

SEPT
10
2023

ST. MONICA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Welcome!

Masses

Saturday | 4:00pm
Sunday | 9:00 and 10:45am
Monday - Friday | 8:00am

Confession

Saturday | 3:15pm

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday | 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friday | 8:00 am - Noon
Saturday & Sunday | Closed

Parish Clergy

Rev. John J. Mullee, **Pastor**
Rev. Theodore Marszal
Retired, in Residence
Stan Drozell, Deacon

Pastoral Staff

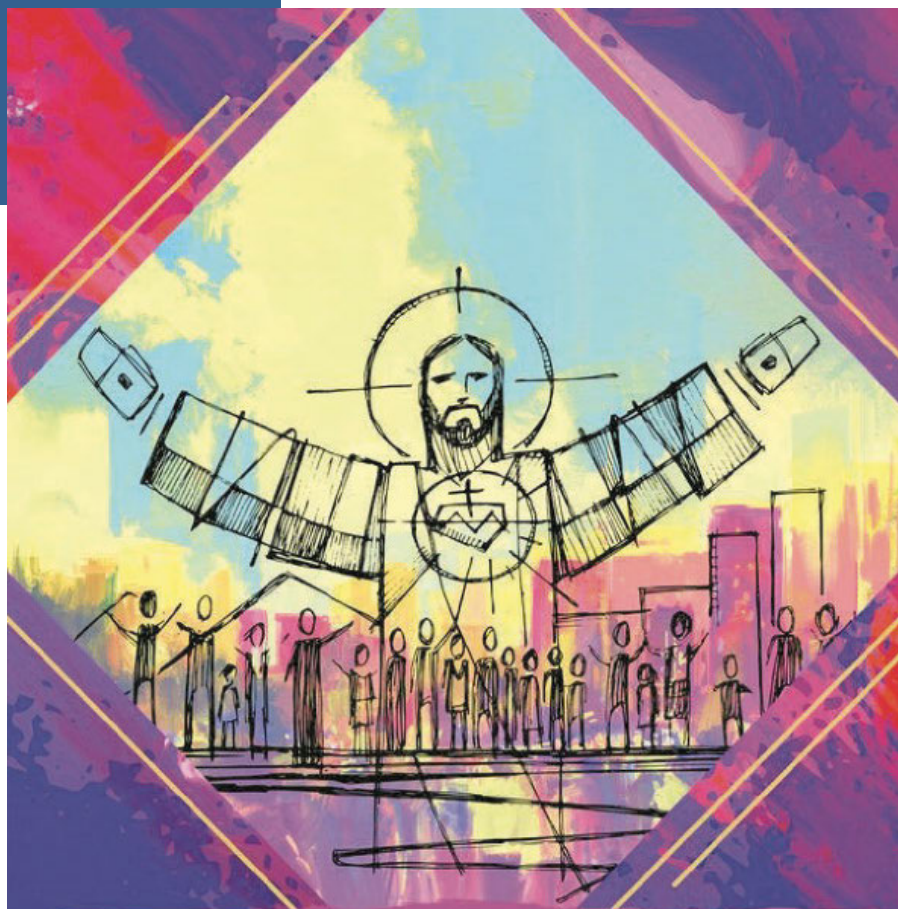
Sister Helene Skrzyniarz SSJ-TOSF
Parish Catechetical Leader
srhelene@saintmonicachurch.net
Molly Grunau,
Director of Liturgy and Music
Diane O'Neill, **Business Manager**
Susan Shepka, **Office Manager**
Joseph Ungarsky,
Pastoral Council Chairman
Bill Simon, **Finance Council Chairman**
Bob Soeder, **Web Master**

Bulletin Announcements

Email: srjoyce@saintmonicachurch.net
by NOON on Friday

Additional Contacts

St. Benedict | (216) 662-9380
Early Learning Center | (216) 475-3633
OCFCU | (216) 663-6800



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“For where two or three are gathered together
in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”
- Mt 18:19-20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

OUR MISSION

We, the parish of St. Monica, work to create a Christlike family, welcoming all people where one encounters a loving God, by serving the spiritual, educational and social needs of the community.

13623 Rockside Road, Garfield Heights, OH
Office: (216) 662-8685 | Fax: (216) 662-1245
Website: saintmonicachurch.net

Pastoral Scene

Focus on God

Since God created human beings, we have struggled to keep our focus on God. We wrestle with the question of “who is God” and foolishly believe some of God’s job description can be better completed by us. We wander in different directions, lose our way, think that happiness can be found elsewhere and even construct golden calves to worship. Are we simply too independent or just blatantly stubborn? It’s a good question to ask. Even with all of our silliness and distractions, God compassionately and patiently waits. He lets us assert our wills and

knows that perhaps one day we will actually wake up and realize how lost we are.

“Since happiness is nothing other than the enjoyment of the highest good and since the highest good is above, no one can be made happy unless he rises above himself, not by an ascent of the body but of the heart. But we cannot rise above ourselves unless a higher power lifts us up ... Divine aid is available to those who seek it from their hearts, humbly and devoutly; and this means to sigh for it in this valley of tears, through fervent prayer.” One of the biggest human struggles is discerning what, exactly, is the highest good. We are ordered to achieve it but if we pursue it with clouded vision, we will never truly find it.

