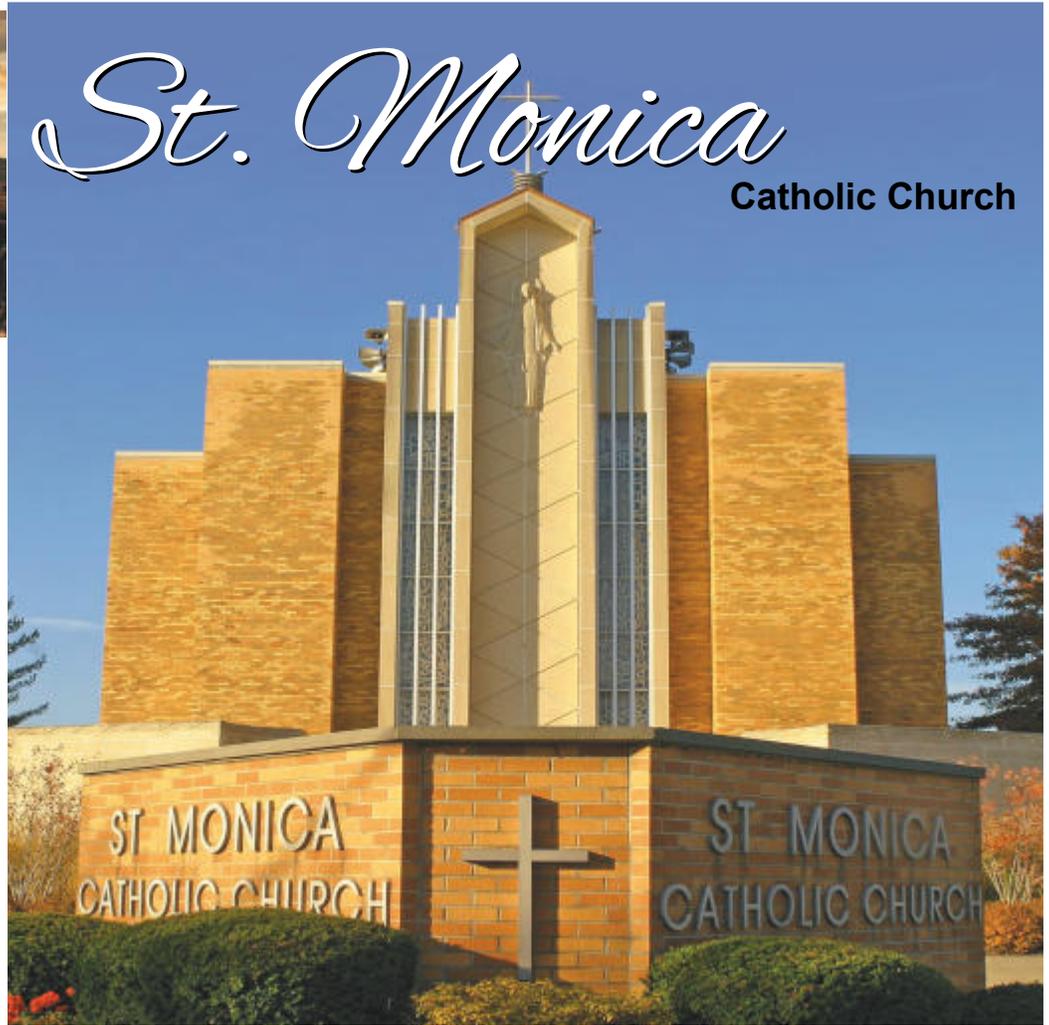




July 18, 2021

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.

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 Skrzyniarz
SSJ-TOSF,
Parish Catechetical Leader
srhelene@saintmonicachurch.net
Bob Soeder, **Director of
Liturgy and Music**
Stan Jakosh, **Business Mgr**
Susan Shepka, **Office Mgr**
Joseph Ungarsky
Pastoral Council Chairman
Bill Simon
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, July 18
Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

9:00 People of the Parish
10:45 Joseph Dubas

Monday, July 19

Weekday
8:00 John Sigmund

Tuesday, July 20

Weekday
8:00 Ignatius & Wiktorja Rowinski

Wednesday, July 21

Weekday
8:00 Carole Mancini

Thursday, July 22

Saint Mary Magdalene
8:00 Mary Walker

Friday, July 23

Weekday
8:00 Living & deceased members of Mike & Cheryl Hanzlick Family

Saturday, July 24

Weekday
3:15 Confessions
4:00 Living & deceased members of Kathy Dishion Family

Sunday, July 25
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 Jenny & Patrick Ballato
10:45 People of the Parish

