



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

FirstInitial.LastName@
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.

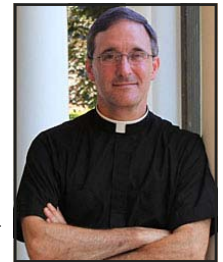
Anytime by appointment.



First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016

FROM the PASTOR'S DESK...



Last week I introduced Gabe Lyons and his book, *Next Christians*. In the book, Lyons showed how a new wave of believers are bringing gospel truth to bear on a changing, secular society. "Restorers" (as Lyons calls them) are informed by truth, yet seasoned with grace and love. Restorers approach culture with a different mentality by engaging the world by drawing it to the sensibility and authenticity of the Christian life.

Can Saint Monica Parish be a parish of "next" Christians and change the negative perception of Christianity by living a life that is faithful to the Gospel, yet credible and coherent to our friends and neighbors? Are we called to be a parish of – not members – but restorers?

Greg Thompson directs **New City Commons**, an education and consulting team that seeks to support the church in its work of reimagining the common good, reinvigorating cultural institutions and renewing civic life. He holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in Theology, Ethics, and Culture from the University of Virginia. In a recent podcast entitled, *A Way Forward – Six Practices Of the Church*, Thompson asks us to imagine a woman, living sometime between the 6th and 15th Century. She walks outside the door, throws a shawl around her shoulders, picks up a traveling bag and proceeds down the road. Where is she going? Why is she leaving. The reasons could have been many. The plague was approaching. Warring factions sacked the neighboring village and she is fleeing to safety. She received news that her knight son has been captured or lost in the crusades and she goes to find him. Poverty has hit the area and she searches for work and a new future.

Whatever the reason, as she traveled down the road, her eyes would always be scanning the horizon for one thing. A church. Massive cathedrals like Cologne or Chartres were being built at this time and could be seen miles away. *(Continued on Page 4)*



FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT

Lord God, only you can see into my heart and know that under all the busy-ness of my life, there is a deep longing to make this Advent one that welcomes You more deeply into my own life. My heart desires the warmth of Your love and my mind searches for Your Light in the midst of the darkness.

Help me to be a peacemaker this Advent and to give special love to those who disagree with me.

Give me the strength and courage to forgive those who have hurt me. Help me to free my heart from the prison of my anger and hurt. Amen.

FROM *the* OFFICE of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Religious Education Program classes are **not** in session on Monday, November 28.

Please see the information posted in the Sacrament Spotlight section below.

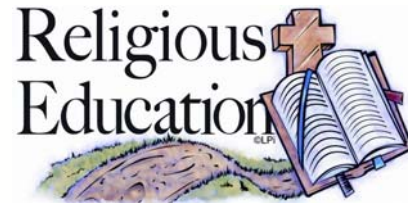
SACRAMENT SPOTLIGHT



The parents of our First Communion and Confirmation candidates are reminded of the due dates for the return of the completed sacrament packets.

The First Communion packets are now past

due. The Confirmation packets are due on December 12. We thank you in advance for your cooperation!



FAMILY *and* YOUTH MINISTRY



7th & 8th Grades
Sundays 4:30-6



High School
Sundays 7-8:30

Reminder: No Life Teen/Edge This Week

FROM *the* OFFICE of WORSHIP *and* MUSIC

INAUGURAL ORGAN CONCERT & RECEPTION

You are cordially invited to attend the blessing of and inaugural concert on Opus 144, a new instrument by Cornel Zimmer Organ Builders.

Music at Monica's presents
internationally-acclaimed organist

NATHAN LAUBE

in concert on

Friday, 9 December at 7:30 pm.

A dessert reception will follow. All are welcome!

MUSIC AT MONICA'S PRESENTS...

A SERVICE of LESSONS *and* CAROLS
with the

SAINT MONICA PARISH CHOIR

Frank K.J. Orman, *director*
Michael Smith, *organist*

Sunday, 18 December at 3 pm

All are welcome!

The Church of St. Monica Family & Youth Ministry Presents

Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 11, after the 9:30 Mass



Live Nativity Animals!

Hot & Cold Breakfast

Professional Carolers

Christian Bling Jewelry

St. Nicholas Games

Proceeds will benefit our first
All Abilities Santa Social,
which will begin at noon on
December 11.

