

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

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

Rev. Raymond Fleming, Pastor

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Jake Hart

Mary Fran Kolbuc

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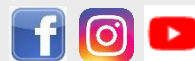
Office: (585) 235-3340

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.



The three kings from the St. Monica Christmas Nativity Play honor Jesus with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.

- Isaiah 60

January 5, 2025

The Epiphany of the Lord

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. Jan. 4	Joe Lynd – Jean Button
Sun. Jan. 5	Royal Chamberlain – Sandy Chamberlain
Tues. Jan. 7	All Souls
Wed, Jan. 8	All Parishioners
Thur. Jan. 9	St. Monica Staff
Fri. Jan. 10	All Parishioners
Sat. Jan. 11	Deceased Members of the Angeline, Flanagan & O'Brien Families & Tom Miller – Family
Sun. Jan. 12	St. Monica Choirs



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.



Let Us Pray



Our Sick
Donna Whitehair

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 January

SANCTUARY LIGHT



Family of Fox Zahn

Pat Fox Zahn

CROSS ALTAR LIGHT



This Week at St. Monica Church: January 5-12, 2025

Sunday, 1/5	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Family Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church
Monday, 1/6	4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer (contact Dorothy Siegel to join: kenanddor@yahoo.com or 880-5519)
Tuesday, 1/7	12:10 pm – Mass, Church
Wed., 1/8	8:00 – Mass, Church
Thurs., 1/9	12:00 pm – Rusty Halos Senior Luncheon, Ezzy's Restaurant on Buffalo Road 12:10 pm – Mass, Church
Friday, 1/10	8:00 – Mass, Church
Saturday, 1/11	4:00 pm – Mass, Church
Sunday, 1/12	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Family Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church

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!



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/cma • See how the funds are distributed • Make your gift

The nativity scene at St. Monica's reminds us to love the most vulnerable, including refugees, those experiencing homelessness, and those in war-torn countries. May our actions reflect compassion and empathy, and may we remember that Jesus is in every person.



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 and NCYC 2025. 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)

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

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

Collection numbers for December 22 and 29 will be published in a future bulletin.

Thank you for supporting our community!

CMA goal: \$25,000	Pledged: \$10,838 (43%)
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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.

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.

Saint Peter's Kitchen Fights Food Insecurity

From 13 WHAM News

'Tis the season of giving, and one local organization is working to ensure everyone's holiday is merry and bright.

St. Peter's Kitchen opened its doors on Christmas Eve for its annual Christmas dinner to offer a hot meal, fresh produce, and some groceries to go. The kitchen also made sure there was enough pie to satisfy any sweet tooth.

"They're here to celebrate," said Robert Boyd, the CEO of St. Peter's Kitchen. "We try to bring a light to them. We have live music today, it's just a glorious day."

The menu included charcuterie, ham with pineapple sauce, macaroni and cheese, sweet potatoes and collard greens.

St. Peter's Kitchen has been fighting food insecurity in the city's west side since 1982.

The event made possible with the help of several volunteers, who expected to serve nearly 400 people.

"Not just people who are homeless, but people who can't live on their social security anymore. They can't live on what they're making,"

said Boyd. "We're providing that additional level of food to enable people to get by."

Boyd also underscored the importance of people not only having access to food, but the right kinds of food to ensure a healthy lifestyle.

St. Peter's Kitchen is open every Monday through Saturday from noon until 1 p.m.

<https://13wham.com/news/letter-daily/st-peters-kitchen-serves-up-christmas-dinner-for-nearly-400-guests#>



A message from CEO
Bob Boyd:

At St. Peter's Kitchen, we see firsthand how your generosity helps families facing hunger and hardship. As you've heard before, we are approaching the milestone of delivering 500,000 pounds of food and once again we're reminded that our work is only possible because of people like you.

Every program we offer—whether it's our Lunch Program, Pantry Program, or Social Work services—is grounded in the belief that everyone deserves dignity, nourishment, and hope. For more than 42 years, St. Peter's Kitchen has stayed true to its mission to help the most vulnerable members of our community in a warm, compassionate, welcoming atmosphere at our facility on Brown Street. The neighbors who come through our doors are diverse, yet united by a shared need for support:

40% of visitors are over the age of 65
30% of visitors are veterans
96% of visitors are housed, but food insecure

There is still time to make a difference in someone's life this year. Here's how you can join us this holiday season:

Learn: Connect with me, Bob Boyd, for a personal tour of our facility by reaching out directly on my cell phone at 585-698-4713.

Give: Donate today to provide meals, groceries, and critical support to our neighbors.

Volunteer: Spend time with us in service, ensuring everyone feels cared for and is well-fed.

Every act of kindness nourishes not just bodies but hearts and minds. Your gift will ensure no one in our community faces hunger alone.

Learn more at <https://www.stpeterskitchen.org/>.

You Need a Night Out!

We will be having an adult hors d'oeuvres and dessert party in the rectory on Saturday, January 25th from 7-9pm. Come enjoy an evening of good food, music, and socializing. There will also be an optional tour of the church building to learn about its history. Sign up boards for this event are located at the entrances to the church. For more information, contact Bob Engle at (585) 329-6313.



Legacy and Memorial Bequest Gardens

Check out the yellow and red stakes along the parking lot fence next to the Family Dollar store. They mark the "ready-to-be-adopted" bequest gardens measuring 3 feet by 5 feet. These soil-enhanced lots add to five already-designated legacy gardens. See John Curran after weekend Mass in the parking lot for further information.



St. Monica Neighborhood Connection

Jesus, who is my neighbor?

The new year offers the opportunity to bring the light of Christ's presence to a newly opened store in the neighborhood. This one is definitely worth a visit – and it's open Sundays.

At The Cornerstone Market

& Shops at 398 Thurston Rd. is a community grocery store filled with fresh produce, fruits, veggies, all natural juices, smoothies, salads, wraps, tacos, chalupas, subs, dinners, and two home-made soups every day. The mayor's staff recently joined for a ribbon cutting.



Owner and chef Ibena Asante renovated the store and operates it with her two granddaughters and other family members. Their produce and freshly-made offerings are quickly gaining a following. The store is open Tuesday-Sunday from 10 am until 8 pm. Call 444-9322.

