



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

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

Reverend Kenneth Greene
Deacon

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/Maintenance

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

11th Sunday of Ordinary Time

From our Pastor

Dear Friends and parishioners of St. Monica,

In the gospel today, Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed. A mustard seed is such a tiny seed, yet when it is planted, it grows up to become one of the largest trees. This parable illustrates how the building up of the Kingdom of God typically looks: from the very small to the very great. God tends to operate under the radar, on the edges of things, and often quietly, usually by a slow, gradual process. Sometimes His work is too ordinary to notice. Often, when we think about the Kingdom of God, we can easily confuse it with the kingdoms of this world in their magnificence and grandiosity. However, the mystery of the Kingdom of God lies in its simplicity and openness to the ordinariness of life.

For example, when Jesus chose to establish the Kingdom of God on earth, He chose 12 ordinary men to help Him with this monumental task. Jesus selected this particular group of people to become His disciples for a reason: to remind us that the Lord uses less-than-perfect, the least qualified people to do His work, spread His gospel, build His Kingdom, and be His friends. This is how the mustard seed, small in nature, turns out to be the greatest of all the trees.

Another profound example is the cross. Jesus willingly went through the way of the cross to manifest the Kingdom of God through the forgiveness of sins. The cross, which might seem a total failure from a worldly perspective, becomes a great sign of hope.

continued on page 2





On the cross, He was mocked, ridiculed, and humiliated, yet it was there that His power was made manifest to the entire world. Thus, the cross, initially a symbol of defeat, transforms into a symbol of great victory. This transformation mirrors the mustard seed's journey from a tiny seed to the greatest of all trees.

This principle is also true in our own lives. It is in our weakest moments that the power of God is most clearly seen. As St. Paul says in 2 Corinthians 12:9, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." It is in our vulnerabilities and challenges that God's strength becomes evident, turning our trials into testimonies of His greatness.

Reflecting on these truths helps us to recognize and appreciate the subtle and often unnoticed ways God works in our lives and in the world around us. The Kingdom of God grows quietly and steadily, often through the most humble and ordinary means, reminding us that true greatness lies in simplicity and faithfulness.

Fr. Leonard

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Kings 12:1-16; Psalm 5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7; Matthew 5:38-42

Tuesday: ; 1 Kings 21:17-29; Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16; Matthew 5:43-48

Wednesday: 2 Kings 2:1, 6-14; Psalm 31:20, 21, 24; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Sirach 48:1-14; Psalm 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7; Matthew 6:7-15

Friday: 2 Kings 11:1-4, 9-18, 20; Psalm 132:11, 12, 13-14, 17-18; Matthew 6:19-23

Saturday: 2 Chronicles 24:17-25; Psalm 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32, 33-34; Matthew 6:24-34

Sunday: Job 38:1, 8-11; Psalm 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31; 2 Corinthians 5:14-17; Mark 4:35-41

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, June 23, 2024

Lectors: Jackie Dunvaut, Arimeta Dupree

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Margaret Mendy

Ushers: Team D

Eucharistic Ministers: Kirk Thaw, Shirley Thaw

Offering Reports

Sunday, June 9, 2024

Regular Offering:	\$5,550.50
Food Pantry:	\$316.00
Second Collection:	\$0.00
Miscellaneous:	\$137.24
Total	\$6,003.74

A Father's Day Blessing

*Blessed is the Father who lets the Lord be his guiding hand,
Whose faith brings his family courage,
Whose wisdom comes from God,
And whose children still stand and honor him.*

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.

Driving for Hope



Catholic Charities of Kansas City - St. Joseph and the Knights of Columbus are proud to present the 2024 Driving For Hope Golf

Tournament on July 15th from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm at Lakewood Oaks Country Club. The proceeds from this event will support the important work of Catholic Charities in 27 nearby counties to provide basic needs and dignity to those in the community. For more information, please visit <https://catholiccharities-ksj.org/drivingforhope/>.

National Eucharistic Pilgrimage



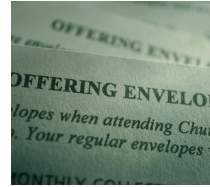
Experience the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage as it makes its way through Kansas City this month! Join us here at St. Monica, one of the blessed "pilgrimage stops," on Saturday, June 29, 2024, at 11:00 am. Together, we will immerse ourselves in a 30-40-minute prayer session with the Blessed Sacrament, as it journeys across the country, followed by a complimentary lunch.

Legion of Mary Meeting



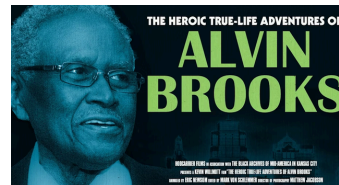
Join us for the Legion of Mary, Our Lady of Kibeho/Our Lady Sorrows Praesidium meeting is on Monday, June 24, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the St. Monica building. Your presence will be greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there!

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.

The Heroic True-Life Adventures of Alvin Brooks



Academy Award-winning screenwriter Kevin Willmott's latest documentary film captures the life of Mr. Alvin Brooks, a beloved member of our church family. Mr. Brooks was one of the first Black police officers in Kansas City and served as the city's first Black department director. The film shares an inspiring and heartfelt narrative that is deeply connected to the nation's past and present. Civil rights activist and public servant Alvin Brooks shares engaging, funny, and tragic stories of his life and career of advocacy in Kansas City. The film will be released on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at Screenland Armour with showings at 6:30 PM and 8:30 PM. It will also be presented at 6 p.m. June 30 at the Lawrence Arts Center as part of the Free State Festival.

And the Winner for Best Float is.....



St. Monica Catholic Church!

Way to go St. Monica Family! Your hard work has paid off - we've won first prize! A huge thank you to everyone who dedicated their time and effort to create our amazing float for the Juneteenth parade. Now let's celebrate our victory and claim those well-deserved bragging rights!

“A CHURCH ALIVE IS WORTH THE DRIVE!”

Prayer List



Jeanette Hamilton, Vera Brown, Kevin Brown, Beverly Dyer, Vauncille Bartlett, Mary Ann Grayson, Donald and Mable Parson, Sergio Mendoza, Elaine Lomax, Donna Dupree, Cheryl Warren, Chaunceyetta Mize, Rhea Holloman, Melva McClellan, Velma Jennings, Brenda A. Martin, Margaret Sams, 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

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: 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time; Father's Day; 1970 Kenneth Gibson, 1st African American to be elected mayor of a major city on the eastern seaboard

Monday: 1972 Frank Willis discovered Watergate break-in, Washington, DC

Tuesday: 1966 Samuel Nabrit, 1st African American to serve on the Atomic Energy Commission

Wednesday: St. Romuald; Juneteenth, celebration of the day in 1865, when the news of the Emancipation Proclamation finally reached Blacks in Galveston, TX-1980

Thursday: 1911 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People incorporated in New York

Friday: St. Aloysius Gonzaga; 1945 Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., 1st African American to command a U.S. Army Air Force bomber group


Saturday: St. Paulinus of Nola; St. John Fisher, St. Thomas More; 2005 Edward K Braxton installed Bishop of Belleville, IL

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

9:00 AM Mass

MONDAY, JUNE 17

Happy Birthday Father Leonard! 

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

9:00 AM Mass
6:00 PM Prayer Service

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (S)

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

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