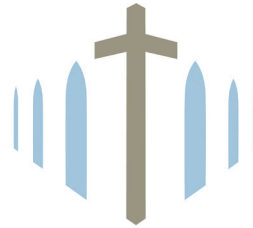




AUGUST 21, 2016



# ST. MONICA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

9933 Midway Road, Dallas, Texas 75220

214-358-1453 • Fax: 214-351-1887

[www.stmonicachurch.org](http://www.stmonicachurch.org)



Search for "St. Monica Church Dallas" in the app store.

## WELCOME TO ST. MONICA CHURCH!

We are pleased to have visitors join us in worship and we invite you to become active registered parishioners. Registration forms can be found in the vestibule, at the Parish Office, and online.

### Mass Times

Saturday: 5:00 pm  
Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:30 am,  
11:00 am, 12:30 pm,  
2:00 pm (español), 5:00 pm

### Weekday Mass Times

6:45 am, 8:00 am M-F  
8:00 am Saturdays  
First Fridays 5:30 pm  
Primer viernes del mes 7:00 pm

### Childcare for 11:00 am Mass

Ages: 12-months to 4-years  
No Cost  
Room 114 Family Center  
St. Monica Women's Ministry

### Reconciliation • Reconciliación

Saturday/Sábado  
3:30-4:30 pm • 6:30-7:00 pm

### Baptism • Bautismo

Third Saturday of each month at 10:00 am  
Parents and godparents are required to attend a preparation class offered on the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 am. Call the Faith Formation Office to register.

Tercer sábado de cada mes a las 3:00 pm  
Padres y Padrinos deben asistir a una clase de preparación que se ofrecen los primeros sábados de mes a la 1:00 pm. Llame a la Oficina de Ministerio Hispano.

### Marriage • Matrimonio

Contact a priest or deacon at least six months before the planned marriage date.  
Llame a un Sacerdote o Diacono por lo menos seis meses antes de la fecha de la boda.

### Helplines • Línea de Ayuda

St. Vincent de Paul serves the poor or distressed on an emergency basis.  
972-994-1121 (confidential) Volunteers contact: [info@stmonicasvdp.org](mailto:info@stmonicasvdp.org)

Stephen Ministry helps those experiencing grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or another life crisis. 214-914-2802 (confidential)

### Bulletin Deadline

Monday at 12:00 noon • Submit notices in writing to [ecooper@stmonicachurch.org](mailto:ecooper@stmonicachurch.org).

## Parish Staff

**Fr. Stephen W. Bierschenk**

Pastor - x 7107

**Fr. Iñigo Lopez**

Parochial Vicar - x 7112

**Fr. Edwin Leonard**

Vocation Director (in residence)

