

St. Monica CHURCH

All are welcome here!

Weekend Masses

Saturday at 4:00 pm

Sunday at 10:15am + Livestream

Emmanuel Church

of the Deaf:

Sunday at 11:30 AM



Daily Masses

Tuesday & Thursday: 12:10pm

Wednesday & Friday: 8am



Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

9:00am-3:00 pm

34 Monica Street (at 831 Genesee St.)

Rochester, NY 14619

Office: (585) 235-3340

Fax: 235-8315

Emergency Line: (585) 723-6531

www.stmonicaofrochester.org

Walk with us on:



St. Monica Roman Catholic Church of Rochester Vision and Mission

We are a Resurrection people rooted in our rich Catholic heritage. We are growing in the *SPIRIT*, as individuals and as a faith community. We answer the CALL to LIVE

OUT our Baptismal VOCATION in our daily lives, bringing the LIGHT of Christ's presence to our families, workplaces, neighborhoods, and the WORLD.

We dare to LIVE the LIFE of Jesus Christ, transforming discouragement into HOPE, fear into LOVE, isolation into COMMUNITY.

Join us Online!

www.stmonicaofrochester.org

Visit our website to get connected to all our online resources, including Mass, faith activities and reflections, online giving, and ways to get involved.

Parish Office

(585)-235-3340

Rev. Raymond Fleming, Pastor

fr.ray.fleming@dor.org

Deacon Matt Dudek

matt.dudek@dor.org

Deacon Brian McNulty

brian.mculty@dor.org

Deacon Patrick Graybill

patrick.graybill@dor.org

Jeanne Engelbrecht,
Finance Manager

jeanne.engelbrecht@dor.org

Mary Ellen Fischer,
Pastoral Minister

mary.ellen.fischer@dor.org
ext. 119

Precious Fontenette,
RCIA Coordinator

myrtle.fontenette@dor.org

Margot VanEtten,
Pastoral Minister

margot.vanetten@dor.org
ext. 115

Tracy Jordan,
Secretary

tracy.jordan@dor.org
ext. 116

Angela Nkugwa,
Music & Choir Director

angela.nkugwa@dor.org

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

monicabulletin@dor.org

Jessica Tette,
Minister of Youth Faith Formation &
Communications

jessica.tette@dor.org
ext. 124

Carol Wynne, Director of Finance &
Administration/ Westside Parishes

carol.wynne@dor.org
ext. 121

CYO – Tami Divers

tamidivers@icloud.com

Parish Pastoral Council

jecurran@rochester.rr.com

John Curran - 747-2324

Jake Hart

Mary Fran Kolbuc

Meg Lute

Best Batchateu

Bob Passalugo



PEACE

God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory,
with his mercy and justice for company.

— Baruch 5

December 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

Visit our website and follow us on social media for even more ways to stay connected to our community. For help or to join the parish email list and receive our weekly news, email monicabulletin@dor.org.

**Confessions by appointment –
call office at (585) 235-3340 to schedule.**

Weekly Mass Intentions

Sat. Dec. 7 Rita Pugliese & Norma Caiazza – Pat & Larry Battisti
 Sun. Dec. 8 Bodensteiner & Reifsteck Families – Family
 Mon. Dec. 9 All Parishioners
 Tues. Dec. 10 Gregory W. Fox – Pat Fox Zahn
 Wed, Dec. 11 Michael Higgins – Barbara Higgins
 Thur. Dec. 12 Irving & Ruth Stafford – Jean Button
 Fri. Dec. 13 Joan Giblin – Patty & Ed Giblin
 Sat. Dec. 14 Joseph Siracusa – Maria & Tony Dambra
 Sun. Dec. 15 Kenneth Favata – Joan Favata



St. Monica Financial Update

Over the past few months, our finance team, pastoral council (formerly facilitation team), development team, and staff team have worked to inform the parish that with the projected numbers, St. Monica has about 5 more years of financial solvency. With the collection in the red every week (see page 3), it is increasingly important for us to plan ahead and take measures to ensure the future of our beloved parish. Each of us can help, and there are many ways to do so:

1. Invite people to St. Monica’s Mass or events. We know how wonderful it is to be a part of this community. Let’s share it and grow it!
2. Give if you can to the weekly collection.
3. Put St. Monica Church in your will – see the pamphlet for details on how.
4. Memorial donations – invite people to give to St. Monica in memory of a loved one who has passed away.
5. Living legacy garden plot – “grow the parish” with a plot in our beautiful church garden to remember a loved one.
6. Seniors can give a QCD – see below.

Together, we can work to make sure that our parish continues living out our mission statement: to transform discouragement into HOPE, fear into LOVE, isolation into COMMUNITY.

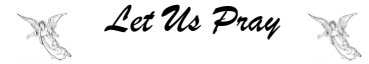


Seniors May Donate and Save Taxes

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to St. Monica Church from your IRA could reduce your 2024 Taxable Income!

