



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 of Obligation 8:30 a.m.
12 noon

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

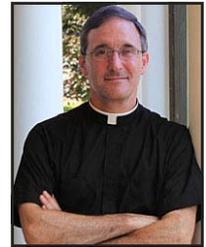
Saturday from 4 to 4:45 p.m.
Anytime by appointment.



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 30, 2017

FROM the PASTOR'S DESK...



Over the past two weeks, we have been revisiting the "Jubilee Year of Mercy" which was solemnly proclaimed by Pope Francis. Let's dig a little deeper into this idea of "mercy." This week I would like to touch upon the ultimate and tangible sign of God's mercy: The Sacrament of Reconciliation or "Confession."

Luke 6:36 says, "Be merciful, as your Heavenly Father is merciful." Well, what does that mean? "Be nice?" Is that it? The biblical idea of God is not about God "being nice." First, being merciful is about returning to God and reestablishing a "right relationship" with God. This has an intrinsic benefit. In this way, people are able to "touch the grandeur of God with their own hands and feel His peace." (Pope Francis). Second, being merciful is what has to happen initially for this to occur.

How is Confession a reflection of God's mercy that is constant? Is it possible that Confession can become "episodic?" This can be demonstrated in confessing the same sins not only weekly but also days later. Where is the pull to "amend and change my life, change my heart, pull away from occasions of sin?" Can there be a bit of the "consumer" in the way that I approach the sacrament. Incidentally, can this be on the part of the priest as well as the penitent?

Confession needs a much larger context than we typically give it. It's a "liturgical" celebration of an encounter with God. It's not just the cleansing of mortal sin. It's an action that is supposed to nourish and sustains us on several human levels. That would include mental and spiritual but also artistic and aesthetic as well. Thus the space, the décor of the confessional area, the grill, the stole and the vesture are all important.

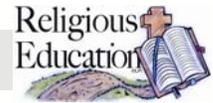
The "rite" should not to be celebrated the same way we celebrated it as children in 1974. For an adult to start with "Bless me Father for I have sinned..." is fine. We had children memorize the ritual because children can be anxious when going to Confession. Thus, "automation" of the ritual helps them get over their nervousness and enter automatically into the sacrament with a sense of confidence. Adults can afford to be a bit more *(Cont'd on pg. 4)*



OUR PARISH PRAYER INTENTION for THIS WEEK

For all people taking vacations during the remaining months of Summer.

FROM *the* OFFICE of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



We are in need of volunteers for our Sunday Pilot Program as well as Children's Liturgy of the Word.

We are not looking for theologians, just people who love Jesus and are willing to spend some time growing closer to God with the future of our Church. For more information contact Jason Carter(Director of Family and Youth Ministry) Jcarter@saintmonicachurch.org or 610-644-0110 x131

FAMILY *and* YOUTH MINISTRY

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FAMILY &
YOUTH MINISTRY



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Youth Ministry
@CSMEDGE



FROM *the* OFFICE of WORSHIP *and* MUSIC

YOU'RE INVITED: JOIN US!

The Parish Choir warmly welcomes singers of all voice types (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) to join us in the fall! We begin rehearsals on Wednesday, 6 September at 7 pm in the Church. The Parish Choir sings each Sunday for the 9:30 AM Mass, and for all principal liturgies of the Parish at Christmas, Holy Week and Easter. *Consider becoming involved!* Contact Frank Orman, *Director of Worship & Music* for more information at 610.644.0110, ext. 118 or forman@saintmonicachurch.org.





WALKING with PURPOSE
 RETURNS TO SAINT MONICA FOR A 4TH YEAR!
 THERE WILL BE TWO STUDIES OFFERED
 ON THURSDAY EVENINGS IN 2017-2018.
OPENING NIGHT COFFEE CONNECT:
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AT 7:00 PM

TO REGISTER, CONTACT: WWP.SAINTMONICA@GMAIL.COM

WWP Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point

Please join us for a taste of *Walking with Purpose* as we explore four foundational steps that we need to take if we desire to live purposefully. Growing in these areas is a lifelong pursuit, but there's no better time to begin than now! If you have participated in *WWP* before and wish to return to the starting point, this study is also for you!

"For I know the plan I have for you, says the Lord. Plans for welfare, not evil, to give you a hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11

WWP Touching the Divine: A Study of the Gospel of John

Are you longing to overcome past and present failings and experience a fresh start? Jesus makes all the difference, offering us hope and a new beginning. Instead of identifying ourselves in terms of what our culture values, we can define our worth by our relationship to Jesus. We receive a new identity in Christ, and He calls us *beloved*. Please join *Walking with Purpose* for a talk and discussion about Christ's invitation to receive Him and be transformed by our closeness to Him.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." - John 1:5

Walking with Purpose is a women's Catholic Bible study held on Thursdays at 7:00 PM in the Parish Cafeteria from October through April. The program aims to bring women to a closer relationship with Christ. Personal study and small group discussions at *WWP* each week link our everyday challenges with the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. For more information, contact Maureen and Melissa at wwp.saintmonica@gmail.com.