**Monsignor John F. Meyers**

Pastor Emeritus

### Deacons

Abel Cortes

Bob Marrinan

Larry Lucido

Brian Mitchell

### St. Monica Church Office

Main: (214) 358-1453 • Fax: (214) 351-1887

Hours: M-F 9:00-5:00 • Sunday 10:00-2:00

**Parish Secretary** ..... x 7453

Faby Gomez

**Business Manager** ..... x 7176

Debbie Diaz

**Database Manager** ..... x 7111

Melissa Franks

**Volunteer Coordinator** ..... x 7173

Maria E. Juarez-Plank

**Safe Environment Director** ..... x 7144

Shavana Lopez

**Bookkeeper** ..... x 7102

Jared Wirths

**Director of Youth Ministry** ..... x 7106

Jason Trujillo

**Coordinator of Youth Evangelization** x 7106

Maria Jones

**Director of Communications** ..... x 7142

Erin Cooper

### Music Ministry

**Director of Music** ..... x 7101

Jeremy Wirths

**Director Youth Music** ..... x 7103

Emmanuel Espiritu

**Organist** (9:30 & 11:00 Mass)

Guillermo "Will" Martinez

### Faith Formation

Main: (214) 357-8549 • Fax: (214) 351-1887

**Director of Faith Formation** ..... x 7132

Mariangela Byrne

**Administrative Assistant** ..... x 7549

Eldie Diaz

**Marriage Ministry Coordinator** ..... x 7164

**Coordinadora de Matriomonios**

Martha Gonzalez

### Ministerio Hispano

Main: (214) 357-8549 • Fax: (214) 351-1887

**Director of Hispanic Ministry** ..... x 7131

Maria M. Gonzalez-Rocha

### St. Monica School

Main: (214) 351-5688 • Fax: (214) 352-2608

Phil Riley, Principal

[www.stmonicaschool.org](http://www.stmonicaschool.org)

## From the Pastor

A few years ago, Lewis Smedes spent a day at the Los Angeles county jail trying to bail someone out. After seeing a stream of assorted thugs and addicts coming in and out of the jail, Smedes became rather cynical. "What a bunch of losers," he thought. He struck up a conversation with a young black man in a clerical collar who was visiting the jail. It turns out that this young man was not a pastor; he was an insurance salesman who spent one day each week ministering to people in lock-up at the county jail.

Smedes was curious about the kind of people this young man met in his ministry. Weren't they all addicts? Weren't they all losers? The young man told him, "Well, maybe they are, but that's just not the way I divide people up. The only two categories of people I really care about are the forgiven people and the unforgiven people." (Lewis B. Smedes. *A Life of Distinction*, pp. 166-167)

The forgiven people and the unforgiven people. That covers everyone. But, that's not really the way we go about dividing people up. We have a list of people whom we judge are not right with God because of the way they live their life. Our list has those who are not right because they do not see the world as we do. And there's our list of those that we will just ignore or stay away from because they demand too much from us or their goodness makes our imperfections too obvious.

But, we have to humbly admit we are on the list of the forgiven people. So many times we offend someone we love and they give us the gift of their pardon, and we go on. So many times we let opportunities to do good pass us by even when we know they are there, yet God always offers us the chance to redeem our selfishness or laziness as another opportunity comes our way. We

offend God's love in little ways and sometimes in more serious, and we know without a doubt that God will embrace us in his loving forgiveness if we will only ask.

In the light of the powerful love of Jesus, we know we have fallen short of what we could be and should be. We let our pride, hard-heartedness, and hard-headedness keep us from admitting what needs to be changed to make us truly reflect the love of Jesus and so we resist giving up things in our life that are not in harmony with God's ways. We sometimes are comfortable being among the unforgiven people, and so we remain as we are because God never forces us to come to his love.

"Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." Jesus said it, so it has to be true. And most of us, if we were asked if we expect to one day be in heaven, would definitely say that we plan to make it through the gate. But, if the gate is narrow, and our entrance is not automatically given, can we be sure that we are among those strong enough to squeeze in? As we stand there knocking at the door, it will take more than simply being acquainted with the Lord, knowing our prayers and not being too bad in our everyday life. But, there is every reason for hope. It does not appear to be too difficult to get through the narrow door because Jesus says that people are going to come from the four corners of the world to enter into his banquet. How is this possible? Because Jesus says about himself, "I am the gate for the sheep." (JN10:7) He is going to make sure we get in because he only has two kinds of people on his list of the invited – the forgiven and the unforgiven.

—Fr. Stephen W Bierschenk

# News & Events

**WE'RE BACK!** Hope everyone is back from vacation because The Knights of Columbus are back and selling their famous and delicious Breakfast Burritos and Sausages On A Stick. From after the 8:00 am Mass until after the 11:00 am Mass those smiling Knights of Columbus will be selling their breakfast "goodies." Stop by, tell them you missed them and take home breakfast. Thanks for supporting St. Monica's Knights of Columbus!

**L1FT Youth Ministry** is giving away wristbands with the names of the participants going to our inaugural Shift Conference August 26-28. Take one and wear it next weekend to remind you to pray for the conference and for the teen on your wristband!

