

**St Monica Catholic Church**  
**114 South 4th St**  
**Palatka, FL 32177**  
**386-325-9777**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2021**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**



*The Church of the Transfiguration on Mount Tabor, Israel. 2018*

***“We are called to welcome and assist all to the compassionate love of  
Jesus through the Eucharist.”***

**Visit us on the web at [Stmonicacatholicchurch.com](http://Stmonicacatholicchurch.com)**

Beloved of St. Monica,

I pray you are enjoying this lovely season of Lent as the Azaleas are blooming. Our hearts and souls begin to open and truly trust in our Amazing God of Mercy and Compassion. This is a true time to re-evaluate where we are on our journey.

Hopefully you have completed your covenant card with the parish and the diocese. Thank you for committing to this truly wonderful parish community.

It sure is great to see more and more of you back in church. Hopefully many of us are getting our vaccinations which will hopefully allow for more freedom and ability to gather as an intimate community bonded by the love of Jesus.

Seeing the Knights of Columbus Fish Dinners, Stations of the Cross, and outreach to the poor is so comforting. The Scouts of America have been meeting in our hall. The Youth Encounters are growing. Religious Education has forged ahead with zeal. Small Christian Faith Communities are praying and shining. Music and Choir are gathering in song. We are truly springing forward in the love of God and our rich history. We are re-connecting with the homebound.

The week of Ash Wednesday was a long but rewarding week for me. It began on Tuesday with the funeral of my friend from Faith and Sharing (a week long retreat for those with mental and physical disabilities). Eddie Martin was at every retreat I co-animated for the past 25 years or so. He had the gift of Down Syndrome. He lived in a home called “The Ranch” with two others. Only Joel remains. He served Mass with me every year and often cracked me up. We sure missed Faith and Sharing last year, and now this year has been cancelled. Faith & Sharing is like the Transfiguration. Every participant radiates Jesus and hears the voice from heaven, “This is my beloved son/daughter. Listen to them.”

I share this with you because all life is precious.

I humbly share my short poem for Eddie.

Let’s go up the mountain with Jesus and shine with Jesus!

Love, joy, peace,

Father Ron Moses +



*Eddie*

*Faith & Sharing*

*Another Child to depart...*

*But not.*

*We gather each year to live in community.*

*Eddie rarely if ever spoke much*

*but when he did, I couldn't always decipher*

*And yet Eddie was a sweet man,*

*Holy Man*

*No guile in Eddie*

*At 54, his time came to be called home*

*Dementia slowed him, but he was still there.*

*I always say that you never truly know love*

*until you are embraced by someone*

*with the gift of Down Syndrome.*

*Eddie often borrowed my stuff at camp*

*Sometimes the stuff of others*

*O Jesus, what a blessing*

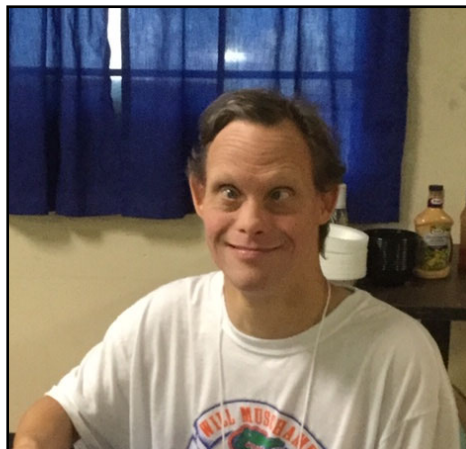
*Eddie was a lover*

*and sometimes annoying,*

*But Eddie was and is a gift,*

*gratitude for this brother, this soul...*

*part of the Body of Christ!*



How could anyone ever tell you,  
You were anything else but beautiful?  
How could anyone ever tell you, you were less than whole?  
How could anyone fail to notice, that your loving is a miracle?  
How deeply you're connected to my soul.

*(Song we belted out at F & S)*



# Grow Strong in Your Faith

*With Karen Lee*



Lately, I've been feeling like the words to my parents' favorite song, "Oh why should I have spring fever, when it isn't even spring?" Do you feel it, too? Do you walk around your yard just itching to get your hands in the dirt? Pull the winter weeds? Cut back the dead limbs? Plant some seeds? Have you had enough of winter? It is almost time to resurrect our gardens, but it isn't even spring.

Lent is a good time for the garden of your soul. Take a close look at things. Are there small things that are getting between you and God that need to be weeded out of your life? Do you have some bad habits that need to be pruned so you can have new growth in faith? You will need rich, fertile soil that only prayer can create. Then the Holy Spirit will be ready to plant the seeds of love, joy, peace, patience, faithfulness, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control. God will shower you with His grace and warm you with the sunshine of His love. By Easter, your soul will be filled with beautiful blooms and tender fruit! Gardening with God guarantees great results!

