



Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 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

From our Pastor

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

A husband and wife, who had been married for many years, were having a quick breakfast together. As they cleaned up afterward, the wife casually remarked, "I bet you don't remember what today is." The husband, feeling a little insulted, quickly replied, "Of course I do, honey," before gathering his things and heading out the door for work. Determined to prove her wrong, he sprang into action. By 10 o'clock, a dozen red roses had arrived at the house. At noon, a box of her favorite chocolates was delivered. Then, at 3 o'clock, a beautiful dress from her favorite boutique arrived. The wife was overjoyed. She couldn't wait for her husband to come home, eager to thank him. As soon as he walked in the door, she rushed over, hugged him, and exclaimed, "Thank you so much! First the roses, then the chocolates, and the dress! I've never had a better Groundhog's Day!"

There's a difference between a wedding and a marriage.

A wedding is a grand celebration that takes months of preparation. A marriage is a lifelong commitment that takes years of effort, patience, and faithfulness to fulfill. A wedding is filled with music, flowers, the perfect dress, and joyful parties. A marriage, however, is filled with compromise, forgiveness, listening, and—importantly—putting God at the center of your lives.

While pulling off a wedding can be challenging, it's something most couples can do. But building a strong marriage requires consistent effort, sacrifice, and love over a lifetime.

This is why Jesus' words in the gospel are so crucial. He reminds us that from the very beginning of creation, God had a purpose for marriage. It wasn't just about the mutual love between a man and a woman, nor was it solely to create a home where children could grow and thrive.

continued on page 2



Marriage was also designed to be a witness of God’s love to the world. When we see a couple who, year after year, work together, adapt to each other’s needs, listen patiently, and respect one another, their marriage becomes a testimony to all of us. It shows that change, growth, and love are possible even in difficult times. Their relationship reminds us to value others in our own lives and inspires us to strengthen our relationships.

When we witness a couple who continually forgive each other, putting the past behind them to begin loving in new ways, it encourages us to do the same. It shows that we, too, can forgive and keep some of our own relationships alive. We believe in the power of that witness. Marriage is challenging. But because it is challenging, it holds the power to be a profound witness of faithfulness, patience, and forgiveness to the world.

This is why another part of the gospel is so vital when Jesus says, “Let no one separate what God has joined.” We believe that God Himself joins a man and a woman in marriage, and that He is with them every step of the way, giving them the strength they need to continue loving each other.

Of course, not all marriages last. When they fail, we should withhold judgment because only those within the marriage truly understand its complexities. But when marriages endure, when vows are lived out over a lifetime, they become a sacrament and a powerful witness to others.

No husband or wife will ever be a perfect witness. While you might pull off a flawless wedding, a perfect marriage is working progress. Mistakes, flaws, and the need for constant adjustment are part of the journey. But it’s this very imperfection that makes marriage such a strong and beautiful witness of God’s love to the world. This is why God promises to be with husbands and wives every day of their lives—to help them in this challenging yet beautiful calling.

Fr. Leonard

Readings for the Week

Monday: Galatians 1:6-12; Psalm 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and 10c; Luke 10:25-37

Tuesday: Galatians 1:13-24; Psalm 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15; Luke 10:38-42

Wednesday: Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14; Psalm 117:1bc, 2; Luke 11:1-4

Thursday: Galatians 3:1-5; Luke 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75; Luke 11:5-13

Friday: Galatians 3:7-14; Psalm 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Luke 11:15-26

Saturday: Galatians 3:22-29; Psalm 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Luke 11:27-28

Sunday: Wisdom 7:7-11; Psalm 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, October 13, 2024

Lectors: Angela Curry, Everett Curry

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Arimeta Dupree

Ushers: Team B

Eucharistic Ministers: Ronald Green, Carolyn Greene, Ben Gruber, Sharon Hardy, Elaine Johnson, Syrtiller Kabot

Offering Reports

Sunday, September 29, 2024

Regular Offering: \$4,595.00

Food Pantry: \$70.00

Second Collection: \$781.75

Miscellaneous: \$3,280.00

Total \$8,726.75

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.

