

St. Monica CHURCH

All are welcome here!



Daily Masses

Tuesday & Thursday: 12:10pm
Wednesday & Friday: 8am



Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
9:00am-3:00 pm

Weekend Masses

Saturday at 4:00 pm
Sunday at 10:15am + Lives

Emmanuel Church of the Deaf:

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
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Mary Ellen Fischer, Pastoral Minister	mary.ellen.fischer@dor.org ext. 119
Precious Fontenette, RCIA Coordinator	myrtle.fontenette@dor.org
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BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS	monicabulletin@dor.org
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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

34 Monica Street (at 831 Genesee St.)

Rochester, NY 14619

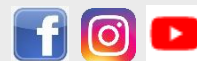
Office: (585) 235-3340

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.



HOPE

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
– Psalm 25

December 1, 2024

First 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. Nov. 30	Patricia Moore – Linda O’Connor
Sun. Dec. 1	Mary M. Rouse – David Yanz Aonica Chamberlain – Sandy Chamberlain
Tues. Dec. 3	Special Intentions – Jean Button
Wed, Dec. 4	Joyce Walsh – Sandy Chamberlain
Thur. Dec. 5	All Parishioners
Fri . Dec. 6	Communion Service
Sat. Dec. 7	Rita Pugliese & Norma Caiazza – Pat & Larry Battisti
Sun. Dec. 8	Bodensteiner & Reifsteck Families - Family



Let Us Pray

Our Sick
Bernard Fischer

Mary Ellen Fischer’s brother

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

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? RCIA is now called OCIA.

During their November '21 U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops meetings, the U.S. Bishops changed the name of the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) to Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). Are you or is someone you know:

- interested in becoming Catholic and receiving the sacraments of baptism, communion, and confirmation?
- baptized in a Christian faith and interested in receiving the sacraments of communion and confirmation?

To learn more, contact Fr. Ray Fleming at fr.ray.fleming@dor.org or Myrtle Fontenette at myrtle.fontenette@dor.org, or call the office at 235-3340.

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.

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.



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.



**This Week at St. Monica Church:
Dec. 1-8, 2024**

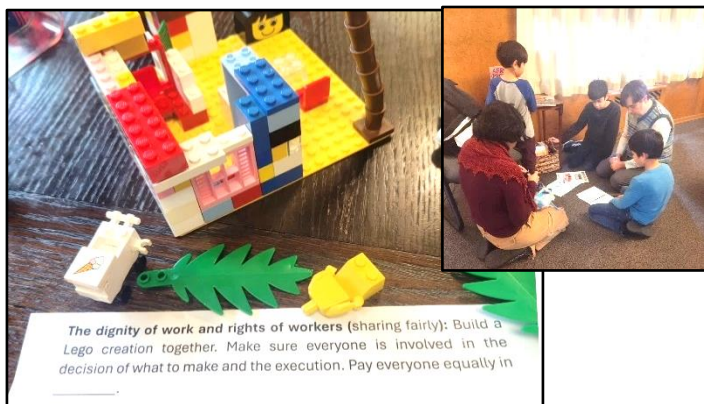
Sunday, 12/1	10:15 am –Mass, Church 11:15 am - Family Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church
Monday, 12/2	4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer (contact Dorothy Siegel to join: kenanddor@yahoo.com or 880-5519)
Tuesday, 12/3	12:10 pm –Mass, Church
Wed., 12/4	8:00 – Mass, Church
Thurs., 12/5	12:10 pm –Mass, Church
Friday, 12/6	8:00 – Communion Service, Church
Saturday, 12/7	4:00 pm – Mass, Church
Sunday, 12/8	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Family Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church

For the past few weeks, our families in Family Faith Formation have been learning about Catholic Social Teaching - the part of our Catholic faith that teaches us how to treat others fairly in the organization of our society. Families cycled through stations to learn about each of the 7 themes and how they apply to our lives. The 7 themes of CST are:

-  Life and Dignity of the Human Person
-  Call to Family, Community, and Participation
-  Rights and Responsibilities
-  Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
-  The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
-  Solidarity
-  Care for God's Creation

Learn more about Catholic Social Teaching at crs.org/resource-center/CST-101.

We are all called, through our faith, to live out these themes and make the world a just, peaceful, and safe place for all of us.



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.



What a great time at the Rusty Halos senior luncheon on November 14th! Keep an eye out in the bulletin for the next one. It's always on a Thursday at Ezzy's restaurant on Buffalo Road. Hope to see you there!

CAN You Help?




We are accepting, on a rolling basis, returnable cans and bottles as a source of income to fund our youth group dinner program. Donations can be brought to the office during the week or to the church or bring your cans & bottles directly to our donation center at 2374 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624 and tell them it is for St. Monica's. Thank you for sharing your love!

Follow Jesus with us:

www.stmonicaofrochester.org

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

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

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

Our Collection: Week of Nov. 24, 2024

Physical collection:	\$3,124
Online giving:	\$695
Total collection this week:	\$3,819
Weekly expenses:	\$9,423
Weekly Surplus/ Deficit :	\$5,604

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

Creation Corner

During the Advent season, the Creation Stewards team will share reflections on the topic of creation. Our first reflection is by former *National Catholic Reporter* editor and publisher Arthur Jones, published online in 2019 and based on Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home*.

Lift Up Your Eyes:

Pope Francis is willing us to pay more attention to everything around us, and he brings in Jesus' eye for detail to emphasize the point.

"The Lord was able to invite others to be attentive to the beauty that there is in the world because he himself was in constant touch with nature, lending it an attention full of fondness and wonder. As he made his way throughout the land, he often stopped to contemplate the beauty sown by his Father, and invited his disciples to perceive a divine message in things: 'Lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest' (Jn 4:35). 'The kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all seeds, but once it has grown, it is the greatest of plants,'" (Mt 13:31-32).

The Pope continues:

"Jesus lived in full harmony with creation, and others were amazed: 'What sort of man if this that even the winds and sea obey him?' (Mt 8:27). His appearance was not that of an ascetic set apart from the world, nor of an enemy to the pleasant things in life. Of himself he said: 'The Son of Man came eating and drinking and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard!" (Mt 11:19). ... In the Christian understanding of the world, the destiny of all creation is bound up with the mystery of Christ, present from the beginning: 'All things have been created through him and for him,' " (Col 1:16).

You, God, took a chance with creation. As you look now on creation and see how much it is despoiled, even after your Son redeemed humankind, is your creation more threatened than fulfilled? I should take some actions on Mother Earth's behalf. O God, let me cultivate ecological virtues.

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!

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.

St. Monica Neighborhood Connection

Jesus, who is my neighbor?

Here are a couple of true neighborhood "mom & pop" businesses that might be able to help with Christmas gift-giving! Both offer gift certificates that can be used any time in the next year.



Arnett Café, at 334 Arnett Blvd., has the neighborhood's most enjoyable breakfast and lunch. Norman and Kim Brown feature inexpensive southern favorites served with flowers on your table, local art on the walls and soft jazz in the air. They're open 8am to 2 pm, Tuesdays to Saturdays.



1872 Café at 431 West Main St. also serves breakfasts and lunches. Paul and Mae Gersonia serve croissants, sandwiches, pizza, soups, salads, homemade pastries, gluten free & vegan menu options, hot & cold coffee & tea beverages. The café is open Mon-Fri, 7-2 and Sat 8-1.