One of the greatest obstacles to God’s power and love is a stubborn, closed heart of stone. When we are fiercely determined to set our sights elsewhere for happiness or simply ride the popular currents of the day, we will never satisfy the deep ache and longing within. We know that ache well. It is precisely why we scurry all over the place, attempting to find the next best thing to take away its pain. Nothing in the created world ever can or will. We continue our journey. One day, people may wake up and realize that they are grazing in the wrong pasture and putting themselves in harm’s way. When this awakening occurs, it will be a most joyous day as we will see God’s wide-open arms waiting to receive us. “Lead me, Lord, in your path, and I will enter in your truth. Let my heart rejoice that it may fear your name.” Our Heavenly Father gives us everything, including the chance to share in His eternal kingdom. Yet, like the Prodigal Son, we are often lured away by the materialism of our society. Do you really want to turn your back on all that God offers in exchange for material wealth that has no lasting value? God wants us to be happy on earth as well. But, that requires us to freely accept His gift of faith; putting Him first in all things and detaching from our own self-sufficiency.

Deacon Stan

This Week’s Highlight

**This Thursday, September 14th
5:00pm**

**Join us for the Last
Party at the Pavilion
Of 2023.**

**Entertainment this month
The Joey Tomsick Orchestra**

**STEWARDSHIP FOR SEPTEMBER 3, 2023
Will be polished next week due to
early bulletin deadline**

Please continue to mail in your donations, donate online or drop off at the office. You can also drop your donation in the baskets in church.

Thank you for your continued support

Please note our average weekly expenses are \$13,546.00



Our sincere sympathy and prayers are extended to the families and friends of all who have recently died. May they and all of the dearly departed, rest in peace.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, September 10

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Living & deceased Fr.

Tom Montavon Family

10:45am People of the Parish

Monday, September 11

Weekday

8:00am Thanksgiving for listener

& donors of AM1260 & their intentions.

Tuesday, September 12

Weekday

8:00am Living & deceased of

Robert Foster Family

Wednesday, September 13

St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:00am Bob & Karol Chamberlin

Thursday, September 14

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:00am Richard Krawczyk

Friday, September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows

8:00am All Souls

Saturday, September 16

Sts. Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

4:00pm John & Helen Rudy

Sunday, September 17

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

9:00am People of the Parish

10:45am Joseph & Margaret Dubas

SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS

Please pray for the Seminarians of the Cleveland Diocese

Please join us in praying for the following seminarians this week:

Monday: James Parisi

Tuesday: Brian Peters

Wednesday: Kyle Rosser

Thursday: Travis Seagraves

Friday: Mitch Carson

Saturday: Cameron Ferrell

Sunday: Pray for Bishop Woost



There will be a Divine Mercy Holy Hour this **Sunday, September 10th at 2:30 pm** in Church. All are Welcome!



Please Pray For the Parishioners Listed Below

Paul Lysobey, Pat Dzurilla, Katie Medvetz,
Rose Ann Heineman, Joan Fisher,
Diane Petras Minns, Lisa Bielawski, Karen Guzy,
Special Intention, Marianne Toma

Please call the parish office if you would like to add a name to this list.

If you have a special intention you would like remembered in prayer, please call Lillian Naptune (216)662-5464

THIS WEEK

Activities CALENDAR

Monday, September 11

4:00 pm Fall Sports Practice (g)
4:15 pm Walking Class (J)
7:00 pm Coin Club Meeting ©

Tuesday, September 12

2:00 pm Senior Meeting (J)
4:00 pm Fall Sports Practice (g)
6:30 pm Baptism Class (F)

Wednesday, September 13

4:00 pm Fall Sports Practice (g)
6:30 pm G.A. Meeting (+)

Thursday, September 14

4:00 pm Fall Sports Practice (g)
5:00 pm Party at the Pavilion (p)

Friday, September 15

4:00 pm Fall Sports Practice (g)

Saturday, September 16

1:00 pm Baptist Bible Study (p)

Sunday, September 17

7:30 pm A.A. Meeting (c)

Guild Meeting

Greetings-just a reminder the **first Guild member meeting for 2023-2024** will be Thursday, September 21st at 6:30 pm, Saint Benedict's cafeteria.

Please join us for a evening of prayer, sharing what you did over the summer, the start of our Peterson's Nut Sale, and a fun new raffle!

Hope you can join us!
Mandy Corsi, President

St. Monica Summer Series Presents: Party at the Pavilion

Thursday, September 14th from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Free Entertainment provided by:

The Joey Tomsick Orchestra

+ Food & Drinks + 50/50 Raffle + Fun for all!

Bring your lawn chairs and join us for the evening (Picnic tables available at the pavilion.)

Rain or Shine. All are invited.

Special thanks to all our Sponsors.

Hope to see you there and thank you for your support this Season!

St. Monica Church, 13623 Rockside Rd., Garfield Hts.

