



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2025

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

Brad Geist
Pastoral Associate
bgeist@stmonicakc.org

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter

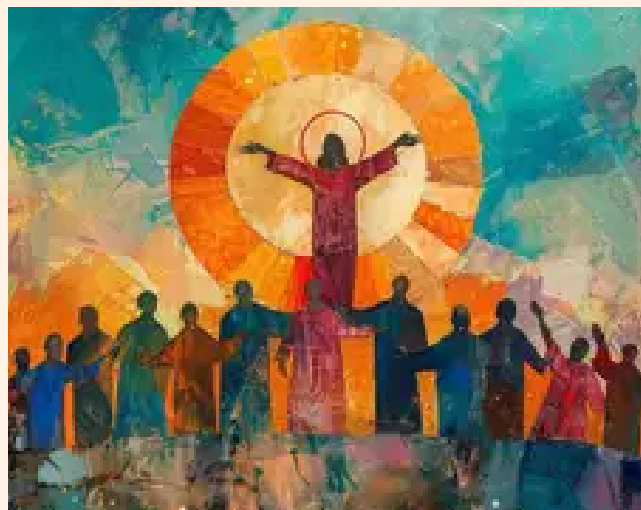
Feast of the Ascension

Can you imagine standing on a hill, watching someone you love to disappear into the clouds? That's what the disciples experienced on the day of the Ascension. Forty days after the Resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven right before their eyes. One moment he was blessing them... the next, he was gone. Or so it seemed. But this wasn't a goodbye. This was a handover. This was Jesus saying, "Now, it's your turn."

The Acts of the Apostles tells us the disciples were left staring into the sky—until two angels appeared and asked, "Why do you stand here looking up?" (Acts 1:11). In other words: don't just stand there! Go! Live! Witness! The Ascension invites us to stop living with our heads in the clouds and start living with our feet on the ground—and our eyes fixed on the mission Jesus gave us.

The Ascension reveals three important truths:

- Christ is glorified – Jesus, fully God and fully human, now sits at the right hand of the Father. His humanity is taken up into heaven, giving us a glimpse of our own destiny in Christ. The Ascension reminds us that heaven is our true home.



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continued on page 2



- The Church is empowered – Jesus’ final words to his disciples were a command: “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19). The mission of Christ is now the mission of the Church.
- The Spirit is coming – Before ascending, Jesus promises, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you” (Acts 1:8). The Ascension prepares us for Pentecost—the birth of the Church.

At the Ascension, Jesus didn’t give a detailed strategic plan. He simply said: “You will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). That’s our job description: to be living signs of Jesus’ presence in the world. In our homes, at our workplaces, on our streets, in the parish—our faith isn’t private. It’s public. It’s purposeful.

Being a witness doesn’t mean preaching on street corners (though it could!). It means living with love, courage, joy, and mercy. It means forgiving those who hurt us. It means helping those who are forgotten. It means letting our lives speak louder than our words.

The Ascension isn’t just about Jesus going up—it’s about us rising up. Rising to our calling. Rising to hope. Rising to meet the Spirit, who will come at Pentecost and light our hearts on fire. Jesus now reigns in glory, but he didn’t leave us behind. He left us with a mission—and a promise: “I am with you always.”

This week, ask yourself:

- Where is God inviting me to grow?
- Is there someone I need to reach out to in love?
- What’s one small way I can be a witness to Christ this week?

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Psalm 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; John 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Psalm 68:10-11, 20-21; John 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Psalm 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; John 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Psalm 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; John 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Psalm 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; John 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Psalm 11:4, 5 and 7; John 21:20-25

Sunday: Acts 2:1-11; Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, June 8, 2025

Lectors: Angela Curry, Everett Curry

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Margaret Mendy

Ushers: Team B

Eucharistic Ministers: Ronald Green, Carolyn Greene, Ben Gruber, Sharon Hardy, Elaine Johnson, Syrtiller Kabot

Offering Reports

Sunday, May 18, 2025

Regular Offering:	\$6,207.00
Food Pantry:	\$45.00
Bldg. Fund:	\$30.00
Second Collection:	\$344.00
Miscellaneous:	\$523.00
Total	\$7,149.00

Sunday, May 25, 2025

Regular Offering:	\$2,846.75
Food Pantry:	\$25.00
Total	\$2,871.75

Juneteenth Parade



Save the date for the Juneteenth Parade on June 7th! The Juneteenth Heritage Festival will be held on June 21st. We are the reigning champions for our float and

welcome your ideas, time, and talents as we prepare to win again! Sign-up sheets are located at the back of the church. If you have any questions, please reach out to Crystal Marie at (816) 665-6753 or Peter at (816) 678-7689. Remember, "A Church Alive is WORTH THE DRIVE!"