*No experience necessary, just come as you are for some coffee and a chance to see what *Walking with Purpose* is all about.*

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS for JUNE 2017

June 2017	\$60,210	47% Electronic	June YTD 2017	\$788,561	45% Electronic
June 2016	\$69,072	44% Electronic	June YTD 2016	\$833,350	45% Electronic
June Budget	2016-17	\$69,072	June YTD Budget	2016-17	\$831,993

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, July 23, 2017

Sunday Collection	\$6,906
Electronic	\$7,947
Total	\$14,853

We have 180 families contributing electronically.

POOR BOX

Money collected from the Poor Boxes during the Month of July will be for the benefit of FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students). God bless you for your continued generosity.

The Fiscal Year 2017 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)

creative perhaps – if they wish.

1. Conversation and reconciliation in salvation history
2. Baptism and Eucharist as the principle occasions for conversation and reconciliation
3. Invitation to reconciliation by the Church

The Rite Itself - As we read in [John 20:23](#) and [Matthew 16:19](#), the “power of the keys” was given to Peter and administered through the Church - for the Church. In the History of Salvation, God agonizes over His people to return. Thus Confession isn't just me and God and my sins. It's about part of an entire nation turning back to a life with the Lord - the ongoing conversion of the baptized.

Confession deals with penance and the ideas of the Greek word, *metanoia*. This is a radical reorientation of our whole life and resolution to change one's life. This is accompanied with salutary pain and sadness, an affliction of spirit and heart, a clear understanding on how hard it is to do this in every part of our life and thus the need of God's grace to be able to move towards this. How do we do this? We are provided “gestures of reconciliation” by the Church. These include ashes, prayer, fasting, alms giving and accepting fraternal correction. In addition, the Church recommends actions through which we actually change such as concern for the poor and acts of justice “outside of our comfort zone.” “Being arrested for being pro-life might be noble but it also makes me a hero. Sure it might have been hard but if I'm going to really be pro-life, I have to be a better wife/husband every day. I need to be a better man/woman or father/mother every day. THAT's really hard.”

Let's delve into some of the details of the sacrament. There are four constituent elements of Confession that have been part of the sacrament since around the 7th century. They are the 4 "central moments" in our relationship with God:

1. Contrition
2. Confession of sins and the “Act of Contrition”
3. Acceptance of penance – which addresses the harm of sin, aids to new life and offers an antidote to weakness

Words of Absolution - The sacrament starts with “**contrition.**” Contrition is a pattern of discipleship. The baptized person (not the priest) makes the sign of the cross. They recognize the need for the grace that comes from the Trinity. As the Christ figure, the priest then “welcomes penitent with kindness.” (I recognize that sometimes this is difficult for a priest, especially when he's been hearing a lot of Confessions at one time. Be patient with the man). Next should come the Reading of the Word of God. This is important since we really don't have the power for proper conversation that would truly capture the depth of our sinfulness, a full confession of our sins and what is happening in the sacrament in terms of God's forgiveness. Thus what is announced is the Word, which is received in the midst of the sacrament (like in all sacraments).

Absolution - Christ's dying and rising is what provides the grace to forgive sins. The reception of this grace can only be acknowledged by an “Act of Praise” at the end of the sacrament. The reason for this is that nowhere in Scripture, is a returning to God accomplished without praise.

In closing, allow me to say something about the “**Act of Contrition.**” The rite specifies that a penitent can say “these or similar words.” There are several formulas mentioned. One is the well-known, “Oh my God I am heartily sorry....” One can also repeat the “Sinner's Prayer” which is said by the repentant tax collector in [Luke 18:13](#) (“Oh God, be merciful to me a sinner!”). One can even compose their own words. One example that was once presented was, “For the men and women who keep a sacred appointment on Sunday mornings, bewildered by seductive voices, nursing wounds life has inflicted upon them, anxious about matters that do not matter - Yet they come to listen for a clear word from God that speaks to their condition. I beseech Thee for thy mercy and grace, O Lord.”

Charles Zlock Jr

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

On September 10, 2017 at the 11:30 Mass, there will be a golden jubilee celebration of the ordination of Father Allan. Father would like to know *if there are any couples in the parish who are celebrating their golden jubilee this year.* What a beautiful gift it would be to be able to celebrate God's ongoing presence and work in marriage and priesthood at the same time. Please email Father Allan at allan.fitzgerald@gmail.com if you are celebrating 50 years of marriage!

