



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

parishcouncil@
saintmonicachurch.org

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.

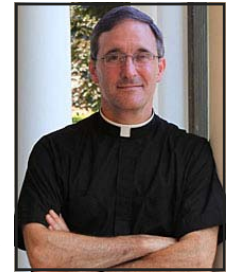


Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2015

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Recent studies, both in Catholic and Evangelical churches, have been able to determine that one can actually measure spiritual "maturity" and spiritual "growth." A definition of "Spiritual Growth" can be drawn from Matthew 22:37-40 and defined as "increasing love of God and increasing love of neighbor." Thus, it is possible to empirically measure "the heart" (spiritual growth and maturity) in terms of examining a person's concrete behaviors as they model "loving God" and "loving neighbor." This would involve:



A person's spiritual beliefs and attitudes; A person's spiritual practices; Participation in organized church activities; Spiritual and pastoral activities directed with - and towards others.

These studies have also provided the following important information concerning spiritual growth and maturity:

Participation in church activities (and sometimes even regular church attendance) is a poor indicator of long-term spiritual growth; Many consistent "church-goers" are actually apathetic non-believers who are unlikely to ever accept Christ fully; Even devoted Christians fall far short of living out the mandate of Christ to "Love God and Love Neighbor"; Nothing has greater impact on spiritual growth than reflection on Scripture and engagement/reception of the Eucharist; Spiritually "stalled" and spiritually "dissatisfied" people account for as much as 25% of all active church parishioners; There is no "killer app" or "magic-bullet" program for spiritual growth; Leadership matters.

Two substantial studies from Chicago-based Willow Creek Church found that, spiritually, people can be placed within one of four segments along a "spiritual continuum." They outlined their findings in two books entitled, *Reveal* and *Move*. In addition, they found that there are three significant "movements" from one segment to the next and that specific spiritual actions, activities and attitudes need to be in place before a person moves from one segment to the next. These findings mirror five spiritual "thresholds" mentioned by Sherry Weddell (Catholic author and *Continued on Page 4*)



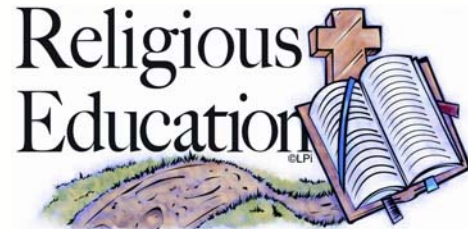
OUR PARISH PRAYER INTENTION for THIS WEEK

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Help us to continue to look for ways to break down the veil between us and our loving Father. We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

FROM *the* OFFICE of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Religious Education Program is in session on December 12-13 and December 19 and 20. Classes will not be in session on December 26 or 27.

Information regarding the cancellation of RE classes due to inclement weather has been emailed to all registered families. This information can also be found on the parish website under "Religious Education".



FAMILY and YOUTH MINISTRY



Last Sunday
Our Edge and Life Teen
Youth packed hundreds of
toiletry bags to benefit St.
John's Hospice
Thank you for your
donations!



FROM *the* OFFICE of WORSHIP and MUSIC

Today! Join us!

**A SERVICE of LESSONS &
CAROLS for ADVENT**
Sunday, 13 December at 3 p.m.
with the Saint Monica Parish Choir

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is a service of Christian worship celebrating the birth of Jesus that is traditionally followed at Advent and Christmas. The best-known version is broadcast annually from King's College, Cambridge, on Christmas Eve.

Mark your calendar for our musical
celebration of the Christmas Season!

A Child's Christmas in Wales
with the Princeton Singers

Sponsored by Fred & Kathy Pioggia

Sunday, 3 January at 3 pm
A free-will offering will be accepted.
Family-friendly and all are welcome!

SAINT MONICA PARISH INVITES YOU TO EXPLORE A NEW AND PERSONALIZED SPIRITUAL WORLD FOR YOURSELF!

