

St. Monica Catholic Church

August 3, 2025

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time



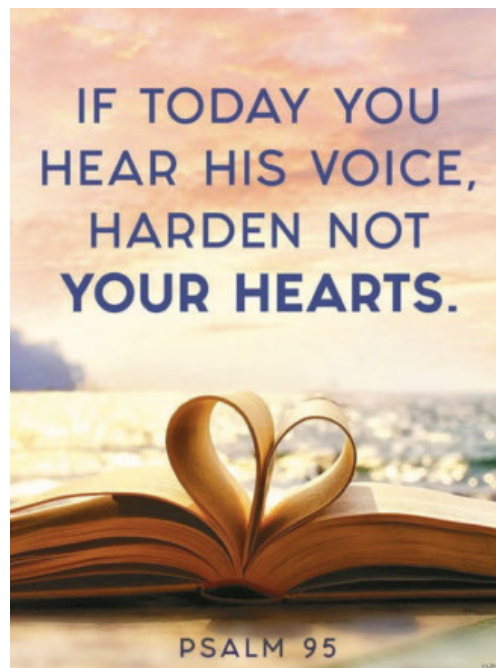
18th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

[Jesus] said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions." - Lk 12:15

Dirigiéndose a la multitud, dijo: "Eviten toda clase de avaricia, porque la vida del hombre no depende de la abundancia de los bienes que posea". - Lc 12, 15

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Leccionario II © 1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.

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Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 4:30 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Daily Mass Times

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 AM
1st Saturday of the Month 8:30 AM

Reconciliation

Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:00-8:25 AM
Saturdays 3:15 PM to 4:15 PM
Or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

First Fridays 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
Other Fridays 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

Our Lady of Sorrows Rosary

First Friday of the Month 8:00 AM

Parish Office: 386-325-9777; 114 S 4th Street, Palatka, FL 32177

Parish Email Address: saintmonicacatholic@gmail.com; Fr. Jared's Email: frjared@stmonicacatholicchurch.com

Visit us on the web at: www.stmonicacatholicchurch.com

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM—4:30 PM; Friday 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Tuesday	Aug 5	John and Colleen Gallagher	Requested by: Mary Riley
Wednesday	Aug 6	Bill & Carrie Cordell (Anniversary) + Charles Mobley + Jacqueline Gulley	Requested by: Rita Smith Requested by: Rita Smith Requested by: Ann Wallace
Thursday	Aug 7	+ Alick Hardie	Req. by: St. James the Lesser Small Christian Community
Friday	Aug 8	+ Steve Mack + Charles Mobley	Requested by: Joe and Mary Iovino Requested by: Ladies Guild
Saturday 4:30 PM	Aug 9	+ Alick Hardie	Requested by: Ladies Guild
Sunday 8:00 AM	Aug 10	Living and Deceased Parishioners	
Sunday 11:00 AM	Aug 10	Troy Goodrich	Requested by: Rita Lambert



Birthdays this Week:

Brittany Andrews	Mandy Guthrie	Bill Black	Jerry Rash	Christian Gilmore
Dean Hagstrom	Patricia Kilgore	Susan Laws	Tracy Battista	

Week at a Glance

Tuesday, August 5th: 8:00-8:25 AM: Confession 8:30 AM: Mass	Friday, August 8th: 8:30 AM: Mass 9:00-11:00 AM: Eucharistic Adoration
Wednesday, August 6th: 8:30 AM: Mass 6:00 PM: Choir Rehearsal (Church) 7:00 PM: Knights of Columbus Meeting (Parish Hall)	Saturday, August 9th: 3:15-4:15 PM: Confession 4:30 PM: Mass
Thursday, August 7th: 8:00-8:25 AM: Confession 8:30 AM: Mass 9 AM-12 PM: Food Pantry (Hall)	Sunday, August 10th: 8:00 AM: Mass 11:00 AM: Mass

Next Weekend Ministry Schedule:

Saturday, August 9th at 4:30 PM Ushers: Bill Black, George Schiffbauer EM (Body of Christ): Cris David EM (Precious Blood): Lina Majesky, Sharon Harris Lectors: Helen Muir (1st), Mary Lawnicki (2nd) Altar Server: Shirley Delaney
Sunday, August 10th at 8:00 AM Ushers: Eddie Dubeck, Connor Donnelly EM (Body of Christ): Megan Romer EM (Precious Blood): Rick and Cheryl Carr Lectors: Chuck Romer (1st), Joshua Carr (2nd) Altar Server: Jasmine and Oscar Lopez-Martinez
Sunday, August 10th at 11:00 AM Ushers: Terry Gilmore, Sammy Sharp EM (Body of Christ): Lisa Bianculli EM (Precious Blood): Sandy Sharp, Jan Schnieder Lectors: Dr. Marcia Parker (1st), Dr. Maria Rivera-Gaw (2nd) Altar Server: Walt Egan



If you would like to sign up for the Traveling Vocations Crucifix, please call the Parish Office or scan the QR code to the left!

ATTENTION: The Diocese of St. Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential, and thorough manner. To Report Abuse, call the police or the Department of Children and Families at (800) 962-2873. Or call the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (903) 208-6979 or email inquiries@dosaf.com. To report abuse by a bishop, call (800) 276-1562 or visit www.reportbishopabuse.org.



Please call the office if you or someone you know needs to be added to the prayer list. Please note that all prayer list requests will be left on the list for 6 weeks, unless the person has a chronic illness, is undergoing treatment for cancer, or has another serious condition. If this is the case, please let the Parish Office know: 386-325-9777. Prayer requests can also be written in our Parish Book of Intentions at the ramp entrance.

Joseph Dame	Buzzy Wiseman	Doug Scott	John Skalnik	James Nicholas	Diana & Tommy Downey
Marilynn Gauthier	William Parker	Darlene Sweat	Christine Taylor	Larry Beaton	Jane Twardowski-Otten
Greg Bodalski	Diane Kinnon	Fred Lininger	Mike Foster	Wayne Short	Alex de Guzman
Cheryl Flockra	Harry Burrige	Carlos Azula	Mobley Family		Marek Maciaga, Family & Friends



From the
Journal of
Fr. Jared

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

As we celebrate the feast of St. Alphonsus Liguori on August 1st, we remember a saint whose life and writings offer profound guidance for anyone striving to live a deeper spiritual life. A brilliant theologian, compassionate confessor, and tireless preacher, St. Alphonsus is best known for making the love and mercy of God accessible to all—and for teaching that prayer is the lifeline of the soul.

Born near Naples, Italy in 1696, Alphonsus was a child prodigy who earned a doctorate in both civil and canon law by the age of 16. He began practicing law, but after a humiliating defeat in court—and a growing sense that God was calling him to something more—he left his legal career behind to become a priest. This choice, made in humility and obedience, would set the course for a life dedicated to Christ and His Church.

In 1732, St. Alphonsus founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (the Redemptorists), an order committed to preaching missions among the poor and neglected. Through his writing, preaching, and pastoral care, Alphonsus became a voice of compassion in a time when Jansenist rigorism had made many Catholics fear God more than love Him. He emphasized that God’s mercy is always greater than our sin, and that anyone—regardless of status or past—can draw near to the heart of Jesus.

St. Alphonsus was a prolific writer, penning over 100 books and treatises. Among the most well-known is his classic, *The Glories of Mary*, which encourages devotion to Our Lady, and *Prayer: The Great Means of Salvation and Perfection*, a powerful testament to his deep belief in prayer as the foundation of the Christian life.

What can we take away from his life and teachings?

1. *The Power of Simple Prayer*

St. Alphonsus believed that prayer should never be complicated or reserved for the educated. “He who prays is saved,” he wrote, “and he who does not pray is damned.” His teaching isn’t harsh—it’s hopeful. It reminds us that even the briefest heartfelt prayer connects us to God’s saving grace.

2. *Trust in God’s Mercy*

If you’ve ever felt discouraged or unworthy of God’s love, Alphonsus would remind you that **God’s mercy is bigger than your worst day**. His pastoral heart urges us to approach God not in fear, but as children running to a loving Father.

