



THE PARISH of SAINT MONICA

Called by Name; Gifted by God; Committed to Prayer; Driven to Serve... Abiding in Hope

THE CHURCH of SAINT MONICA

Founded January 11, 1897

Parish Offices

(Pastoral Administration; Religious Education; Business & Finance; Worship & Music; Facilities)

Saint Monica Rectory
635 First Avenue
Berwyn, Pennsylvania 19312
Phone: 610.644.0110
Facsimile: 610.695.0850

Office of Religious Education (Rectory)

610.647.4757

Parish Website

www.saintmonicachurch.org

Twitter & Instagram

@StMonicaBerwyn

Join Flocknote!

Text "Monica1897" to 84576

Parish Staff E-mail

FirstInitialLastName@
saintmonicachurch.org

Parish Leadership

financecouncil@
saintmonicachurch.org

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass 8:30 a.m.

(Monday thru Saturday with a Communion Service on Wednesday)

Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 7:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

Holy Days 8:30 a.m.

of Obligation 12 noon

The Sacrament of

Reconciliation (Confessions)

Saturday from 4 to 4:45 p.m.

Anytime by appointment.

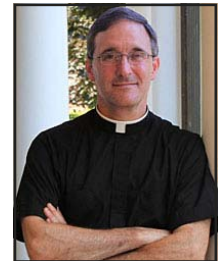


Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

FROM the PASTOR'S DESK...

We recently completed renovations/repairs/reconfigurations to the Saint Monica Church. Now that we are well on the way to stewarding our facilities, we can begin to turn to other aspects of the parish. Four weeks ago I opened with the question, "Why am I here? What should I be doing?" These are relevant questions especially as we close the beginning of the Church's liturgical year (Advent Season), enter the Christmas Season and a begin a new "Year of the Lord 2017."



It is certainly a time to celebrate and to thank the Lord for His goodness in allowing us to complete this project. It is also the right time to reflect on where we go from here. Several parishioners have asked, in a humorous way, "Ok Father, what's next?" Over the next few weeks, let me outline a plan in place to discern and ask the Lord, "Ok, why are we here? What would you have us do? What would Jesus want the Parish of Saint Monica to look like in 5 years?"

The First Step: Beginning With Intentional Prayer. I have become convinced that Saint Monica Parish will not thrive and grow without a foundation of organized, intercessory prayer. Eventually a parish-wide endeavor needs to be in place where Saint Monica is known as a place where everyone has the opportunity to encounter Jesus through multiple types of prayer and prayer experiences.

In the book, *Becoming A Parish Of Intentional Disciples*, Keith Strohm writes that, "Intercessory prayer is more than simply coming before God with our prayers and requests. When we engage in intercession, we participate in a sustained and intimate pleading before the Lord *for someone else.*"

Intercessory prayer is important at all stages of spiritual growth, but especially for people in two groups. The first group are those people who are just beginning to be more open about their faith. A group of intercessors need to be praying for the Holy Spirit to "break through" in the lives of these spiritual neophytes so that they receive encouragement and progress further in their faith. *(Continued on Page 4)*

THE FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT



Oh, Adonai, dearest Lord, Compassionate God of justice,
so many areas of my life seem imprisoned
but you promise me real freedom and peace in my life.

Renew my spirit and free my soul.

Please, open my heart which you have bathed
in the longing of Advent. I am awe-struck as your
glory fills the earth and I want to follow you in caring for
others. Grant me the grace to see how you shine your light
on the poor who have such a special place in your heart.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

FROM *the* OFFICE of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Religious Education Program classes are in session on December 19.

FAMILY *and* YOUTH MINISTRY

Steubenville Youth Conference

June 16-18 2017

Open to graduating 8th-12th Students

Cost-\$350

(\$199 deposit to secure your spot)

Scholarship money available if needed

Limited spots available, 1st come 1st served

for more info:

steubenvilleconferences.com/youth

Jcarter@saintmonicachurch.org

FROM *the* OFFICE of WORSHIP *and* MUSIC

CAN YOU HELP?

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

Volunteer parishioners spend countless hours preparing the church décor for the various liturgical seasons throughout the year. Among the largest effort is our preparation for the Christmas Season. Trees, greens, garlands, wreaths, plants, flowers, lights, bows, swags, statues, straw, cords, wires, lights... there's much to be done and a lot to purchase and prepare. Can you help? In addition to physical assistance (we could always use help!), we count on your generosity to support the decoration of the

church each year, especially at Christmas and Easter.

