



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 (Rector)

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.



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 27, 2015

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Several weeks ago we began looking at Jerome Kropp's article, "*The Top Ten Excuses Not To Pray*" which was published in the March 2015 issue of Liguorian Magazine. This week we close with the *top three* reasons.

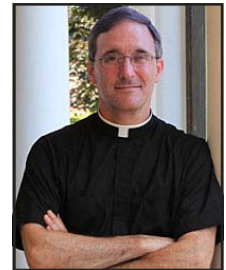
#3 – I believe and go to church, but I'm not one of those "holy people." I'm no saint! Well, if you go to worship, you already have a relationship with God and probably aspire to spend eternity with Him in heaven. If that is the case, take heart! Sainthood is in *your future!*

Don't let stereotypes scare you from sainthood. I spoke about the misconceptions surrounding saints and sainthood during my homily on All Saints Day weekend (November 1st - A link to the homily can be found on my website at FrZlock.com.) We need saints who are silent and who shout, saints who are serious and silly, saints who were sinners, saints who are shy and saints who are sure of themselves. Just be who you are and pray that you continue to become the person God has made you to be.

#2 – I try and make everything I do a prayer. This is the opposite of #3. We've gone from "not so holy" to "amazingly holy" in just one step. Seriously, do we really go through the day in a true "state of blissful contemplation regardless of the activity in which we find ourselves?" Frankly, just a few thoughts about the Eagles-Phillies-76ers-Flyers, and the "bliss" is totally busted (...and I pray for dem bums all da time. But I digress...). We probably have selfish thoughts throughout the week. We engage in unloving actions. If everything is really a prayer, then nothing is prayer. Prayer is different. It is a special, intentional, turning towards God.

And finally, the NUMBER ONE excuse for not praying is...

#1 – I simply do not have the time! – We find time to do what is important. General Eisenhower used to divide activities into a grid with *(Continued on Page 4)*



OUR PARISH PRAYER INTENTION for THIS WEEK

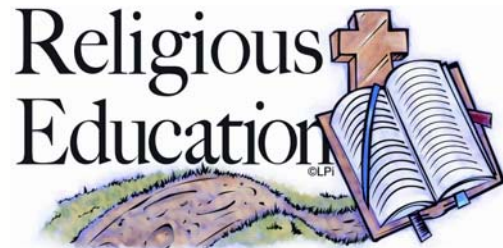
Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind. We ask this 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 students, catechists, and administrators of the Religious Education Program pray that you are surrounded by God's love, peace, hope, and joy in 2016!

Information regarding the cancellation of Religious Education 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".

The Religious Education Program classes will resume on Sunday, January 3 and Monday, January 4.



FAMILY and YOUTH MINISTRY



Saint Monica Life Teen and Edge Students
went Christmas Caroling to the
homebound members of our parish.

Merry Christmas!



FROM *the* OFFICE of WORSHIP and MUSIC

MUSIC AT MONICA'S PRESENTS...

A Celebration of Christmas!

A Child's Christmas in Wales

WITH THE PRINCETON SINGERS

SUNDAY, 3 JANUARY 2016 at 3 PM

Narrated by author Paul Watkins, holiday carols accompany a reading of Dylan Thomas's classic story. This local favorite will be, as always, replete with snowballs, Christmas whiz-bangs, harrowing pranks and a heart-warming ending along with the incomparable spirit and sound of the Princeton Singers!

*This program is family-friendly!
A free-will offering will be accepted.
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** (Cont'd on Pg. 5)

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS for NOVEMBER 2015

November 2015	\$75,566	42% Electronic	November YTD 2015	\$356,563	44% Electronic
November 2014	\$74,979	37% Electronic	November YTD 2014	\$359,621	41% Electronic
November Budget 2015-16	\$80,911		November YTD Budget 2015-16	\$370,658	

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, December 13, 2015

Sunday Collection	\$12,221
Electronic	\$ 4,432
Total	\$16,653

We have 167 families contributing electronically.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a Special Collection this weekend for the Saint Monica Saint Vincent DePaul fund. 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)

“Urgent – Not Urgent” on one axis and “Important – Not Important” on the other axis. He mostly focused on “Important – Not Urgent” since there were the “strategic” activities that would have the biggest impact over the long run and would subsequently save time by “solving (actually avoiding) problems” before they became issues. Prayer is like that. Might not seem urgent, but it is very, VERY important (especially in the “long run” – like eternal life). Do you find time to breathe? Your next prayer is as important to the life of your heart and soul as your next breath is to you body. We humans worry so much about time. Let God, who is the author of time, worry about how much of it you have.

Charles Zlock Jr

ORDER YOUR OFFICIAL KEEPSAKE TODAY

**YOU WILL SAVE \$10
YOUR PARISH RECEIVES A \$10 DONATION PER ORDER**



PARISH
DISCOUNT
\$29.95
Retail: \$39.95



- The official coffee-table book of Pope Francis' historic visit
- Exclusively from The Inquirer and World Meeting of Families
- Washington, D.C., NYC, Philadelphia and Cuba coverage
- 144 pages of faith and history to cherish for a lifetime

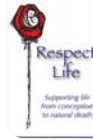
For every book you and your fellow parishioners order,
\$10 will be donated to your parish.