Calvary Hill Cemetery is hosting a **FREE seminar** titled **Your Life. Your Legacy.** on Saturday, August 27 at 11 am in the Family Center Upper Lounge (Room 201). The presentation will discuss four simple steps to planning final arrangements; bring peace of mind to you and your family; conversation and helpful advice; and a free Personal Planning Guide. Seating is limited. RSVP to Deanna Dickerman at [214-357-5754](tel:214-357-5754).



**Pancake Breakfast!** Come celebrate St. Monica's Feast Day on August 28 with a pancake breakfast served from 8:30 am-11:00 am in the school cafeteria. This is an annual breakfast hosted by the St Monica Knights of Columbus Council 5656 and we would love for you to join us! All pancake eaters welcome and invited!

Father Bierschenk seeks parishioners to serve 3-year terms on the **Parish Council** beginning in September. If you are interested in serving, please submit the application that can be found on the church website under Advisory Councils.

**Consider joining our adult choir!**

Choir is a great way to make new friends and serve the St. Monica community. Our choir is a friendly, inviting group and we hope to welcome you this fall. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm. New singers are needed in all sections. Our first week of regular rehearsal will be Wednesday, August 17 at 7:30 pm in the Church. Join us! Questions? Contact Jeremy Wirths at [jwirths@stmonicachurch.org](mailto:jwirths@stmonicachurch.org).



GET CONNECTED TO

*Ministries*

with

*Mimosas*

2016 MINISTRY FAIR  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18  
8 AM - 4 PM

**Stewardship**  
**08-14-2016**  
Regular - \$36,244  
Renovation - \$10,322  
**Total Mass Attendance**  
**08-14-2016**  
3,585

## Mass Intentions

**Sunday, August 21**

8:00 am..... Priest's Intention  
9:30 am..... Priest's Intention  
11:00 am..... Priest's Intention  
12:30 pm ..... Priest's Intention  
2:00 pm ..... Priest's Intention  
5:00 pm..... Priest's Intention

**Monday, August 22**

6:45 am..... For Holiness in Our Church  
8:00 am..... Sonny Wilson † by DeMetrovich Family

**Tuesday, August 23**

6:45 am..... Sterling Bassett † by Berta Montes  
8:00 am..... Louis Munoz † by Petrikas Family

**Wednesday, August 24**

6:45 am..... Karen Purvis † by Beverly Marroy  
8:00 am..... George Vilfordi † by The Noyes Family

**Thursday, August 25**

6:45 am..... Mary Ann McCauley † by Rebone Family  
8:00 am ..... Tillie Rodriguez † by Debbie Noblitt

**Friday, August 26**

6:45 am..... Margaret Short †  
by Heinz & Mercedes Reuter  
8:00 am ..... James A. Aitken, Jr. †  
by Theresa C. Aitken

**Saturday, August 27**

8:00 am..... Andres Roberto Paredes †  
by The Oliva Family  
5:00 pm.....Morgan Filhiol † by Virginia & Mark Filhiol

**Sanctuary Light**

This week the Sanctuary Light is burning for families suffering the loss of a loved one.

**For Our Sick**

To request a name to appear, please contact the parish office or complete a green prayer request card (found on tables at the back of church) and place the card in an offering basket.

Victor Hurtado <sup>1</sup>	Rudy Chavira <sup>3</sup>
Jeanie Wilson <sup>2</sup>	Tony Chavira <sup>3</sup>
Lorenzo <sup>3</sup>	Jessica Martinez <sup>3</sup>
Zach <sup>3</sup>	

Names will appear for 3 weeks. The numbers after the names begin at 3 and count down and are intended to help those who make requests.

