY: The Diocese of Cleveland requires a 6-month preparation period for marriage. Call the Parish Office to set your wedding date and plan your celebration.

CONFIRMATION: Any adult or high school student needing Confirmation, please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Celebrated upon request. Call the Parish Office to make arrangements with one of our Priests.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please call the Parish Office to register.

ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Provides Catholic education for students K-8. School hrs.: 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. *Before & After Care* available. Mrs. Lisa Oriti, *School Principal*

EUCHARIST FOR THE HOMEBOUND: Parish Team and Staff Members visit the homebound on a monthly basis. If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion, call the Parish Office.



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday –Friday 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 14

Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:00 Paul Varrati
10:45 People of the Parish

Monday, March 15

Lenten Weekday

8:00 Richard Lenczewski
6:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/w confessions

Tuesday, March 16

Lenten Weekday

8:00 Adam Gregg

Wednesday, March 17

Lenten Weekday

8:00 All Souls

Thursday, March 18

Lenten Weekday

8:00 Glenn Budzinski

Friday, March 19

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 Living & deceased members of Diana and Don Rickard Family
3:30 Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 20

Lenten Weekday

3:15 Confession
4:00 People of the Parish

Sunday, March 21

Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00 Living & deceased members of Kate Hetman Family
10:45 Daniel J. Stanowick



Please keep in your prayers the following members of our Parish Community:

Thomas Obojski, Sylvester Danko, Kimberly and Brie'anah Hill, Johnnie, Carol, Barb, Judy Waters, Philph-Michael Lockhart, Larry & Lorna Piechowiak, Concetta Rimmel, John Spadaro,

Michael Wyrzykowski, Carol & Gerald DeLooze, Alexandria Romanowski, Vivian Budd, Baby Harrison Justin, and Joanne Reddinger. *The names will remain in the bulletin for two weeks. Please call the parish office if your name or a loved one's name needs to be added to the list.* If you have a special intention you would like remembered in prayer, please call Lillian Neptune (216) 662-5464.



Our sincere sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and friends of those who were recently buried: **Albert Pack.** May he and all our faithful departed, rest in peace.

Pastoral Scene

Walking on Water or Sinking Like A Stone

Following the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand, the Gospel writers relate how Jesus sent his apostles by ship back to the other side of the Sea of Galilee while he remained alone to pray. Night fell, the ship became caught in a wind storm, and the disciples, having rowed against the wind for most of the night, saw Jesus walking on the water. Thinking they were seeing a ghost, they cried out but were reassured by Jesus not to be afraid. Peter, ever the impetuous one, exited the ship, and began walking successfully on water toward Jesus, but then began to sink. Jesus reached out and rescued Peter saying "Oh, you of little faith; why did you doubt?"

For years, I always thought that Peter began to sink because he doubted Jesus – but the truth is, Jesus was not sinking! Peter began to sink because he doubted himself. Jesus would not have invited Peter to get out of the boat unless he knew Peter could walk on water.

This story has always been a favorite of mine because it presents the following key truths about faith. When people walk on the water, when people trust God and experience God's power enabling them to do what they could not do otherwise, I think it marks them. I think Peter carried that memory of walking on water to his grave. Peter knew that if he sank, Jesus would always be there to save him. The other disciples could not know that because they never got out of the boat. The fundamental truth of this story in my life is two-fold: To experience the power of God in my life, I have had to take many steps of faith; and If I really wanted to walk on water, I had to get out of the boat.

Not afraid to get my feet wet!
Sister Helene

Religion Question of the Week

What is Canon Law? (Answer on page 3)

Did You Know?

Did you know that in 1957 there were 20 Marymount Sisters assigned to our parish, most of whom taught in St. Monica School?

One Liner

"Boys and Girls will be Men and Women some day".

Reflection for Lent...2021

Lent has begun and the call to penance and self-denial is before us. This season of the year brings back earlier days of Lent. There is something that jolts our memories. Many of us remember that the days of Lent, with the exception of Sundays, were days of fasting for those who were 14 and under 59 years of age. Fasting meant no eating between meals and less portions at each meal. This practice was not a bad one, in that, the loss of pounds were often a result of the practice!

The giving up of certain foods and beverages is also connected with this holy season. I recall a few of my friends who would give up any alcoholic beverages or those wonderful luscious chocolate treats that are often craved. This practice, in themselves, are not bad but the deeper meaning of self denial in the context of the season of Lent must be connected to the life, death and resurrection of Christ.

Lent is an important time in the life of the Christian. Living in a secular society, this holy season is even more important for all of us. The call to practice the traditional ways of Lent; namely, prayer, fasting and almsgiving (helping those in need) conditions us to renew our own personal relationship with Christ and his Church. For those who are limited by their physical condition, the cross which exists in their personal lives can be the means that is offered in union with the sufferings of Christ for the needs of the world.

Another way to look at this time of preparing for Easter is to take each day and be aware of ways in which, we can bring deeper silence into our lives, such as, less music and other noises that can distract our focus on the grace of the season. Other forms of addictive behavior such as hours on the computer, television, or idol conversation can be discontinued and be as effective as denial of foods and beverage.