Pastoral Scene

A Fork in the Road

Yankees’ legend Yogi Berra was an 18-time All-Star who appeared in 14 World Series as a member of the Yankees and won 10 of them! Despite his success as a catcher and manager, he is best remembered for the one-liners he contributed to our American language. They often didn’t make much sense but each contained a kernel of truth that remained with the reader. My favorite is, “When you come to a fork in the road, take it”. Here’s why/

Like you, I make many ‘automatic decisions’ each day that do not take much thought and are part of my regular ritual and schedule. However, when it comes to an important decision that may change the direction of my ministry or my life, the ‘fork in the road’, *nothing is really automatic*. In the same way as coming to a fork in the road while driving, turning either left or right will determine where one ends up. The final destination may be very different based on my choice.

Every major decision in my life has been a ‘fork in the road’ experience – beginning 68 years ago when I chose to enter the SSJ-TOSF Community as an aspirant to the writing of this article. What has not changed in these many years, however, is the process I use for each of my ‘forks in the road.’

Prayer is first, not only as an important part of a decision, but the foundation of all my decisions – especially when these affect the children, teens, and adults whom I prepare for the sacraments and RCIA. What I do is not just about intellectual growth and ritual, it includes the materials and methods I use because these affect their souls even more than their minds and influence how each personal forms a lasting relationship with God.

During prayer, God and I explore the answers to three important questions: *What is the wisest thing to do here? What would I most like to do here? What do I have to do here?* Question three ranks most important in my life when determining the “Thy will be done” especially when it is countered by a “why can’t it be my will that will be done?”

The final seal to my “fork in the road decision” is based on **Jesus’ statement, “Let your yes be yes, and your no be no.”** My Dad taught me long ago that one’s word is one’s bond. Even when saying ‘yes’ places me on a road I never intended to travel, I have found that the experience always teaches me something that I need to use in a future assignment or is God’s way of keeping me in place until where I need to serve has opened.

Before you ask, NO, I am not making any life-changing decisions to follow a different fork in the road at this time. However, having been asked by a number of people how I come to my decisions, I thought it wise to share my strategy.

A “Fork in the Road” Traveler Sister Helene

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



Marge Netzbard, John Spadaro, Charles Sanna, Lisa and Gaylene Bielawski, Joanne Reddinger, Toni Oden, Joan Kaczmarczyk, Joseph & Veronica Mayak, Ng Akui, Ralph Lovell, Robert Trende, Algaheim Babies, Thomas Obojski, Frank Kovach, Sarah Burket, Allen Yakich, Larry Piechowiak, Carol & Gerald DeLooze, Baby Harrison Justin. *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 **Dennis Dolgowicz** who was buried this past week. May he and all our faithful departed, rest in peace.

Religion Question of the Week

In which city did Jesus spend the majority of his life?
(Answer on page 4)

Did You Know?

Did you know that there are five designated Shrines in the Diocese of Cleveland including one in our own city, Our Lady of Czestochowa, on the grounds of the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis (Mary mount Sisters)?

One Liner

“The world has enough for everyone’s need, but not enough for everyone’s greed”. (Ghandi)

Attention Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion



Our homebound parishioners would like the opportunity to receive communion. This usually happens once a month on fist Fridays. We need your assistance. If you are able to help us with this ministry, please get in contact with Deacon Stan at the Parish Office (216) 662-8685

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS: WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Lectors, Ushers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers and Mass Coordinators who are now returning to Church are asked to pray and consider reactivating your ministry on a regularly scheduled basis. In order for our weekend Masses to have the quality and vibrancy they so richly deserve, we need your assistance. If you are able to do so, please call Sue Shepka at the Parish Office (216) 662-8685.

Men are you looking for some spiritual growth?

We are a ministry built upon the essential Catholic components of the Word of God, the teaching of the church and the Sacraments with the Eucharist as its center. Our focus is to deepen and support our Catholic faith and grow spiritually. We are members of Catholic Men’s Fellowship which has both regional and national origins. We are a prayer group that promotes men in partnership with Jesus Christ. We hope that by coming together as men, we will challenge one another, spiritually and provide each other with fellowship. We gather to develop a more meaning full relationship with Jesus Christ through study and practicing our faith in the everyday world. Our group is known in the parish as Men of the Vine. Welcome all that are interested. We meet the second and fourth Saturday of each month in the Aftercare room of the school. **7:30 am to 9 am Call Jerry Perchinske 216-269-9525** for any questions!