**For Our Departed**

Linda Franks





## News & Events



**Women's Retreat**

September 10th  
8:30 am - 5 pm

Register online at [stmonicachurch.org](http://stmonicachurch.org)

**Be  Loved**

**Adorers** are needed in St. Monica's Chapel on Sundays and Mondays from 6 pm-7 pm. For more information, contact Margie Giangiulio at [adore10397@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adore10397@sbcglobal.net).

**St. Monica's Faith Formation** is still currently needing catechists in the 3rd, 5th and 6th grade. Classes start September 11th and are held on Sunday afternoons from 3:15- 4:45. There is still time to be trained as a catechist. For more information, please call Mariangela Byrne at [214-357-8549](tel:214-357-8549).

A **FREE Singing Class** for adults will be offered on Wednesdays from 7:00-7:45 pm in the Church, beginning September 7th. Anyone interested in improving singing skills is invited to join the class to learn about singing and music-reading. You are not obligated to join the choir to participate in the class. Meetings will run from September 7th until October 26th. Questions? Contact Jeremy Wirths at [jwirths@stmonicachurch.org](mailto:jwirths@stmonicachurch.org).

**New Handbell Ringers Needed!** We need new ringers for our Adult Handbell Choir. Training is provided and will be scheduled with you either individually or in a group. Rehearsals are held Sunday afternoons at 5:00 pm. The first rehearsal is Sunday, September 11th. Trainings will be scheduled before the first rehearsal. Questions? Contact Jeremy Wirths at [jwirths@stmonicachurch.org](mailto:jwirths@stmonicachurch.org).

**Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you know someone who is?** If so, invite them to sign up for RCIA, the process of becoming Catholic. RCIA classes will be held on Monday evenings from 7:00 - 9:00 pm starting September 12th. Our classes are for those who have not been baptized, were baptized in another faith tradition, or were baptized Catholic but have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Participants may also audit the class. If interested, visit our website or call the parish office at [214-357-8549](tel:214-357-8549).

**A Prayer Shawl Ministry is coming to St. Monica!** A prayer shawl is a gift of love, prayer, and friendship; it is an expression of caring, encouragement and peace. The handmade shawl is a tangible gift that brings the message that a particular person is in your thoughts and prayers. The ministry is open to any volunteer who has the desire to knit, crochet knot or quilt a shawl. Lessons are available for beginners. For more information, contact Margaret Schwab at [214-384-2209](tel:214-384-2209).

**St. Monica Grief Support Ministry** Have you suffered the loss of a loved one? St. Monica is accepting registrations for the Grief Support Ministry. Sessions will begin on Wednesday, September 14, 2016, 7 pm-9 pm. Sessions are led by trained lay facilitators. The support group is free, with only the cost of \$10 for the book. Contact either Maria Juarez-Plank at [214-366-7173](tel:214-366-7173) or [mplank@stmonicachurch.org](mailto:mplank@stmonicachurch.org) or Jim Einspanier at [214-914-2802](tel:214-914-2802) or [jeinspanier@navigationfinancial.com](http://jeinspanier@navigationfinancial.com) to register.



**WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT**

September 15-18

Register at [stmonicachurch.org/ministries/spiritual-growth](http://stmonicachurch.org/ministries/spiritual-growth)

For more information, contact Minerva Holmes at [469-733-3925](tel:469-733-3925) or [lafamiliaholmes@aol.com](mailto:lafamiliaholmes@aol.com).



**FOLLOW ME**

Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John

Wednesdays from September 7th - October 26th  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Family Center Room 201

Video and discussion - Cost is \$20

Register at visit [www.stmonicachurch.org](http://www.stmonicachurch.org)

### Family Vocation Chalice

To participate call (214) 368-3640

**August 27 at 5:00 pm**  
Richard & Mary Misdorn

**August 28 at 11:00 am**  
Hiram & Michelle Aguilar

**August 28 at 8:00 am**  
Florence Crable

**August 28 at 12:30 pm**  
Bianca Marquez & Grandsons

**August 28 at 9:30 am**  
Mike & Collette Murray  
Mark & Tricia Glick

**August 28 at 5:00 pm**  
Tom & Mary Brandt



## Noticias y Eventos



  
ST. MONICA  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

# Un Momento para Dos....

*Hora Santa para Hombres...*

Fe Templanza  
Sabiduría Consejo  
Comprensión Fortaleza  
Piedad Justicia  
Esperanza Prudencia

