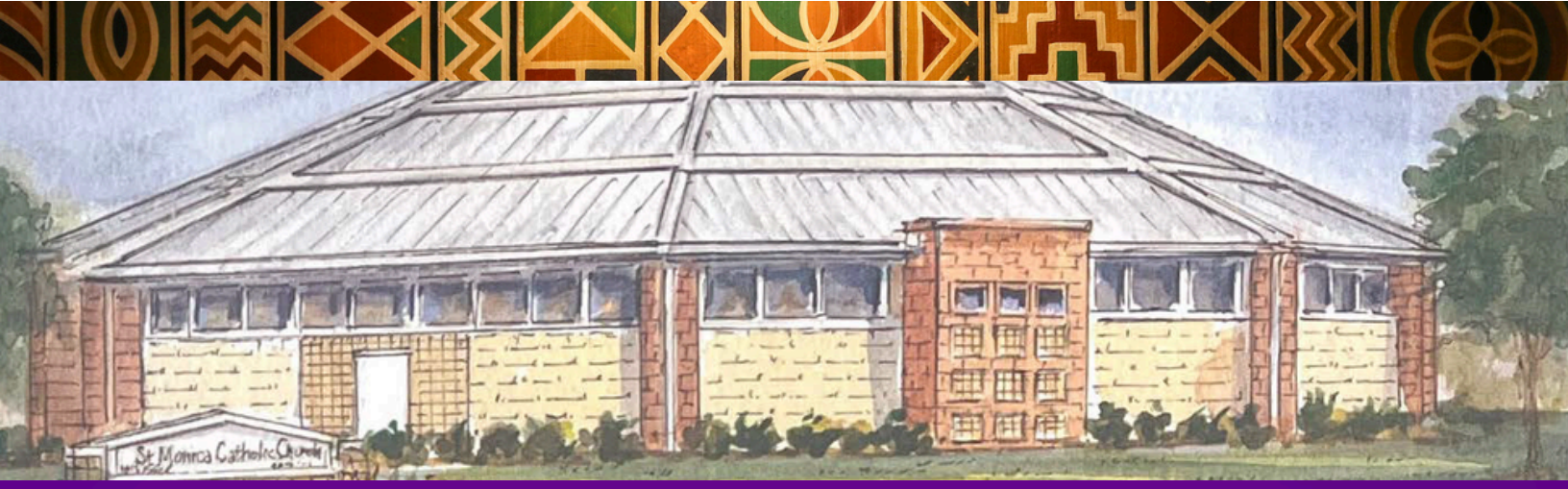


Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026 1616 THE PASEO BOULEVARD, KANSAS CITY, MO 64108

Parish Staff

Fr. Leonard Gicheru
Pastor
frleonard@stmonicakc.org

Reverend Darwin Dupree, Sr.
Deacon
dawn2127@hotmail.com

Biviana Radillo
Office Manager
bradillo@stmonicakc.org

Ramonda Doakes
Religious Education
Safety Environment Coordinator
rdoakes@stmonicakc.org

Rita Womack
Food Pantry/Social Services Director
ritawomack70@yahoo.com

Richard Jolevette
Custodian

Melvin Kerr
Choir/Music Ministry

George Hans
Accountant
finance@stmonicakc.org

Mass Schedule:
9:00 a.m. Sunday Service
9:00 a.m. Wednesday Mass
6:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Service

Main Office Hours:
9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.
Mon, Wed, Thur & Fri
(816) 471-3696
www.stmonicakc.org

From our Pastor

Solemnity of All Saints

The Saints Next Door

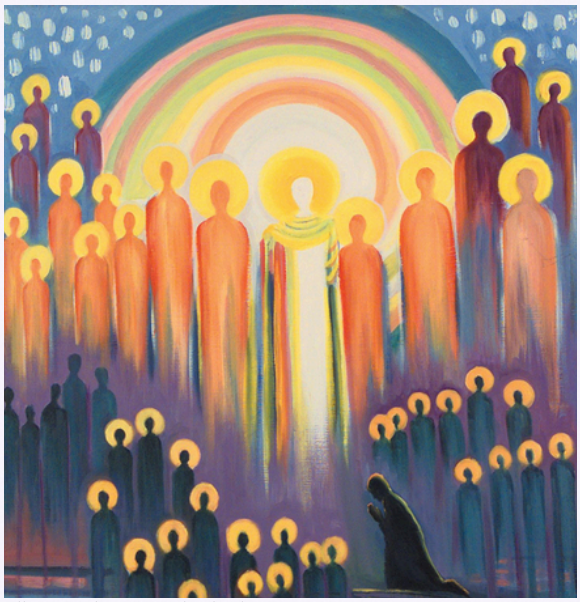
Some of the people who have influenced our faith most deeply will never have a statue in a church. Their names may never appear on a religious calendar. Yet we remember their kindness, their courage, and the way they made God seem close.