Senior Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12th at 2:00 p.m.



in the St. Joseph room of the parish office. Come and Enjoy, Coffee, Donuts, Bingo and Fellowship
New Members Always Welcome



Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit.

CCC 1213



The next Baptism class will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Parish Office. If you would like to have your child Baptized, please call Parish Office to register: 216-662-8685.

OTHER INFORMATION

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

NO, I am not talking about Christmas, I am talking about the return to school at all levels. It is also the time to register for Religious Education and for the reception of Confirmation and any other Sacraments you or your children are in need of.

1. Religious education for children who do not attend a Catholic School are encouraged to attend The Parish School of Religion (PSR) which will begin in mid-September. Please check the Bulletin for any updates!
2. Confirmation will be celebrated in April of 2024 for Saint Monica Parish, Saint Martin of Tours Parish, and for SS Peter and Paul, Saint Therese, Saint Mary (Bedford), and for Our Lady of Hope. Please contact Sister Helene at Saint Monica Parish for details as to preparation for this celebration. You are NEVER too old to be Confirmed!
3. If you wish to learn more about the Catholic Faith, desire to become Catholic, or have been baptized but never have celebrated First Communion or Confirmation, please contact Sister Helene. Instruction is matched to your schedule, and often one-to-one.

Looking forward to making this year, the most wonderful time of the year in your and your family's faith life!

Sister Helene



Attention St. Monica Church!



Are you interested in joining the
St. Monica Choir?

Please consider sharing your God-given gift with our
Sunday and/or Lazarus Choir.

Our Sunday Choir rotates Masses each week:
4:00 P.M. > 9:00 A.M. > 10:45 A.M.

Lazarus Choir leads the Assembly in singing at Funerals.
It is year-round and flexible with your schedule.
Members are contacted by phone.

Interested!

For more information please complete the form below and drop
it in the collection basket or return it to the parish office.
Molly will be in touch with you.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

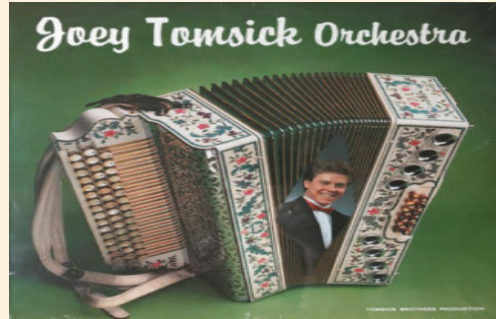
Interested in: Sunday Choir Lazarus Choir

OTHER INFORMATION

The St. Monica Summer Series Presents:

PARTY AT THE PAVILION

Thursday September 14, The Joey Tomsick Orchestra



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**God Calls You.
We Invite You**

**Dios te llama.
Te invitamos.**



2023

Men's Sock & Underwear Drive

Sponsored by the Cleveland Diocesan
Holy Name Society

This Years Recipient of the Proceeds of the Drive is

Elyria Hospitality Center

Food and Clothing Pantry

244 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Serving the Residents of Elyria Since 1988

*The mission of the Elyria Hospitality Center
is to serve the people in our community who
are struggling financially in a way
that preserves their dignity.*



Please bring your donations to your home parish. There will be a collection box or area set up by your parish's Holy Name Society.

All donations of socks, underwear, and cash will be given to ***Elyria Hospitality Center***, which serves those in the Elyria area in need.

When:

September 16th - September 24th

What:

NEW men's socks, underwear in any size for the homeless and and needy. Or if you prefer, cash donations to be used to purchase socks and underwear

Contact:

Will or Chuck if you have any questions:

Will: 216 544 6785

Chuck: 216 215 6844

Entrance Chant 685 Seek Ye First

First Reading Ezekiel 33:7-9

Thus says the LORD: You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me. If I tell the wicked, "O wicked one, you shall surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death. But if you warn the wicked, trying to turn him from his way, and he refuses to turn from his way, he shall die for his guilt, but you shall save yourself.

The Responsorial Psalm Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9

**R. If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;
let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

**R. If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.
For he is our God,
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

**R. If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as in the day of Massah in the desert,
where your fathers tempted me;
they tested me though they had seen my works."

**R. If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

Second Reading Romans 13:8-10

Brothers and sisters: Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.



Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

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Offertory Chant 702 Prayer of St. Francis

Communion Chant I Am the Bread of Life

And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day.

1. I am the Bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; and who believe in me shall no thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.
2. The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this bread, you shall live for ever, you shall live for ever.
3. Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink of his blood, and drink of his blood, you shall not have life within you.
4. I am the Resurrection, I am the life. If you believe in me, even though you die, you shall live for ever.
5. Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, Who has come into the world.

Text: John 6; Suzanne Toolan, SM, b.1927
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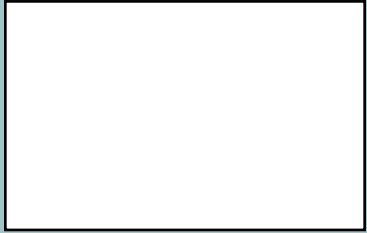
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