3. *Love for Mary*

St. Alphonsus had deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom he called the “Mother of Mercy.” He encouraged frequent prayer to her as a sure way to remain close to Christ.

4. *Perseverance in Suffering*

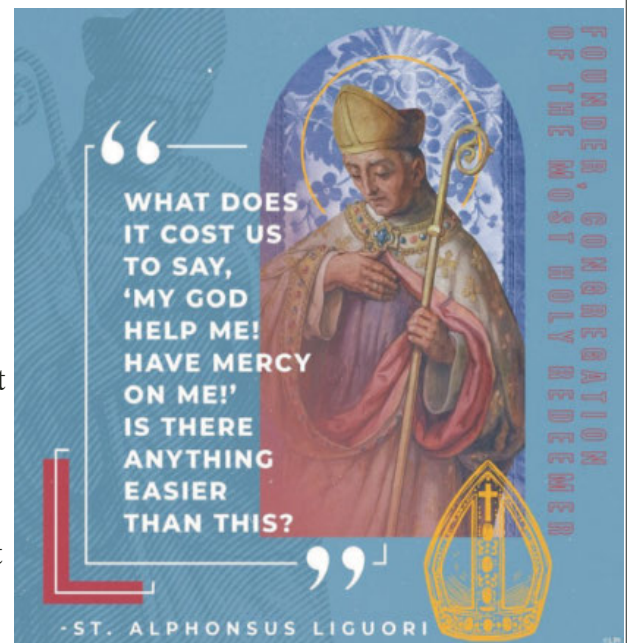
Despite enduring years of illness and spiritual dryness, Alphonsus never gave up. He continued to write and serve, showing us that holiness is not about constant consolation, but **faithfulness in every season**.

As we honor this Doctor of the Church, may we allow his witness to renew our commitment to prayer. Whether we pray in silence, with Scripture, or with simple words throughout the day, may we never doubt the transforming power of turning to God in love.

St. Alphonsus Liguori, pray for us!

Rely on Our Redeemer,

Fr. Jared S. De Leo



Grow Strong in Your Faith

With Carley Romer

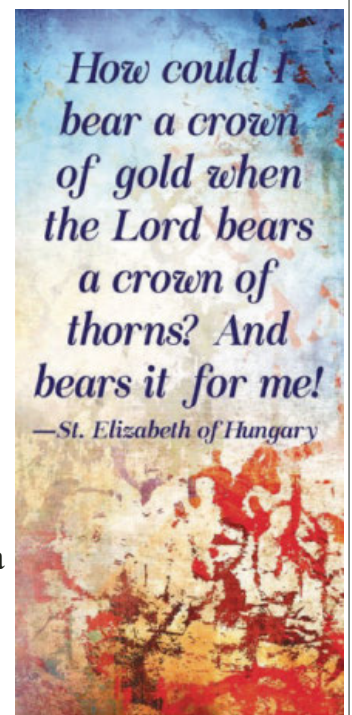
Dear Parishioners of Saint Monica's Parish,

Today the readings center around gaining the whole world and losing your soul. On the surface, this might seem easy to understand. Don't be greedy and be happy with what you have. However, I think just about everyone in the world is guilty of at least dreaming to gain the world. I'm not talking about your dreams as a child to be rich and famous or a professional athlete. I'm talking about the times we wish we had more. A very good example in this summer heat is the desire for a pool. Now, of course, wanting a pool is not evil. The wrong is when we dwell upon it for long amounts of time. What does our soul gain from this time? Nothing. We only become more dissatisfied with what we have and want more.

In one of my favorite books of all time, *Anne of Green Gables*, Anne visits a very rich woman. This woman's house has everything she had imagined for her dream home, and she realizes she's better off without it. Why? Because once you have everything, what more can you dream about? You will keep wanting more and more and will never be satisfied with what you have.