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.

Give From the Heart



The St. Monica Food Pantry is inviting our church family to "Give From the Heart." Food boxes will be provided for those in need. Distribution will take place on November 20th and 21st from 11 am to 12 pm at the Food Pantry. Donations will be accepted from October 13th through November 17th, 2024. We will have a marked container in the vestibule to receive your donations. For any questions, please reach out to Rita Womack at (816) 842-1877 during pantry hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Help Update our Records



Please help us keep our records accurate by updating your contact information or personal details. Whether you've moved, changed your phone number or email, or experienced significant life changes, prompt communication ensures we can provide relevant support. Reach out to us at (816) 471-3696 or via email at bradillo@stmonicakc.org. Thank you for your cooperation!

Catholic Charities is Hiring



Work with a vibrant team who is working together to make a positive difference in the communities within the 27-county diocesan area. Full-time positions are eligible for benefits, including: medical, vision, dental, paid sick/vacation/holiday, 4-day work week (closed Fridays), and 401(k). To learn more, select "Get Involved" and choose "Careers" at <https://catholiccharities-kcsj.org/>.

Parish Mental Health Ministry

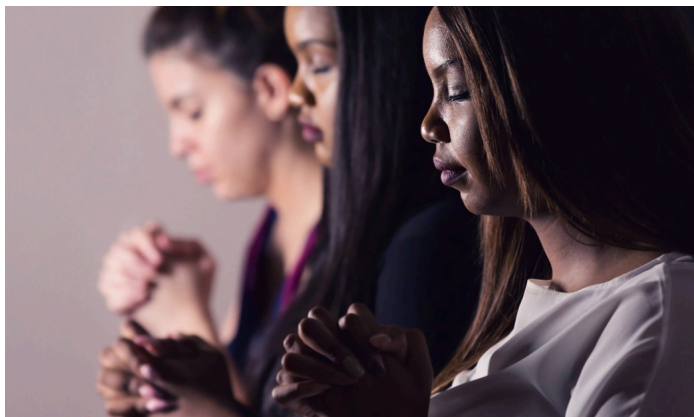


In partnership with Catholic Charities, parishes launched parish-based mental health ministries. Parishes continue to have events and groups. All are welcomed. To stay up-to-date about current events, visit <https://catholiccharities-kcsj.org/mentalhealthministry/> and scroll down to view the calendar.



St. Monica Parishioners! We have an amazing opportunity to expand the reach of our beloved St. Monica of Africa Catholic Church and extend a warm welcome to more people in our community. This exposure will allow us to embrace new visitors and members, supporting our goal of growing our parish through evangelization. Envelopes will be provided for your convenience to enclose your contribution. Your cooperation and support are greatly appreciated.

Prayer List



Jeanette Hamilton, Vera Brown, Kevin Brown, Beverly Dyer, Vauncille Bartlett, Mary Ann Grayson, Donald Parson, Sergio Mendoza, Elaine Lomax, 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), Mary Ann Grayson, Edward H. Franklin, Jr. (Father of Tracey Franklin Bradford)

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: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time; 1871 Fisk Jubilee Singers began first tour

Monday: Our Lady of the Rosary

Tuesday: 1941 Jesse Jackson, founder of People United to Save Humanity and U.S. presidential candidate born in Greenville, SC

Wednesday: St. Denis and Companions; St. John Leonardi

Thursday: 1863 St. Francis Xavier Church, 1st Black Catholic Church in U.S. founded in Baltimore, MD

Friday: St. John XXII; 1894 National Negro Catholic Congress met in Baltimore, MD

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

9:00 AM	Mass
10:00 AM	KPC Pancake Breakfast
11:30 AM	RCIA Class (CR)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

9:00 AM	Mass
6:00 PM	Prayer Service

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

11:30 AM	Altar & Rosary Meeting (STM)
----------	------------------------------

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