



# Saint Monica Catholic Church

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024**

**1616 THE PASEO BOULEVARD, KANSAS CITY, MO 64108**

## Parish Staff

**Fr. Leonard Gicheru**  
Pastor  
[frleonard@stmonicakc.org](mailto:frleonard@stmonicakc.org)

**Reverend Darwin Dupree, Sr.**  
Deacon  
[dawn2127@hotmail.com](mailto:dawn2127@hotmail.com)

**Reverend Kenneth Greene**  
Deacon

**Brad Geist**  
Pastoral Associate  
[bgeist@stmonicakc.org](mailto:bgeist@stmonicakc.org)

**Biviana Radillo**  
Office Manager  
[bradillo@stmonicakc.org](mailto:bradillo@stmonicakc.org)

**Ramonda Doakes**  
Religious Education  
Safety Environment Coordinator  
[rdoakes@stmonicakc.org](mailto:rdoakes@stmonicakc.org)

**Rita Womack**  
Food Pantry/Social Services  
Director  
[ritawomack70@yahoo.com](mailto:ritawomack70@yahoo.com)

**Richard Jolevette**  
Custodian/Maintenance

**Melvin Kerr**  
Choir/Music Ministry

**George Hans**  
Accountant  
[finance@stmonicakc.org](mailto: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](http://www.stmonicakc.org)

## From our Pastor

*23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Dear Friends and Parishioners of St. Monica,

Today, we witness a beautiful miracle in the healing of a man who was born deaf and had a speech impediment. As with any miracle in the Gospel, we can approach it from two levels.

The first level is the physical healing itself. We meet a man who could not hear but now, through Christ, can both hear and speak. Imagine the isolation he must have felt, trapped in a world where he could not express his thoughts or emotions. The frustration of being misunderstood, the inability to enjoy the sounds of life—like music or the voices of loved ones—must have been overwhelming. His deafness isolated him from fully experiencing life.

But beyond the physical healing lies something even more profound; the danger of spiritual deafness. St. Paul reminds us in his Letter to the Romans, “Faith comes through hearing.” To grow in our faith, we must be listeners of the Word of God. It is through this connection with God's Word that we find fullness of life.

The deafness of this man symbolizes our own struggles in responding to God's Word. When we become spiritually deaf, our lives turn inward, becoming self-centered. We lose touch with God's guiding voice, and our lives lose purpose and direction. Eventually, this leads to a loss of faith itself.

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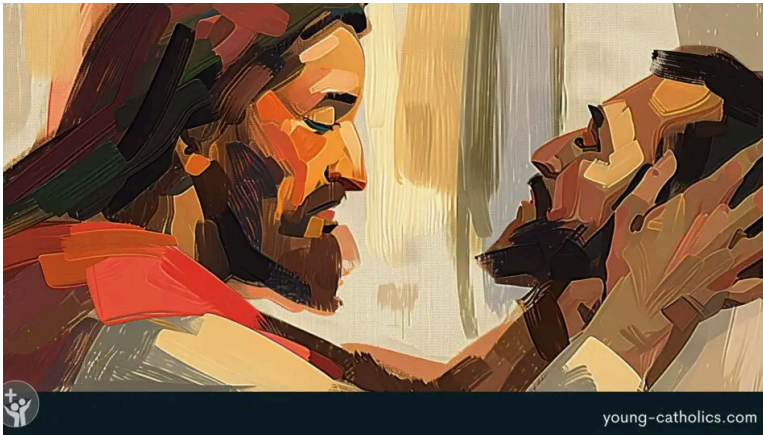




However, in today’s noisy culture, it’s difficult to hear God’s voice. With so many distractions—constant earphones, endless notifications, and loud environments—we struggle even to hear our own thoughts, let alone God’s Word. This addiction to noise leaves many people ignorant of Christ and disconnected from their faith, leading to disorientation in their lives.

