



# Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, JULY 20, 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

## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak. Luke 10:38-39

It's interesting that it was Martha who welcomed Jesus, but it was Mary who sat at His feet listening to Him. As the story goes on, we discover that Martha took her responsibility of hospitality seriously; she was very busy preparing a meal. But it appears that Mary needed a different form of hospitality from our Lord Himself. As Martha prepared to feed Jesus so as to care for His physical hunger, Mary sought to be fed by our Lord so as to feed her spiritual hunger. And interestingly, it was the generosity of Martha who was diligent in preparing the meal that made it possible for her sister to receive the spiritual food she longed for.

When we read this story, we can easily become critical of Martha because she complained to Jesus about her sister. It is easy to see Martha's frustration in her words, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me." And though Martha may have been a little impatient, Jesus' response to her was gentle and corrective. "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing.



continued on page 2





Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her.” What was that “better part?” It was Mary’s prayerful attentiveness to Jesus. She was hungry for His teaching, and Jesus offered it to her in a very personal and loving way. And though this image of Mary before Jesus is a beautiful image to ponder and to use as a model of our own prayer, there is also something important to be said about Martha’s role in making Mary’s prayer possible.

Because Martha was diligent in taking care of the duties of hospitality, Mary felt the freedom to sit at Jesus’ feet. Perhaps the ideal response from Martha would have been to notice that Mary was being spiritually fed by our Lord and to rejoice in that fact, giving her the continued freedom to sit at Jesus’ feet. If Martha would have realized this, then she would have continued working in the background so that her sister could continue listening to Jesus. But even though Martha did interrupt this sacred moment for her sister, the fact remains that her initial diligence in taking care of preparing the meal did give Mary some time alone with Jesus.

In a similar way, we will all be given various opportunities in life to take care of the daily mundane tasks that are needed within a family or community. It is easy to fall into the trap of thinking that unless everyone does their equal part, then things are not fair. But being “fair” should not be our focus. True charity, especially within the family, means that, first and foremost, we look for opportunities to better the lives of those around us. For example, spending extra time cleaning a home so that others can enjoy it more adds much to family life. Or spending hours preparing a nice meal for family or friends may afford everyone the opportunity of time well spent together. These are only a couple of the countless ways that our diligence and generosity toward others is fruitful, especially within family life.

Reflect, today, upon these two women and the unique calling they each were given at the time of Jesus’ visit to their house. One was called to be fed by our Lord as she sat at His feet. The other was called to work hard so as to make it easier for her sister to receive that spiritual nourishment. Know that both of these callings are important. For that reason, if God calls you to be more like Martha at times, rejoice in that fact and work hard at serving in many ways. If God calls you to be more like Mary at times, then rejoice in those moments and sit prayerfully at the feet of our Lord, being fed by His holy Words.

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Exodus 14:5-18; Psalm 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6; Matthew 12:38-42

**Tuesday:** Song of Songs 3:1-4b; Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; John 20:1-2, 11-18

**Wednesday:** Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Psalm 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28; Matthew 13:1-9

**Thursday:** Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Matthew 13:10-17

**Friday:** 2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Psalm 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Matthew 20:20-28

**Saturday:** Exodus 24:3-8; Psalm 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Matthew 13:24-30

**Sunday:** Genesis 18:20-32; Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13

## Liturgical Assignments

*Sunday, July 27, 2025*

Lectors: Ramonda Doakes, Rose Palmer

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Margaret Mendy

Ushers: Team D

Eucharistic Ministers: Katie Stewart, Kirk Thaw, Pat Williams, Rita Womack

## Offering Reports

*Sunday, July 13, 2025*

Regular Offering: \$6,039.04

Bldg. Fund: \$30.00

Food Pantry: \$266.00

Second Collection: \$558.28

**Total \$6,893.32**

### **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](mailto:mspaula.pn@gmail.com).

### Men Oh Men!!!!



Attention, gentlemen! You are invited to a male chorus program on Saturday, October 18, at 5 PM, taking place at Walnut Boulevard Missionary Baptist Church in

Kansas City, Kansas. Before Melvin responds, we need to confirm that we have enough male choir members to attend. Please see Melvin after Mass to sign up.

### Grateful For All Your Hard Work



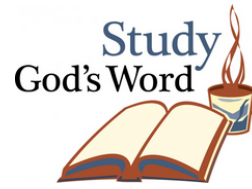
We would like to sincerely thank Mr. Lawrence Blankinship and his team for their tireless efforts and countless hours of work in making our transition from

the church to the new space so seamless. May God bless you abundantly. The team members are: Vincent Alexandria, Ernest Collins, Arimeta DuPree, Dalice DuPree, Iia DuPree, Randy Fuller, Mike Hughes, Eldon Johnson, Teresa Johnson, Melvin Kerr, John Perez, Jerry Pullen, and Marilyn Scott.

### St. Monica Day Update

The parish council is postponing the St. Monica Day Celebrations until the last weekend in September 27th and 28th due to the air conditioning. We have a lot of ideas and groups that help plan this great event. Please sign up for the upcoming zoom planning meetings with Kim Urenda after mass. Thank you for your help!

### 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!

### 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.

### St. Monica Feasibility Survey

This week, we sent an email invitation to those for whom we have updated email addresses, inviting them to participate in an online survey about our readiness for a capital campaign. The survey takes just a few minutes to complete and will help us assess whether we are prepared to begin the campaign. For those who prefer to fill out a paper copy of the survey, they are available in the hallway outside Ferguson Hall. Once completed, you can place the paper surveys directly into the Church Development box to ensure your anonymity.

## 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@stmoniacak.org](mailto:frleonard@stmoniacak.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](mailto: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](mailto:victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.

**Safety Environment Coordinator for St. Monica Parish -**  
Ramonda Doakes, P-(816) 457- 5538, E- [rdoakes@stmoniacak.org](mailto:rdoakes@stmoniacak.org)

## Leadership Corner

### St. Monica Choir

<b>Minister of Music</b> Melvin Kerr	<b>President</b> Paula Nix	<b>Vice President</b> Randy Fuller
<b>Secretary</b> Marilyn Scott	<b>Treasurer</b> Diane Charity	<b>Hospitality Chair</b> 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	

## Calendar of Events this Week

### SUNDAY, JULY 20

9:00 AM Mass

### MONDAY, JULY 21

### TUESDAY, JULY 22

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

9:00 AM Mass  
6:00 PM Prayer Service

### THURSDAY, JULY 24

### FRIDAY, JULY 25

### SATURDAY, JULY 26

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