



# BAPTISM OF THE LORD



## ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

9933 Midway Road, Dallas, Texas 75220

214-358-1453 • Fax: 214-351-1887

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

### MASS TIMES

#### Weekend:

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am & 12:30 p.m.,  
2:00 pm (*Español*), 5:00 pm

#### Weekday:

Monday - Friday: 6:45 am

Monday - Saturday: 8:00 am

Primer Martes del Mes: 7:00 pm

First Friday: 5:30 pm

### CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 3:30 - 4:30 pm

6:30 - 7:00 pm

### BAPTISM

Third Sunday of each month 3:30 pm (English)

*Tercer sábado cada mes 3:00 pm (español)*

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

*Padres y Padrinos deben de asistir a una clase de preparación que se otorgan los primeros sábados cada mes a la 1:00 pm. Llame a la oficina de Ministerio Hispana.*

### MARRIAGE

Contact a priest or deacon at least six months before the planned marriage date.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE

972-994-1121

### STEPHEN MINISTRY

Message Line (confidential)

214-290-0803

Companions for the Journey

### BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday, 12:00 noon

Please submit notices in writing or email: [lpenton@stmonicachurch.org](mailto:lpenton@stmonicachurch.org)

### WELCOME TO ST. MONICA!

We are pleased to have visitors join us in worship and to become an active registered parishioner. Registration forms are found in the vestibule or at the Parish Offices.

## Parish Staff

Fr. Stephen W. Bierschenk  
Pastor Ext. 107

Fr. Alan McDonald  
Parochial Vicar Ext. 112

Monsignor John F. Meyers  
Pastor Emeritus

Deacon Abel Cortes  
Deacon Larry Lucido  
Deacon Bob Marrinan  
Deacon Brian Mitchell  
Deacon Michael Weston

### St. Monica Church Offices

(214)358-1453

Fax: (214)351-1887

Front Desk Ext. 453

Debbie Diaz

Business Manager Ext. 176

Emmanuel Espiritu

Director of Youth & Youth Music Ext. 103

Melissa Franks

Database Manager Ext. 111

Marilyn Hicks

Safe Environment Director Ext. 144

Jared Wirths

Bookkeeper Ext. 102

Jeremy Wirths

Director of Music Ext. 101

### Faith Formation (214)357-8549

Fax: (214)351-1887

Mariangela Byrne

Director of Faith Formation Ext. 132

Eldie Diaz

Administrative Assistant Ext. 549

### Ministerio Hispano (214)357-8549

Fax: (214)351-1887

Maria M. Gonzalez-Rocha

Director of Hispanic Ministry Ext. 131

### St. Monica School (214)351-5688

Fax: (214)352-2608

4140 Walnut Hill Ln. Dallas, TX 75229

Phil Riley

Principal

www.stmonicaschool.org

# † From the Pastor †

In the gospel passage today, it says that John the Baptist tried to prevent Jesus from having John baptize him. We can understand his reluctance. We would try to prevent a poor person from sharing the little they have with us when we are not in need. We would try to prevent a child from taking on adult responsibilities. And we would wonder why Jesus would come down to the river and join the sinners.

That is the beauty of the Baptism of Jesus. He took human nature. He shared our human experiences – he loved and was loved, he grew weary, he suffered, he cried. And on this day, even though he had no need to repent or turn his life in a different direction, he went down into the Jordan River and joined the sinners. A few years later, he would embrace the cross and knowing well our guilt before God, offer himself for each of us personally, so that we would not have a doubt that we are loved completely and we are forgiven.

On the day of our own baptism, we entered into a unique relationship with God that was not ours until that moment. We became a child of God and he opened to us a new way of looking at everything in our life. He blesses us more than we can imagine. He offers us opportunities to love him directly and through the people around us. He trusts us so much that he has given us a part in his plan to transform the world that no one else can fulfill. It is remarkable what we can accomplish through Christ who lives in us. But, so often, instead of inviting him to work through us, we try to prevent him.

It is never God's desire that we would choose to sin. And Jesus shows

us what our prayer should be, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." But, we fall into sin because some person or thing seems to be more important or attractive to us at the moment.

It is God's plan that we love one another as he has loved us. But, then someone hurts our feelings and we decide that things will look better if they have the same experience through us.

Our Baptism filled us with God's grace, and we were set on our personal path to create a better world through our

“ “ We were baptized to ... ” ”

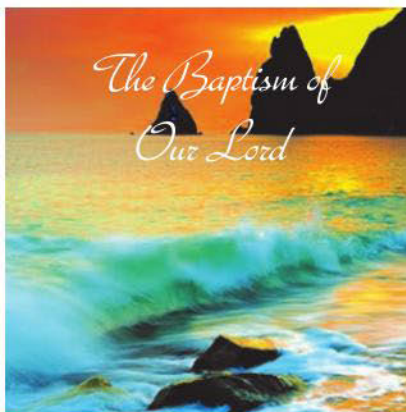
influence and example. But, think how often we are angry, or selfish or indifferent to opportunities to do good.

