



First SUNDAY

of
Advent

November 29, 2020

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

Oh, that you would
rend the heavens
and come down,
with the mountains
quaking before you,
while you wrought
awesome deeds we
could not hope for,
such as they had not
heard of from of old.

Isaiah 63:19b; 64:2-3

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

Beloved of St. Monica,

The prophet Isaiah speaks to us today:

“Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him.”

Jesus encourages us today:

“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come... May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!”

Welcome to Advent!

This is a season to wait for Jesus with great expectation and joy.

Many are waiting for peace, but we resist being patient and peaceful. We might desire healing from divisions, but we fail to reconcile with God, never mind others. It seems to me that Jesus does not expect us to stay awake 24/7. However, Jesus might be asking us to leave something better than cookies and milk for Santa. We do not do good deeds, clothe the homeless or feed the poor in order to “get something” out of it. We are called to love the poor as our selves. Love tenderly.

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta suggests that we do small things with great love. When Jesus asks us to “stay awake”, I believe he is asking us to “look out” for those who need the compassionate love of Jesus. Remember that Christ has no body, no arms, no smile but ours. He is in us. He is in the poor.

Have a wonderful first week of Advent. I hope to see you next week.

Love, joy, peace... patience,

Father Ron Moses +



Are you ready for Advent?

Advent begins Sunday, November 29. It is not only the beginning of Advent, but it is also the beginning of a whole new liturgical year. Some people think that it is the beginning of the Christmas season. Actually, the Christmas season doesn't begin for Catholics until the first Mass on Christmas Eve.

So, what is Advent? Advent is the four weeks leading up to Christmas. It is a time of preparing our hearts and souls for the coming of Our Lord. It is a time to take the Advent Wreath out of the closet. It is a time to find some sort of daily Advent Reflection book or online Advent program. A wonderful devotion is to combine the daily lighting of the Advent candles with the Advent readings and reflections. This can be done all by yourself, but it is also very powerful to do it as a family.

Where can you find an Advent Wreath, if you don't already have one? Those of you who like DIY projects can find all that you need at Hobby Lobby. If you aren't feeling crafty, a good place to shop is www.catholiccompany.com. You can get a free Advent Gospel Reflections booklet written by the popular Bishop Robert Barron at <https://bishopbarronbooks.com/adventgospelreflectionbooks2020> Or if you prefer a daily email video from the Best Advent Ever Program from Dynamic Catholic, you can sign up at <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent/best-advent-ever.html>. These are all excellent resources and there are many more out there online.

Please don't forget to put Thursday, December 17, at 5:00 p.m. on your calendar and go to the Advent Penance Service. It is just like cleaning your house before you have a very important visitor. And Jesus is the most important visitor of all!



BECOMING CATHOLIC is a lifelong journey. Long after receiving your Sacraments of Initiation, there is always more to experience as we walk with Christ. There is always immense joy when an individual chooses to approach the table of the Lord for the first time. We all welcome those that wish to join our church, and together we show what it means to be Christian, to be Catholic. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the journey of BECOMING CATHOLIC looks a little different this year. We are going to begin virtually and progress to in person as we can.

If you are reading this and are not already Catholic, Please Come On In! We would love to welcome you! Reach out to me at rcia@stmonicacatholicchurch.com or call the parish office.

If you are Catholic and would like to help welcome the seekers, reach out! Each new person needs a sponsor (*think Godparents for Adults*) to walk with them. It is difficult to pair up like-minded folks that would 'click' when we cannot hang out together, so the more volunteers the better!

Since this will include virtual elements, we will be utilizing on-line resources such as Formed.org (Parish Subscription!!) and other such sites. From time to time, I will be sharing the links that BECOMING CATHOLIC is viewing that week. We are starting with a conversation about Scripture and watching <https://watch.formed.org/symbolon-the-catholic-faith-explained/season:1/videos/the-bible-god-s-love-letter-to-humanity>. I encourage each of you to explore these materials as 'refreshers' on you own life long Catholic journey.

Prayerfully,
Cheryl M



Healing Mass

Saturday December 5, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Christmas Mass Schedule



Christmas Eve Vigil Masses

4:00 PM

8:00 PM

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

10:00 AM

For the health and safety of all, we ask that all those planning to attend make a reservation. We will be limiting occupancy to 100.

Please visit our website stmonicacatholicchurch.com to reserve your seat or you can also call the Parish Office to submit your reservation at 386-325-9777.

Thank you very much for your understanding.

God Bless

Masks required at all Masses





SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

December 8th

12:00 PM

It is the Patronal Feast Day in the United States of America.

Because of Father Ron's commitments in the Diocese, Mass will only be at noon on Tuesday, December 8th. We will Live Stream the Mass."



LET YOUR *Soul* SHINE *with Matthew Kelly*

A FREE DAILY ADVENT EXPERIENCE

Making 2021 the Best Year of Your Life Begins at BestAdventEver.com



In person Bible Study will resume on January 5, 2021. Father Ron may record a few live classes throughout Advent and Christmas.