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



In Loving Memory of Fr. Jerome Lukachinsky



On June 30th of this year we received the sad news of the passing of Fr. Jerome Lukachinsky. He has been a resident of our parish staff for over thirteen years. Fr. Jerome was ordained for the Priesthood in the Diocese of Cleveland on May 28, 1988. He previously served at several parishes including St. John Nepomucene in Cleveland, St. Bridget of Kildare in Parma Heights, and St. William’s in Euclid Ohio. One of his marks of distinction regarding our parish is the fact that he was the last seminarian from our parish to be ordained for the Diocese of Cleveland. His mother, Donna Rae Lukachinsky, was at one time a secretary for St. Monica Church during the pastorship of Fr. Hugh Gallagher. Fr. Jerome had a special devotion to Mass, the Eucharist, and the Sacrament of Penance. One of his special interests was serving as Chaplain for the James A. Garfield Camp #142 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the American Civil War. His Wake Service and Vespers was celebrated by Bishop Edward Malesic, and his Funeral Mass was celebrated by Bishop Martin Amos here at St. Monica Church on Thursday, July 8th. We will miss his presence at weekend Masses. God bless Fr. Lukachinsky.

Confirmation – it isn’t just for Eighth Graders

While it is customary to think of Confirmation as the sacrament that is received by students during the year they graduate from elementary school, for one reason or another, Catholics may have reached adulthood without having had the opportunity to celebrate their final Sacrament of Initiation.



The Sacrament of Confirmation is required if you plan to be a sponsor at Baptism or at Confirmation. **If you are an older teen or an adult who wishes to be confirmed, please contact Sister Helene at the Parish Office (216-662-8685 x191).**

Saint Monica Parish will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 4:00 PM Mass on Saturday, November 20, 2021. Preparation sessions for this sacrament will begin in September.



- MONDAY, July 19**
4:15 p.m. Walking Group
- TUESDAY, July 20**
6:00 p.m. SVDP Mtg. (p)
- WEDNESDAY, July 21**
4:00 p.m. RCIA (J)
5:00 p.m. Baseball Organization (blfld)
7:00 p.m. G.A. (p)
- THURSDAY, July 22**
4:15 p.m. Walking Group
5:00 p.m. Adult Confirmation (F)
6:00 p.m. Rosary (+)
6:00 p.m. D.H.N. Meeting (p)
- FRIDAY, July 23**
5:00 p.m. Baseball Org. (blfld)
- SATURDAY, July 24**
11:00 a.m. RCIA (F)
2:00 p.m. Baptist Bible Study (p)
- SUNDAY, July 25**
7:00 p.m. A.A. (p)

STEWARDSHIP 

July 4, 2021

Regular Offertory.....	\$ 5,443.00
St. Monica Fund.....	\$ 986.00

July 11, 2021

Regular Offertory.....	\$ 5,387.00
St. Monica Fund.....	\$ 737.00
Misc Collections.....	\$ 9.00

June We Share	
Sunday Collections.....	\$ 6,608.50
St. Monica Fund.....	\$ 721.00

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.



This Sunday we are celebrating the 60th Anniversary of Fr. Thomas Montavon's ordination to the Priesthood for the Diocese of Cleveland. Fr. Montavon served at several parishes in our Diocese,

including St. Colette Church in Brunswick where he was the founding Pastor. For the past fourteen years, Fr. Montavon who lives in Florida most of the year, has resided at our parish during the summer months. He is known for his dedication to the Priesthood, and for his love of socializing with the parishioners. His actual anniversary date of ordination took place in the month of May, during the times of the covid restrictions. With the lifting of these restrictions, we wanted to celebrate his anniversary here at our parish. Fr. Montavon will be the principal celebrant at the 10:45 am Mass **this Sunday, July 18th, at 10:45 am**. There will be a reception in the school cafeteria immediately following the Mass from 12:00 noon until 1:00 pm. This will be hosted by the members of the Guild. All are invited to attend this celebration. God bless Fr. Thomas Montavon on his 60th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood.

