



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 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

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome—one of the more unusual feasts in our liturgical calendar. It does not commemorate a saint or a biblical event, but a building—specifically, the Basilica of St. John Lateran. Although St. Peter's Basilica is more famous and visually stunning, the Lateran Basilica is actually the Pope's cathedral. Every bishop has a cathedral, and the Bishop of Rome—our Holy Father—has his at St. John Lateran, not St. Peter's.

So where does this basilica get its name? We call it "St. John Lateran," yet there is no Saint John Lateran. The name "Lateran" refers to the land on which it stands—property once owned by the Roman senator Flavius Lateranus. Its full title is much longer: The Archbasilica of the Most Holy Savior and of Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist at the Lateran. Now you know why we shorten it!

Why does the Church celebrate the dedication of this basilica?

First, because it is the "mother of all churches." Across its façade is the Latin inscription: "*Mother and mistress of all the churches of Rome and the world.*" When we celebrate its dedication, we celebrate the "birthday" of the mother church of the entire world—a sign of unity with the Bishop of Rome.



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Every diocese governs itself, but every bishop remains in communion with the Pope, the successor of St. Peter. This feast reminds us that our unity in faith and love extends far beyond our local parish; it links us to the universal Church.

Second, it reminds us of the sacred importance of a church building. After the Second Vatican Council, some misunderstood the teaching that the Church is the People of God. The focus shifted so heavily toward the people that the building itself was sometimes treated as secondary—a mere “gathering space.” As a result, many churches were stripped of their beauty: murals painted over, statues removed, stained-glass windows discarded, communion rails torn out.

Today, we recognize that the loss of beauty was a mistake. Beauty matters. Space matters. Architecture shapes faith. A church is not simply a place where people gather—it is a place where God dwells. It is a place of encounter. In every Catholic church, Jesus Christ is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament within the tabernacle. That alone makes it holy ground.

This feast challenges us to ask: How do we treat the house of God? We keep silence in church not merely to avoid disturbing others, but to show reverence to the Lord who is present. The very structure of the church points us toward heaven. Its altar, its art, its candles, and its crucifix—all proclaim: “God is here.”

Today, as we honor the dedication of the Lateran Basilica, we also give thanks for our own parish church. May it always remain a place of prayer, beauty, and deep encounter with the living God. And may we, the living stones of Christ’s Church, be built together into a spiritual temple that glorifies God in all we do.

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Psalm 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Luke 18:35-43

Tuesday: 2 Maccabees 6:18-31; Psalm 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Luke 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31; Psalm 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15; Luke 19:11-28

Thursday: 1 Maccabees 2:15-29; Psalm 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Luke 19:41-44

Friday: 1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chronicles 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd; Luke 19:45-48

Saturday: 1 Maccabees 6:1-13; Psalm 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19; Luke 20:27-40

Sunday: 2 Samuel 5:1-3; Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5; Colossians 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, November 16, 2025

Lectors: Rita Womack, Michele Jones

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Ernest Collins

Ushers: Team C

Eucharistic Ministers: Bernadette Cook, Angela Curry, Arimeta Dupree, Mary Graham, Pamela Green, Ronald Green

Offering Reports

Sunday, November 2, 2025

Regular Offering:	\$7,030.80
Building Fund:	\$258.00
Food Pantry:	\$325.00
All Souls:	\$375.00
Our Lady of Sorrows:	\$1,272.25

Total **\$9,261.05**

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.

Announcements

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

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.

Give From The Heart



The St. Monica Food Pantry invites our church family to "Give From the Heart."

Food boxes will be provided for those in need, with distribution taking

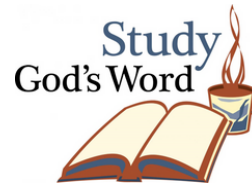
place on November 23rd from 11 AM to 1 PM in Ferguson Hall. Donations will be accepted from October 27th through November 22, 2025. A marked container will be available in the vestibule for your contributions. Additionally, we need volunteers to help assemble the boxes on November 22, 2025, starting at 1 PM. If you have any questions, please contact Rita Womack at (816) 842-1877 during pantry hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Thank you for your support!

Pizza Party



Make plans to attend a free pizza party at Donnelly Hall beside the downtown Cathedral this Thursday November 13th. Food served at 6pm. Before we launch our Fundraising, come enjoy the food and hear from Fr. Leonard about the needs of this Sanctuary and the possibilities for Ferguson Hall. Lots of free parking in the lot at the NW corner of 12th and Broadway. Enter the hall through the glass doors from the parking lot. All are welcome.

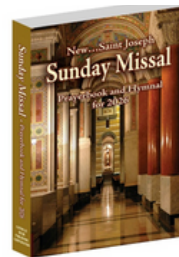
Wednesday Prayer Service



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!

Altar and Rosary Society Annual Fundraiser



We're excited to announce that the 2026 Missalettes will be available for purchase starting today, November 2, 2025! Join the Altar and Rosary Society in the vestibule each Sunday to get your copy. Each Missalette is just \$5. If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to reach out to Crystal Miller.

All Souls' Altar



All are invited to continue to bring photos and funeral programs of their dearly departed loved ones to place on the All-Souls Altar in the vestibule. Prayer cards will be available on the altar for you to write the names of your loved ones.



Holiday Mass Hours

Thanksgiving Day Mass
November 27th at 9am

Christmas Eve Mass
December 24th at 8pm

Christmas Day Mass
December 25th at 10am

"A CHURCH ALIVE IS WORTH THE DRIVE!"

Prayer List



Jeanette Hamilton, Vera Brown, Kevin Brown, Vauncille Bartlett, Mary Ann Grayson, Donald Parson, Elaine Lomax, Cheryl Warren, Chaunceyetta Mize, Rhea Holloman, Melva McClellan, Velma Jennings, 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, 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), Bettye Young, Don Williams, Deacon Darwin Dupree, Ramonda Doakes, Vincent Alexandria

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

Eucharistic Ministers

Dianna Miller	Coordinator
Shirley Barber	Sharon Hardy
Stephanie Broils	Elaine Joonson
Terese Brown	Syrtiller Kabot
Gerald Buckman	Felicia Menefee
Diane Charity	Crystal Miller
Dawn Collins	Paula Nix
Bernadette Cook	Rose Palmer
Angela Curry	Lydia Ramirez
Arimeta Dupree	Rose Roos
Mary Graham	Katie Stewart
Pamela Green	Kirk Thaw
Ronald Green	Shirley Thaw
Carolyn Greene	Pat Wlliams
Ben Gruber	Rita Womack

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

9:00 AM	Mass
10:30 AM	GriefShare Group (CH)
10:30 AM	Catechumen Class (STM)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

9:00 AM	Mass
6:00 PM	Prayer Service
6:00 PM	Parish Council Meeting (STM)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

9:30 AM	Women's Bible Study (STM)
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