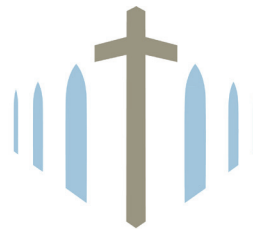




NOVEMBER 6, 2016



ST. MONICA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

9933 Midway Road, Dallas, Texas 75220

214-358-1453 • Fax: 214-351-1887

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

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.

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

From the Pastor

Brian Rice of Maple Grove, Minnesota wrote to *Reader's Digest* to tell that recently his wife asked the question men most dread: "Honey, do you think I look fat in my new dress?" But, Brian was up to the test. Pointing to what he was wearing, he replied, "Do you think I look stupid in this shirt?"

In today's gospel, the Sadducees are asking Jesus a trick question. They considered themselves the true protectors of the strict, traditional interpretation of the Jewish faith. If a teaching was not contained in the *Torah*, the first five books of the Bible, they declared it was not true. Since they could not find any clear teaching about life after death, they did not believe in a personal existence after death or in the resurrection. They rejected Jesus's teaching about eternal life. And so, with their extreme example of a woman married eight times to all the brothers in a large family, they were sure Jesus would be trapped into admitting his promise of eternal life could not be justified by the scriptures.

They asked the wrong question, "At the resurrection, whose wife will she be?" And Jesus reminds them of one of the pivotal moments in the *Torah*, as Moses encounters God in the burning bush, and declares him to be the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Those great ancestors of the Jewish people had not simply disappeared upon their death, as he Sadducees would teach. They were alive, for, as Jesus says, ". . . to him all are alive."

Each Sunday we profess that we believe in the resurrection of the dead. It is our faith that to God, "all are alive." This past week we celebrated first All Saints Day, remembering all those who lived a life in harmony with God, who are now in their place with him in heaven. Then, the next day, we commemorated All Souls Day, praying for our departed loved ones who have left this world. It is our belief that they are alive, perhaps in Purgatory, being purified of the imperfections of human

nature in order to be united with the perfect love of God in heaven. And our relationship with them is not broken – we continue to be able to give them the gift of our prayers and our good acts done on their behalf. One day we shall see them again, and together enjoy forever the place for which we were created in heaven.

But, for now, since we remain here, we have to make sure we are not distracted by the wrong questions. As we look around and notice that someone else seems to be more blessed than we are, we cannot be concerned about why we have less, because a loving Father is giving each of us different blessings, but always more than we need. We can be content because something even better is being prepared for us.

And we cannot be discouraged because we know we could be better. And when we seem to commit the same sins over and over even when we want to do better, there is no reason to wonder if we are a hopeless case. God is well aware of our human weakness, but that is not his focus. He believes in beginning anew, forgiving us over and over without any regard to how often we fail. In his eyes, we are always alive – preparing to be with him forever.

It is not always easy to imagine that the beauty of this world, and the joy of sharing our love with family, and the meaning we discover as we share ideas and experiences with others is just a glimpse of what God has in store for us. We believe there is something more wonderful than we can imagine being prepared for each of us, because God has already set things into motion as he brought us into existence. He now plans to enjoy our company forever, with a love that cannot end, because ". . . to him all are alive."

- Fr. Stephen W Bierschenk

News & Events



Last Sunday, October 30th, was Priesthood Sunday. At the 11 am Mass, Fr. Bierschenk was presented with **The Good Shepherd Award** by the Metro Serra Club. The award included a monetary gift in honor of his service.

Thank you, Fr Bierschenk for answering the call to priesthood and for being not just a good, but a great shepherd to us.

The award was presented by Margie Giangiulio on behalf of the Metro Serra Club.

Catholic Daughters will meet on Tuesday, November 8 at 6:30 pm in the Lower Lounge of the Family Center. This month, we will feature Elaine Scholly as a special guest who will speak about the St. Monica Senior Outreach ministry. All Catholic women over 18 years old are encouraged to join us. This ministry offers various ways to serve the community and make some lasting friendships along the way. For more information, contact Kristin Buehler at CDA2478@gmail.com or 214-621-1060.