Perhaps it was a grandmother whose rosary was always within reach. Perhaps it was a father who worked long hours but still found time for Sunday Mass. Perhaps it was a neighbor who noticed when someone needed help and quietly showed up.

The Solemnity of All Saints invites us to recognize the beauty of lives like these. On November 1, we celebrate everyone who has reached heaven, including the countless saints whose stories have never been written. Their lives remind us that holiness can flourish in places we pass every day.

We sometimes make holiness seem so complicated that we overlook the opportunities immediately before us. We imagine doing something extraordinary for God while becoming impatient with the people around us. We dream of great sacrifices while resisting the small inconvenience of listening, helping, or forgiving.

Yet the person who needs our love is often already standing nearby.



All Saints, by artist Elizabeth Wang

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It may be the spouse who has been unusually quiet, the child who keeps asking for attention, or the elderly parent who calls at an inconvenient time. It may be the coworker we find difficult or the fellow parishioner whose opinions differ from ours. These encounters give us opportunities to practice the love we profess at Mass.

The saints learned to recognize those opportunities. They discovered that love often requires showing up when enthusiasm has faded. A promise kept, a harsh word restrained, a sincere apology offered: these choices gradually shape a heart that resembles the heart of Christ.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus shows us the character of that heart. The merciful make room for forgiveness. The peacemakers work patiently to heal divisions. The poor in spirit acknowledge their need for God. Those who hunger for righteousness keep seeking what is good, even when doing so is costly.

None of this happens automatically. We need prayer, the Eucharist, reconciliation, and the support of a faithful community. We also need humility enough to admit when we have failed. Growth in holiness includes returning to God and asking for the grace to try again.

Think about the people who have helped you believe in God's goodness. What do you remember most? Perhaps it was their willingness to listen, their generosity during a difficult season, or their steady faith when life became painful. Their influence continues because love leaves a lasting mark.

What mark are we leaving on the people entrusted to us?

Someday, our possessions will belong to someone else, and many of our accomplishments will be forgotten. But the love we have given can continue bearing fruit in another person's life. A child may learn to pray because we prayed. Someone may find courage because we stayed beside them.

This week, thank God for those who have shown you the way of holiness. Then consider whom you might encourage through your own example.

The saints once lived ordinary days filled with responsibilities and choices, just as we do. By God's grace, those days became a journey toward heaven. Our ordinary days can become that journey too, one faithful act of love at a time.

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

Readings for the Week

Monday: Wisdom 3:1-9; Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Romans 5:5-11 or Romans 6:3-9; John 6:37-40

Tuesday: Philippians 2:5-11; Psalm 22:26b-27, 28-30ab, 30e, 31-32; Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday: Philippians 2:12-18; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14; Luke 14:25-33

Thursday: Philippians 3:3-8a; Psalm 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Luke 15:1-10

Friday: Philippians 3:17-4:1; Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Luke 16:1-8

Saturday: Philippians 4:10-19; Psalm 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a, 9; Luke 16:9-15

Sunday: Wisdom 6:12-16; Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 or 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14; Matthew 25:1-13

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, November 8, 2026

Lectors: Jackie Dinvaut, Michele Perez

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Ernest Collins

Ushers: Team B

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Graham, Pamela Green, Ronald Green, Carolyn Greene, Ben Gruber, Sharon Hardy

Offering Reports

Sunday, October 11, 2026

Regular Offering:	$3,322.00
Fundraising Campaign:	$489.00
Little Sisters of The Poor:	$3,000.00
Total	**$6,811.00**

Fundraising Campaign Weekly Update

Goal	$2,500,000
Total Amount Pledged	$441, 772
Percentage of Goal Pledged	17.67%
Actual Cash Received to Date	$135,465

Announcements

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Women's Bible Study



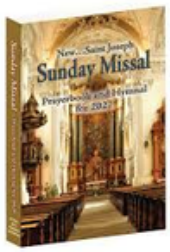
Ladies, please mark your calendars for an amazing opportunity to explore the Word of God together. Our Women's Bible Study group will meet every first and third Saturday from 9:30 to 11:00 am. This is a fantastic chance to grow spiritually and delve into the teachings of the Bible in a supportive and engaging environment. For more information, please contact Paula Nix at (816) 471- 3696 or mspaula.pn@gmail.com.

Fundraising Campaign



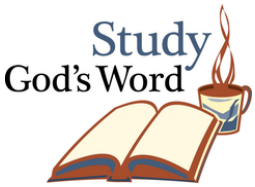
Thank you to all who have already submitted a pledge card for our parish fundraising campaign. If you have not yet participated, pledge cards are available at the back of the church. Please return your completed card in the red collection box. Every gift helps move our parish forward.