As you garden at home, keep thinking about the garden of your soul. What is good for one is good for the other. To help you along the way, I invite you to our Spring Challenge. You will find a basket of seeds in the Adult Formation Center in the entrance of the church. Take some home and plant them. On Easter morning, take a picture of what has grown so far and email it to me at:

[Adultformation@stmonicacatholicchurch.com](mailto:Adultformation@stmonicacatholicchurch.com)

I'll publish the pictures in the bulletin the following week. Prizes will be awarded to all who participate!

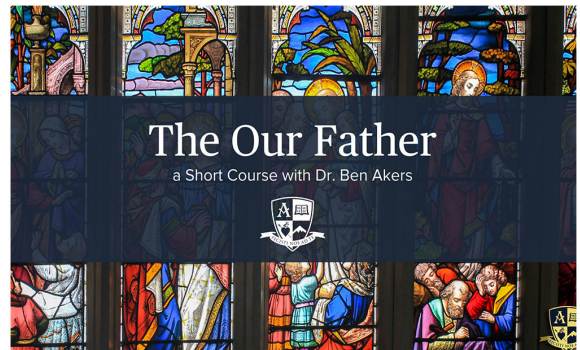


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## LEARN

**JESUS: THE MODEL  
AND MASTER OF PRAYER**

In this episode of his course on the Our Father, Dr. Ben Akers teaches us what we can learn from the perfect model and master of prayer: Jesus himself.



**Don't forget to use our code R87GP3**

To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.



Angeline Grace (Manduke) Spena, died on Feb. 6, 2021, in the comfort of her own home in Palatka, FL. She was the mother of the late Catherine Marie Tamburro, and the Grandmother of Nancy Witz, Angela Lomaglio, Cathy Munley, Frank and Patrick Tamburro. She was the Great Grandmother of eight grandchildren. She was recently predeceased by her son, Frank Spena who died in October. Born in Shenandoah, PA, she moved to CT and met her husband, Pasquale Spena. With her son, the family moved to FL where she resided until her death. Angie always worked, meeting many people, and making many friends. While in CT she worked at Landers. In FL, she and her husband owned a restaurant/lounge which she was a hostess. She was a volunteer for many years at her local hospital receiving recognition for her hours of service. She was an active parishioner of St. Monica Church in Palatka, where she was a lector and referred to the parishioners, as her "church family." These wonderful people were very instrumental to Angie in the last few months of her life. Angie will be remembered as a fashion icon, and for her youthful spirit. A lover of God, life, fun, and people, she leaves many friends to mourn and remember her.

Services will be at the discretion of the family.



Don't forget to follow  
St Monica Catholic Church  
on Facebook and Instagram  
@ **stmonicapalatka**



**ST. MONICA RELIGIOUS  
ARTICLES AND GIFT SHOP IS  
NOW OPEN ON SUNDAY!**

Located in the Parish office  
Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00PM

**Sundays from 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM**

# St Monica 2nd Saturday Music Fest

March 13, 2021 at 2:00 PM

Featuring

Jeff Elledge & Jeannie Brown



This is from the 2nd Grade First Communion class (Lori Stuhler is the catechist). They were talking about how Christianity is based on action and that Jesus stressed that Love is the greatest commandment of all. So they made Valentine's for the residents at Crestwood Nursing Home.

God Is Good



Our teens painting the youth room.



## STEWARDSHIP

### Gifts for February 20 & 21

Offertory: \$ 5,849.00

Outreach to Poor: \$ 3,349.00

Building Fund: \$ 625.00

**Thank you for your  
generous donations**

**Mass Attendance: 196**

Drive Thru: 14



Have you filled out  
your Covenant Card  
for 2021?

It is available on our  
website, at the  
entrance to the church, and  
in the Parish office.

It really helps us keep our  
records current and to  
determine the needs of the  
parish

Thank you for taking the time

God is Good.....

**The good stewardship of our  
parishioners at St. Monica Church makes all  
that we do possible!**

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through ParishSOFT Giving.

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For text giving send a text  
message with the amount of your  
donation to 386-230-0169



# The St Monica Food Pantry

Volunteers always needed to help distribute food at their drive thru giveaway.



Every Saturday Morning  
from 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM

## Prayer for the Year of Saint Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.  
Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.  
Amen.  
-Pope Francis



**TAKE-OUT ONLY**

## Knights of Columbus

# FISH FRY

DRIVE THRU EDITION

Every Friday during Lent starting February 19  
4:00 PM to 7:00 PM



Fried or Baked Fish	\$8.00
Fish & Shrimp	\$9.00
Fried Shrimp	\$10.00

Each meal includes:

Choice of Baked Potato or Grits

Cole Slaw

Hushpuppies And Dessert

**We Accept**



386-325-9777





**Saturday, February 27**  
**+Frank Spena**

**Sunday, February 28**  
Parishioners  
**+Alberto G. David**

**Tuesday March 2**  
**Elizabeth Lovell & Family**

**Wednesday, March 3**  
**Cris David**

**Thursday, March 4**  
**+Frank Spena**

**Friday, March 5**  
**Ladies Guild**



# Happy Birthday!

Shea Harris  
Albino Gaw  
Betty Poteet  
John Maimone  
Caidyn Gilmore  
Alexander McCreery  
Camryn Gilmore  
Loretta Hutchinson  
Mary Shackelford  
Ava Costa

