

ST MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

114 South 4th Street Palatka Florida

386-325-9777

Stmonicacatholicchurch.com



“Love can cause no harm to your neighbor, and so love is the fulfilment of the Law.” Romans 13:10

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

23rd Sunday, Ordinary Time

Beloved Stewards,

Since 1858, 162 years ago, St. Monica has been celebrating Mass, remembering God's love at the altar on this little plot of land by the St. Johns River. We have done this through much suffering and sacrifice as we navigated the Civil War, World War I & II, devastating Orange Freeze, economic crashes and epidemics like malaria, flu of 1918, and corona virus. And yet we continued to thrive as the Body of Christ.

Here we are in the midst of political bitterness and lack of charity to simply listen to one another. The virus of hatred is far worse than the current Covid-19 that has disrupted our lives. If you are leaning to the right or to the left politically, we need to give God the gift of listening before we tweet or offer an opinion. Jesus teaches us to practice mercy and love always. This is hard work. This is the cross that Jesus insists we pick up and follow with.

"If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts." Psalm 95

You know as well as I do, that after all these years, voting only on one issue has not changed the current horror. Vote whichever way you choose, but I would like to suggest that there are other issues that contribute to the sin of abortion and the misery of victims of oppression, the poor, and the voiceless. We, as Catholics, need to consider all the issues. Moral integrity matters.

Voting just on one issue like abortion will be mute if God's laws that protect fairness, equality, economic fairness, the young mother with child, a sustainable wage, health care, social security, the poor, the environment, education or nuclear/war de-escalation are ignored. There are no perfect candidates, but there are many neglected issues that affect all of us.

Whenever we treat others without love, no matter how horrific their sins, we will have to give an account to God, for the plank is obvious in our own eye.

If we do not teach all children the essential commandment of love in all situations, they will not learn them, and we will be held accountable as Ezekiel is quite clear today. Jesus warns us clearly that a house divided cannot stand. Unless we are able to civilly discuss all of the moral issues with one another, the United States will fall like all former empires and nations. It is not only our infrastructure that is crumbling.

It seems to me that there are two languages, one of the far right and one of the far left. Neither side is able to understand each other.

Saint Augustine, like Ezekiel the prophet helps us to understand in a sermon called, “*A Lesson from Babel 2.*” (Sermon 54, 11)

Remember the tower that certain proud people built after the flood? What was their intention? They said: “Let us construct a high tower (or wall). We don’t want to perish in another flood.” They tried to build such a high tower, but the Lord confused their speech. They no longer could understand each other. Up to that time they all spoke the same language because one language was enough for a humble people who were of one mind. But then that unity degenerated into a prideful conspiracy against God. God then took action, coming down and mixing up their speech so that they could not form further dangerous alliances by understanding each other.

The second lesson about pride contained in the story of the Tower of Babel is that pride makes communication between humans difficult, if not impossible. Pride prevents us from understanding another’s point of view because we cannot transcend our own point of view. It takes great humility to sit silently and listen to another; sometimes it takes even greater humility to ask, “Now what did you mean by that?” (*Day By Day with St Augustine: D. Burt*)

When we fail to ask this question, we judge another... which means that instead of mercy from God... we will be judged.

Thank you for your outstanding prayers and support during these times.
You generously give of your time, talent and financial support.
We are doing amazing things in the name of Jesus our Beloved Lord and Savior.

I am grateful to Father Jim O’Neal and his joyful spirit.
It was truly a wonderful and rejuvenating vacation. Thank You!
Love, joy, peace,
Father Ron +





Grow Strong in Your Faith

With Karen Lee



Feeding the Hungry

*Jesus said to them, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves."
But they said to him, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Matthew 16-17*

Two thousand years later, Jesus still says, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." People are still hungry and need to be fed. These days at St. Monica food pantry, there are three times as many people as usual who need to be fed. Some days we, too, say, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here."

And then Jesus works a miracle. Parishioners drop off bags of non-perishable food. Generous people donate money to the Poor Fund to help purchase much needed food items. The Farm Share truck pulls up and fills our refrigerators with fresh produce and our freezers with frozen meat. People, young and old, volunteer to bag and box the food and put it in cars as they drive by on Saturday morning.

No one goes away hungry. Some need food. Some need a kind word. Some need a smile. As they drive away, they know that we at St. Monica care and Jesus loves them.