If you would like to make a specific gift in memory of a loved one, please contact Frank Orman, Director of Worship & Music, at 610.644.0110, ext. 118. If you haven't already done so, please consider purchasing a pack of Saint Monica Christmas Cards to help underwrite the Christmas decorating effort! Call or stop in at the rectory to pick up a pack! There are five beautiful varieties to pick from.

If you can lend some time to help decorate during the week of the 19th of December, please contact Liz Tenaglio at 610.688.6270.

Come join us for a day of fun and friendly competition in honor of Dominic!

DOMINIC L. COYLE MEMORIAL 3 V 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Thursday, December 29, 2016

Saint Monica Parish Center Gym

First Tip Off at 8AM – Games run throughout the day!

**All Proceeds Will Benefit the
Archbishop Carroll Dominic L. Coyle Memorial Fund**

*For Registration Form, Additional Details, Tournament Logistics,
Official Rules & More, please visit: www.saintmonicachurch.org*

*For baked goods and cafe donations,
please contact Sandie Concannon
at 610-647-1068.*

*Please register as soon as possible
so that game schedules can be created.*



SUNDAY COLLECTIONS for NOVEMBER 2016

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| November 2016 | \$65,214 | 43% Electronic | November YTD 2016 | \$327,246 | 46% Electronic |
| November 2015 | \$74,566 | 42% Electronic | November YTD 2015 | \$356,562 | 44% Electronic |
| November Budget 2016-17 | \$71,423 | | November YTD Budget 2016-17 | \$346,562 | |

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, December 11, 2016

Sunday Collection \$9,594
Electronic \$3,196
Total \$12,790

*We have 164 families
contributing electronically.*

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a Second Collection next weekend for the Saint Monica Saint Vincent DePaul Fund. God bless you for your continued generosity.

The Fiscal Year 2016 budget for Saint Monica Parish is available on line at www.saintmonicachurch.org under the Parish Information tab in the Parish Leadership section.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 1)

The other group are people who are more advanced in their faith. They are feeling a call to share their faith with others and use their God-given gifts and charisms in very specific and intentional ways to “redeem, restore and heal” the world around them. This is not necessarily performing church ministries but rather at work, in school, at sports venues, while shopping. These people need “prayer warriors” praying for discernment, fortitude and protection against powers of darkness.

Intercessory prayer is certainly important for an individual, but most don't realize that it applies to the parish as a “body” as well. That means that the majority of parishioners would be prayer intercessors or prayer warriors or both. This is a stretch for most parishes today, but we can start small and grow from there. Thus, a few months ago, I established my own intercessory prayer team. Organized, corporate, intentional, intercessory prayer is now said daily by a dedicated group of parishioners, my hope is that God would begin to change the spiritual atmosphere of St. Monica Parish and our local neighborhood, that more graces would be received more frequently, that my spiritual openness, and that of others around me, would increase, and that this would rub off onto all that we meet, especially those parishioners of Saint Monica who have been away for a while.

I am also encouraged by groups in the parish (*Walking With Purpose, Legion of Mary, individual parishioners who pray the Rosary and novenas after Mass*) who have told me that they are intentionally praying for me and my intentions as well as the spiritual growth of Saint Monica.

Second Step: Move On To Scripture. With the new renovations/repairs, a solid temporal foundation has been established at St. Monica. Where should St. Monica go from here? How do we know that “we're getting it right” in the eyes of God? The answer is actually rather simple, but hard to implement.

We start with the two statements received directly from Jesus in the Bible: The first is *The Great Commandment* - “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind” (Deuteronomy 6:5) and, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Leviticus 19:18). The second is the *The Great Commissioning* - “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to observe all that I have commanded you. And be sure (Continued)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

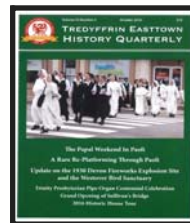
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of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” These statements are the benchmark to which God will hold Saint Monica accountable.

In addition, I have been trying to consult the Scriptures concerning practical advice concerning my day-to-day activities. A tremendous resource for me has been [The Topical Bible website](#). It works like this: Consider a topic (For example, in my homily recently I referenced fact that many people struggle and confess a “lack of patience.”). Look at the top of the website. An alphabet is located there. Click on the letter “P.” Scroll down and click on the the subject, “Patience.” You will see a listing of Scripture passages dealing with the subject (Example, Romans 12:12, “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer;” Romans 8:25, “But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience;” Galatians 6:9, “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”) The passages are listed in the order that people have found each passages most helpful. It also has a feature to allow you to offer your own vote as to which passages have helped you.