Come As You Are — Come When You Can — Stay If You Like!

ALPHA

If you are looking for:

- A safe place to ask ANY questions about the Catholic/Christian faith
- Help in starting a spiritual relationship or a feeling of belonging
- Guidance in understanding the Bible and the Church in greater depth...then **ALPHA** is for you! **ALPHA** is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith, in a friendly, open and informal environment.

Participants will gain assistance in starting a spiritual relationship or supporting an existing spiritual relationship. Weekly attendance is encouraged, but not required. Each session includes a light meal. We hope you will join us!

Dates: Sundays January 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7, 21, 28; March 6 & 20; April 3

Location: Parish Education Center Cafeteria

Time: 12:45pm-3:15pm **Cost:** \$20 **Registration is required by January 4th**

OREMUS PRAYER PROGRAM

If you are looking for:

- Help in developing a deeper and more personal relationship with Christ
- Assistance in understanding the Bible and prayer
- Guidance in determining how God personally interacts in your life through prayer...then **OREMUS** is for you! Learn the essentials of an effective and fruitful prayer life, learn how to express yourself to God, hear His voice, and overcome common difficulties often encountered in prayer. Each session includes a powerful 30 minute DVD video, followed by small group discussion. Topics include: What is prayer? Before you Pray... Praying among Distractions and Dryness, among others topics. Weekly attendance is encouraged, but not required. Light refreshments will be served. Join us!

Dates: Wednesdays, January 13, 20, 27; February 17, 24; March 2, 9, 16

Location: Parish Center

Time: 7:00-8:00pm **Cost:** \$20 **Registration is required by January 4th**

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS for OCTOBER 2015

October 2015	\$72,448	44% Electronic	October YTD 2015	\$281,996	45% Electronic
October 2014	\$70,122	43% Electronic	October YTD 2014	\$284,642	42% Electronic
October Budget	2015-16	\$72,686	October YTD Budget 2015-16	\$289,747	

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, December 6, 2015

Sunday Collection	\$11,056
Electronic	\$12,636
Total	\$23,692

We have 167 families contributing electronically.

POOR BOXES

Monies collected from the Poor Boxes during the Month of December will be for the benefit of AIDS Ministry - Calcutta House. May God bless you for your continued generosity.

The Fiscal Year 2015 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)

Founder/Chairwoman of the Catherine of Siena Institute) as outlined in her book, *Forming Intentional Disciples*. Other very recent systematic nation-wide Catholic studies across a number of varied (arch) dioceses are revealing similar results.

This is critically important to me as a Pastor since certain programs will only appeal to people in one particular "spiritual stage" and have no impact or appeal to parishioners who are in a totally different spiritual stage in their lives. Thus, our spiritual programs need to be more specific and "targeted" to certain believers and let people know for which spiritual stage each program is intended.

In January, Saint Monica will roll-out three adult faith spiritual programs. Each will be targeted to people in different spiritual stages in their lives:

Program 1 will be for searchers, seekers, skeptics and even long-term believers who just aren't sure about their faith, God and the Church any more.

Program 2 will be for more mature believers who are looking to grow their relationship with Christ especially through prayer.

Program 3 will be for believers who are more advanced in their spirituality and wish to be extremely challenged in their faith, are willing to invest significant time and effort in growing their relationship with Christ, with others and with the Church and are looking to be held accountable in this growth path.

One might naturally ask, "Well, in which stage am I?" Next week I shall begin to outline some characteristics of each stage as well as the specific spiritual actions, activities and attitudes that need to be in place as a person moves from one spiritual stage to the next. Also, "watch this space" for exciting news on a series of 2016 spiritual programs which will hopefully offer something for everyone.

Charles Zlock Jr

LET THE CHURCH ALWAYS BE A PLACE OF
MERCY AND HOPE, WHERE EVERYONE IS
WELCOMED, LOVED AND FORGIVEN . . .