St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry

Our Pantry is low on the following Items:
Pancake Mix/Syrup, Cake Mix, Jiffy Mix, Cookies, Fruit Bars, Pretzels, Popcorn, Jello, Assorted Snacks, Ravioli, Spaghetti Cans, Strawberry/Grape Jam, Chicken Noodle Soup, and Pork n Beans

We would appreciate your help with these items. Thank you and God Bless!

Answer to This Week's Religion Question

In what city did Jesus spend most of His life while here on earth?

Answer:
Nazareth.

We are Hiring

St. Benedict Daycare is hiring part time assistants, 20-25 hours per week to assist with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. St. Benedict Daycare is open year round Monday through Friday. Flexible hours are available. Childcare experience preferred. Candidates will need to be Virtus trained and have an FBI/BCI background check completed. Interested candidates please submit a cover letter, resume, and three references to St. Benedict school principal, Mrs. Lisa Oriti at loriti@stbenedictohio.com



The Franciscan Way 2021 and Beyond

The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis would like to invite you to a virtual conference featuring two Franciscan speakers that will share their understandings of the Franciscan Way. There will also be a panel on the second day to share their ideas. The dates of this event are July 23rd and July 24th. For more information about this free program and how to register, please go the website: <https://ssj-tosf.org/event/the-franciscan-way-2021-and-beyond-a-virtual-gathering/>



Don't miss out on an amazing day of faith, family and fun at this year's FEST on August 8th. This year the event will be held at Brookside Reservation. Come and enjoy the best Christian artists/bands: We are Messengers, Tauren Wells, Danny Gokey, and For King and Country. Get all the details and ticket information by going to: www/theFEST.us.

Eucharistic Consistency – Bishop's Discussion in November

Recently in a "pew poll" it was recorded that as many as 69% of American Catholics do not believe in the "Real Presence" of Jesus in the Eucharist. While there may be some doubts about the accuracy of that poll, the results are definitely alarming.

In the month of November, the Bishops of the United States are meeting to discuss a new document which they hope will address this serious problem. They hope to clearly express what the Sacrament of Holy Communion means in our Catholic Church. Not only will they talk about what we believe about the Eucharist, but also the responsibility we undertake when we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus. The mystery of the Eucharist must be lived in our daily lives. This obligation cannot be taken lightly. The bishops hope, through their discussion, to reinvigorate the sense of sacredness in our reception of Holy Communion. They also want to renew the moral "consistency" required to be able to partake of the Eucharist. St. Paul wrote; "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord. A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgement upon himself (1Cor 11/ 27-29). A person must be living in the state of grace in order to receive Holy Communion.

Our belief in the Eucharist as the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus is central to our Catholic Faith. Please pray for our Bishops as they prepare to reintroduce this important teaching to our American Catholics.

Fr. Thomas Haren

ALL SAINTS CEMETERY – Pre-Planning Seminar

The Catholic Cemeteries Association invites you to attend a 1-hour Pre-Planning Seminar on **Saturday, July 24, 2021**, at 1 p.m. Learn about your Catholic burial options, including options for cremated remains. Attendees will receive a personal reference guide and a special discount coupon. Please know the CCA follows the current CDC guidance regarding COVID-19 protocols. We kindly ask that you RSVP to this event to **All Saints Cemetery - 480 W. Highland Rd., Northfield** **RSVP 216/641-7575 ext. 5.**

Garfield Heights Knights of Columbus Wednesday Night Dinners: July

Reservations by Sunday, July 25..8PM \$10.00 per dinner
Wednesday, July 28—City Chicken

Prepared by Lori's Custom Catering ---
phone 216-662-2277 --- MAILBOX # 2

Dinner Consists of:

1 large City Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, and Watermelon Wedge \$10.00 per meal
EVERYTHING IS PACKAGED - PRE-ORDER ONLY
Curbside Pickup- Ready to heat -

NO BAKERY-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. Please no changes day of. Thank you for your continued patronage. If someone else is picking up - leave their name also. With the COVID-19 restrictions being lifted, we are thinking of bringing back sit down meals. We are asking if you, our customers, are interested in coming back. When reserving your dinners, please let us know of your vote. If this happens, it will be the LAST WEDNESDAY only. The second Wednesday will stay as take-out. The bulletins and voicemails will keep you updated.

Trinity High School is looking for van drivers for the 2021-2022 school year. We have openings for mornings and afternoons, for a few days a week or up to 30 hours. For more information, please contact Jenn Newrones at 216-581-5753 or newronesj@ths.org.



Were the Last 18 Months an Apocalypse?

