

1616 THE PASEO BOULEVARD
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64108

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024
BULLETIN



SAINT MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

*St. Monica Mission for Colored Catholics
opened October 2, 1910*

*first church for
Black Catholics in
Kansas City, Missouri*

Parish Staff

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ST. MONICA
CATHOLIC CHURCH
culture, family, love

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



In the Gospel today, we read of Jesus' appearance to the Apostles and Thomas' doubt, expressing in no uncertain terms that he would not believe Jesus had been raised from the dead until he put his fingers in the holes where the nails were driven through, or place his hand in Jesus' side. Perhaps the most perfect depiction of this comes from Caravaggio's *The Incredulity of Saint Thomas*, which depicts the moment of Thomas' belief as he probes the wounds of Jesus. His face expresses the dawning of a new faith in Jesus as his finger is placed in Jesus' side. His eyes are bloodshot from the intense mourning he has been undergoing. His face (particularly his brow) expresses shock and amazement at what he is feeling. Perhaps he can feel Jesus' lungs as he inhales and exhales and the beating of his heart. At any rate, it is clear that Jesus is alive and not a ghost or animated corpse. Jesus, meanwhile, is patient with him, allowing this act, knowing that it will restore his faith. Two other apostles look on, making it clear that, while Thomas was the most vocal in his unbelief and the most bold in wanting verification, he was not the only one that had doubts. Emphasized in this passage, as well as the painting, is the fleshly nature of Jesus' Resurrection. Jesus did not abandon his body. He did not remove the imperfections that had marked his flesh by our sins. Rather, they now transform into a sign of his love for us. A few years ago, I attended Divine Mercy Sunday with Bishop Barron, the creator of the Catholicism TV series. He emphasized that the Gospel could be summed up in a single sentence: God became man and we killed him, but he returned to us in forgiving love. And part of his forgiving love was showing us his wounds. His wounds, inherently an ugly thing, now become a thing of beauty and an expression of love to those with faith. This is particularly emphasized in the devotion to the Divine Mercy (of which this Sunday has been named) that was promoted by St. Faustina Kowalska. Jesus appeared to her and asked her to paint an image of him as she saw. This image showed red and white rays of light coming from the open wound in Jesus' side, representing the blood and water which came from his side when his heart was pierced by a lance. The water and blood represent the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist respectively- from which we derive our life as children of God. Clearly underscoring the need for faith in light of Jesus' wounds, the painting bears the title at the bottom "Jesus, I trust in you!" This, message so eloquently represents Thomas' exclamation of "My Lord and my God!" Let us also turn to him and, with amazement and great faith, place our trust in him.

Brad Geist, Pastoral Associate

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024



Prayer List

Jeanette Hamilton, Vera Brown, Kevin Brown, Beverly Dyer, Bernadette Cook, Vauncille Bartlett, Mary Ann Grayson, Donald and Mable Parson, Sergio Mendoza, Elaine Lomax, Donna Dupree, Cheryl Warren, Chaunceyetta Mize, Rhea Holloman, Clara Mays, Melva McClellan, Velma Jennings, Brenda A. Martin, Margaret Sams, Debra Johnson, Deacon Ken Greene, 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, Thurman Hall, 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)

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.

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)
2. Contact your local Law Enforcement Agency, or call 911,
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, 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.

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Lectors: Ernest Collins and Allison Reffells

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Karen Groves

Ushers: Team B

Eucharistic Ministers: Armeita Dupree and Angela Curry

Counters: Team 1

Offering Reports

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Regular Offering:	\$6,216.00
Food Pantry:	\$110.00
Second Collection:	\$325.00
Miscellaneous:	\$136.00
Total	\$6,787.00

Saints & Special Observances

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Easter

Monday: The Annunciation of the Lord

Tuesday: 1966 Emmett Ashford first African American Major League umpire; 1996 George Walker first African American to receive the Pulitzer Prize for music

Thursday: St. Stanislaus; 1881 Spelman College is founded in Atlanta, GA; Civil Rights Act of 1968 signed

Saturday: 1997 Tiger Woods first African American to win the Masters Championship

➔ The Legion of Mary



Our Lady of Kibeho Praesidium of the Legion of Mary meets every Monday at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall at Our Lady of Sorrows.

The Legion of Mary is a Marian group that seeks to imitate Mary in serving Jesus in those they meet by advancing the Gospel. This group collaborates with parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows, our sister parish. Our praesidium does homebound visits of parishioners, takes communion to the sick and hospitalized, teaches, and many other vital ministries in our parish.

➔ Women's Bible Study



Ladies, mark your calendars for a wonderful opportunity to delve into the Word of God together.

Our Women's Bible Study group will gather every first and third Saturday, from 9:30 to 11:00am. This is a fantastic chance to grow spiritually and explore the teachings of the Bible in a supportive and engaging environment. For more information please reach out to Paula Nix at (816) 471- 3696 or mstpaula.pn@gmail.com.

➔ In Loving Memory



Please join us in honoring and commemorating the life of Clara Mays. Her funeral service will be held at St. Monica Catholic Church

on April 13th at 11:00 am. A repast will be held at Ferguson Hall at 1:30 pm. Your presence and prayers would be greatly appreciated as we celebrate and remember the life and legacy of Clara Mays.

➔ Behold KC: Uniting Faith, Music, & Community



Join us for Behold KC, a remarkable gathering of the "one holy catholic and apostolic Church" presented by the Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph and the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas.

Taking place on May 4 from 4:00 to 9:30 p.m. at the National WWI Museum and Memorial North Lawn, this event offers Mass, Confession, live musical talent, a live performance from St. Monica's gospel choir, a public Rosary, and the largest Eucharistic Adoration opportunity in our city in over 80 years. Registration is free but strongly encouraged for accurate planning and updates. Visit BEHOLDKC.ORG for more details and to register. Don't miss this extraordinary celebration of faith and unity!

➔ Pray For an End to Gun Violence



Join us at St. Francis Xavier Parish, located at 1001 E 52nd Street, Kansas City, 64110, as we come together to pray for an end to gun violence. Every Wednesday and Friday morning at 8:00 am,

we gather at the corner of 52nd and Troost to pray the Rosary for the victims of gun violence. In case of inclement weather, the Rosary will be prayed in the chapel of St. Francis Xavier following the 7:30am Mass. Your presence and prayers are deeply appreciated as we stand in solidarity against the scourge of gun violence.



For bulletin announcements and changes, please email Biviana at the parish office. All requests must be submitted no later than Wednesday at 3pm. Contact Biviana at bradillo@stmonicakc.org or call the office 816)471-3696.