“What does Jesus want the Parish of Saint Monica to look like in 5 years?” That is the question with which I am currently wrestling. Next week, I shall outline the next two steps in a strategy I am following to discern the direction of the parish to answer that question.

Charles Zlock Jr



WORLD MEETING of FAMILIES COMMEMORATION ISSUE

It can't be a year already! Last year, the Philadelphia area enjoyed the International World Meeting of Families Congress and Papal Visit from September 22-27, 2015. Easttown, Tredeffrin and Paoli were in the thick of things as we were chosen as a major coordination center for Chester County. We met boys and girls, moms and dads, sisters and priests from all over the country - and the world in fact. The Tredeffrin Easttown History Quarterly recently published an issue commemorating this exciting time. They are available for \$10.00 in the parish rectory if you would like to have a local remembrance of Pope Francis' visit.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUTREACH



Saint Gabriel's Food Cupboard Collection is this weekend after all Masses. No time to shop? Cash and donations payable to Saint Gabriel's Food Cupboard are most welcome and can be left in the designated box in the gathering space. Canned goods and donations can be left through Tuesday, December 20 at 8 a.m. Sisters Arleen McCann and Rita Martin, IHM send best wishes for Christmas and the New Year and many thanks for your wonderful generosity throughout 2016.

Can't attend the March yourself? Please consider making a donation to help defray the cost of the trip for others, especially students and children who are invited to participate at no charge. In this way, you can be involved and demonstrate your support for this peaceful witness for life. Donations can be made on the March for Life registration webpage or by contacting Maurita Buhsmer at jbuhmsmer1@verizon.net.

SAINT MONICA'S HOLY NAME SOCIETY AND MEN'S CLUB

Our 1st meeting of 2017, is scheduled to be on **Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 7:30pm**, in the Hagenbach Room in the Parish center. As part of full agenda, featured will be the kick-off meeting to begin plans for our 20th edition of Team Trivia Night. This event is only successful due to all those that lend a hand in helping out for the good of the parish community. Please plan on attending to see where and how **you** can help out with our special 20th edition of this most exciting event. This years Team Trivia event is scheduled for Saturday, March 11th.

COME PRAY THE ROSARY

We have been blessed to have a parish community Rosary said **every Monday evening at 7:15 pm**. The church will be opened for ALL to come and pray.

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

"Your light must shine so that it can be seen by others" (Matthew 5:16)



A preacher once wrote that there is no such thing as secret discipleship. Either the discipleship will destroy the secrecy, or the secrecy will destroy the discipleship. That's why being pro-life cannot just be a personal, private conviction. If it's in our heart, it needs to be on our lips and in our actions.

Preparing for Christmas

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Masses

Saturday, December 24, 2016

4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

The Annual Candlelight Prelude and Carol Sing, with the Parish Choir, organ and brass quartet begins at 7:30 p.m. Music includes seasonal choral works and congregational carols.

Christmas Day Masses

The Nativity of Our Lord

Sunday, December 25, 2016

7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

New Year's Day

A Holyday of Obligation

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Saturday, December 31, 2016

5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1, 2017

7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

MARCH FOR LIFE - Donations sought for youth attending.



Registration for the Saint Monica bus trip to Washington, DC for the March for Life on Friday, January 27, 2017 is now open! To **register** or get **more information** about the trip, see the March for Life registration webpage accessible from the parish website or contact Rosemary Friedrich at rcfriedrich@verizon.net.

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE for December 18

| DAY | TIME | EVENT | LOCATION |
|-----------|---------------|-------------------|----------|
| Monday | 9:00am-4:30pm | Adoration | Church |
| Tuesday | | | |
| Wednesday | | Communion Service | |
| Thursday | | | |
| Friday | 9:15-10:45 am | Legion of Mary | Rectory |
| Saturday | 4:00-4:45 pm | Confession | Church |

THE CHURCH of SAINT MONICA

WWW.SAINTMONICACHURCH.ORG

SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook
The Church of Saint Monica, Berwyn



Twitter
@StMonicaBerwyn



Instagram
@StMonicaBerwyn

FATHER ZLOCK



Website
Frzlock.com



Facebook
Fr. Charlie Zlock



Twitter
@FrZlock

FAMILY & YOUTH MINISTRY

Edge: Middle School Youth Group
Lifeteen: High School Youth Group



Facebook
CSMEdge
CSMLifeteen



Twitter
@CSMEdge
@CSMLifeteen



Instagram
@CSMEdge
@CSMLifeteen

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

The Saint Monica Parish Bulletin is published weekly and is available both on the parish website and distributed to the assembly after Sunday Worship.