This Advent, join Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic team for LET YOUR SOUL SHINE —a free email program that will help you rediscover the beauty and joy of the Gospels

Advent Penance Service

Thursday December 17
at 5:00 PM





Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday the gifts the weekend of November 21st and November 22nd will be reported in next weeks bulletin

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



GIVE SMARTER TO YOUR CHURCH THIS YEAR.

Use your IRA or other assets to make a gift to your parish, Catholic school, and favorite Catholic ministry.

- You can use your annual distribution to make a gift and avoid adding to your taxable income.
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 - » Distributions must be made directly from the IRA custodian to a qualified non-profit. All diocesan parishes, schools, and ministries qualify.
- Appreciated stock or real estate are other great ways to make charitable gifts to your Church.

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Contact Cliff Evans, Planned Giving Officer, at 904-262-3200, ext. 139, cevens@dosaf1.com, or visit cf.dosaf1.com



"We don't know what the future holds, but it's all God's work," says Sister Theresa McGrath (center), 86, a member of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio, for nearly 70 years.

Envelopes in back of Church

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

In good times and bad, Sister Theresa and the senior religious shown here have dedicated themselves to God's work. Together with nearly 30,000 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests in the United States, they educated the young, tended the sick, and ministered to the needy. Today, they pray for a world that is hurting. Yet many religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Your tax-deductible gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

St Monica provides online giving through ParishSOFT Giving.

This is a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation.

We are grateful and we depend on your fabulous generosity.

Visit: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/st114191> to get started.



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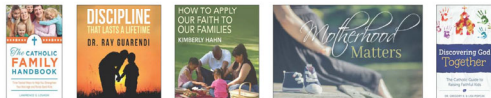
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St Monica Youth Ministry Schedule

November 28

No Meeting Thanksgiving Holiday

December 5

Food Pantry

8:30 AM to 11:00 AM

December 12

No Meeting

December 19

Christmas Party

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Masks and Social Distancing Required



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

Please consider giving a few hours of your time just once a month!

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

Located in the Parish office
Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00PM
(and by appointment on weekends)

New Items for Christmas Coming
Soon!!



Jumbo
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Masses For The Week



Saturday, November 28
+ David Dellinger

Sunday, November 29
Parishioners

Tuesday December 1
+ Susan Walwik

Wednesday, December 2
+ Rae Moore

Thursday, December 3
+ Susan Walwik

Friday, December 4
+ Ladies Guild

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

George Schiffbauer– Nov. 28

Jennifer Brabson– Nov. 28

Ann Wallace– Nov.30

Tommy Dobbs– Dec. 2

Judith Franklin– Dec. 3

Rick Carr- Dec. 3

Robert Grace– Dec. 3

Corey Donnelly– Dec. 4

Prayer Requests



Louise Egan, Sue Wilson,
Fred Lininger,
Edna Blandford, Angie Spena,
Laura Hall, Andy Hall, Gary Rummel,
George Crawford, Carly Egan,
Diane Kinnon, Rita Lambert,
Quinn Soucy

Please keep **Father Steven Zehler** and his family as they mourn the death of their mother, **Janice Zehler**, who went home to the Lord on Saturday, Nov. 14. Father Steven will celebrate the funeral Mass for his mother this week at Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Millville, Ohio.

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



We are very sorry but the Christmas Auction has been cancelled for this year.

We are hopeful to be back next year

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 4:30 pm

Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Drive Thru Communion

10:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Daily Masses

Tuesday - 5:30 pm

Wednesday - Friday 8:30 am

Confessions

**Saturday 3:30PM —4:15 PM
or by appointment**

Anointing of the Sick

First Saturday of Every Month

10:00 AM



Mass

Sunday 9:00 AM

Fr Ron Bible Study

Tuesday 6:15 PM

Rosary

Friday 7:45 AM

Holy Hour

Friday 9:00 AM

This Week's Daily Readings

Monday: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Pope Francis' Intentions for November

" In the Service of Peace "

" We can speak with splendid words,
but if there is no peace in our heart,
there will be no peace in the world."



Schedule



Saturday, December 5, 2020 4:30 PM

Ushers: Bill Black, Bill Gaines
Eucharistic Minister: Joyce Fitzsimmons
Lectors: Mary Crawford, Ken Freligh
Altar Server: Bill Maus

Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:00 AM

Ushers: Eddie Dubeck, Tom Hiss
Eucharistic Minister: Ramona Bodalski
Lectors: Frank Fraize, Pam Mathes
Altar Server: Daniel Fazio

Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:00 AM

Ushers: Joe Iovino
Eucharistic Minister: Mary Iovino
Lectors: Rita Lambert, Elizabeth Costa
Altar Server: Skylar Gugal

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



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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:
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904-262-3200, ext. 129, or the
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