Some of the best examples we have of those who chose not to gain the world are the saints who were very rich and gave up all they could for Jesus. One of my favorite saints is Saint Elizabeth of Hungary. She was the princess of Hungary, queen of Thuringia (Germany), and even was offered the title of empress of the Holy Roman Empire. This woman, who had everything, was very well known for giving away everything. It wasn't always easy. She wanted the comfort and easiness provided in her castle, but she also knew that the heavenly castle was far more important. And so, in her generosity towards her people, she gained love and admiration on earth and in Heaven.

When we do good and work our hardest to get to Heaven, we share light to our neighbors. They'll know we are Christians by our love. This is a world where it has become easier and easier to gain much of the world and lose sight of what is good for your soul. When you make a sacrifice, think to yourself, "There is a bit of treasure in Heaven." Have a blessed week!



With Peace,

Carley

St. Monica Events and Updates



Mission Appeal This Weekend: August 2-3

We are blessed to welcome Fr. Singarayar Arul, who will speak on behalf of the Diocese of Sivagangai, India, at all the Masses this weekend as part of the Mission Cooperation Program.

This heartfelt appeal supports **two life-changing missions:**

1. Feeding the Forgotten: Over 754 abandoned and lonely elders are in desperate need of daily nutritious meals. Many live alone, without family or care. Through the creation of community-owned kitchens, this mission ensures they receive warm meals, medical care, and companionship—restoring their dignity, health, & hope.

2. Educating the Future: The Diocese also runs schools and orphanages for underprivileged children, offering them education, stability, and a chance to dream. Your support will help provide school supplies, uniforms, and a nurturing environment where these children can thrive and succeed.

Your generous contribution can bring light to darkened lives, offering both the young and the elderly the care and love they deserve. Please open your heart and support this noble mission. Together, we can be the hands of Christ to those who need Him most. **You can donate cash, or checks can be made payable to “St. Monica Catholic Church” with “Mission Appeal” on the memo line.**

Thank you for your generosity!

Extended Period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, August 8, 2025

From 9:00 AM—11:00 AM

Sign up is in the Adult Formation Center



Weekly Offering

Thank You for Your Generosity!

July 26-27, 2025

Offertory	\$4,694.88
Catholic Missions: Black & Native Americans (2nd Collection)	\$1,019.00
Building and Restoration	\$73.00
Food Pantry	\$75.00

Jesus urges us to be rich in what matters to God.
The psalmist warns us against hardening our hearts.
Are our hearts open to what really matters?



Opportunity to See Fr. Ignatius On Thursday!

Fr. Ignatius, one of our former pastors, is coming to town this Thursday, August 7th. He will be at Shrimp R Us & More in Welaka at 6:00 PM. You are invited to come visit. You will be able to order from the menu. Guests will be paying for their own meals. Please call or text Karen Lee at 386-972-0316 if you plan to attend, so they know how many people to expect. We hope you can join us!

Bible Study Resumes!



The Bible Study group will resume on Wednesday, August 13th at 5:30 PM in the Parish Library. We will be discussing the readings for the Assumption of Mary (August 15th) & the Sunday Mass readings for August 17th. Hope to see everyone there!

THE OCIA IS OPEN! GATHERINGS BEGIN SUNDAY, AUGUST 17TH

Initial Location – Parish Library Time – 9:30 am

OCIA is the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults – it is a faith journey for those of discerning age that leads to the Table of the Lord and full communion with the Catholic faith.

WHO'S INVITED? EVERYONE!

If you are not Baptized or Baptized but not Catholic and are interested in knowing what we are about –
If you attend with a loved one, but have never received the Sacraments –
If you are fully Catholic and are interested in a ‘Catholic Refresher’ – there is a role for you.

If Interested – ***Be There!***

For further information please contact us at -

E-mail rcia@stmoniacatholicchurch.com or call the parish office 386-325-9777.

Leave your name and phone number. We'll be in touch.

Around the Diocese



Planning Study Update: Attend a Listening Session!

