

Saint Monica Catholic Church

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026 **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

Biviana Radillo
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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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Don't Bury the Good You Can Do

Most of us have something at home that we are saving for a special occasion: the good dishes, a favorite outfit, or a gift we have never opened. We keep waiting for the right moment. Sometimes, years pass, and what was meant to enrich our lives remains untouched. Could we be doing the same thing with the gifts God has entrusted to us?

In this Sunday's Gospel, a master entrusts his possessions to three servants. Two put what they receive to work. The third digs a hole and buries his share. When the master returns, this servant hands everything back. Nothing has been stolen. Nothing has been lost. Yet the master is deeply displeased. The gift was entrusted to him for a purpose, and he has done nothing with it.

His explanation is painfully familiar: "Out of fear I went off and buried your talent."



Fear can sound surprisingly reasonable. We tell ourselves that someone else is more qualified, that we might make a mistake, or that this is not the right time. We postpone volunteering because we have never done it before. We avoid inviting someone to church because they might say no. We withhold an apology because we cannot control the response. Eventually, caution becomes a comfortable hiding place.

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The Gospel challenges us to recognize that refusing to act is itself a choice. A kindness left unspoken cannot encourage anyone. A gift never shared cannot strengthen our parish. Love continually postponed leaves our neighbors waiting.

Notice that the servants do not receive equal amounts. One receives five talents, another two, and another one. Yet the first two receive exactly the same praise: "Well done, my good and faithful servant." The master recognizes their faithfulness. Each has responded generously with what was entrusted to him.

That should free us from comparison. We do not need someone else's voice, confidence, education, or resources to serve God. We need to offer what we have. The person who quietly visits a lonely neighbor may be just as faithful as the person leading a large parish ministry. God sees the love within both offerings.

What, then, have we buried? Perhaps we have a listening ear but rarely make time for anyone. Perhaps we can teach, organize, cook, repair, or encourage, yet keep assuming the parish already has enough help. Perhaps we have buried our faith itself, keeping it safely confined to Sunday while leaving the rest of our week untouched.

This week, let us choose one gift and put it to work. Make the call. Offer the help. Join the ministry. Begin the conversation. Take one concrete step before we talk ourselves out of it.

We can begin imperfectly, asking God for the courage and wisdom to grow along the way. Faithfulness develops as we practice it, through ordinary decisions to love when holding back would feel easier. Even a small beginning can open a door for grace in another person's life and in our own.

The master's invitation is beautiful: "Come, share your master's joy." There is joy in discovering that our lives can bless others. There is joy in allowing God's gifts to bear fruit.

One day, we will answer for what we have received. May we have more to offer than a carefully protected gift that never left the ground.

Fr. Leonard Gicheru

Readings for the Week

Monday: Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; Luke 18:35-43

Tuesday: Revelation 3:1-6, 14-22; Psalm 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5; Luke 19:1-10

Wednesday: Revelation 4:1-11; Psalm 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Luke 19:11-28

Thursday: Revelation 5:1-10; Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6b, 9b; Luke 19:41-44

Friday: Revelation 10:8-11; Psalm 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Luke 19:45-48

Saturday: Revelation 11:4-12; Psalm 144:1, 2, 9-10; Luke 20:27-40

Sunday: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; Psalm 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28; Matthew 25:31-46

Liturgical Assignments

Sunday, November 22, 2026

Lectors: Cristina Ramirez, Deborah Scott

Servers: All Servers

Welcome: Ernest Collins

Ushers: Team D

Eucharistic Ministers: Rose Palmer, Lydia Ramirez, Rose Roos, Katie Stewart, Pat Williams, Rita Womack

Offering Reports

Sunday, November 8, 2026

Regular Offering:	$4,603.00
Food Pantry:	$522.00
Fundraising Campaign:	$1,897.00
All Souls Day:	$22.00
Total	**$7,044.00**