St. Monica Catholic School 4th grade class presents: **Salute to our Veterans** concert on Friday, November 11th at 2 p.m. in the church. All active military, Veterans and their families are invited to attend and be honored at this special event.

The Dallas Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians and The Hymn Society of America are collaborating to present a **Hymn Festival entitled Sing of Mercy, Pray for Peace** on Tuesday, November 15 at 7:00 pm. Held at St. Monica Catholic Church, the festival celebrates the Jubilee Year of Mercy and is part of the St. Cecilia Sing series of NPM. The event will be led by Brian Hehn of the Hymn Society and Brent McWilliams, Chapter Director. It is free and open to the public.

The next **LEAF meeting** will be held on Tuesday, November 15th from 7-8:30 pm in the Family Center Upper Lounge. Featuring speaker John Hodges from The Shelton School on *Simulations of Learning Differences*, this presentation will provide you with a clearer understanding of the struggles your LD child faces. This is a MUST for parents; family, teachers and school staff who truly want to understand what a learning difference is and the struggles that come with everyday school life.

The **Secular Franciscan Order** is a worldwide Catholic order of married and single people who strive to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their daily lives by following the Rule of St. Francis of Assisi. If you feel the call from the Lord to embrace a Franciscan life style, you are welcome to visit with the St. Francis of Assisi fraternity at our meetings on the third Sunday each month at 2 p.m. in the Family Center Lower Lounge at St. Monica. Call Nancy Allen at 214-517-9123.

St. Monica is collecting new socks for males and females for **Austin Street Centre**. Donations may be dropped off in McManus Hall any day this month. Socks will be distributed the second Monday of December. For more information, contact Missy Dours at dours@sbcglobal.net.

Stewardship
10-30-2016
 Regular - \$30,219
 Priest's Pension - \$10,938
Total Mass Attendance
10-30-2016
 3,159

Mass Intentions

Sunday, November 6

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 Pedro Rodriguez Gonzalez †
 by The Rodriguez Family
 5:00 pm..... Priest's Intention

Monday, November 7

6:45 am..... Maria Rosell Gutierrez †
 by Annette Doskey
 8:00 am..... Zachary Hoyle † by His Family

Tuesday, November 8

6:45 am..... For Our Priests
 8:00 am Mike Christy † by Mom & Dad

Wednesday, November 9

6:45 am..... Crispo Alvarez †
 by Patrick & Christine McClain
 8:00 am..... Aurora Garza by Rosie

Thursday, November 10

6:45 am..... Leahy & Jenkins Families
 by Terry Jenkins
 8:00 am Dennis Wijeweera †
 by Wijeweera Family

Friday, November 11

6:45 am..... Carrie Thomas †
 8:00 am..... Frank Regan †
 by Tina & Sehan Fitzmartin

Saturday, November 12

8:00 am..... Lisa Bell by Marjorie Haba
 5:00 pm..... Manuel & Estella Prince † by Daughter

Sanctuary Light

This week the Sanctuary Light is burning for Juan Rivera.

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.

Denise Ole ¹	Diana Born ²
Mark Arbelaez ¹	Veronica Chaplin ²
Joe Chris Herrera ²	

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

Mary Burgess



Come appreciate life with a cheerful heart!
 We will have Ballet Folklorico, live music, and authentic Mexican food.
 - An event for the whole family -

November 26, 2016 - 6:30 pm

**School Cafeteria
 St. Monica Church**
 (9933 Midway Rd. Dallas, Tx. 75220)

Event benefitting:
 Respect Life Ministry of the Diocese of Dallas.