I believe this past year and a-half has been an apocalyptic time, though not necessarily in the way we might think. For most people the word "apocalypse" stirs up "the rapture", end-of-the-world scenes, violence, fear, and judgement. Although the term was also appended to Covid 19 discussions, the actual meaning of "apocalypse" paints a far different picture from the words I used above.

The term "apocalypse" comes from two Greek words: *kaluptein* that means 'to cover' and *apo* that means "un". Based on its etymology, the word "apocalypse" means 'to uncover or to unveil'. However, the key to uncovering or revealing something new is that we need to move or change our thinking about what was originally thought. A true apocalypse requires changing what was originally thought.

For example, Covid 19 has changed the way many of us think about keeping healthy (even after being vaccinated), washing/sanitizing our hands, maintaining physical distance, sometimes wearing masks, and being very aware of cleanliness standards in the places we visit or stay. In an unexplainable way, we changed the way we think about many of the practices in our lives that were routine. Something outside of the ordinary becomes the force for a change in how we think and act.

This is what apocalyptic literature was designed to do in Jewish and Christian circles in the very early Church. It helped believers to make room for something new by rethinking what they heard without relying on conventional wisdom and a taken-for-granted world. Unfortunately, we are not 'early Christians' and we rarely hear apocalyptic readings in the Liturgy. Overall, fewer than 10% of Liturgical readings are from Revelation, and those that are proclaimed are what I term, 'the gentler readings'.

Over the summer I will submit what I call 'mini columns' that will explain in easy-to-understand language the symbols and themes of *Revelation*. This is not a 'study class' by any means! It will simply make what you hear proclaimed in these liturgical readings more understandable. And IF the category Books of the Bible comes up on Jeopardy, and **Revelation** is the topic, imagine the advantage you will have in wowing people in the room with your knowledge.

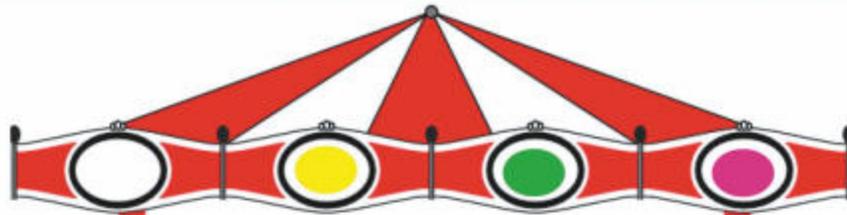
Sr. Helene



AUGUST 8, 2021 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
OPEN HOUSE

St. Benedict Daycare
 Opening Fall 2021
 Offering services for children 6 weeks - preschool
 Full time and part time care - 9 and 12 month program
 Located at St. Martin of Tours campus
 14600 Turney Road, Maple Heights

Please call the school office at 216-475-3633 for Registration Information



**St. Monica Parish
Homecoming
Picnic & Raffle
August 29, 2021**



**Outdoor Mass at 12:30 p.m.
at the Parish Pavilion and tent.**

Plenty of seats for all.

Please join us for this special liturgy.

(This is in addition to our normal Mass schedule)

*Right after Mass, we will be selling picnic
food at a nominal cost*

We will serve until we are sold out!

Multiple Serving Lines

**Hot Dogs • Hamburgers • Italian Sausage
Pop • Water • Beer • Ice Cream**



**Entertainment Provided By
Alex Bevan**

Alex Bevan has been picking up his guitar and going to perform for audiences for over forty six years... singing primarily songs of his own crafting and supported mostly by his deft guitar picking and agile improvisational wit....

- **Chinese Raffle Baskets • "Spirit" Raffle**
- **Guessing Game - All day • 50/50 Raffles**
- **Drawing for the winners of the Parish Raffle at 5 p.m.**



Shop on Amazon and Support Our Parish

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to St. Monica Church when you follow the link on our Parish Website!

Here's how to do it:

1. Go to our Parish Website: <http://saintmonicachurch.net>
2. Locate the Amazon Link located on our Home Page:



Click on this Link

3. Clicking on this link will take you to the Amazon Smile page.
4. Click on the button that says: "Start Shopping"
5. Follow the easy instructions and that's it!

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

The 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Chant

Our God is Here (Journeysongs #771)

And we cry: "Holy! Holy! Holy are you!" And we cry: "Holy! Holy! Holy and true!"

Amen, we do believe our God is here.