## This Week's Daily Readings

**Monday:** Reading 1, *Daniel 9:4-10*  
Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 79:8, 9, 11, 13*  
Gospel, *Luke 6:36-38*  
**Tuesday:** Reading 1, *Isaiah 1:10, 16-20*  
Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23*  
Gospel, *Matthew 23:1-12*  
**Wednesday:** Reading 1, *Jeremiah 18:18-20*  
Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 31:5-6, 14, 15-16*  
Gospel, *Matthew 20:17-28*  
**Thursday:** Reading 1, *Jeremiah 17:5-10*  
Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6*  
Gospel, *Luke 16:19-31*  
**Friday:** Reading 1, *Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-18*  
Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21*  
Gospel, *Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46*  
**Saturday:** Reading 1, *Micah 7:14-15, 18-20*  
Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12*  
Gospel, *Luke 15:1-3, 11-32*  
**Sunday:** Reading 1, *Exodus 20:1-17*  
Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 19:8, 9, 10, 11*  
Gospel, *John 2:13-25*  
Reading 2, *First Corinthians 1:22-25*



Louise Egan, Sue Wilson,  
Fred Lininger, Shirley Delaney  
Edna Blandford, Andy Hall, Gary Rummel,  
Adrienne Fennell, Cheryl Carr, Kira Carr,  
Joshua Carr Frank Comer, Pam Mathes,  
Larry Beaton, Quinn Soucey, Warner Strong,  
Jourdan Craig, Hoyt Muir, Joe Iovino

Please call the office at 386-325-9777 if you know someone that needs prayers.



**Ministry Schedule**

**Saturday, March 6, 2021 4:30 PM**

**Ushers: Bill Black, Diana Phillips**  
**Eucharistic Minister: Joyce Fitzsimmons**  
**Lectors: James Doyle, Mary Jo Perry**  
**Altar Server: Connor Phillips**

**Sunday, March 7, 2021 9:00 AM**

**Ushers: Jim McMillan, Karen McMillan**  
**Eucharistic Minister: Ramona Bodalski**  
**Lectors: Frank Fraize, Stephanie Huskey**  
**Altar Server: Daniel Fazio**

**Sunday, March 7, 2021 11:00 AM**

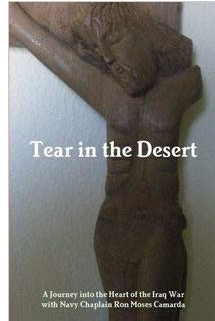
**Ushers: Betty Poteet**  
**Eucharistic Minister: Arthur Costa**  
**Lectors: Pam Mathes, Rita Lambert**  
**Altar Server: Skylar Gugal**

— END OF YEAR —  
**GIVING**  
**STATEMENTS**

**Available**

If you would like a statement mailed to you, please contact the Parish Office at 386-325-9777.

A Journey into the Heart of the Iraq War with Navy Chaplain Father Ron Moses Camarda.



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All proceeds benefit St Monica

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St. Monica Church,  
Palatka est. 1858

**Vigil Mass**  
**Saturday 4:30 PM**

**Mass Sunday**  
**9:00 AM**

**Father Ron's Bible Study**  
**Tuesday 6:15 PM**

**Rosary with Father Ron and Guests**  
**Friday 7:45 AM**

**Friday Morning Mass & Adoration**  
**9:00 AM**

Attention—The Diocese of Saint Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential and thorough manner.

To Report Abuse, call:  
Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator  
904-262-3200, ext. 129, or the  
Department of Children and Families  
at 1-800-96-Abuse (800-962-2873).

# Our Parish Staff & Ministry Leaders

## Pastor Father Ron Camarda

### Office Manager

Diana Phillips  
dphilips@stmonicacatholicchurch.com

### Coordinator of Liturgy & Religious Education

Lisa Bianculli  
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### Music Director

Cindy Gilmore  
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### Office Helpers

Pam Mathes & Rosemary Flinn

### Maintenance

Ann Downey

### Adult Faith Formation

Karen Lee  
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### RCIA

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### Youth Ministry & Maintenance

Scott Phillips  
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### Bulletin Editor

Kelsi Lowell  
bulletin@stmonicacatholicchurch.com

### Eucharistic Ministers & Office Helper

Mary Iovino  
iovinos@bellsouth.net

### Ushers

Bill Black  
wdblack44@yahoo.com

### Food Pantry

Joe Iovino

## Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 4:30 PM  
Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

## Drive Thru Blessings

Sunday 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM

## Daily Masses

Tuesday 5:30 PM  
Wednesday-Friday 8:30 AM



## Confessions

Saturday 3:30 PM to 4:15 PM  
Or by appointment

## Healing Mass

First Saturday of the Month 10:00 AM

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