Fundraising Campaign Weekly Update

Goal	$2,500,000
Total Amount Pledged	$441, 772
Percentage of Goal Pledged	17.67%
Actual Cash Received to Date	$145,096

Announcements

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026

Online Auction Fundraiser



The Online Raffle/Auction has started! It's time to spread the word to make this a successful fundraiser. It ends Sunday, November 22 at 10pm CT. View all the items. BID...BID...BID! Forward this information to everyone you know so they too, can BID...BID...BID! We want to sell every item in the auction. It's a great way to holiday shop without the hassle. And, the items are fantastic: HyVee, Southwest Airlines, Gates BBQ, Amazon and more gift cards, luggage, week in Cabo San Lucas Resort, sports paraphernalia, dinner for 4 with Alvin Brooks, mahjong games, puzzles, wine tasting, TVs, ski week in Breckenridge, CO. and much much more!! **SCAN THE QR CODE** or Enter **BeaBidWizardKC.ggo.bid**. Questions? See the posters in the lobby. Ask Shirley, Michele & Jackie for assistance after Mass in the lobby

Fundraising Campaign



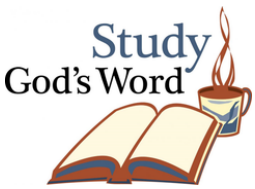
Thank you to all who have already submitted a pledge card for our parish fundraising campaign. If you have not yet participated, pledge cards are available at the back of the church. Please return your completed card in the red collection box. Every gift helps move our parish forward.

Legion of Mary Meeting



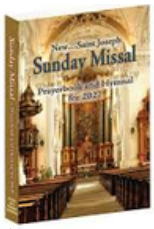
Please join us for the Legion of Mary meetings here at St. Monica every Wednesday at 3:00 PM in the St. Monica building. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please reach out to Rose Palmer, Ramonda Doakes, or Yvonne Dillahunty.

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!

Altar and Rosary Society Annual Fundraiser



Don't miss out on the opportunity to purchase the new 2027 St. Joseph Sunday Missals! The Altar and Rosary Society will be in the vestibule every Sunday starting today until they are all sold. Cost is $5.00. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Altar and Rosary Society. Table will be located in the back of the church.

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.

Prayer List



Jeanette Hamilton, Vera Brown, Kevin Brown, Vauncille Bartlett, Mary Ann Grayson, Donald Parson, Cheryl Warren, Chaunceyetta Mize, Rhea Holloman, Melva McClellan, 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, 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, Bernadette Cook, Duane Murff, Luisa Olarte

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

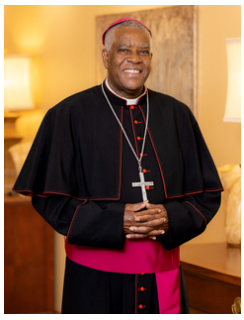
Black Catholic Implementation Team

Co-Leaders

Jackie Dinvaut Ernest Collins

Rose Palmer Alvin Brooks Jenise Comer
Marilyn Scott Angela Curry Shirley Thaw
Melba Myers Rita Womack Carrie Miller
Grace Okonta Sharon Sanders Jackie Countee
Crystal Miller Ramonda Doakes
Arimeta Dupree Vickie Shackelford
Nellie Thompson Linda Parker Hall

Most Reverend Jacques Fabre



"We believe that every person is created in the image of God and must be treated with dignity and care as his son or daughter... We will continue to ensure that our churches, schools and missions remain places of worship, education, hospitality and grace for those who live in our midst."

Calendar of Events this Week

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

9:00 AM	Mass
10:00 AM	Dance Rehearsal (S)
10:30 AM	Sunday School (FH)
10:30 AM	OCIA Classes (STM)
11:00 AM	Evangelization Meeting (FH)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00 AM	Mass
3:00 PM	Legion of Mary Meeting (STM)
6:00 PM	Wednesday Night Prayer (S)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

9:30 AM	Women's Bible Study (STM)