- You must be at least 70½ when you request a QCD.
- Funds must be transferred directly from your IRA custodian to St. Monica Church.
- A QCD will count toward your 2024 Required Minimum Distribution if the funds come out of your IRA by your RMD deadline (generally December 31 each year).

Consult your IRA administrator or financial advisor for details.



Our Sick
Donna Whitehair

Our Deceased
Lisa LoCastro
Linda LoCastro's sister

An end to racism
All those affected by violence
God’s creation



THOSE IN THE MILITARY
CJ Arnell, Joshua Bartlett, Zachary Bartlett, Jarid Cook, Andrew Chmiel, Andrea Gerard, David Englert, Richard Lewis, Angela Aviles Lewis, Andrea Christ, Terry Redfield, Jr.

Lamp Intentions for December

SANCTUARY LIGHT



Higgins Family
Barbara Higgins

Fox Zahn Families
Pat Fox Zahn



CROSS ALTAR LIGHT
Donald Wiegand, Sr.
John Delibert

Robert & Jean Vane
Children/Family

This Week at St. Monica Church: Dec. 8-15, 2024

Sunday, 12/8	10:15 am –Mass, Church 11:15 am - Family Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church
Monday, 12/9	12:10 pm – Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass, Church 4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer (contact Dorothy Siegel to join: kenanddor@yahoo.com or 880-5519)
Tuesday, 12/10	12:10 pm –Mass, Church
Wed., 12/11	8:00 – Mass, Church 5:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal, Church
Thurs., 12/12	12:10 pm –Mass, Church
Friday, 12/13	8:00 – Mass, Church
Saturday, 12/14	4:00 pm – Mass, Church
Sunday, 12/15	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Coffee Hour, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church

In preparation for Thanksgiving, our youth group members reflected on all the things about St. Monica's they are grateful for. What wonderful blessings! The posters are on display in the rectory dining room to view during the next coffee hour on December 15. What about St. Monica's are YOU grateful for?



Would You Like to Be a Sacristan?
 Sacristans assist in preparing the church for the celebration of Mass, as well as cleaning up afterwards. This ministry involves ensuring that the gifts for communion are prepared and that the table is set with the items the priest and altar servers will require. The sacristan will also select and guide the members of the congregation who bring the gifts to the altar, light the Advent wreath etc. If you are interested in doing this important ministry, please contact Bob Engle at 329-6313 or robertgengle@gmail.com.

Got Lots of Room for Friends!



Advent and Christmas are great opportunities to invite friends, neighbors, and family to experience our wonderful community. Inviting others is a great way to share the love we feel at St. Monica Church and help our community grow! Give friends a bulletin or send them a link to our website, Facebook and Instagram pages. Let's connect and grow together.

Save the Date

Winter Adult Hors d'oeuvre and Dessert Party
 Saturday, January 25th, 2025
 7:00 PM in the Rectory
 More details to follow.



Many Thanks, St. Monica ♥

We were able to donate 75 queen/full-size blankets, three twin, several throws, and 3 child-size throws to St. Peter's Kitchen. Thank you so much for your generosity as you help those less fortunate to keep warm this winter. May God bless you and all of us this winter season!

Follow Jesus with us:

www.stmonicaofrochester.org

[@stmonicaofrochester](https://www.facebook.com/stmonicaofrochester)

[@st.monicachurch](https://www.instagram.com/st.monicachurch)

[St. Monica Church - Mass](https://www.youtube.com/StMonicaChurchMass)

Our Collection: Week of Dec. 1, 2024

Physical collection:	\$3,371
Online giving:	\$332
Total collection this week:	\$3,703
Weekly expenses:	\$9,423
Weekly Surplus/ Deficit :	(\$5,721)

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE PARISH? WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE?

You are welcome at St. Monica Catholic Church! **Do you want to know more about how to join the parish?** Call the parish office today at 235-3340. It's that easy!

VOLUNTEERS:

All volunteers who encounter youth and vulnerable adults need to complete online Creating a Safe Environment training, background check and sign a Code of Conduct every three years. To complete the online course, go to dor.org online training or email jessica.tette@dor.org for a packet of information to help you.

Bulletin

Did you sign up to receive the bulletin by email but are no longer receiving it? Please check your email settings to ensure you allow emails from monicabulletin@dor.org. Be sure to check your junk/spam folder. If the problem persists, email monicabulletin@dor.org.

Our links in the bulletin are live! If you are viewing this bulletin electronically, hold down Ctrl and click links in the bulletin to visit those sites.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS:

Please send submissions by 4pm on Sundays: monicabulletin@dor.org with 10-pt Arial font and any photos.

How do I give my offering?

- Weekly offering envelopes,** cash, or checks can be brought to Mass or mailed to **St. Monica Church 34 Monica St. Rochester, NY 14619**
 - OSV Online Giving:** Visit our website (<https://www.osvhub.com/stmonicaofrochester/giving/funds>) for secure one-time or recurring online giving.
 - Text 2 Give:** Text your donation amount to 226-7514.
- Thank you for supporting our community and ministries!



Emergency Food: If you need emergency food, you can contact St. Peter's Kitchen at (585) 235-6511 or come to 681 Brown Street Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays 9 AM to 11 AM.