- Pope Francis

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

*Called by Name – Gifted by God – Committed to Prayer
Driven to Serve – Abiding in Hope*

Our Capital Campaign is off to a wonderful start! Saint Monica's parishioners have been responding prayerfully and generously to our parish's needs. In that regard, I wish to thank all of you who have already committed pledges to date. To date, our running total is \$1,217,575.13 from 161 families.

However, since this amount represents only about 13% of total parish participation towards our ambitious goal of \$2,500,000, as a gentle reminder, please remember to remit your pledge to the parish office as soon as possible. If you have not yet made a pledge and still wish to do so, you can also pick up a pledge card in the parish office at your earliest convenience. We are counting on the support of all parishioners to build the foundation for the future of Saint Monica.

I wish to keep all interested parishioners fully updated concerning the results of the Capital Campaign and the progress of the Master Plan. I shall be sending regular updates (either via email or text - your choice!) using the Saint Monica "FlockNote" service. I shall subsequently post the updates to my website at FrZlock.com (under "Master Plan"). If interested, **signup on-line**. Type <http://flocknote.com/saintmonicachurch> in your web browser which takes you to our parish registration page. Follow the directions and join "Capital Campaign/Master Plan."

If you prefer, you can also text "Monica1897" to 84576 **on your smart phone**. After about 30 seconds, you will receive a message where you can click on a link to register with FlockNote and then join the various Saint Monica FlockNote groups. Follow the directions to join "Capital Campaign/ Master Plan."

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

Due to the Bulletin Publisher's printing schedule, the following deadlines are in effect through the holidays:

- **December 27 Bulletin submissions are due by Monday, December 14 by 12 noon**
- **January 3 Bulletin submissions are due by Thursday, December 17 by 12 noon**

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



OUTREACH

The Hungry Need You to help them by contributing canned goods or donations for the monthly Food Cupboard Drive for Saint Gabriel's parish in South Philadelphia. Due to the holidays, the food will be delivered on Tuesday, December 22. The drive will be held after all Masses next weekend and through 8:00 am on Tuesday, December 22nd. All non-perishable items are welcome. You may leave your contribution in the gathering space of the church. Checks payable to Saint Gabriel's Food Cupboard are much appreciated and can be placed in the designated box. Sisters Arleen McCann and Rita Martin, IHM send best wishes for Christmas and the New Year and many thanks for your wonderful generosity throughout 2015.

TRIP REGISTRATION OPEN



Donations also welcome.

Registration for the Saint Monica bus trip to Washington, DC for the March for Life on Friday, January 22, 2016 is now open! Can't attend the March yourself? If your means allow, 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. To register, make a donation or get more information about the trip, see the March for Life registration webpage accessible from the parish website or contact Maurita Buhsmer at jbuhsmer1@verizon.net.

WALKING WITH PURPOSE

Women of the Parish you are invited to **Advent by Candlelight** hosted by the women of **Walking with Purpose, Thursday, December 17, 7:00-9:30 PM** in the Education Center Cafeteria. **Featuring: Guest Speaker Kathleen McCarthy** is a published author, Catholic radio broadcaster and has been a Catholic lay evangelist for almost 40 years. Join us for an evening of fellowship and fun as we prepare our hearts for the Christmas season. Light refreshments will be served. \$10.00/person. **RSVP to Maureen at 610-644-7794 or mfmulhall@aol.com.**



SACRAMENT SPOTLIGHT

Parents of 2nd grade students: The First Communion envelope containing the completed sacrament documents is now

overdue. If you have not yet submitted your child's packet, please do so immediately.

Attention parents of 6th grade students: The Confirmation packet is due this coming Monday, December 14. Thank you for your timely submission.

Saint Monica Parish invites you to explore a new and personalized spiritual world for yourself!

(Continued from Page 3)

CALLED AND GIFTED II (C & G II)

If you are likely to say, "I feel close to Christ and depend on Him daily for guidance and support, but I need encouragement to take personal responsibility for your spiritual growth" ... then **Called and Gifted II** is for you! The session is expected to be 3 hours in length. A continental breakfast will be served.

