



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Where Are the Other Nine?

As Jesus continued His journey toward Jerusalem, He met ten lepers crying out for mercy. They were united in their misery, bonded by their common pain, and separated from society by law and stigma. "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" they cried from a distance. Without hesitation, Jesus told them to go show themselves to the priests. And as they went, they were healed. Yet only one—a Samaritan—turned back, glorifying God and falling at Jesus' feet in gratitude.

This story, found in Luke 17:11-19, is not just about healing; it's about the difference between being cured and being saved, between receiving a blessing and responding to it. Ten were healed, but only one received the fullness of salvation because only one came back to say thank you.

We live in a world where gratitude often fades as quickly as the thrill of receiving something good. Like the nine lepers, we pray fervently in times of need, but once the crisis is over—once the job is found, the diagnosis improves, or the debt is cleared—we often move on without returning to the Giver. Gratitude takes time, humility, and awareness that we are not self-sufficient.



Healing of the Ten Lepers- Jesus Mafa

continued on page 2



The Samaritan, considered an outsider, recognized that his healing came not from his own worthiness but from divine mercy. His gratitude was spontaneous, loud, and public. He glorified God “in a loud voice” and fell at the feet of Jesus. That posture of humility is the true posture of worship.

Why didn’t the others return? Perhaps they were too excited to reclaim their lives—to rush home, show themselves to the priests, or celebrate their new freedom. Maybe they assumed Jesus didn’t need to hear their thanks. Whatever the reason, they missed a deeper encounter. They received the gift but ignored the Giver.

How often are we among the nine? How many times has God healed, protected, provided, or guided us—and we forgot to return with praise? Gratitude transforms healing into relationship. When we give thanks, we acknowledge God’s presence and power in our lives.

Jesus says to the thankful leper, “Your faith has saved you.” Not your gratitude alone, but the faith expressed through gratitude. True faith recognizes that every good thing comes from God and that thanksgiving is not optional—it’s the heartbeat of discipleship.

Gratitude doesn’t just please God; it changes us. It opens our eyes to daily blessings, softens our hearts toward others, and fills us with peace.

Take time to be the one who returns. Each day this week, name three blessings—large or small—and thank God for them. Then go a step further: thank someone who has touched your life. Gratitude is contagious; it multiplies joy and deepens faith.

When Jesus looks around today and asks, “Where are the other nine?” may He find us among the ones who returned, fell at His feet, and glorified God with grateful hearts.

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

Readings for the Week

Monday: Romans 1:1-7; Psalm 98:1bcde, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Luke 11:29-32

Tuesday: Romans 1:16-25; Psalm 19:2-3, 4-5; Luke 11:37-41

Wednesday: Romans 2:1-11; Psalm 62:2-3, 6-7, 9; Luke 11:42-46

Thursday: Romans 3:21-30; Psalm 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab; Luke 11:47-54

Friday: Romans 4:1-8; Psalm 32:1b-2, 5, 11; Luke 12:1-7

Saturday: 2 Timothy 4:10-17b; Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18; Luke 10:1-9

Sunday: Exodus 17:8-13; Psalm 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2; Luke 18:1-8

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Lectors: Brenda Lofton, Dwight Miller

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Arimeta Dupree

Ushers: Team C

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

Offering Reports

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Regular Offering:	\$6,356.00
Food Pantry:	\$185.00
Building Fund:	\$699.00
All Souls Day:	\$25.00
Funeral Donation:	\$100.00

Total **\$7,365.00**

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.

We Need Your Help



As we continue with our capital campaign we are looking for grant writers. Please notify Elton Lombard, Lawrence Blankinship, Carolyn Greene, Shirley Thaw

or Janice Smith if you have that skill. It takes all of our gifts and talents to make this campaign successful.

Capital Campaign Events



Several dinner parties are scheduled to take place in the homes of parishioners throughout October and November. Additionally, a big free pizza party is planned for

November 13th in Donnelly Hall, located next to the downtown Cathedral. The purpose of these events is to share information about the vision for our Church and Ferguson Hall. To be added to the invitation list, please email Peter Callan at callanpo@gmail.com.

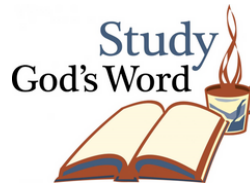
Save the Date



Save the Date! November is Black Catholic History Month and we'll celebrate each Sunday led by or with a focus on various ministries or organizations. On

November 2nd, Bishop Johnston will join us for Mass. So, we'll kick things off in grand style on November 2nd, and we'll have the group Africa Rising with us on the 1st and third Sunday, plus a special focus with our youth making a presentation on a Sunday in November as well. Mark your calendars, the entire month of November will be really important for us at St. Monica, and we'd like to see how many parishioners and visitors we can have, especially on November 2nd.

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!

Join Our Choir



St. Monica Music Ministry has been invited to help build a 100-voice Interfaith/Multi-Cultural choir for an upcoming music video and documentary. If you're

interested in singing or would like more information, please see Marilyn Scott or Melvin Kerr. The first rehearsal is scheduled for Saturday, November 1, and filming will take place on Saturday, December 6, in the sanctuary. Please note that there will be a maximum of two rehearsals before the filming. To participate, you must sign a release form and attend the rehearsal(s).

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.

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

Bereavement Ministry

Carolyn Greene	Chairperson
Christine Johnson	Vickie Shackelford
Rose Palmer	Shirley Thaw
Margaret Jones	Angela Curry
Naomi Holt	Alma Hughes
Crystal Miller	Judy Blankinship
Dianna Miller	Mary Graham

Most merciful Lord, You are able to do all things. You are able to heal all my wounds, forgive my sins and solve every problem I encounter. As I cry out to You in my need, please do heal me. In response, may I always turn back to You with the deepest gratitude and praise so that my faith in You will grow and my love for You will truly flourish. Jesus, I trust in You.

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

9:00 AM	Mass
10:00 AM	Chiefs Chicken Dinner (FH)
10:00 AM	Dance Rehearsal (S)
10:30 AM	GriefShare Group (CH)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

9:00 AM	Mass
6:00 PM	Prayer Service

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

6:00 PM	KCCAR Racism and our Faith (FH)
---------	---------------------------------

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:30 AM	Women's Bible Study
2:00 PM	Knights of Peter Claver (FH & STM)