BUY YOUR TICKETS AT:
www.stmonicachurch.org
 (214) 358-1453

ADMISSION:
 \$10.00
 (12 years and up)



News & Events



I would like to thank St. Monica Parish for the Mass and party celebrating my 60 years of priesthood. It was a wonderful event and God will reward you all for your kindness. It was a great, delightful joy.

- Msgr. Meyers

Calvary Hill Cemetery is hosting a **FREE seminar, titled *Your life. Your Legacy.*** on planning your funeral and cemetery arrangements in advance on Saturday, November 19th at 10:00 am in the Family Center Lower Lounge. The presentation will provide four simple steps to planning your final arrangements, bring peace of mind to yourself and your family, a FREE Personal Planning Guide, refreshments and helpful advice. Seating is limited. Reserve your space by calling **214-357-5754** or emailing brett.fulmer@sci-us.com.

Adorers are needed to sit with Jesus for one hour on Sunday and Monday from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm and 11:00 am - 12:00 pm on Fridays. To sign up, contact Margie at adore10397@sbcglobal.net.

The FertilityCare™ Center of Dallas, in collaboration with Real Catholic Art, is hosting a **fundraising event: *Bella Notte!*** on Saturday, November 12th at 8 pm in the St. Monica School Cafeteria. The night will provide art, opera and beauty to benefit Birth Choice Dallas and The American Academy of FertilityCare™ Professionals. Tickets are \$25 per person and may be purchased by visiting fertilitycarecenterofdallas.ticketspice.com/bella-notte.

The A Capella Choir from Bishop Lynch High School has accepted an invitation on behalf of Pope Francis to sing at the Epiphany Mass on January 6, 2017 at St. Peter's Basilica. This is the first time a high school choir will sing at the Epiphany Mass. To help fund this trip, representatives of the choir, some with ties to St. Monica Church and School, will be **selling poinsettias before and after Masses TODAY!** Plants will be ready for pick up on December 3rd and 4th after all Masses. Payment is required at the time of the order. Donations supporting this trip will also be accepted. Thank you for your support.



BEYOND BOUNDARIES
 2016 ST. MONICA FAITH IN ACTION

Parishioners have logged
2825 hours
 of service beyond the boundaries of
 St. Monica since we launched
 Faith in Action!

Log hours at
www.stmonicachurch.org/faithinaction
 or use a deposit slip, located at the
 back of the church, and drop it in the
 collection basket!

Family Vocation Chalice

To participate call (214) 368-3640

November 12 at 5:00 pm
 Nando Arduini

November 13 at 11:00 am
 Mike & Judy Curtis

November 13 at 8:00 am
 Walter & Joan Minigutti

November 13 at 12:30 pm
 Nicholas & Dora Hademenos

November 13 at 9:30 am
 Richard & Judith Wood

November 13 at 5:00 pm
 Ken & Nathalie Anderson

Noticias y Eventos



¡Agradece a Dios por la vida con un corazón alegre!
Venga a disfrutar de una tarde llena de folklore, música y comida.
El evento es familiar...

Noviembre 26, 2016 - 6:30 pm
Cafetería de la Parroquia Católica
Santa Mónica
(9833 Midway Rd. Dallas, Tx. 75220)

Lo recaudado por "entradas" será donado al
Ministerio de Respeto a la Vida de la Diócesis de Dallas.

INF. Y VENTA DE BOLETOS:
(214) 357-8549
www.stmonicachurch.org

ENTRADAS:
\$10.00 (+12 años)
-Tendremos venta de comida-



El Ministerio de Oración de Chal de Santa Mónica

El Padre Bierschenk dio una bendición especial a los hermosos chales tejidos por los miembros de este ministerio en la Misa de 5 pm el sábado, 29 de Octubre. El ministerio donará todas es chales a individuos que necesiten ayuda espiritual, por condiciones médicas, de salud u otros retos personales. Que Dios bendiga a los voluntarios que pertenecen a este ministerio por su generosidad, talento y fe en servir a nuestra iglesia y comunidad. Gracias a las señoras que asistieron a la bendición: Dolores Longoria, Margaret Schwab, Sigrid Artman, Mary Geisler, Marilyn Hicks, Suzanne Alexander, Sandy Haas y Ann O'Hearn. Si está interesado en ser parte de este ministerio o conoce alguien que necesite de un Chal por favor contacte a Maria Juarez-Plank al 214-366-7173 o mplank@stmonicachurch.org.



