



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026

1616 THE PASEO BOULEVARD, KANSAS CITY, MO 64108

Parish Staff

Fr. Leonard Gicheru
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Custodian

Melvin Kerr
Choir/Music Ministry

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

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus: A Heart That Never Stops Loving

Each year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, one of the most beloved feasts in the Catholic tradition. This feast invites us to contemplate the heart of Christ as the perfect symbol of God's infinite love for humanity. It reminds us that at the center of our faith is not merely a set of teachings or rules, but a Person whose heart burns with love for every human being.

The devotion to the Sacred Heart became especially prominent through the visions of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in the seventeenth century. In these revelations, Jesus showed His heart surrounded by flames, crowned with thorns, and pierced for our salvation. He expressed His sorrow that so many people failed to recognize or return His love. Through this devotion, Jesus invited His followers to draw closer to Him, to trust in His mercy, and to imitate His compassionate love.

The Sacred Heart reveals several important truths about God. First, it reminds us that God's love is personal. Jesus does not love humanity in the abstract; He loves each of us individually. He knows our joys, struggles, fears, and hopes. Second, the Sacred Heart teaches us that God's love is sacrificial. The pierced heart of Christ points to the Cross, where Jesus gave everything for our redemption.



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Finally, it reveals that God's love is merciful. No matter how far we wander, the Heart of Jesus remains open to welcome us home.

The lessons of the Sacred Heart are especially relevant in our world today. We live in a culture often marked by division, loneliness, anger, and indifference. The Heart of Jesus calls us to respond differently. We are invited to become people of compassion, forgiveness, patience, and generosity. Just as Christ's heart was open to all, our hearts should be open to those around us, especially the poor, the suffering, and those who feel forgotten.

This year, the celebration of the Sacred Heart carries special significance. As our nation commemorates the 250th anniversary of the United States, the Catholic bishops of our country will consecrate the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 11. This historic act is a prayer that our nation may be guided by the love, truth, mercy, and peace that flow from the Heart of Christ.

In conjunction with this national consecration, the bishops are encouraging Catholic families to consecrate their homes and families to the Sacred Heart. Such a consecration is a beautiful way of placing Christ at the center of family life. It is a public declaration that our homes belong to the Lord and that we desire His presence, protection, and guidance in all that we do.

A family consecration can be simple. Families may gather in prayer before an image of the Sacred Heart, recite a prayer of consecration, and commit themselves to living according to the Gospel. The practice serves as a powerful reminder that Christ desires not only to dwell in our churches but also in our homes and hearts.

As we celebrate this great feast, let us take time to reflect on the immense love that flows from the Heart of Jesus. May we allow His love to transform our lives, heal our wounds, strengthen our families, and renew our parish community. And may the Sacred Heart of Jesus reign in our hearts, our homes, and our nation.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us.

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Kings 21:1-16; Psalm 5:2-3ab, 4b-46a, 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: Jeremiah 20:10-13; Psalm 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, June 21, 2026

Lectors: Gerald Buckman, Darthene Buckman

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Margaret Mendy

Ushers: Team C

Eucharistic Ministers: Kirk Thaw, Shirley Thaw, Rita Womack, Shirley Barber, Stephanie Broils, Terese Brown

Offering Reports

Sunday, June 7, 2026

Regular Offering:	\$6,507.00
Fundraising Campaign:	\$1,215.00
Second Collection:	\$233.00
Father's Day:	\$125.00
Total	\$8,080.00

Fundraising Campaign

Weekly Update

Goal	\$2,500,000
Total Amount Pledged	\$425,872
Percentage of Goal Pledged	17.03%
Actual Cash Received to Date	\$102,860

Legion of Mary Meeting



Please join us for the Legion of Mary, Our Lady of Kibeho/Our Lady of Sorrows Praesidium meetings every Monday at 4 PM at Our Lady of Sorrows, except on the last Monday of the month, when we meet at 4 PM here at St. Monica in the St. Monica building. Your presence will be greatly appreciated, and we look forward to seeing you there!

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 mstpaula.pn@gmail.com.

Juneteenth Blood Drive



Join us for a Blood Drive at St. Monica Catholic Church in Ferguson Hall on Saturday, June 20, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All presenting

donors will receive a complimentary ticket to Worlds of Fun, while supplies last! Tickets are non-transferable and cannot be exchanged for cash. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "StMonicas."

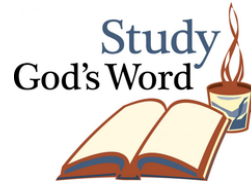
Fundraising Campaign



Thank you to all who have already submitted a pledge card for our parish fundraising campaign. If you have not yet participated, pledge

cards are available at the back of the church. Please return your completed card in the red collection box. Every gift helps move our parish forward.

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!

We Need Your Help



Please mark your calendar for June 19 and 20, 2026. St.

Monica will host a Parking Lot Fundraiser during the Juneteenth Celebration, with all proceeds supporting the St. Monica Fundraising Campaign. We need volunteers to work 2-hour shifts collecting parking fees or directing traffic. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet in the church vestibule. Thank you for your support, The Parking Team

Youth Recognition Sunday



Great news! Youth Recognition Sunday will now take place a week earlier, on Father's Day, June 21. We invite you to join us in Ferguson Hall for this special celebration.

\$100,000 Milestone Reached!

Thanks be to God and to all who have supported our fundraising campaign! We are grateful to announce that we have surpassed \$100,000 in gifts and pledges. Thank you for your generosity, prayers, and commitment to our parish. As we celebrate this milestone, we ask for your continued support as we work toward our campaign goal. Together, we can accomplish great things for the future of our parish.

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, Yesheka Alexander (daughter of James and Mary Alexander), Carolyn Turner

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

Evangelization Ministry

Vickie Shackelford	Chairperson
Alvin Brooks	Marsha Willis
Carrie Miller	Jenise Comer
Crystal Miller	Carolyn Greene
Peter Callan	

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.

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

9:00 AM Mass
2:30 PM Oblates of Conception Abbey (STM)
3:00 PM St. Francis African Community

MONDAY, JUNE 15

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

9:00 AM Funeral
6:00 PM Wednesday Night Prayer (S)

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

9:30 AM Women’s Bible Study (STM)
10:00 AM Red Cross Blood Drive (FH)