

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

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RCIA Coordinator

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ext. 121

CYO – Tami Divers

tamidivers@icloud.com

Parish Pastoral Council

John Curran - 747-2324

Jake Hart

Mary Fran Kolbuc

Meg Lute

Best Batchateu

Bob Passalugo



Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word.
– Luke 1

December 22, 2024

Fourth 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. 21 Clyde Forbes – Bostick Family
- Sun. Dec. 22 Royal Chamberlain – Sandy Chamberlain
Carlos Perez-Albuerne – Lourdes & Evelio Perez-Albuerne
- Tues. Dec. 24 All Parishioners
- Thur. Dec. 26 Judy & Paul Henderson – Mike Henderson
- Fri. Dec. 27 All Souls
- Sat. Dec. 28 Patricia Moore – Megan O’Connor
- Sun. Dec. 29 Lisa LoCastro – John & JoAnn DeMott



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.

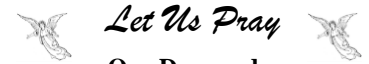


Seniors May Donate and Save Taxes

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 Deceased Rev. Jim Callan

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

Book Giveaway



Check out the two bookshelves in the narthex and take home your very own piece of the St. Monica library! We are cleaning out the library and want to share these wonderful books with our community. Take some for yourself or for a Christmas gift to give someone and know that each book comes with the prayers of our community.

This Week at St. Monica Church: Dec. 22-29, 2024

Sunday, 12/22	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church 1:30-3:30 pm – Christmas Play Rehearsal, Church
Monday, 12/23	4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer (contact Dorothy Siegel to join: kenanddor@yahoo.com or 880-5519)
Tuesday, 12/24 Office Closed	4:00 pm – Christmas Eve Mass & Pageant, St. Monica Church
Wed., 12/25 Office Closed	Christmas Day Mass at Immaculate Conception Church, 10:00 am
Thurs., 12/26 Office Closed	12:10 pm – Mass, Church
Friday, 12/27	8:00 – Mass, Church
Saturday, 12/28	4:00 pm – Mass, Church
Sunday, 12/29	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Coffee Hour, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church

130 Christmas Baskets Given to Families in Need

On December 15th, St. Monica hosted the Southwest Ecumenical Ministries' Christmas baskets giveaway. Families signed up ahead of time to receive a basket that contained all the ingredients to make a Christmas dinner. In total, 130 baskets were given away, with 50 coming from our wonderfully generous St. Monica parishioners and 6 coming from Scout Troop 312. Thank you to all who have their time, love, and prayers, including Scout Troop 132, the McQuaid swim team, and several parishioners who braved the cold to help all have a Merry Christmas!



Extending Christ's Mission through the Catholic Ministries Appeal

2024-2025 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
Go to www.dor.org/cma • See how the funds are distributed • Make your gift

WE NEED COATS

(AND WINTER ACCESSORIES)

WE ARE IN NEED OF
WARM & CLEAN
COATS, HATS,
SCARVES, AND GLOVES
FOR ADULTS, TEENS,
AND CHILDREN.

ST. MONICA'S ANNUAL MLK DAY COAT GIVEAWAY
MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2:00-4:00 PM



BETWEEN JANUARY 1 AND JANUARY 15,
donations can be brought to the office:

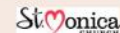
34 Monica Street
Monday-Friday
10:00am-2:30pm

-ring the bell at the front office door-

or to Mass
to the box in the narthex.

To arrange another drop-off time,
contact jessica.tette@dor.org.

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY WARM!



SOCIAL JUSTICE LIVES

Our first/next Social Justice Team meeting will happen on Wednesday Jan 15th. Time TBD based on availability. We will establish our objectives and calendar for the rest of the year. Topics will center on what we can do to promote basic SJ issues such as elimination of poverty, voting rights and responsibility, care for creation, gun violence, adult education, and more. If you are interested in assisting with this vital ministry, please contact Dan at (585)313-6027 or danlill126@gmail.com.

Follow Jesus with us:

www.stmonicaofrochester.org

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

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

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

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.

Our Collection: Week of Dec. 15, 2024

Physical collection:	\$2,766
Online giving:	\$358
Total collection this week:	\$3,124
Weekly expenses:	\$9,423
Weekly Surplus/ Deficit :	(\$6,299)
CMA goal: \$25,000	Pledged: \$10,223 (40%)

How do I give my offering?

1. Weekly offering envelopes, cash, or checks can be brought to Mass or mailed to

St. Monica Church
34 Monica St.
Rochester, NY 14619



2. **OSV Online Giving:** Visit our website (<https://www.osvhub.com/stmonicaofrochester/giving/funds>) for secure one-time or recurring online giving.

3. **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.

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.



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

Creation Corner

Modern Christians think of Scripture as a printed book with covers and pages; it hasn't always been that way.

St. Paul wrote in Romans 1:20, "Ever since God created the world, God's everlasting power and deity - however invisible - have been there for the mind to see in the things God has made." St. Augustine stated, "It is the divine page that you must listen to; it is the book of the universe that you must observe." Here in the Northern Hemisphere, we observe the winter solstice on December 21st as the official first day of winter and the shortest day of the year. As we meditate on this "divine page," let it be God's reminder that even though the cold harsh months of wintry weather have just begun already the darkest day has passed; even when life feels the roughest, the bleakest, the most challenging, the light of God's grace has already overcome the darkness.



*Merry
Christmas!*
*with love from
St. Monica
staff*

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.



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!

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

JOIN OUR ST. MONICA FAMILY!

Pick up a registration form at the church doors,

call (585)235-3340,

or email Tracy:
tracy_jordan@dor.org

to register!

ALL ARE WELCOME,
ESPECIALLY YOU!

St. Monica
CHURCH



Congratulations and thank you to all who made our Christmas pageant possible – our youth, the gospel choir, parents, parishioners, friends, families, and especially our baby Jesus, Finley Johnson! We are grateful for this special gift year after year!



St. Monica Neighborhood Connection

Jesus, who is my neighbor?

The light of Christ's presence never takes a holiday. For those who might need them on Christmas day, here are a couple of neighborhood restaurants that give up some of their Christmas holiday time to remain open for serve customers.



Chili Family Diner at 945 Chili Ave. opens for full-service sit-down and take-out breakfast and lunch 365 days a year. The diner offers comfort food and good service. Christmas hours are 7 a.m. to noon. Call 464-8820 to order take-out for pick-up.



The Wok restaurant at 912 Genesee St. will be open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Christmas Day. The Wok features Chinese, Vietnamese, and Thai favorites. Their fast service is now entirely take-out, delivery and catering. Call 235-7888 to order ahead.