



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 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

From our Pastor

Long Live the King!" – The Solemnity of Christ the King

This Sunday we celebrate the grand finale of the Church's liturgical year: the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. It's the Church's way of saying, "Let's end the year with a crown!" Before Advent begins and the baby Jesus returns to the manger, the Church invites us to see who that baby really is—the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Now, "Christ the King" might sound distant to modern ears. After all, we don't live under monarchies anymore. We vote, protest, post memes, and prefer freedom over crowns. We've gotten used to choosing our leaders, not bowing to them. So when the Church says, "Jesus is King," part of us might think, "That's nice... but what does it mean for me on Monday morning?"

Well, it means everything. Because this feast is not about royal robes or golden thrones—it's about who rules our hearts. Everyone serves someone. The only question is: who's on the throne of your life? Is it Christ... or your schedule? Your success? Your comfort? Your smartphone? (Some of us check our phones more than we pray. If there were screen-time confessions, we'd all be in the penalty box!)



continued on page 2



Christ's kingship is not like any earthly power. He wears a crown of thorns, not jewels. His throne is a cross, not a palace. His law is love, and His scepter is mercy. He doesn't conquer nations; He conquers hearts. And the weapon He uses is forgiveness. As we hear in today's Gospel, even from the cross, Jesus turns to the criminal beside Him and says, "Today you will be with me in paradise." That's our King the one who reigns by redeeming.

This feast challenges us to ask: Is Christ truly my King or just my weekend consultant? Do I let Him shape my decisions, or do I only check in with Him when things fall apart? To call Jesus "Lord" means surrendering the right to live on our own terms. It means letting Him have the final word in our relationships, our finances, our priorities, and even our grudges. The Kingdom of God isn't built on comfort; it's built on conversion.

And here's the joyful twist; this King doesn't demand servants instead He makes us royal. In baptism, you and I were anointed priest, prophet, and king. Christ shares His crown with us! But we wear it not with pride, but with purpose in order to serve, to forgive, to bring peace. If you want to know whether Christ reigns in your heart, ask yourself: Do I love others as He loves me?

So as we close this liturgical year, remember this isn't the end of something it's the rehearsal for eternity. Christ the King is not waiting for votes, approval ratings, or campaign donations. His reign is everlasting. The only campaign He's running is for your soul.

So today, lift up your heart and shout it like a loyal subject and a joyful disciple: "Viva Cristo Rey!" – Long live Christ the King! And if anyone asks who rules your life this week, you can smile and say, "I serve a King whose kingdom will never end."

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

Readings for the Week

Monday: Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20; Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Luke 21:1-4

Tuesday: Daniel 2:31-45; Daniel 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Luke 21:5-11

Wednesday: Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67; Luke 21:12-19

Thursday: Sirach 50:22-24; Psalm 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Luke 17:11-19

Friday: Daniel 7:2-14; Daniel 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81; Luke 21:29-33

Saturday: Daniel 7:15-27; Daniel 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87; Luke 21:34-36

Sunday: Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, November 30, 2025

Lectors: Jackie Dunvaut, Brenda Lofton

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Ernest Collins

Ushers: Volunteers

Eucharistic Ministers: Crystal Miller, Dianna Miller, Rose Palmer, Lydia Ramirez, Rose Roos, Katie Stewart

Offering Reports

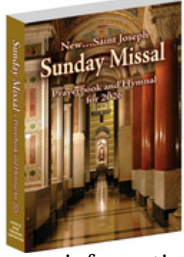
Sunday, November 16, 2025

Regular Offering:	\$4,222.00
Building Fund:	\$55.00
Food Pantry:	\$155.00
Fundraising Campaign:	\$1,200.00
Miscellaneous:	\$333.22
Total	\$5,965.22

Father in Heaven, Creator of all and source of all goodness and love, please look kindly upon us and receive our heartfelt gratitude in this time of giving thanks. Thank you for all the graces and blessings you have bestowed upon us, spiritual and temporal: our faith and religious heritage, our food and shelter, our health, the love we have for one another, our family and friends. Dear Father, in Your infinite generosity, please grant us continued graces and blessings throughout the coming year. This we ask in the Name of Jesus, Your Son and our Brother. Amen.

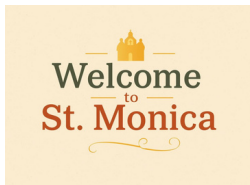


Altar and Rosary Society Annual Fundraiser



We're excited to announce that the 2026 Missalettes will be available for purchase starting today, November 2, 2025! Join the Altar and Rosary Society in the vestibule each Sunday to get your copy. Each Missalette is just \$5. If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to reach out to Crystal Miller.

Hospitality Ministers Needed



Are you a friendly person? Do you like to welcome others? Please consider becoming a Hospitality Minister at St. Monica. Your role is to greet others,

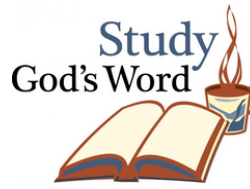
guide people during the offering, Eucharist, welcome visitors, and distribute the bulletin. Your commitment is only one Sunday a month. If you are interested in this ministry, please text Kim Urenda at (913) 226-2085.

GRIEFSHARE Group Updates

As we come to the close of our 13-week sessions, we have our last few meetings on the following dates in the small chapel.

Sunday, November 16th - Session 9
Sunday, November 23rd - Session 10
Sunday, November 30th - NO GROUP MEETING
Sunday, December 7th - Session 11
Sunday, December 14th - Session 12
Sunday, December 21st - Session 13 (last session of our group)"

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!

A Message from Seminarian Ezra Mwaura



Seminarian Ezra Mwaura extends his heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for your generous financial support and your continued prayers as he journeys

through his seminary formation. Your encouragement strengthens his vocation, and he assures you of his prayers in return. May God bless you abundantly for your kindness and support.

Thank You

Sincere appreciation from the Ogletree Family during the Home Going of Thelma Harvey (Maxine Culpepper). Our prayers and gratitude to the St. Monica Church Family, Bereavement Team Members, Ladies of the Knights of Peter Claver Auxiliary, and Deacon Dupree.



"A CHURCH ALIVE IS WORTH THE DRIVE!"

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, Ramonda Doakes

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

Eucharistic Ministers

Dianna Miller	Coordinator
Shirley Barber	Sharon Hardy
Stephanie Broils	Elaine Joonson
Terese Brown	Syrtiller Kabot
Gerald Buckman	Felicia Menefee
Diane Charity	Crystal Miller
Dawn Collins	Paula Nix
Bernadette Cook	Rose Palmer
Angela Curry	Lydia Ramirez
Arimeta Dupree	Rose Roos
Mary Graham	Katie Stewart
Pamela Green	Kirk Thaw
Ronald Green	Shirley Thaw
Carolyn Greene	Pat Williams
Ben Gruber	Rita Womack

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

9:00 AM	Mass
10:30 AM	GriefShare Group (CH)
10:30 AM	Catechumen Class (STM)
10:30 AM	Dance Rehearsal
11:00 AM	Food Pantry Thanksgiving distribution (FH)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9:00 AM	Mass
6:00 PM	Prayer Service

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Happy Thanksgiving! 🦃

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29