Bishop Pohlmeier is working to address several challenges facing our diocese. Over the next several weeks, the bishop is asking every household to complete a planning study survey in order to gather your feedback regarding the proposed diocese needs. You are invited to learn more about these proposed needs and complete the survey by attending one of the upcoming Listening Sessions and then providing your feedback:

Please consider attending one of next week's meetings:

- Tuesday, August 5th - 6:30 pm to 8 pm - Holy Faith, Gainesville
- Wednesday, August 6th - 6:30 pm to 8 pm – Queen of Peace, Gainesville

A full list of the listening session dates and locations can be found in the summer edition of the St. Augustine Catholic Magazine, by scanning the QR code, or by referencing last weekend's bulletin.



Theology on Tap Jacksonville: Monday, August 11th

Young Adults (ages 21-39) are invited to an evening of fellowship with special guest Ruby Gravrok, MD, at our next Theology on Tap on Monday, August 11th at Legacy Ale Works, 14965 Old St. Augustine, Road at 7 PM. She will be speaking about Theology of the body and Natural Family Planning.



Healing the Pain of Abortion

A Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat is a beautiful opportunity for any man or woman who is struggling with the emotional and spiritual pain of an abortion or miscarriage in their life. Come and receive peace, forgiveness of self and others, and the compassion of God. These retreats are private, strictly confidential, and for people of all faiths. **Our next English retreat will be September 26-28, 2025.**

For more information, call 904-221-3232 or email rachelsvineyardjax@yahoo.com. All calls and inquiries are very confidential. Come and be restored!

A Diocesan Day of Reflection: Saturday, August 9th From 9 AM to 1:30 PM at San Juan del Rio Church



The St. Augustine Diocesan CRHP & Welcome Committee presents

A Diocesan Day of Reflection, with the Jubilee Year of Hope as our theme. Join us for a spirit-filled morning of renewal and fellowship! The day will include Rosary, Adoration, Holy Mass, a delicious meal and fellowship, inspiring speakers, small group sharing and many prayers and blessings. Use the following link to register or scan the QR code:

<https://form.jotform.com/251407593459162>



Exploring the Documents of Vatican II – Part 4 This Monday, August 4th at 6:30 PM

Join us for the fourth part of this speaker series with Bishop Felipe J. Estévez, S.T.D. (emeritus) who will speak about the Declaration on the Relationship with Non-Christian Religions and the Decree on Ecumenism. The 16 documents of Vatican II are over 50 years old, but their impact reverberates in the Catholic Church just as loudly today. During this Jubilee Year of Hope, there is a call to revisit these important Church teachings and reflect on them more fully as we celebrate this year. This series is being provided by the Office of Christian Formation and will be **held at the Pilgrim Center of the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche**. For more information, visit: <https://dosafl.com/event/exploring-the-documents-of-vatican-ii-4/>

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LIMELIGHT THEATRE PROCEEDS HELP CONTINUE OUR MISSION OF SERVING OUR COMMUNITY'S MOST VULNERABLE WWW.CCBSTAUG.ORG



Catholics in Recovery: This Thursday, August 7th

A monthly support group for men and women recovering—or seeking recovery—from alcohol or drug addiction. The group meets the first Thursday of each month at Assumption Catholic Church in Jacksonville. The evening begins with rosary and reconciliation, followed by Mass at 6 PM, then a potluck dinner, fellowship, and a guest speaker in Kohls Hall. Family and friends are welcome.

Scan the QR
code to sign up!



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VISIT AIMCLASSES.ORG TO LEARN MORE!

AUGUST 22 - 6-9PM

AUGUST 23 - 9AM-12PM & 1-4PM

(1-HOUR LUNCH BREAK)

SEPTEMBER 20 - 9AM-12PM

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Funding for this project is provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Grant #90ZB0021. These services are available to all eligible persons, regardless of race, gender, age, disability, or religion.

God Bless Putnam County District Schools!

- Dr. Marcia Parker of CCQSHS

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St. Monica Ladies Guild
Meets 1st Tuesday
of the Month- 11am
All Christian Women Welcome

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undisturbed places of rest."-Isaiah 32:18

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KEEP 'EM COMING,
I'M STILL FIGHTING.**
**SINCERELY,
BUZ WISEMAN,
PARISHIONER**

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