



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2025

1616 THE PASEO BOULEVARD, KANSAS CITY, MO 64108

Parish Staff

Fr. Leonard Gicheru
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Director
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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

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Rich in What Matters to God"

"Vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!" These startling words from the Book of Ecclesiastes kick off this weekend's readings with a sobering reminder: much of what we chase in life—wealth, success, power—will not last. The Hebrew word translated as "vanity" here can also mean "a vapor," "a breath," or "a bubble". In other words, everything we hold onto so tightly in this life is as fleeting as the morning mist.

The Gospel from Luke drives this message home with the parable of the rich man who hoards his harvest. His mistake wasn't in having wealth—it was in thinking it was all for himself. "You fool," God says to him, "this night your life will be demanded of you." It's a haunting line. Not because God is harsh, but because the man was unprepared for the only thing in life that is truly certain: death. He had planned for everything... except eternity.

But Jesus doesn't leave us in despair. He gives us direction: "Guard against all greed... for one's life does not consist of possessions." Our value isn't determined by what we own, but by our relationship with God.



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And in the second reading from Colossians, St. Paul reminds us that if we have been raised with Christ, then we must “seek what is above.” We are invited to a new way of living—a life where we “put to death” earthly attachments like greed and impurity, and instead put on the “new self,” shaped in the image of our Creator.

This isn’t about rejecting the goodness of material things. Food, homes, clothes, savings—these are blessings and can be used for great good. But when they become the center of our identity, when we believe our security and joy rest in our bank accounts or social status, we lose sight of what really matters.

So, what does it mean to be rich in what matters to God? It means cultivating generosity, not hoarding. It means investing in relationships, not just retirement. It means loving people more than profits. It means trusting that God is our ultimate provider and letting go of the illusion that we can control our future.

The Responsorial Psalm today pleads, “Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart.” That wisdom reminds us that our time is short—and precious. What we do with it matters.

Let us ask ourselves honestly: What treasures am I storing up? Do they have eternal value? What would it look like for me to be rich in compassion, service, love, faith, and humility?

As we receive the Eucharist this Sunday, may we remember that the most valuable thing we possess is not something we can buy or build, but Someone we receive—Jesus Christ, who is “all and in all.”

Let us live not in vanity, but in virtue. Not storing up goods but storing up grace.

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

Readings for the Week

Monday: Numbers 11:4b-15; Psalm 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Matthew 14:13-21

Tuesday: Numbers 12:1-13; Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13; Matthew 14:22-36

Wednesday: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Luke 9:28b-36

Thursday: Numbers 20:1-13; Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Matthew 16:13-23

Friday: Deuteronomy 4:32-40; Psalm 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21; Matthew 16:24-28

Saturday: Deuteronomy 6:4-13; Psalm 18:2-3a, 3bd-4, 47 and 51; Matthew 17:14-20

Sunday: Wisdom 18:6-9; Psalm 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22; Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 or Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-12; Luke 12:32-48 or Luke 12:35-40

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, August 10, 2025

Lectors: Arimeta Dupree, Jackie Dinvaut

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Sharon Hardy

Ushers: Team B

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

Offering Reports

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Regular Offering:	\$4,144.00
Building Fund:	20.00
Food Pantry:	\$141.00
Our Lady of Sorrows:	3,528.06
Total	\$7,833.00

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.*

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.

Golden Anniversary



The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will take place at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, September 28, during the 11:00 AM Mass.

This celebration is for couples and their immediate families celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025. To participate, complete the form at <https://forms.office.com/r/EjvxEJnux0> by September 15, 2025.

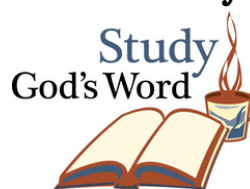
Help Update our Records



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!

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!

Summer Social Potluck



Join the Ladies of Charity for a Summer Social Potluck on Wednesday, August 27th, at the Church of the Nativity. Mass is at 5 PM, followed by dinner. Enjoy a 50/50 cash raffle and Retro Music Bingo after dinner. There's no cost to attend! Please RSVP by Monday, August 25th, at signupforlocevents@gmail.com. For more information, visit <https://ladiesofcharitykc.org/>.

Parish Mental Health Ministry



Nominations are open for 2025! Catholic Charities of Kansas City – St. Joseph invites you to nominate a high school junior or senior who exemplifies the Catholic Faith.

Criteria for consideration include: adherence to Catholic social teaching and tenets of the Catholic Church, acts of charity (service hours), good standing status as a student, and minimum GPA 3.0. To nominate, please fill out the nomination form on the following website www.catholiccharitiesball.org.

Prayer List



Jeanette Hamilton, Vera Brown, Kevin Brown, Beverly Dyer, Vauncille Bartlett, Mary Ann Grayson, Donald Parson, Elaine Lomax, Cheryl Warren, Chaunceyette 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

St. Monica Choir

Minister of Music	President	Vice President
Melvin Kerr	Paula Nix	Randy Fuller
Secretary	Treasurer	Hospitality Chair
Marilyn Scott	Diane Charity	Cynthia Hardy
Sharon Hardy	Karen Hernandez	Latrice Johnson
John James	Michelle Malone	Cheryl Warren
Sheoni Givens	Michelle Sindorf	Terese Brown
Shirley Barber	Bernadette Cook	Rita Womack
Pamela Green	Allison McDonald	Frances Thomas
Michele Perez	Dwight Miller	Fred Fuqua
Bettye Young	Cathy Johnson	Benjie Givens
London Silvers	Rose Roos	Duane Murff
Isaac Sindorf	Roy Moye	John Perez
Lucas Sindorf	Gabriel Kagwanga	Robert Moore
Vincent Alexandria		
Conrad McDonald		
Karen Hardy Groves		
Carolyn Child Gruber		
Ann Suellentrop		
Brenda Foreman		

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

9:00 AM Mass

MONDAY, AUGUST 4

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

9:00 AM Mass
6:00 PM Prayer Service

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

11:00 AM Altar & Rosary (STM)

*If you do not see your event listed, please contact the parish office at (816) 471-3696