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Victims of sexual abuse should always report to the civil authorities. To receive help and guidance from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, contact our Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Deborah Houzel
 585-328-3228, ext. 1555
 Toll-free: 1-800-388-7177, ext. 1555
 or by e-mail to victimassistance@dor.org.

Creation Corner

Finding Calm in the Chaos

Aaahhh, Advent. That time of quiet preparation when we are invited to go deeply into our inner room and prepare for Love itself to become incarnate in our hearts and our world. Quiet evenings around the Advent wreath, basking in the candles' warm glow ...

Not so much, eh?

More like scrambling around finding presents, driving kids to concerts and rehearsals, figuring out what on earth to give that relative you only see once a year, hiding presents, baking, more baking, figuring out how to fit everyone around the table...it can be a pretty frenetic time.

So here is an early Christmas gift for you. Something that can help you find calm in the midst of uproar, whether it's the pre-Christmas heebie-jeebies or something more serious: waiting for test results, worrying about the job, a sick relative, or just the general misery of so much of the world.

It's a prayer you may have heard of. Someone found it on a piece of paper in St. Teresa of Avila's prayer book. She was so close to God, but at the same time she lived in a whirlpool of stressful labor, journeying and struggle. Many people have found "St. Teresa's Bookmark" a powerful way to turn their hearts to God and find that ability to trust, to love, to abide in the Love which sustains us no matter what is happening.

It is powerful. But don't just recite it: if you memorize it and mentally time it with your breath as you repeat it, you'll find that it has great power to bring you back to that center where the Spirit dwells within you. You can say it while sitting for prayer, while walking, when you wake with the 4am heebie-jeebies... Let it breathe you, so to speak, for at least 10 minutes, or until you fall back asleep, or until you feel its power in your heart.

Let nothing upset you.
 Let nothing alarm you.
 All things are passing.
 God alone is changeless.
 Patient endurance
 attains what it strives for.
 Whoever has God
 is lacking for nothing.
 God alone
 is enough.

May you have a blessed Advent and a bright and beautiful Christmas.

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING A CHRISTMAS BASKET FOR A FAMILY IN NEED

SWEM really needs you to make a difference for our neighbors! The Christmas baskets are designed for families of 3 & 4 people, and for each basket, please provide the following:

- *Fruit cocktail or canned fruit
- *Soup (large can)
- *Fruit juice
- *Instant mashed potatoes
- *Large can of sweet potatoes (15oz)
- *2 canned vegetables
- *Cranberry sauce
- *Can gravy
- *Bag or box of stuffing (12oz)
- *Dessert (Jell-o, or pudding, or cake mix/ frosting, or pie crust/ & filling)

The baskets will be collected at St. Monica's, Dec. 14 & 15 30 minutes before the 4pm and 10:15am Masses at the garage near the Monica Street entrance to the parking lot.

A box will be available for submitting \$10 cash or a check written out to SWEM per basket to cover the cost of meat, eggs and margarine that SWEM provides.

Please place your food in a box, tote or laundry basket and label it if you have all the supplies. Feel free to decorate your basket, box, or tote and include holiday touches of your own, such as coffee, tea, candies, mints, or napkins. Laundry baskets or totes to hold the contents always make an additional gift.

Volunteers are needed to help with the distribution of the Christmas Baskets from noon to 4 pm on December 15. Please call JoAnn DeMott at 313-2614.

St. Monica Neighborhood Connection

Jesus, who is my neighbor?

"Paying it forward" is when someone does something nice for you, instead of paying it back, you pass it on to another. During Advent, two unpretentious eateries in St. Monica's neighborhood make it easy to "pay it forward" in preparation for Christmas.



Brooks Landing Diner owner Tiffany Eady has a bulletin board for customers to post a pre-paid meal receipt. Anyone in need can take a receipt and enjoy a free meal. No questions asked. The diner, at 904 Genesee St., is open every day except Sunday, 7am-2pm.



People's Choice Kitchen owner Van Stanley strives to give back to the community. Her window sign offers a meal to anyone, asking only what they can afford. Customers may donate to her charity fund. The restaurant, at 575 Brooks Ave, is open every day except Sunday, 11am -6pm.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US & THE LORD

HOLIDAY MASSES

ST. MONICA CHURCH · EMMANUEL CHURCH OF THE DEAF
 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION/ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH

All Masses ASL interpreted.

**Christmas Eve Mass Tuesday, December 24:
 4:00 pm with pageant @ St. Monica Church**

**Christmas Day Mass Wednesday, December 25:
 10:00 am @ Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church**

**New Year's Day Mass Wednesday, January 1:
 10:00 am @ St. Monica Church**



ST. MONICA CHURCH
 EMMANUEL CHURCH OF THE DEAF
 34 GENESEE ST.
 ROCHESTER, NY 14609



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION/
 ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH
 445 FREDERICK DOUGLASS ST.
 ROCHESTER, NY 14608

ALL ARE WELCOME... ESPECIALLY YOU!