Someone once compared faith to a keynote in a beautiful piece of music. Even a great composition, like those of Beethoven, would be reduced to noise if we are not attuned to hear it. The problem isn't the music—it's our ability to appreciate it. Similarly, the Word of God aligns our lives with true happiness and joy, which is found in God Himself.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Leonard



He looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, “Ephphatha!” – that is, “Be opened!” – And immediately the man’s ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly.  
Mark 7:34-35

## Readings for the Week

- Monday:** 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Psalm 5:5-6, 7, 12; Luke 6:6-11
- Tuesday:** 1 Corinthians 6:1-11; Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Luke 6:12-19
- 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 6:39-42
- Saturday:** Numbers 21:4b-9; Psalm 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17
- Sunday:** Isaiah 50:4c-9a; Psalm 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

## Liturgical Assignments

*Sunday, September 15, 2024*

Lectors: Rose Palmer, Ernest Collins

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Ramonda Doakes

Ushers: Team C

Eucharistic Ministers: Rita Womack, Stephanie Broils, Gerald Buckman, Diane Charity, Dawn Collins, Angela Curry

## Offering Reports

*Sunday, August 25, 2024*

Regular Offering:	\$8,250.51
Food Pantry:	\$220.00
Second Collection:	\$0.00
Miscellaneous:	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,470.51</b>

### 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



Join us for the Legion of Mary, Our Lady of Kibeho/Our Lady Sorrows Praesidium meeting, Monday, September 30, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the St. Monica building. Your presence will be greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there!



### Congratulations

Let's join together in congratulating those listed below that have received their sacraments today. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they embark on this meaningful journey.

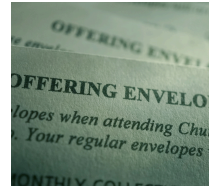
Maddyx Daniels  
Deterrienne James  
Ryan Narcisse  
Emily Elizabeth Caldwell

### Catholic Movie Night



Join us for our next Catholic Movie Night, hosted by the Legion of Mary, on Sunday, September 29th at 6pm in the Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall. We will be watching the mesmerizing film "Thérèse: The Story of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux." This captivating movie portrays the inspiring story of a young girl's profound spiritual journey and her unwavering connection with God. Through her faith, trials, and sacrifices, she illuminates a life founded on love and simplicity. This contemplative film is based on the true story of Saint Theres of Lisieux, the most beloved saint of modern times. Don't miss this incredible portrayal of true events.

### St. Monica Offering Envelopes



If you're not receiving envelopes for your parish contributions, we have a simple solution for you! Find a parish registration form located at the back of the church, fill it out with your details, and return it to the office. Once you do this, you'll start receiving envelopes regularly and can continue to support our parish.



### Contact Us

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](mailto:bradillo@stmonicakc.org).

Thank you for your cooperation!

## Prayer List



Jeanette Hamilton, Vera Brown, Kevin Brown, Beverly Dyer, Vauncille Bartlett, Mary Ann Grayson, Donald Parson, Sergio Mendoza, Elaine Lomax, Donna Dupree, 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, Greta Nash, Opal C. Blankinship, Patrice Williams (daughter of Pat and Don Williams), Louie Jones, John James, Barbara Walters, Janee Green (daughter of Pam and Ronald Green), Jublatee O'Neal (New Parishioner), Bonita Akridge, Deacon Kenneth Greene, Lawrence Ramirez, Roland Miller (Husband of Diana Miller), Mary Ann Grayson, Edward H. Franklin, Jr. (Father of Tracey Franklin Bradford)

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](mailto: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 suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline, at 1-800-392-3728 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local Law Enforcement Agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, [crayon@ombudsmankc.org](mailto:crayon@ombudsmankc.org), if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City- St. Joseph.
4. The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing healing and resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families.

**Safety Environment Coordinator for St. Monica Parish -**

**Ramonda Doakes, P-(816) 457- 5538, E- [rdoakes@stmonicakc.org](mailto:rdoakes@stmonicakc.org)**

## Saints & Special Observances

**Sunday:** 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents Day; 1982 Emerson J. Moore ordained Catholic Bishop for New York, NY

**Monday:** St. Peter Claver; 1888 St. Joseph's Seminary founded in Baltimore, MD

**Wednesday:** Patriot Day

**Thursday:** The Most Holy Name of Mary; 1974 Eugene A. Mariano, SSJ, ordained Catholic Bishop for Washington, DC; 1992 Dr. Mae Jemison, 1st African American female in space

**Friday:** St. Johns Chrysostom; 1663 1st major plot of people in servitude against slave masters documented in Virginia slave conspiracy

**Saturday:** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

## Calendar of Events this Week

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

9:00 AM	Mass
10:00 AM	First Communion Celebration (FH)
11:30 AM	RCIA Class (CR)

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:00 AM	Mass
6:00 PM	Prayer Service

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

11:30 AM	Altar & Rosary Meeting (STM)
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\*If you do not see your event listed, please contact the parish office at (816) 471-3696