**Cada Segundo Sábado de Mes - 7am. | Padre Iñigo López**  
Al final de la Hora Santa se pasara al salon #109 para un refrigerio

**469.672.7190**  
infocatolico08@gmail.com  
Parroquia Católica Santa Mónica  
9933 Midway Rd, Dallas, TX 75220

### Curso de Duelo y Luto

¿Ha sufrido la pérdida de un ser querido? Les invitamos a considerar asistir a las próximas sesiones del grupo de Apoyo de Luto y Duelo. Las sesiones inician el martes, 27 de Septiembre a las 7pm. Las reuniones son semanalmente de 7 pm a 9 pm, por 10 semanas. Estará con otras personas que han pasado por situaciones similares y en grupos pequeños. Asistir al grupo es gratis, lo único que tiene que hacer es comprar su libro por \$10 dólares. Para más información llame a Betsy Solis al [214-854-1676](tel:214-854-1676) o Minerva Holmes al [469-733-3925](tel:469-733-3925).

*Libérate de tu dolor...*

ES UN  
NUEVO DÍA

Ministerio de Apoyo  
para  
Luto y Duelo  
Parroquia Santa Mónica

Las sesiones de grupo le apoyan para seguir con su vida después de la pérdida de un ser querido.

El programa se iniciara el martes 27 de septiembre 2016.

Para más información comuníquese al [214-854-1676](tel:214-854-1676) o [469-733-3925](tel:469-733-3925).

### Cáliz Vocacional Familiar

Para llevarse el Cáliz llame al [\(214\) 358-1453](tel:214-358-1453)

28 de Agosto  
Familia Catalan



**Cáliz Familiar**

Únase a orar por las vocaciones sacerdotales y religiosas a través del programa del Cáliz Familiar. Se llevara un cáliz a su hogar por una semana para rezar por las vocaciones. También se les dará un libreto con oraciones para que rece con su familia. Por favor llame a la Oficina Parroquial [214-357-8549](tel:214-357-8549).

**RICA**

¿Qué es Rica? RICA – Rito de Iniciación para Cristianos Adultos. Si es una persona adulta y le gustaría recibir los sacramentos de Bautismo, Primera Comunión y/o Confirmación les invitamos considerar las clases de RICA (Rito de Iniciación para Cristianos Adultos). Este programa inicia el 11 de septiembre y termina en Pascua del 2017. Las clases también son para aquellos adultos que quieran seguir creciendo y conociendo más sobre la fe católica. Para más información por favor comuníquese a las Oficinas Parroquiales [214-357-8549](tel:214-357-8549).

**Catequesis Familiar**

Es un programa que acompaña a las familias en el camino de la fe al encuentro con Cristo, al mismo tiempo que sus hijos se preparan para recibir algún sacramento, ya sea el Bautismo, Primera Comunión y/o Confirmación. Las clases se llevan a cabo en la Cafetería de la Escuela a las 3:15pm. y a las 6:15 en la Iglesia. Si su hijo va a recibir algún sacramento este año debe de asistir por lo menos a 10 clases. El objetivo principal de estas clases es ayudar a los padres a reconocer y ejercer el verdadero sentido de ser una "Iglesia Doméstica, para que vivan en una comunidad de fe, amor, oración y evangelización. Para más información llame a la Oficina Parroquial, [214-357-8549](tel:214-357-8549).