2015POPEBOOK.COM

USE PARISH

CODE: **STMONICA1**

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL



Christmas, which we are now celebrating, is not simply the feast of the birth of Christ; it is the feast of His becoming human, the reality called the Incarnation.

Jesus was an embryo, a fetus, an unborn child. Life in the womb, which was already sacred because it comes from God, is now made even more holy, and worthy of our every sacrifice.



**MOM –
Heart of the Home**

For, By, and About Mothers

**Registration is OPEN for our 22nd Annual
MOM-Heart of the Home Day of Renewal**

February 13, 2016 • 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Sts. Simon and Jude Meehan Center, West Chester

Calling moms of all ages and types: new moms, seasoned moms, grandmothers, step-mothers. Even if you're not a mom, you are still welcome! Start your Lenten season by replenishing your spirit. Come listen to two amazing, inspirational morning and afternoon speakers Renee Eells and Kathi Clapham. See our registration form for all details at www.mom-heartofthehome.org/events.html or contact Deb MacKenzie at dmackenzie@schubertb2b.com.



Join us for two exciting events in January!

A Child's Christmas in Wales
WITH THE PRINCETON SINGERS
Sunday, 3 January 2016 at 3 pm

Philadelphia Orchestra Concertmaster
DAVID KIM, violin
Sunday, 17 January 2016 at 3 pm

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

The annual Holy Name Society Retreat at Saint Joseph -in-the-Hills in Malvern is on! Reserve this special weekend of February 5-7, 2016. Special thanks to all who attended last year and over the years.

Did you know in the past 10 years that Saint Monica's parish of men has sent over 30 different individuals to attend at least one retreat. To register on line, just go to the website address is www.malvernretreat.com. If you need assistance or have questions, please e-mail Lee Megow at megowl@verizon.net

New Year's Day – A Holyday of Obligation
The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Friday, January 1, 2016
 8:30 a.m. and 12 noon

TRIP REGISTRATION OPEN

Donations also welcome.



It's time to register for the St. Monica bus trip to Washington, DC for the March for Life on Friday, January 22, 2016. 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.

SERENITY RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Malvern Retreat House will host a weekend retreat for women affected by the disease of addiction from January 8-10. Sr. Linda Fischer will direct the retreat, which will be held in the retreat house's Family Life Center. To register, please visit malvernretreat.com/register or call 610-644-0400 for more information.

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

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.

Registration for
ALPHA, OREMUS & CALLED AND GIFTED II
 programs will soon be available on our parish website at www.saintmonicachurch.org
 Questions? Please contact Aagee Lane
 610-908-7007 or aageeclane@gmail.com

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS
 Wednesday, December 30: 9:00 — 12 Noon
 Thursday-Friday, December 31 / January 1 — **CLOSED**
The Parish Offices will re-open on Monday, January 4 at 9:00 a.m.
Father Zlock and the Parish Staff wish all a Happy, Healthy New Year!

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE for December 27

DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday	9:00am-4:30pm	Adoration	Church
Tuesday	6:00-7:30 pm	RCIA	Youth Room
Wednesday			
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
CSMEdge
CSMLifteen



Twitter
@CSMEdge
@CSMLifteen



Instagram
@CSMEdge
@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 27 — January 3

MASS TIME	INTENTION	PRESIDER	MUSIC MINISTRY	NOTES
5:00 pm Vigil	+ Peg McGee	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	<i>Special Collection: Saint Monica Saint Vincent DePaul Fund</i>
7:30 am	The Fusco Family	Fr. Serano	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ Helen Piergiovanni	Fr. Fitzgerald	Parish Choir	
11:30 am	+ Larry Norton	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
Monday, 28th	+ Thomas Ryan	Fr. Zlock		
Tuesday, 29th	+ Larry Harris			
Wednesday, 30th	Communion Service			
Thursday, 31st	+ Larry Norton	Fr. Serano		
Friday, 1st	8:30 - Francis William Ward 12:00 - Kenneth Santoro	Fr. Zlock Fr. Zlock		
Saturday, 2nd	+ Julia D'Agastino	Fr. Zlock		
5:00 pm Vigil	People of the Parish	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
7:30 am	+ Claye Carroll	Fr. Zlock	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ Francis Gallagher	Fr. Novielli	Parish Choir	
11:30 am	+ Larry Harris	Fr. Zlock	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, John DiFerdinando, Rita Dunn, Joseph Erwin, CJ Fazzini, Yolanda Fazzini, Bernadette Giodorna, Kelly Glacken, Mary Hartley, Jenna, Maya and Eva Izzii, 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

Scott Forbes, Husband of Stephanie

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

Leader for this week: Joanne Rogers at 610-889-0963

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