Date: Saturday, March 19th

Location: Parish Center **Time:** 9:15-Noon

Registration is required by January 4th

Cost:

\$10 if you attended **C & G I** and completed

The Spiritual Gifts Inventory;

\$35 if you did not attend **C & G II;**

Participants must complete *Gifts Inventory* in advance.

Questions? Please contact Aagee Lane at 610-908-7007 or aageeclane@gmail.com.

Saint Monica Parish Christmas Cards are for sale at the Rectory! Stop by — there are five beautiful versions available in limited quantities!

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE for December 13

DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday	9:00am-4:30pm	Adoration	Church
Tuesday	6:00-7:30 pm	RCIA	Youth Room
Wednesday	6:00-8:00 pm 7:00-9:00 pm	Youth Bible Study Parish Choir Rehearsal	Youth Room Church
Thursday			
Friday	9:15-10:30 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
Lifteen: High School Youth Group



Facebook
CSMEge
CSMLifteen



Twitter
@CSMEge
@CSMLifteen



Instagram
@CSMEge
@CSMLifteen

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 13 — December 20

MASS TIME	INTENTION	PRESIDER	MUSIC MINISTRY	NOTES
5:00 pm Vigil	+ George J. Muller	Fr. Driesch	Cantor	
7:30 am	People of the Parish	Fr. Fitzgerald	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ Antoinette Venetia	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
11:30 am	Howard Schultz	Fr. Zlock	Parish Choir	
Monday, 14th	+ Thomas Kopach	Fr. Zlock		
Tuesday, 15th	+ Patrick Larkin	Fr. Zlock		
Wednesday, 16th	Communion Service			
Thursday, 17th	+ Marie MacFaun	Fr. Jaehwa		
Friday, 18th	+ Lawrence Harris	Fr. Zlock		
Saturday, 19th	+ Richard Dressler	Fr. Zlock		
5:00 pm Vigil	+ Michael J. Doyle, Sr.	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
7:30 am	+ Louis DeLuca	Fr. Zlock	Quiet	
9:30 am	People of the Parish	Fr. Avicolti	Parish Choir	
11:30 am	Thomas More O'Malley	Fr. Avicolti	Cantor	

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Sonia Altirman, Margaret Annechini, Jack Barausky, Mary Alice Boyd, Michael Byrne, Mary Byrnes, John Canfield, Lina Cappelli, Lilly Ciocca, William Dahlman, Jim DiAntonio, Rita Dunn, Joseph Erwin, CJ Fazzini, Yolanda Fazzini, Scott Forbes, Bernadette Giodorna, Kelly Glacken, Mary Hartley, Jenna, Maya and Eva Izzi, Eleonora Jauslin, Faith Johnson, Libby Judge, Anne Maas, Dan Maguire, Louise Merlino, David Mikowychok, Melanie Mizenko, Dr. Mark Nardone, John and Lilly Neff, Josephine Pogorzelski, Rita Reilly, Mary Rose, Cathy Russell, Bob Schubert, Gary Smith, Helen Triolo, Bob and Mildred Walsh

THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may Your perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*

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

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

PARISH LEADERSHIP

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Sandra Concannon
Dr. Margaret Dalesandro
Palmer Dalesandro

Maureen Friedrich
Levi Keene
Tobias Hoppe, *chair*

Martha McGurk
Dr. Anthony Roeder
Brendan Powell, Jr.

FINANCE COUNCIL

Michael Brown
Brian McGaughan
Gerald O'Brien

Giulio Perillo
Matt Tomasicchio, *chair*
Michael Vadner

Lawrence Wieser
Henry Yordan

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

Reverend Charles Zlock, M.Div., M.A., M.B.I.S., *Pastor*

Reverend Jaehwa J. Lee, *Priest-in-Residence*

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*