For more info and to register, go to www.saintmonicachurch.org

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS for OCTOBER 2016

October 2016	\$73,202	44% Electronic	October YTD 2016	\$262,033	46% Electronic
October 2015	\$72,448	44% Electronic	October YTD 2015	\$281,996	45% Electronic
October Budget 2016-17	\$75,591		October YTD Budget 2016-17	\$275,139	

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Due to the early submission of the Parish Bulletin, the current amounts for the Sunday Collection are not available at this time.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a Special Collection next weekend for the Retirement Fund for the Religious. God bless you for your continued generosity.

The Fiscal Year 2016 budget for Saint Monica Parish is available online 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)

Even a small village parish would have a spire topped with a cross that one could see as they approached. No matter, large or small, a church was a presence in a neighborhood – offering that “presence” in the midst of “absence” in a person’s life. Food instead of hunger. Legal advice instead of injustice. The beauty of art or music in a devastated world. Shelter from heat or cold. Direction instead of being lost. Comfort in the midst of sorrow or grief or worry.

Thompson says that he is concerned about the fact that our neighbors are still wandering, and that it’s the old wanderings of looking for a presence in the absence of justice, food, shelter and grace. Yet we are now experiencing a new wandering. There is deep ambivalence and confusion about nature of reality. Anxiety about the possibility of living together in a society. Abyss of meaninglessness. Threat of political economic and technological power. But as they wander they are not looking for us or the church. Then Thompson hits the zinger. He says that not only are they not looking for *us* – we’re not looking for *them*!

Once the church had a vision that was shared, influence that was felt and sought, and goals that were pursued and embraced. Now the church in the West seems to be a minority with a vision that is ignored, influence declining and goals held in derision.

Church has an identity crisis where it has turned in on itself instead of looking out to its neighbor. The one community that was founded to be a *presence* is in danger of being an *absence*. A Catholic consultant said it this way, “If St. Monica disappeared tomorrow, who would miss it?” Some parishioners, Sunday Mass-goers, people who wanted to get married there, be buried there and have their kids baptized there – sure. Anyone else?

But there is hope and here’s why. God loves this world. And because God loves this world, he has promised to be present in every age including this age as well. And He has promised to be present in this world, in this age – through you. Through His church.

We can move forward with the hope that our labors are not in vain. How can St. Monica become a faithful presence of love in our time? We begin to answer that question by looking at six steps. Next week I’ll begin to outline Step 1 and Step 2

which deal with “beginning” and “building.”

Charles Zlock Jr

MARCH FOR LIFE - *Save the Date*



The Church of Saint Monica Respect Life Ministry will once again be organizing a bus trip to Washington, DC for the March for Life. Save the date! Join us on **Friday, January 27, 2017** for this important event.

Preparing for Christmas

Confession Times

Monday, December 12 - 6:15 to 7:15 pm

Saturday, December 17 - 3:45 to 4:45 pm

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.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA IS BACK!



Mark your calendars! **Sunday, December 11 after the 9:30 am Mass**, the Family & Youth Ministry will be hosting **Breakfast with Santa** in the Cafeteria and the Auditorium of the Old School

Building. You won't want to miss it!

Family and Youth Ministry will also be holding an **All Abilities Santa Social, at noon on Sunday, December 11, 2016**. This event will be an opportunity for families of all abilities kids of any age to enjoy some holiday spirit and get a picture with Santa. More details coming soon!

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAINT MONICA HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Annual Christmas Social Dinner: Our Annual Christmas dinner social is scheduled for Monday, December 5th at 6:30pm at 30 Main. Cost is \$40/man. Please indicate you are attending by emailing Mark DiLucca at middorset@gmail.com.

Breakfast With Santa - Help Needed: The HNS has been asked again to provide culinary skills to cook breakfast for *Breakfast with Santa*. There will be one seating only after the 9:30am Mass on Sunday, December 11th. We will most likely start around 7:30 am or so. If you can make it, it will be great to have you!

Retreat — Mark your calendar: Our annual 2017 retreat is scheduled for February 3, 4, 5. A very special weekend will be in store. Let's enhance and promote this traditional weekend for all it has to offer. More info to follow, or join us at our January meeting! Prosit.

WOMEN OF THE PARISH ... All Are Invited!