Three generations of hard working, faithful volunteers— Fred, David, and Betty Lininger

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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

Facebook Live Events

Mass Sunday 9:00 AM

Fr Ron Bible Study Tuesday 6:15 PM

Rosary Friday 7:45 AM

Holy Hour Friday 9:00 AM

Weekend of August 30

Online Giving	\$ 945.00
Offertory	\$ 2,331.00
Building & Restoration	\$ 65.00
Food Pantry	\$ 350.00

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Ministry Schedules

Saturday, September 12, 2020 4:30 PM

Ushers: Steve Woods, Earl Wallace,
George Schiffbauer

Eucharistic Minister: Cheryl Hines

Lectors: Sandy Woods, Ken Freligh

Altar Server: David Aptt

Sunday, September 13, 2020 9:00 AM

Ushers: Ricky Webb, Eddie Dubeck,
Jim McMillan

Eucharistic Minister: Catherine Webb

Lectors: Stephanie Husky, Erin Fortner

Altar Server: Benjamin Motl

Sunday, September 13, 2020 11:00 AM

Ushers: Bill Black, Betty Poteet

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Mundy

Lectors: Pam Mathes

Altar Server:



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*"Carry one
another's burdens
and in this way
fulfill the
law of Christ."
Galatians 6:2*

The Food Pantry is moving from
Thursdays to Saturdays beginning
September 5th!

We need volunteers help distribute food
in our drive thru food giveaway. We also
are in need of plastic grocery bags.

The hours are from 9:00 AM -12:00 PM.

*Our deepest Condolences to the
Rash family on the passing of
Lupe Rash.*

"The Lord is close to the broken hearted and saves
those who are crushed in spirit."
Psalm 34:18

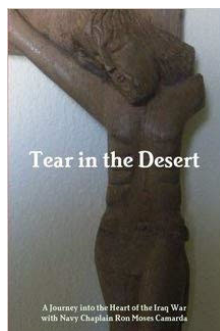
Pope's Intentions for September:

Respect for the Planet's Resources

We pray that planet's
resources will not be
plundered, but shared in
a just and respectful
manner.



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



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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, September 5

Wilder Lee

Sunday, September 6

Parishioners
+Michael & Catherine Ingoglia

Tuesday September 8

+Alberto M. David

Wednesday, September 9

+Saundra Kennedy

Thursday, September 10

+Saundra Kennedy

Friday, September 11

+Saundra Kennedy

Prayer Requests

Louise Egan, Sue Wilson, Fred Lininger,
David Cummings, Frank Comer,
Mary Jo Vincent, Sandy Freligh, Edna Blandford
Redonna Futch, Angie Spena, Eric Dobbs,
Susan Walwik, Laura Hall, Stella Reyes,
Thomas Szczes, Sue Doyle, Susan Revels

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



Thomas Green

Veronica Shamblin

Gary Rummel

James Owens

Jerome Turner

Arthur Costa

Carmen Cummings

Joanna Assefa

Silvana Gallo

Our Parish Staff

Pastor

Father Ron Camarda

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Bulletin Editor

Kelsi Lowell
bulletin@stmonicacatholicchurch.com

This Week's Daily Readings

Monday: Reading 1, *First Corinthians 5:1-8*

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 5:5-6, 7, 12*

Gospel, *Luke 6:6-11*

Tuesday: Reading 1, *Micah 5:1-4*

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 13:6, 6*

Gospel, *Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23*

Wednesday: Reading 1, *First Corinthians 7:25-31*

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17*

Gospel, *Luke 6:20-26*

Thursday: Reading 1, *First Corinthians 8:1-7, 11-13*

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 139:1-3, 13-14, 23-24*

Gospel, *Luke 6:27-38*

Friday: Reading 1, *First Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-27*

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 84:3, 4, 5-6, 8, 12* Gos-
pel, *Luke 6:39-42*

Saturday: Reading 1, *First Corinthians 10:14-22*

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 116:12-13, 17-18*

Gospel, *Luke 6:43-49*

Sunday: Reading 1, *Sirach 27:30--28:7*

responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12*

Gospel, *Matthew 18:21-35*

Reading 2, *Romans 14:7-9*

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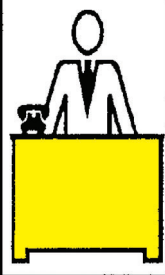
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