For some the commitment to attend Sunday Mass, especially when the practice has been lost, could be the simple change that would help them better live out the season of Lent. For those who look for added times with God, daily Mass, devotional prayers of the rosary, Stations of the Cross and Divine Mercy Chaplet are some ways to meet that desire for more quality time in prayer.

A final consideration of Lent is to think of the wider challenges in our society, such as, the needy and the homeless, the unborn and those who contemplate abortion or ending life. Your prayer, proactive involvement and witness to life, carries with it the mark of the Christian.

Lent is an important time of religious growth and development. The more we open ourselves to this time of grace, the more we will be filled with the renewed strength of the Lenten season. Then our Easter joy will proclaim even more that Christ is risen and has conquered sin and death.

A Blessed LENT TO ALL.

Fr. Ted Marszal



Join us every Thursday at 6:00 pm in CHURCH as we pray the Rosary. All are invited.

Pastoral Council News

In every parish of the Diocese of Cleveland, pastors have been asked to establish a Pastoral Council. The purpose of this organization is to work with the pastor in his administration of the parish. The Council is advisory in its scope. Presently, there are ten members who serve on this Council. Each member is a practicing Catholic who assists with the every day affairs of the parish. They serve a three year term. They are of different ages, and include both men and women, younger and older parishioners.

Over the years our Pastoral Council has been involved in many important decisions concerning the spiritual direction our Church is taking. In recent months they have been consulted about our parish security, our Mission Statement, our school (with St. Martin of Tours), our new Church camera system, our Advent and Lent books, our parish fundraisers, and our covid-19 response.

At the present time they are discussing what life can be like at St. Monica's when the pandemic ends. They are also helping to plan for the 70th anniversary of our Church which will take place in 2022.

We are proud of all the parishioners who have served on the Pastoral Council during the forty-five years of its existence. We thank them for helping to make St. Monica Church the welcoming community it is today.

Fr. Thomas Haren

EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES

You are encouraged to remember your deceased loved ones by using the Easter Flower envelope in your latest envelope packet. At this time, we are still not be able to put up the Memorial Bulletin Boards in Church, but the names will be published in our Parish Bulletin as they were for Christmas. We ask that you please CLEARLY PRINT the names on the Flower envelope. Turn your envelope in to the Parish Office or drop it in the collection basket as soon as possible so that the names can appear in our Parish bulletin during the Easter season.



Answer to This Week's Religion Question

What is Canon Law?

Answer:

Canon Law is the official name for the "Law of the Catholic Church".



MONDAY, March 15
 4:15 p.m. Walking Group
 6:30 p.m. Eucharistic Exposition w/ Confessions (+)

TUESDAY, March 16
 4:15 p.m. Walking Group

WEDNESDAY, March 17
 5:00 p.m. G.A. (+)

THURSDAY, March 18
 4:15 p.m. Walking Group
 6:00 p.m. Rosary (+)

FRIDAY, March 19
 3:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross (+)

SATURDAY, March 20
 12:00 p.m. RCIA
 4:00 p.m. Mass

SUNDAY, March 21
 9:00 a.m. Mass (+)
 10:45 a.m. Mass (+)

Stewardship Offertory Collections

March 7, 2021

Regular Offertory.....	\$ 6,120.00
St. Monica Fund.....	\$ 910.00
Misc. specials.....	\$ 462.00
Kids Envelopes.....	\$.25

Thank you for your generous contributions last week to the collection for the Church in Central And Eastern Europe! This collection helps to restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries.

Please continue to mail in your donations, donate online or drop off at the office. You can also drop your donation in the baskets in church. Thank you for your continued support.

CALENDAR FUNDRAISER

Letters have now been mailed. You should receive a letter and calendar for the month of April with prizes listed for each day of the month. We are asking you to buy and or sell these calendars for the cost of **\$25.00 each**. Each day of the month has a designated prize assigned to it and each day a name will be drawn and the winner will be notified. Once your name gets picked, it will go back into the drawing for additional chances to win again! For \$25.00 you will get 30 chances to win a daily prize worth a \$50.00 value, with some days being more!



Letters have now been mailed. You should receive a letter and calendar for the month of April with prizes listed for each day of the month. We are asking you to buy and or sell these calendars for the cost of \$25.00 each. Each day of the month has a designated prize assigned to it and each day a name will be drawn and the winner will be notified. Once your name gets picked, it will go back into the drawing for additional chances to win again! For \$25.00 you will get 30 chances to win a daily prize worth a \$50.00 value, with some days being more!

Please call **Angie & Bill Noyes at (216) 912-8679** for any questions.

The Ladies of the St. Monica Guild will be conducting our annual **Bakeless Bake Sale** again this year. Anyone is invited to participate in this fundraiser. You don't have to be a Guild member to participate. It is a small way we can still try to raise much needed funds to help support St. Monica Church. We are not able to pass out the usual envelopes for you to use this year, but we are hoping you will participate by just placing anything you would like to donate in an envelope marked "**LADIES GUILD BAKELESS BAKE SALE**" and turn it in through the Church collection basket, drop it off at the Parish Office, or even mailed it to the Parish Office if you are so inclined. We will be collecting donations from now through March. We will accept cash or checks made out to "St. Monica Guild." Thank you in advance for your help.