Please join us for our third annual **Advent by Candelight** hosted by the women of **WALKING WITH PURPOSE** on Thursday, December 8 at 6:30–8:30pm in the Education Center Cafeteria. This event will feature Guest Speak Sister Connie Haughton. Sister Connie is a woman who chose to be a Sister of Mercy 59 years ago, dreaming of following the King! The theme of her reflection will center on the call and the challenge to grow together in Mercy-ful Service. **Please join us for as we prepare our hearts for the Christmas season. Light refreshments will be served. \$10.00/person.** Please RSVP to Alice Powell at rapowell@comcast.net.

THE ANNUAL GIVING TREE



Our parish's annual Advent service activity, **The Giving Tree, is underway.** The Giving Tree tags are hung on the Christmas trees displayed in the Gathering Room of church. Please choose one tag or more and purchase the gift or gift card noted on the tag. All gifts and gift cards will be donated to the following four agencies: *T/E Cares, The Sisters of St. Joseph Welcome Center, the St. Agnes Day Room of West Chester, and Catholic Social Services of Montgomery County.* **Most gifts are due on December 11, but some are due sooner.** Gift cards should be placed into the boxes located at the base of the trees. Additional information can be found in the flyer, inserted into this week's church bulletin. Please place the tag on the gift, **but DO NOT WRAP the gift or gifts.** Thank you for bringing Christ's light to those in need!

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, November 29 at 8:00 a.m.

Sister Arleen McCann extends many thanks for your continued help to our inner city neighbors.

EARLY BULLETIN TRANSMISSION SCHEDULE

Due to the Printing Schedule of the publisher, the following deadlines are in effect for the upcoming Holiday Season:

- December 25th bulletin items are due *no later than* Tuesday, December 13, 12:00 noon
- January 1st bulletin items are due *no later than* Monday, December 19, 12:00 noon.

2016 DAY OF SANCTIFICATION FOR PRIESTS

The priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia assemble each year for a day of prayer and reflection on the Sacred Priesthood. This year our priests will gather with Archbishop Chaput at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary on Monday, November 28, for the **2016 Day of Sanctification for Priests.** Please pray for all priests of the Archdiocese, especially this weekend and Monday, with the following prayer from the Roman Missal:

*Lord our God, who in governing your people
make use of the ministry of Priests,
grant to these men a preserving obedience to Your will,
so that by their ministry and life,
they may gain glory for you in Christ.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE for November 27

DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday		No Adoration	
Tuesday			
Wednesday		Rectory Closed	
Thursday	7:00-8:30pm	Walking with Purpose	Cafeteria
Friday	9:15-10:45 am 9:00pm-8:00am	Legion of Mary Nocturnal Adoration	Rectory Church
Saturday	4:00-4:45 pm	Confession	Church

THE CHURCH of SAINT MONICA

WWW.SAINTMONICACHURCH.ORG

SOCIAL MEDIA



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@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



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CSMEdge
CSMLifeteen



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@CSMLifeteen



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@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 November 27 — December 4

MASS TIME	INTENTION	PRESIDER	MUSIC MINISTRY	NOTES
5:00 pm	+ George J. Muller	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	<i>Second Collection: Saint Monica Saint Vincent DePaul Fund</i>
7:30 am	Woods and Fusco Families	Fr. Zlock	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ John F. Silvestre	Fr. Antry	Choir	
11:30 am	People of the Parish	Fr. Fitzgerald	Cantor	
Monday, 28th	+ Thomas Losoncy	Fr. Zlock		
Tuesday, 29th	+ Thomas Losoncy	Fr. Zlock		
Wednesday, 30th	Communion Service			
Thursday, 1st	+ Jean Niemetz	Norbertine		
Friday, 2nd	+ Tony Alzamora	Fr. Zlock		
Saturday, 3rd	+ Marie MacFaun	Fr. Zlock		
5:00 pm	People of the Parish	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	<i>Special Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious</i>
7:30 am	+ Louis DeLuca	Fr. Zlock	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ Irene Toczykowski	Norbertine	Choir	
11:30 am	+ Rachel Parker	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, Antoinette Rissell, John Robinson, Mary Rose, Cathy Russell, Gary Smith, Helen Triolo, Bob and Mildred Walsh, Stephanie Walsh Beilman

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: Joanne Rogers at 610-889-0963

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*