¡Hasta hoy,
2825 horas
de servicio se han reportado para el
programa Más Allá de los Límites!

Anote sus horas en
www.stmonicachurch.org/faithinaction
o use una forma de depósito que ese
encuentra en las mesas por las entradas
principales de la Iglesia y póngala en la
canasta de colecta.

Cáliz Vocacional Familiar

Para llevarse el Cáliz llame
al (214) 358-1453

13 de Nov
Maria del Pilar Juarez

23 de Nov
Familia Martinez

27 de Nov
Familia Rocha Ramos



Circulo Juvenil Ágape El grupo de Jóvenes Adultos te invita a vivir una experiencia única e inolvidable al campamento 2016, *Sabor a tu Vida* dirigido por la comunidad Kairos de Texas. El campamento se llevara a cabo del 17 al 20 de Noviembre, para jóvenes de 18 a 35 años. Para más información e inscripciones llame a Andrea Espino, [682-433-3692](tel:682-433-3692); Juan Rodríguez [682-402-5914](tel:682-402-5914).

Retiro de Adviento – Dios Padre Sensible y Vulnerable a las Heridas de la Familia
El retiro de Adviento, será el 19 de Noviembre de 8:30 am a 4 pm. Dirigido por las religiosas de la Orden Guadalupana Eucarísticas del Padre Celestial. Con su amor y devoción a la Eucaristía guiaran a las familias a tener un encuentro personal con El y vivir momentos de reconciliación familiar. Es un tiempo especial para preparar el alma y corazón para recibir esta Navidad en un ambiente de regocijo, agradecimiento, alegría y paz. El evento es gratis, para toda la familia. (Habrá venta de comida) Para más información llame a María González Rocha [214-357-8549](tel:214-357-8549).

Ministro Extraordinario de la Sagrada Comunión Te gustaría ser parte del Ministerio de Ministros Extraordinarios de la Sagrada Comunión, habrá un retiro de formación el domingo, 13 de Noviembre de 9 a 1pm. Los Ministros apoyan al sacerdote durante la Santa Misa en la distribución de la Santa Eucaristía y en otras celebraciones Eucarísticas. Para más información llame a Luis Alberto Monroy al [214-991-4473](tel:214-991-4473) o las Oficinas Parroquiales [214-357-8549](tel:214-357-8549).

Año Jubilar de la Misericordia El 20 de Noviembre se termina el año Jubilar de la Misericordia. Aún está a tiempo de recibir indulgencia plenaria (perdón absoluto) del pecado si cumple con las normas que nos da la Santa Madre Iglesia. Debe de Confesarse, hacer una oración al cruzar la Puerta Santa, ofrecer la Santa Misa, rezar un Padre Nuestro, Ave María, Credo y pedir por las intenciones del Santo Padre. En la Diócesis de Dallas las Puertas Santas están en la Catedral del Santuario de Guadalupe y La Iglesia de la Divina Misericordia. En la Oficina Tenemos hojas de oración por si quiere llevar a su peregrinación.

Totus Tuus Es tiempo de iniciar o reanudar tu consagración a María Santísima. El consagrarse a María es entrar en su corazón para seguir su ejemplo y fidelidad a Cristo. Seguiremos el libro del Padre Michael Gaitley, MIC, *33 Días Hacia un Gloriosos Amanecer*. Puede iniciar el 5 de Noviembre o 9 de Noviembre. Las consagraciones serán el 8 de Diciembre y el 12 de Diciembre. Por favor llame a la Oficina para adquirir su libro, [214-357-8549](tel:214-357-8549).

