



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

1616 THE PASEO BOULEVARD, KANSAS CITY, MO 64108

Parish Staff

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Custodian

Melvin Kerr
Choir/Music Ministry

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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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Love Speaks the Truth

Most of us are very good at recognizing other people's faults. The difficulty is knowing what to do with that information. Too often, instead of speaking to the person, we speak to everybody else. We call a friend, tell a coworker, mention it to a family member, and perhaps add, "Please pray for them," just to make the gossip sound spiritual!

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us a better way: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone." The purpose of fraternal correction is not to embarrass, punish, or defeat another person. Jesus says, "If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." The goal is not winning an argument; it is winning back a relationship.

Fraternal correction begins with a private conversation. Jesus does not say, "Post about it online," "Form a committee," or "Tell six people so they can confirm that you are right." He says, "Go to your brother."

Many conflicts grow because we talk about people instead of talking to them. By the time the person discovers there is a problem, everyone knows except them!

However, speaking directly requires courage, humility, and love. Am I seeking healing or simply trying to prove that I am right?



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Have I prayed about the situation? Have I examined my own behavior? Fraternal correction offered with anger often sounds like an attack, but correction offered with love can become an invitation to healing.

The way we speak also matters. There is a difference between saying, “You are selfish,” and saying, “When this happened, I felt ignored and hurt.” One condemns the person’s character; the other honestly describes the wound. Christian correction should always preserve the dignity of the person, even when the truth is difficult.

Jesus also teaches that reconciliation sometimes requires patience and the help of others. If the private conversation fails, we may need one or two wise and trustworthy people—not a cheering squad—to help bring understanding. The Church becomes involved only when necessary. Each step is meant to restore communion, not to increase humiliation.

Finally, Jesus promises, “Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” This means that even difficult conversations can become holy encounters. When two people meet in humility, truth, prayer, and love, Christ stands between them.

This week, consider whether there is someone you have been avoiding, criticizing, or discussing with others. Perhaps Jesus is calling you to have a respectful conversation with that person. Fraternal correction is not easy, but genuine love does not remain silent when a relationship is being damaged.

The Christian way is simple, though not always comfortable: speak to the person, speak the truth with love, listen with humility, and seek reconciliation. When we do this, we do more than solve a disagreement—we make room for Christ to stand in our midst.

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Psalm 5:5-6, 7, 12; Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday: Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30; Psalm 13:6ab, 6c; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Psalm 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17; Luke 6:20-26

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 8:1b-7, 11-13; Psalm 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24; Luke 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27; Psalm 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12; Luke 6:43-49

Saturday: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; Psalm 116:12-13, 17-18; Luke 6:1-5

Sunday: Sirach 27:30-28:7; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Lectors: Rita Womack, Diane Charity

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Jackie McGhee-Dinvaut

Ushers: Team B

Eucharistic Ministers: Elaine Johnson, Syrtiller Kabot, Felicia Menefee, Crystal Miller, Dianna Miller, Paula Nix

Offering Reports

Sunday, August 30, 2026

Regular Offering:	\$6,237.75
Fundraising Campaign:	\$474.00
Food Pantry:	\$70.00
Second Collection:	\$373.00
Total	\$7,154.75

Fundraising Campaign Weekly Update

Goal	\$2,500,000
Total Amount Pledged	\$425,872
Percentage of Goal Pledged	17.45%
Actual Cash Received to Date	\$127,685

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.

Legion of Mary Meeting



Please join us for the Legion of Mary meetings here at St. Monica every Wednesday at 4:00 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.

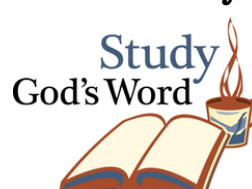
Fundraising Campaign



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.

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!

Help Update Our Records



Please help us keep our records accurate by updating your contact information or personal details. Whether you've moved, changed your phone

number or email, or experienced significant life changes, prompt communication ensures we can provide relevant support. Reach out to us at (816) 471-3696 or via email at bradillo@stmonicakc.org. Thank you for your cooperation!

A memorial service honoring Lesia Jones, beloved daughter of Margaret Jones, will be held here at St. Monica Catholic Church on September 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

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

Finance Council

Janice Smith-**Chair**

Stacey Lewis

Ernest Collins

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

The Prayer of St. Monica

Cast yourself with confidence into the arms of God and be very sure of this, if God wants anything of you, He will fit you for your work and give you the strength to do it.

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

9:00 AM Mass

11:00 AM Ladies of St. Peter Claver (STM)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Labor Day (Office Closed)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

9:00 AM Mass

4:00 PM Legion of Mary Meeting

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Prayer (S)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

9:00 AM Evangelization Workshop (STM)

11:30 AM Altar & Rosary Society (FH)

12:00 PM Virtus Training (STM)