**Garfield Heights Knights of Columbus
 Wednesday Night Dinners: March 31st**

Reservations by Sunday, March 28... 8PM

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Dinner Consists of:

Lasagna, Garlic Bread and Salad

Adults: \$10.00 Children under 12 \$8.00

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♦ **SERVING TIME 4-6 PM**

Pickup at 10806 Granger Road—CLUB 4130

Please leave your complete name, phone number and number of dinners you will be picking up. We will need your phone number in case we need to contact you due to an unfortunate situation that we may need to cancel due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Please no changes day of. Thank you for your continued patronage. If someone else is picking up - leave their name also.

There will be a Divine Mercy Holy Hour this **Sunday, March 14th at 2:30 pm** in Saint Monica Church. Please wear a mask. All are welcome!



Lenten Rice Bowls



Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we will not be physically distributing Lenten Rice Bowls this year. **HOWEVER** if you wish to donate to this fund, please visit our parish website <http://saintmonicachurch.net> and click on the Lenten Rice Bowl link or you may place your check or cash offering in an envelope marked "Rice Bowl" and it will be forwarded. Thank you for your continued generosity.

SPRING.....

OFFICIALLY ARRIVES ON SATURDAY, MARCH 20TH



Try-It: Pie Iron Cooking



Turn your backyard into a 4-star gourmet restaurant with these pie iron meals. Come and join the Cleveland Metroparks to cook until your heart is content. With your own pre-packaged sweet and savory meals, you will have hot, delicious food using just a fire! We will discuss the best way to coordinate cooking outside from fire type to the items that you will need.

[South Chagrin Reservation](#)
[The Shelterhouse Picnic Area](#)
[216.341.1704](tel:216.341.1704)—Call to register

Cost \$5.00 per person

During this program, guests will be preparing their own pie iron pizzas and s'mores pie. The ingredients will include white bread, pizza sauce, cheese, vegetable cooking spray, marshmallows, milk chocolate, and butter. The allergens will include but are not limited to eggs, wheat, soy, nuts, and dairy. A full list of ingredients can be available five days before the program upon request at or@clevelandmetroparks.com. No drinks will be provided, so guests should plan to bring their own, if desired. Hand sanitizer will be available. Reference the [3Ws of layering](#) for more information about how to dress. Classes will begin promptly, so plan to arrive early. Please bring a completed [waiver](#). March 28, 10:00 am—11:00 am, 12:00—1:00 pm, 2:00-3:00 pm

**ATTENTION PARISHIONERS:
We Need Your Help!**

The Diocese of Cleveland was given a unique opportunity by way of a grant from the Catholic Leadership Institute to participate in a pilot program that will result in a multitude of benefits for the parishes of our diocese.

The Catholic Leadership Institute provides bishops, priests, religious, deacons, and lay persons in the Roman Catholic Church with world-class, pastoral leadership formation and consulting services that strengthen their confidence and competence in ministry, enabling them to articulate a vision for their local church, to call forth the gifts of those they lead, and to create more vibrant faith communities rooted in Jesus Christ.

How can you help?

We are asking all of our parishioners to participate in a survey regarding the strengths and needs of our parish. This survey has several purposes. It will...

- Allow our parishioners to reflect upon their spiritual growth and discipleship;
- Identify the ways in which the parish effectively supports that growth and look at opportunities to support that growth more in the future;
- Provide valuable input to help pastors and parish leaders make decisions and plan effectively;
- Help pastors and parish leaders have a sense of where to focus their evangelization efforts.

The deadline for completion is Monday, March 22nd.

The survey should take you between 10-15 minutes to complete. Please note that your responses are kept confidential. Your parish and Catholic Leadership Institute will not have access to individual survey responses.

A link to the survey site can be found on our parish website <http://saintmonicachurch.net> and click on the Parish Survey Link. Those who do not have access to a computer can pick up a paper copy of the survey at the parish office.

Thank you again for your participation in this important initiative!

Fr. Thomas Haren



Lenten Schedule - 2021

Stations of the Cross

Friday - Mar. 19 at 3:30PM

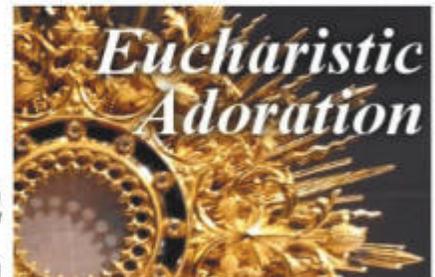


Mary's Way of the Cross

***Friday - Mar. 26 at 7:00PM in Church.**
(Please note the time change for this event)

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
With Confessions**

**Mondays - Mar. 15 & Mar. 22
at 6:30pm**



Confessions

**Saturdays - 3:15pm (Except on Easter Vigil),
or by appointment**

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