De El Pastor

Brian Rice de Maple Grove, Minnesota escribió a *Reader's Digest* para decir que recientemente su mujer le hizo la pregunta que todo hombre teme: "Mi amor, ¿Crees que me veo gorda en este nuevo vestido?" Pero, Brian estaba listo para la prueba. Apuntando a lo que el vestía y le dijo, "Crees que me veo estúpido en esta camisa?"

En el Evangelio de hoy, los Saduceos le hacen una pregunta confusa a Jesús. Se consideraban los verdaderos protectores de la estricta y tradicional interpretación de la fe Judía. Si alguna enseñanza no estaba en el *Tora*, los primeros libros de la Biblia, declaraban que no era verdad. Como no podían encontrar con claridad ninguna enseñanza sobre la vida después de la muerte, no creían en la existencia después de la muerte o la resurrección. Rechazaron las enseñanzas de Jesús sobre la vida eterna. Entonces con el ejemplo extremo de una mujer que se casó los ocho hermanos de una familia grande, estaban seguros que Jesús aceptaría que su promesa de la vida eterna no podía ser justificada en las escrituras.

Hicieron la pregunta equivocada, "en la resurrección, ¿de quién será esposa?" Jesús les recordó de uno de los momentos claves del Tora, cuando Moisés se encuentra a Dios en la zarza ardiente, se dijo ser el Dios de Abraham, Isaac y Jacob. Los ancestros de la gente judía no desaparecieron al morir, como enseñaban los Saduceos. Estaban vivos por lo que Jesús dijo, "...para el todos viven."

Todos los domingos profesamos que creemos en la resurrección de los muertos. Es nuestra fe en Dios que, "todos viven." Esta semana pasada celebramos el Día de Todos los Santos, recordando a todos aquellos que vivieron una vida en armonía con Dios, que ahora están con El en el Cielo. Al siguiente día conmemoramos el día de Todas las Almas, orando por nuestros seres queridos que se han marchado de este mundo. Creemos que están vivos, tal vez en el purgatorio, purificándose de

las imperfecciones de su naturaleza humana para poder estar en perfecta unión de amor con Dios en el cielo. Nuestra relación con ellos no se quiebra, seguimos regalándoles nuestras oraciones, nuestros buenos actos hechos por ellos. Un día los volveremos a ver y por siempre disfrutaremos del lugar que está preparado para nosotros en el cielo.

Pero por el momento estamos aquí y debemos asegurarnos que no nos distraemos por preguntas erróneas. Cuando miramos a nuestro alrededor y miramos que alguien es más bendecido que nosotros, no debemos preocuparnos porque tenemos menos que ellos, porque nuestro Padre amoroso nos da diferentes bendiciones, pero siempre más de lo que necesitamos. Podemos estar contentos porque algo mucho mejor ha sido preparado para nosotros.

No podemos desanimarnos porque sabemos que podemos ser mejores. Cuando parece que cometemos los mismos errores una y otra vez cuando estamos tratando de ser mejor, no hay una razón para imaginar que somos un caso perdido. Dios conoce sobre nuestras debilidades, pero no se enfoca en ellos. El cree en un nuevo comienzo, perdonándonos una y otra vez sin pensar en cuantas veces caemos. En sus ojos siempre estamos vivos, preparándonos para estar por siempre con El.

No es fácil imaginar que la belleza de este mundo, los gozos de compartir nuestro amor con la familia y el significado que encontramos al compartir nuestras ideas y experiencias con otros es solo un vistazo de lo que Dios tiene preparado para nosotros. Creemos que hay algo más maravilloso de lo que podemos imaginar preparado para cada uno, porque Dios ha puesto las cosas en acción y nos ha llamado a existir. Ahora el planea disfrutar nuestra compañía para siempre con un amor que no puede terminar, porque, "...para el todos viven."

–Fr. Stephen W Bierschenk