1. Here in this time, here in this place,
here we are standing face to face.
Here in our hearts, here in our lives, our God is here.
Here for the broken, here for the strong,
here in this temple we belong.
Here in our hearts, here in our lives, our God is here.
2. Here in the Word, God is revealed,
here where the wounded can be healed.
Here in our hearts, here in our lives, our God is here.
Here we become what we receive,
here in the Eucharistic feast.
We are his body, living as one; our God is here.

Text and music: Chris Maglia, b. 1971. Copyright © 2001, Chris Maglia. Published by spiritsongs.com, a division of OCP Publications, Portland OR. Reprinted with permission of OneLicense.net Lic. #A-702569 All rights reserved.

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Text: Psalm 23. Music: Owen Alstott. Copyright ©1977, 1990 by OCP Publications, Portland OR. Reprinted with permission Lic. #RN2984406.1. All rights reserved.

Offertory Chant:

Transfigure Us, O Lord (Breaking Bread #509)

Transfigure us, O Lord. Transfigure us, O Lord.
Break the chains that bind us; speak your healing word,
and where you lead we'll follow. Transfigure us, O Lord.

1. Down from heights of glory into the depths below,
the love of God self-emptied, the love of God to show.
You light the path before us, the way that we must go.
2. Light for those in darkness, the hungry have their fill,
glad tidings for the humble,
the healing of all ills;
in these we glimpse your glory, God's promises fulfilled.
3. Pardon for the sinner, a shepherd for the sheep,
a drink of living water for all who thirst and seek,
and feasting at your table, the lowly and the least.
4. To the holy city, Jerusalem, you go;
your face set toward the ending,
the cross to be your throne.
Shall we journey with you and share your paschal road?

Text: Based on Matthew 17:1-9; Mark 9:2-10; Luke 9:28b-36. Text and music Copyright © 2003 by OCP Publications. Reprinted with permission Lic. #RN2984406.1. All Rights Reserved.

Communion Chant:

Shepherd Me, O God

Shepherd me, O God beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

1. God is my Shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
2. Gently you raise me, and heal my weary soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.
3. Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff my comfort and my hope.
4. You have set me a banquet of love
in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.
5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God for years to come.

Words: Based on Psalm 23; Marty Haugen. Music: Marty Haugen. Copyright © 1987 by GIA Publications Inc., Chicago IL. Reprinted with permission oneLicense.com #A-702569. All rights reserved.

Sending Forth:

We Are the Light of the World (Journeysongs #629)

We are the light of the world, may our light shine before all,
that they may see the good that we do and give glory to God.

Blessed are they who are poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of God.
Bless us, O Lord, make us poor in spirit, bless us, O Lord, our God.

Text: 10.6.10.6 with refrain; based on the Beatitudes; adapt. by Jean Anthony Greff, 1896-1981, alt.
Music: Jean Anthony Greff. Text and music copyright © 1966 by Vernacular Hymn Publishing Co. Reprinted with permission oneLicense.com #A-702569. All rights reserved.

Reading 1 Jer 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock of my pasture, says the LORD. Therefore, thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, against the shepherds who shepherd my people: You have scattered my sheep and driven them away. You have not cared for them, but I will take care to punish your evil deeds. I myself will gather the remnant of my flock from all the lands to which I have driven them and bring them back to their meadow; there they shall increase and multiply. I will appoint shepherds for them who will shepherd them so that they need no longer fear and tremble; and none shall be missing, says the LORD.

Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up a righteous shoot to David; as king he shall reign and govern wisely, he shall do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah shall be saved, Israel shall dwell in security. This is the name they give him: "The LORD our justice."

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul. **R.**

He guides me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for you are at my side
with your rod and your staff
that give me courage. **R.**

You spread the table before me
in the sight of my foes;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows. **R.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
for years to come. **R.**

Reading 2 Eph 2:13-18

Brothers and sisters: In Christ Jesus you who once were far off have become near by the blood of Christ.

For he is our peace, he who made both one and broke down the dividing wall of enmity, through his flesh, abolishing the law with its commandments and legal claims, that he might create in himself one new person in place of the two, thus establishing peace, and might reconcile both with God, in one body, through the cross, putting that enmity to death by

it. He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near, for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Gospel Mk 6:30-34

The apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." People were coming and going in great numbers, and they had no opportunity even to eat. So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place. People saw them leaving and many came to know about it. They hastened there on foot from all the towns and arrived at the place before them.

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

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