Planting Day For Our Children



Due to the success of last year's event, the Altar & Rosary Society and Lawn/Beautification Committee are pleased to offer this activity again for the children. Parents, please mark your calendars for June 8, right after Sunday Mass. We will provide 30 minutes of planting instructions for your kids on how to transplant Easter potted flowers from the church into the church garden.

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 mstpaula.pn@gmail.com.

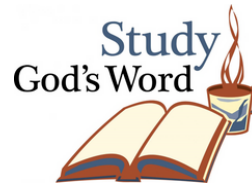
We invite you to join us in celebrating the life of Deacon Kenneth Greene during his funeral services, which will take place on Wednesday, June 4th, here at St. Monica Catholic Church.

Visitation at 9:00 AM

Funeral Mass at 10:00 AM

Internment- Forest Hill & Calvary Cemetery

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!

Vacation Bible School



Calling all children in First Grade and Up! Join us for an unforgettable Vacation Bible School at the Cathedral from July 7 to July 11, 2025. Each day from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM, your child will engage in exciting activities, make new friends, and deepen their faith in a fun and welcoming environment. Don't let your child miss out on this incredible experience – sign up today! Simply send an email and let us know how many spots you would like to reserve for your family. Register today at <https://www.kcgolddome.org/news-articles/876-vacation-bible-school-2025> or email mbrown@kcgolddome.org

Congratulations

Join us in celebrating the wonderful milestone of Mr. and Mrs. Ken and Diane Bacchus as they mark their 50th wedding anniversary on May 31st! Let us honor their enduring love and commitment to one another. May God continue to shower blessings upon their beautiful union for many more years to come.

Prayer List



Jeanette Hamilton, Vera Brown, Kevin Brown, Beverly Dyer, Vauncille Bartlett, Mary Ann Grayson, Donald Parson, Sergio Mendoza, Elaine Lomax, Cheryl Warren, Chaunceyetta Mize, Rhea Holloman, Melva McClellan, Velma Jennings, Brenda A. Martin, Marcella Vaughn, Paris Harrington, Maxine Harvey, 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, Barbara Walters, 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), Alvin Brooks, Bettye Young, Don Williams, Deacon Darwin Dupree, Herman Lovett (Father of Burnetta Burtin)

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@diocesekcsj.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 ext. 516 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

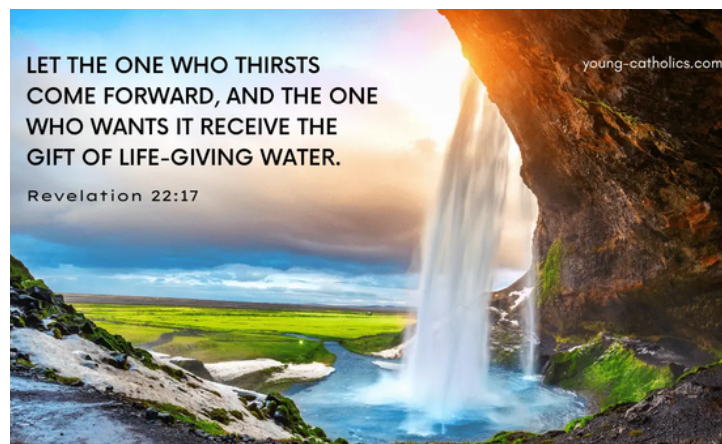
Safety Environment Coordinator for St. Monica Parish -
Ramonda Doakes, P-(816) 457- 5538, E- rdoakes@stmonicakc.org

Leadership Corner

Finance Committee

Janice Smith
Ernest Collins
Tracey Lewis
Fr. Leonard

Chair
Recorder



Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

9:00 AM Mass
10:00 AM KPC Pancake Breakfast
10:30 AM Dance Rehearsal (S)

MONDAY, JUNE 2

TUESDAY, JUNE 3

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

9:00 AM Mass
6:00 PM Prayer Service

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

4:00 PM Parade Float Set Up (FH)

FRIDAY, JUNE 6

4:00 PM Parade Float Set Up (FH)

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

7:00 AM Parade Float Set Up (FH)
9:30 AM Women's Bible Study (STM)
11:30 AM Choir Rehearsal (S)
11:30 AM Ladies of Peter Claver (STM)