Submissions are due each Monday by noon and should be e-mailed to parishbulletin@saintmonicachurch.org with formatting left to a minimum.

Please include a contact name and phone number with your submission. In the case where announcements must be submitted handwritten, please make sure the text is legible.

BULLETIN INSERTS

All inserts must be submitted to the Rectory Office for approval a minimum of **two weeks** before you would like it to appear.

MASS INTENTIONS for December 18 - December 25

| MASS TIME | INTENTION | PRESIDER | MUSIC MINISTRY | NOTES |
|-----------------|--|--|----------------|--|
| 5:00 pm | + Bill Ward | Fr. Fitzgerald | Cantor | <i>Second Collection: Saint Monica Saint Vincent DePaul Fund</i> |
| 7:30 am | Rocks Family | Fr. Antry | Quiet | |
| 9:30 am | + Irene Toczykowski | Fr. Zlock | Choir | |
| 11:30 am | People of the Parish | Fr. Zlock | Cantor | |
| Monday, 19th | + Patrick Maher | Fr. Zlock | | |
| Tuesday, 20th | + Marjorie Peterson | Fr. Zlock | | |
| Wednesday, 21st | Communion Service | | | |
| Thursday, 22nd | + Deceased Members of the DiCola and DeHaven Families | Fr. Serano | | |
| Friday, 23rd | + Timothy Kelleher and Michael Tomasicchio | Fr. Serano | | |
| Saturday, 24th | 4:00 pm - People of the Parish 6:00 pm - People of the Parish 8:00 pm - People of the Parish | Fr. Zlock Fr. Fitzgerald Fr. Zlock | | |
| 7:30 am | People of the Parish | Fr. Avicoli | Quiet | |
| 9:30 am | People of the Parish | Fr. Zlock | Choir | |
| 11:30 am | People of the Parish | Fr. Fitzgerald | Cantor | |

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Sonia Altirman, Jack Barausky, Drew Brazer, Michael Byrne, Phyllis Campbell, John Canfield, Lina Cappelli, Terri Carson, Lilly Ciocca, Umberto Degli Esposti, James DiAntonio, William Dahlman, Rita Dunn, Joseph Erwin, Yolanda Fazzini, Christine Florkowski, Kelly Glacken, Mary Hartley, Karen Hastings, David Hill, Jenna, Maya and Eva Izzi, Eleonora Jauslin, Faith Johnson, Libby Judge, Anne Maas, Jackson MacTaggart, Mark Maholick, Tallon Family, Eugene Matta, Susan McDonnell, Louise Merlino, Melanie Mizenko, Dr. Mark Nardone, John and Lilly Neff, Bruce Niccolo, Sr., Courtney Frances Patterson, Rita Reilly, John Robinson, Mary Rose, Cathy Russell, Gary Smith, Helen Triolo, Bob and Mildred Walsh, Stephanie Walsh Beilman

THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

Mary Becker, Wife of John Becker

H.O.P.E. — HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCIES

Leader for this week: Sandie Concannon at 610-647-1068

PARISH LEADERSHIP

FINANCE COUNCIL

Robert Carden
Dennis Connell
Richard Deak
Kathleen Keough
Michael McCabe
Peter Lynch
Gerald O'Brien
Giulio Perillo
Michael Vadner
Lawrence Wieser

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

Reverend Charles Zlock, M.Div., M.A., M.B.I.S., *Pastor*
Reverend Allan Fitzgerald, O.S.A., Ph.D., *Pastoral Assistance*
The Norbertines of Daylesford Abbey, *Pastoral Assistance*
Mary C. Pizzano, *Director of Religious Education*
Frank K.J. Orman, *Director of Worship & Music*
Jason Carter, *Director of Family & Youth Ministry*
Theresa Carey, *Business Manager*
Catherine H. Levine, *Parish Administrative Assistant*
Diane Kirsch Pealer, *Religious Education Assistant*
Elizabeth P. Tenaglio, *Cemetery Administration*
Frank Pantano, *Facilities Manager*