A MEN'S WEEKEND WITH FRIENDS AND JESUS TOO!

Since 1999 I have enjoyed the company of a fine and friendly group of men and Jesus Christ too during the first weekend after Labor Day at the **Malvern Retreat House**. I look forward to this weekend every year as an ideal way to wind down summer, kick off fall and get closer to myself by getting closer to God. You are invited to join us on **September 8th-10th** for the annual **Nativity BVM retreat**. Go to: <http://malvernretreat.com/?event=nativity-bvm> or call me, Jack Warnock, at 610.722.2673. See you at Malvern!

Remember Fatima  Pray the Rosary

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND AUTISM HELP-LINE

Do you need help accessing services and support for someone with an intellectual disability or Autism? This Help-Line can assist families and caregivers to connect to services and programs provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, as well as other community resources available to provide needed help and support. To reach the Help-Line call 484-472-5041, or email IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org.

YOUNG ADULTS: 'PRAISE AND WORSHIP ADORATION'

Are you a Catholic adult in your 20s and 30s? **If so, join us this Wednesday, August 2, 2017 for our monthly Praise & Worship Adoration.** Holy Hour begins at 7:30 PM in the lower chapel of Saint Agnes in West Chester. Confession will be available. For more info, check us out on Facebook or at www.cyacc.org.

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL



How we deal with persons in the last stages of life, when they may be completely dependent on others, says a great deal about the kind of society we live in and the kind of person that we are.

We owe to those who are dying or severely impaired the same respect and love we give to anyone else, regardless of condition. And as a Church we must be particularly committed to defending the rights of our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, just as we are for the unborn and for those challenged by disabilities.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Our parish recently received notification of the performance of our high school students on the Final Semester Report. We are particularly proud of those who demonstrated academic excellence.

MERION MERCY ACADEMY

Distinguished Honors

Ann Dombrowski

Honors

Sophia Kennedy, Erin Murray, Grace Lopresti

VILLA MARIA ACADEMY

Distinguished Honors

Cecilia Oberkircher

Second Honors

Julianna Prendergast

ST. JOSEPH PREPARATORY SCHOOL

First Honors

Brenden Lawton, Michael Linquata

BISHOP SHANAHAN HIGH SCHOOL

Second Honors

Margaret Barnes

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE for July 30

DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday	9:00 am-5:00 pm	All Ball	Gym
	9:15 am-4:30 pm	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
Tuesday	9:00 am-5:00 pm	All Ball	Gym
Wednesday	9:00 am-5:00 pm	All Ball	Gym
Thursday	9:00 am-5:00 pm	All Ball	Gym
Friday	9:00 am-5:00 pm	All Ball	Gym
	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



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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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CSMEge
CSMLifeteen



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@CSMEge
@CSMLifeteen



Instagram
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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 July 30 – August 6

MASS TIME	INTENTION	PRESIDER	MUSIC MINISTRY	NOTES
5:00 pm	+ Father George Hagenbach	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
7:30 am	+ Teresa O'Neill	Fr. Zlock	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ David Mikowychok	Fr. Fitzgerald	Cantor	
11:30 am	People of the Parish	Fr. Fitzgerald	Cantor	
Monday, 31st	+ Mary Rocks Comora	Fr. Zlock		
Tuesday, 1st	+ Father George Hagenbach	Fr. Zlock		
Wednesday, 2nd	Communion Service			
Thursday, 3rd	+ Jean Niemetz	Fr. Krautsack		
Friday, 4th	+ Jacqueline Mae Jones	Fr. Zlock		
Saturday, 5th	+ Kenneth Renn	Fr. Zlock		
5:00 pm	+ Dr. Robert Doyle	Fr. Fitzgerald	Cantor	
7:30 am	+ Charles Chiccino	Fr. Fitzgerald	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ David Mikowychok	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
11:30 a.m.	People of the Parish	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Sonia Altirman, Drew Brazer, Michael Byrne, Phyllis Campbell, Lina Cappelli, Terri Carson, Lilly Ciocca, James DiAntonio, Rico DiGuiseppe, Gavin Duffy, Rita Dunn, Joseph Erwin, Kelly Glacken, Mary Hartley, Karen Hastings, Jenna, Maya and Eva Izzi, Faith Johnson, Libby Judge, Anne Maas, Jackson MacTaggart, Mark Maholick, Eugene Matta, Susan McDonnell, Melanie Mizenko, Dr. Mark Nardone, John Neff, Rita Reilly, Joel Rivera, John Robinson, Mary Rose, Cathy Russell, Gary Smith, Tallon Family, Bob and Mildred Walsh, Stephanie Walsh Beilman

THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

Helen Triolo, Sister of Eleanor DiGuiseppe

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*
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*