



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2024

1616 THE PASEO BOULEVARD, KANSAS CITY, MO 64108

Parish Staff

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George Hans
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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

Dear Friends and Parishioners of St. Monica,

In today's Gospel, a large crowd follows Jesus not because they love His teachings, but because they received free bread. They turn to Jesus to satisfy their physical needs, yet they are never satisfied and eventually leave. This pattern reflects a common issue in our lives when people treat God as a means to achieve their own ends, they are never satisfied and eventually turn to idols for gratification.

St. John Vianney said, "The soul hungers for God, and nothing but God can fulfill it. For Christ came to dwell on earth and assumed a Body in order that this Body might become the true Food of our souls."

I remember a few years ago, around this time of year, I was privileged to take a few days off for a retreat at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, Alabama, the home of Mother Angelica. I needed to spend some quiet days away from the hustle of the world and also to get some physical rest. But when I arrived, full of expectations, something strange started to happen. The more I prayed and adored our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, the more I experienced a deep emptiness and restlessness within me. This was contrary to my expectation, as I was looking for a peaceful and joyous time with the Lord. So, I decided to bring this experience to the attention of my retreat master.

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I still remember what he said that this feeling was normal at the beginning of a retreat. The more we grow closer to God, the more we start to realize what is lacking in us and what needs to be fulfilled. Take, for example, if we never go near a mirror with some light on it, we may fool ourselves into thinking we are okay. But the closer we get to the light, the more we realize the defects on our faces.

And that's true with our spiritual life. The more we stay away from Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, the more we fool ourselves into thinking we are fine. But as we grow closer to our Lord, we realize the areas of our lives that need His grace. This is always a common experience among many mystics and Saints in the Catholic Tradition—a great longing and hunger for union with Christ in the Eucharist.

Unfortunately, this is not the case with our culture today. Many people have a great hunger to be united with their success, career, and a good life, neglecting their true hunger for God. Some even deny the Real Presence in the Eucharist and replace it with false spiritual foods, which leave them unhappy, exhausted, or frustrated.

Saint John Paul II said, “God has placed in human hearts a ‘hunger’ which will be satisfied only by full union with Him. Eucharistic communion was given so that we might be sated with God here on earth, in expectation of our complete fulfillment in heaven.”

Christ gives us the Eucharist to awaken a spiritual hunger within us, so that we can desire to be united with Him in Heaven. We are not created to live on earth forever but to be united with God forever in Heaven.

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.

Readings for the Week

- Monday:** Jeremiah 28:1-17; Psalm 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102; Matthew 14:13-21
- Tuesday:** Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 and 2 Peter 1:16-19; Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; Mark 9:2-10
- Wednesday:** Jeremiah 31:1-7; Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Matthew 15:21-28
- Thursday:** Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Matthew 16:13-23
- Friday:** Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Deuteronomy 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41; Matthew 16:24-28
- Saturday:** 2 Corinthians 9:6-10; Psalm 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9; John 12:24-26
- Sunday:** 1 Kings 19:4-8, Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Ephesians 4:30-5:2; John 6:41-51

Liturgical Assignments

- Sunday, August 11, 2024*
- Lectors: Diane Charity, Michele Perez
- Servers: All Servers
- Welcome: Allison McDonald
- Ushers: Information Not Available
- Eucharistic Ministers: Ben Gruber, Sharon Hardy

Offering Reports

<i>Sunday, July 28, 2024</i>	
Regular Offering:	\$6,957.00
Food Pantry:	\$137.00
Second Collection:	\$0.00
Miscellaneous:	\$2,580.00
Total	\$9,674.00

Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life.

John 6:27



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.

The Feast of St. Monica



Join us in celebrating St. Monica Day by bringing a delicious side dish! St. Monica Day will be on August 25th, and we would love for you to contribute. Sign up sheets will be available after today's Mass. Don't miss out on this opportunity and sign up today!

Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Eucharist Mission Appeal



Sr Andrea Kantner, a member of the Sisters of St Francis of the Holy Eucharist in Independence, MO, will be giving a Mission Appeal in the parish at Mass on August 11, 2024. The donations will be used in the Diocese of Cruzeiro do Sul and the Parish in Rodrigues Alves, located in the Amazon rainforest in the state of Acre, Brazil for the medical and nutritional needs of expectant mothers and pre-school children, a program for children and youth with special needs and a project helping mothers to develop a marketable skill by offering sewing courses as well as after school instruction and care for school age children and a Day Care program.

School Supply Drive



Please support the children served by Jackson County CASA by donating school supplies for the annual school drive organized by the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary. For any inquiries about this event, feel free to contact Carrie Miller at (816) 804-5167. A collection tub will be available in the church vestibule every Sunday in August to gather supplies. Your generosity will make a meaningful difference in these children's education. Thank you for your support!

50th Wedding Anniversary Mass



The Golden Wedding Anniversary celebration will be held on Sunday, August 25 for couples whose 50th Wedding Anniversary falls between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024. This event is open to couples and their immediate family. The celebration will begin with Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City at 11:00 AM, followed by a reception in the new event space, Donnelly Hall. To find the form to complete, please visit <https://forms.office.com/r/YizDVWL2d0>. If you would like assistance with filling out the form, please call the parish office. The form must be completed by August 11, 2024.

St. Monica Offering Envelopes



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

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), Phyllis Weaver, Mary Ann Grayson, Lee Brown

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 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, 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

Saints & Special Observances

Sunday: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time; 1961 Barack Obama, 44th President of the United States was born in Honolulu, HI

Monday: The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major

Tuesday: The Transfiguration of the Lord; 1965 President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into Law

Wednesday: St. Sixtus II and Companions; St. Cajetan

Thursday: St. Dominic; 1796 The Boston African Society was established

Friday: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Saturday: St. Lawrence; 1920 Mamie Smith made first authentic blues recording; 1984 Carl Lewis won 4 gold medals in the Los Angeles, CA Olympic Games

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

9:00 AM	Mass
10:00 AM	KPC Pancake Breakfast (FH)
10:30 AM	Praise Dancer Ministry Practice (S)

MONDAY, AUGUST 5

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7

9:00 AM	Mass
6:00 PM	Prayer Service

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

11:00 AM	Baptism (S)
11:30 AM	Altar and Rosary Meeting (STM)

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