**Castos Por Amor**

El Ministerio de Castos por Amor, les hace una invitación a las reuniones informativas sobre temas importantes que afectan la dignidad del ser humano. Venga a escuchar las enseñanzas de la Santa Madre Iglesia, sobre la Teología del Cuerpo, Moralidad, Dignidad Humana y mucho más. Las reuniones son los jueves de 7pm a 9pm. en el salón de la Biblioteca. Para más información llame a Cristina Sánchez, [214-845-2630](tel:214-845-2630).

## De El Pastor

Algunos años atrás Lewis Smedes pasó un día en la cárcel de los Ángeles tratando de sacar alguien. Después de ver una secuencia de varios matones y drogadictos que entraban y salían de la cárcel, Smedes se puso cínico. "Bola de perdedores," pensó. Comenzó una conversación con un joven afroamericano que vestía camisa de cuello y visitaba la cárcel. Resulto que este joven no era pastor; era un vendedor de seguros y pasaba un día a la semana evangelizando a las personas encarceladas.

Smedes tenía curiosidad sobre el tipo de personas que el joven conocía en su ministerio. ¿Acaso no eran todos adictos? El joven le dijo, "Probablemente si lo son, pero es no es la manera la cual yo los divido. Las únicas dos categorías de personas que realmente importan son los perdonados y los no perdonados." (Lewis B. Smedes. A life of Distinction, pg. 166-167)

Los perdonados y no perdonados, cubre a todos. Pero, realmente esa no es la manera la cual dividimos a las personas. Tenemos una lista de personas a quien juzgamos por no estar bien con Dios por la manera que viven. Nuestra lista tiene aquellos quienes no están bien porque no ven el mundo como lo vemos nosotros. Tenemos otra lista donde están aquellos que ignoramos o nos retiramos de ellos porque exigen mucho de nosotros o su bondad hace que nuestras imperfecciones sean muy obvias.

Humildemente tenemos que admitir que estamos en la lista de los perdonados. Tantas veces ofendemos alguien que amamos y nos dan el regalo de su perdón y seguimos adelante. Tantas veces dejamos ir las oportunidades de hacer el bien aunque sepamos que están ahí, aun así Dios siempre nos da la oportunidad de redimir nuestro egoísmo o pereza al darnos otra oportunidad. Ofendemos el amor

de Dios en formas simples, otras en más serias y sabemos sin duda que Dios nos abrazara en su perdón fraterno si tan solo lo pedimos.

En la luz del poder del amor de Jesús, sabemos que quedamos cortos en lo que podemos ser o deberíamos ser. Dejamos que nuestro orgullo, insensibilidad y cabeza dura nos aleje de admitir lo que necesitamos cambiar para ser un reflejo verdadero del amor de Jesús y no resistimos a dejar las cosas de nuestra vida que no están en armonía con las de Dios. Algunas veces estamos cómodos al estar entre las personas que no son perdonadas y nos quedamos tal como somos porque Dios nunca nos fuerza a tomar su amor.

"Esfuércense por entrar por la puerta, que es angosta, pues yo les aseguro que muchos trataran de entrar y no podrán." Porque Jesús lo dijo tiene que ser verdad. La mayoría de nosotros si nos preguntaran si esperamos estar en el cielo, definitivamente diríamos que planeamos entrar por la puerta. Pero si la puerta es angosta y la entrada no se nos da automáticamente, estaríamos seguros de estar con aquellos que se amontonarían para entrar? Al estar tocando la puerta, tomaría más que simplemente conocer al Señor, conocer nuestras oraciones y no ser tan malos todos los días. Hay toda esperanza para esperar. No parece ser tan difícil pasar por la puerta angosta porque Jesús dice que las personas llegaran de las cuatro esquinas del mundo para entrar a su banquete. ¿Cómo será esto posible? Porque Jesús dice de sí mismo, "Yo soy la puerta de las ovejas." (Jn 10:7) El se asegurara que entremos porque tiene dos tipos de personas en su lista de invitados – Los perdonados y los no perdonados.

–Fr. Stephen W Bierschenk