Altar and Rosary Society Annual Fundraiser



Don't miss out on the opportunity to purchase the new 2027 St. Joseph Sunday Missals! The Altar and Rosary Society will be in the vestibule every Sunday starting today until they are all sold. Cost is $5.00. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Altar and Rosary Society. Table will be located in the back of the church.

Wednesday Prayer Service

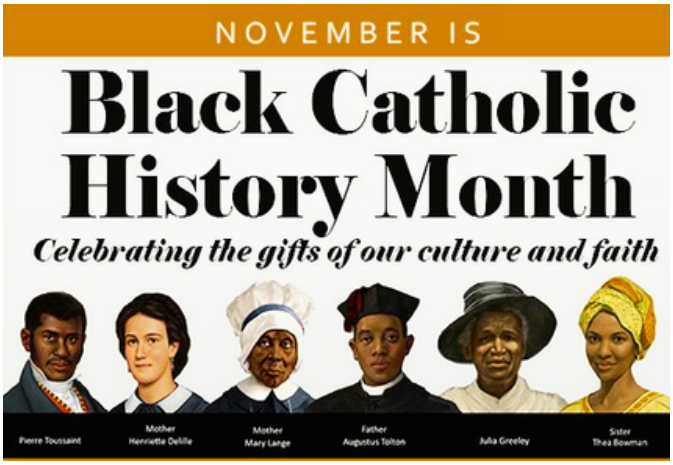


Join us every Wednesday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM for our uplifting prayer service. We start with an inspiring song, followed by the rosary, and engaging readings. Together, we will discuss the upcoming Sunday gospel, share our prayer intentions, and conclude with a powerful closing prayer. Come and strengthen your faith with our community!

Legion of Mary Meeting



Please join us for the Legion of Mary meetings here at St. Monica every Wednesday at 3:00 PM in the St. Monica building. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please reach out to Rose Palmer, Ramonda Doakes, or Yvonne Dillahunty.



"A CHURCH ALIVE IS WORTH THE DRIVE!"

Prayer List



Jeanette Hamilton, Vera Brown, Kevin Brown, Vauncille Bartlett, Mary Ann Grayson, Donald Parson, Cheryl Warren, Chaunceyetta Mize, Rhea Holloman, Melva McClellan, Brenda A. Martin, Marcella Vaughn, Paris Harrington, Michael Lucas, Lola Jacobs, Evalena Davidson (mother of Dan Davidson), Javan Hardy, Frankie Kemp, Carmelita Newman, Conrad McDonald, Opal C. Blankinship, Patrice Williams (daughter of Pat and Don Williams), John James, Janee Green (daughter of Pam and Ronald Green), Jublatee O'Neal (New Parishioner), Bonita Akridge, Lawrence Ramirez, Edward H. Franklin, Jr. (Father of Tracey Franklin Bradford), Sean Curry (Son of Angela Curry), Bettye Young, Don Williams, Deacon Darwin Dupree, Yesheka Alexander (daughter of James and Mary Alexander), Carolyn Turner, Bernadette Cook, Duane Murff, Luisa Olarte

Please notify Father Leonard when you or a family member have become homebound or admitted to the hospital. Please call the parish office at (816) 471-3696 or email frleonard@stmonicakc.org.

Office of Child & Youth Protection- Sexual Abuse
The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and

2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and If the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. report the suspected abuse to the Diocesan Ombudsman at 816.213.6024 or ombudsman@ombudsmankcsj.org

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, at 816.714.2357 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

Safety Environment Coordinator for St. Monica Parish - Ramonda Doakes, P-(816) 457- 5538, E- rdoakes@stmonicakc.org

Leadership Corner

Black Catholic Implementation Team

Co-Leaders

Jackie Dinvaut Ernest Collins

Rose Palmer Alvin Brooks Jenise Comer
Marilyn Scott Angela Curry Shirley Thaw
Melba Myers Rita Womack Carrie Miller
Grace Okonta Sharon Sanders Jackie Countee
Crystal Miller Ramonda Doakes
Arimeta Dupree Vickie Shackelford
Nellie Thompson Linda Parker Hall

Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre



"I like to say African-American Catholics are a people of the book and of the sacraments of the Church. The stories of sacred Scripture, of God leading his people from slavery to freedom and being faithful, speak very loudly to them. There is a strength that comes from the sacraments and being rooted in our ancestors, the saints."

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1
9:00 AM Mass
10:00 AM Dance Rehearsal (S)
10:30 AM Sunday School (FH)
10:30 AM OCIA Classes (STM)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4
9:00 AM Mass
3:00 PM Legion of Mary Meeting (STM)
6:00 PM Wednesday Night Prayer (S)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7
9:30 AM Women's Bible Study (STM)
11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal (S)
11:30 AM KPC Council #57 (FH)
12:00 AM Ladies of St. Peter Claver (STM)
4:00 PM St. Francis Catholic Community(CH)