

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

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Parish Pastoral Council

jecurran@rochester.rr.com

John Curran - 747-2324

Jake Hart

Mary Fran Kolbuc

Meg Lute

Best Batchateu

Bob Passalugo



Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always.

I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness should be known to all.

– Philippians 4

December 15, 2024

Third 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. 14	Joseph Siracusa – Maria & Tony Dambra
Sun. Dec. 15	Kenneth Favata – Joan Favata
Tues. Dec. 17	Carlton & Nettie Button – Jean Button
Wed, Dec. 18	All Parishioners
Thur. Dec. 19	Rev. James T. Engle – Karen & Bob Engle
Fri . Dec. 20	All Souls
Sat. Dec. 21	Clyde Forbes – Bostick Family
Sun. Dec. 22	Royal Chamberlain – Sandy Chamberlain Carlos Perez-Albuerne – Lourdes & Evelio Perez-Albuerne



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
Charlie Arnell

Larry Reid

Our Deceased
Michael Abrams

Elizabeth & Julie Abrams' 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

This Week at St. Monica Church: Dec. 15-22, 2024

Sunday, 12/15	10:15 am –Mass, Church 11:15 am – Coffee Hour, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church 12:00-4:00 pm – SWEM Christmas Basket Giveaway, Parking Lot
Monday, 12/16	4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer (contact Dorothy Siegel to join: kenanddor@yahoo.com or 880-5519)
Tuesday, 12/17	12:10 pm –Mass, Church
Wed., 12/18	8:00 – Mass, Church 5:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal, Church 6:30 pm – Youth Group, Dining Room
Thurs., 12/19	12:10 pm –Mass, Church
Friday, 12/20	8:00 – Mass, Church
Saturday, 12/21	4:00 pm – Mass, Church
Sunday, 12/22	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church 1:30-3:30 pm – Christmas Play Rehearsal, Church

St. Nicholas and Mrs. Claus made an appearance at St. Monica to help us celebrate St. Nicholas Day (December 6) and prepare for Jesus' birth! What a wonderful time of anticipation Advent is.



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.



Extending Christ's Mission through the Catholic Ministries Appeal

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

Friends Welcome!



We know that St. Monica's is special! Christmas and Advent are a great time to invite a new friend, family member, or neighbor to check out St. Monica's. Invite them to Mass, to a coffee hour, a prayer or interest group, or special program. To ensure the continued vitality of our parish, it's important to grow together! Who do you know in your life that could benefit from a sense of community, from sharing their gifts, from working toward something they are passionate about? Invite them to experience the love we know here.

SOCIAL JUSTICE LIVES

St. Monica has long been known as having an active social justice program. Whether it was the blue bag collections, education on voting issues, helping settle refugees or providing speakers on social justice issues, we have always led the way in many areas. For several reasons, the Social Justice Committee has been on sabbatical for a while. Well, that is now changed. We are back!! If you have an interest and would like (1) to be on the committee for planning or (2) help occasionally with projects, please let me know. Dan Lill: 313-6027 or danlill126@gmail.com.

On a personal note, please accept my thanks for all your support since Ellen died in April. The tough road has been made smoother by your thoughts, kind words and prayers.

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-Mass)

Our Collection: Week of Dec. 8, 2024

Physical collection:	\$3,133
Online giving:	\$252
Total collection this week:	\$3,385
Weekly expenses:	\$9,423
Weekly Surplus/ Deficit :	(\$6,038)

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?

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.



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

For when Christmas doesn't feel so merry...

The world around me heaved, reeled, twisted.
 Staring past
 a living room window beyond
 I see only grey sky,
 the much-diminished Linden tree,
 the ground covered in dry and brittle
 fallen leaves
 remnants of the crumbled summer.
 Feeling ashen words-
 despondent,
 dark and barren destiny,
 the preponderance of Loss-
 spectral sorrow upon sorrow
 unto the marrow of my bones.
 Yet, Lo, there in its center,
 a briar bush cradles
 a singular rose.
 It seems to me a small heavenly hug
 or a token of promise
 echoing another remembrance-
 a Christmas hymn
 men of old have sung...
 amid the cold of winter...this flower...
 dispels...
 the darkness...
 Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
 This one who saves us...
 and lightens every load.



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.



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?

Looking for a one-of-a-kind gift for a special person? We can bring the Light of Christ's presence to a neighborhood business and create a unique gift at the same time.



Southwest Merchandise at 134 Genesee St. (across from the St. Mary's campus) embroiders names, designs, and logos for personalized merchandise like shirts, caps, jackets, sweaters, scarfs, socks, ties, and other accessories.

All work is done promptly on-site. Corey Nesmith's

computerized embroidery machine can stitch your custom design in as many as 15 colors. Turnaround time is quick, depending on complexity. Pricing Is quoted before work begins. Interested customers may call Corey ahead at 615-3012.



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!