During a Monday night football game between the Chicago Bears

and the New York Giants, one of the commentators observed that Walter Payton, the Bears' running back, had accumulated over nine miles in career rushing yardage. The other announcer remarked, "Yeah, and that's with somebody knocking him down every 4.6 yards!" Walter Payton, the most successful running back ever, knows that everyone – even the very best – gets knocked down. The key to success is to get up and run again just as hard.

It could be discouraging to consider how many times we have tried to prevent God from working through us and within us. We could be so much better than we are. But, then we remember that Jesus got down into the river with us sinners, not because he needed to, but because he wanted us to know that we can never give up. He will always be there to pull us up and send us back out there to accomplish great things for him. It's what we were baptized to do!

–Fr. Stephen W Bierschenk



## Ministry News

### Office of Faith Formation

#### ABLAZE Youth Retreat

All youth in grades 8th to 12th (and chaperones) are invited to attend ABLAZE 2014, a fun, faith and joy-filled weekend retreat celebrating our Catholic Faith. The retreat will be January 31 through February 2 in the Family Center. Please join us for fellowship, great music, talks, Mass, Adoration, and more at this fantastic Eucharist-centered Retreat! Talks will be given by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. For more details and registration information, please visit [www.stmonicachurch.org/ablaze](http://www.stmonicachurch.org/ablaze) or call (214)434-1553. Sponsored by the Office of Vocations.



#### Why Dad Cannot Be Replaced: A Call to Authentic Fatherhood

Come listen to an inspirational talk on practical ways to be a better husband and father on January 12 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Family Center Lower Lounge room 109. Marcel LeJeune, renowned speaker, blogger, and father of 5, will discuss ways in which fathers can be more spiritually, mentally and physically present to their wives and children. For details call the Office of Faith Formation at (214)357-8549.

### Music Ministry

#### Broadway Dinner Theater

Tickets for the 4th Annual St. Monica Broadway Dinner Theater are on sale in Angel Hall after all weekend Masses. This year's show will be the best yet, featuring highlights of some of the most popular Broadway musicals! As always, the food and wine will be excellent. The Broadway show will be held on February 22 & 23 in the St. Monica School Cafeteria. Both shows will be at 6 p.m. A reserved table for 10 can be purchased for \$250. Individual tickets for adults are \$25 and tickets for children 12 and under are \$15. Tickets are also available at [stmonicachurch.org](http://stmonicachurch.org). Please help us plan by purchasing tickets early! For details please contact Dr. Jeremy Wirths at [JWirths@stmonicachurch.org](mailto:JWirths@stmonicachurch.org) or at (214) 358-1453.

## St. Monica School News

#### Super Bowl of Caring Food Drive

St. Monica Catholic School Student Council will host their annual Super Bowl of Caring Food Drive January 13 through January 31. The food drive will benefit the North Texas Food Bank. This three week program will involve the entire school collecting canned goods and cash (\$1.00 = 3 cans) and culminate with a Day of Service at the North Texas Food Bank by St. Monica Middle School students during Catholic Schools Week on January 28. Please remember to send cans and cash to school with your students. Students drop off all donations in with their homeroom teacher. For more information about the Food Drive call Erika Louis at [erika.louis2@gmail.com](mailto:erika.louis2@gmail.com).



## Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, January 12, 2014

8:00 a.m. Priest's Intention  
9:30 a.m. Priest's Intention  
11:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish  
12:30 p.m. Priest's Intention  
2:00 p.m. Priest's Intention  
5:00 p.m. Priest's Intention

#### Monday, January 13, 2014

6:45 a.m. For Religious Vocations  
8:00 a.m. Deceased of Legion of Mary †

#### Tuesday, January 14, 2014

6:45 a.m. Emily Bristol † by Josie Toogood  
8:00 a.m. Richard Seltzer † by SMS PTO

#### Wednesday, January 15, 2014

6:45 a.m. Michael Chambers † by Johnston Family  
8:00 a.m. Joan Weber †† by SMS PTO

#### Thursday, January 16, 2014

6:45 a.m. Marjorie Carpp †  
by Frank & Flo Halovanic  
8:00 a.m. Sal Lucido † by Lucido Family

#### Friday, January 17, 2014

6:45 a.m. Marjorie Carpp †  
by Frank & Flo Halovanic  
8:00 a.m. Michael Chambers †  
by Bill & Mary Sladek

#### Saturday, January 18, 2014

8:00 a.m. Harold Salfan † by Phil Niman  
5:00 p.m. Thomas Cunningham † by  
by Ed & Nancy Mello

#### For our Sick:

Margaret Dundas	Lupe Cano	Rosa V. Gomes
Nancy Poulos	Sandra S. Limon	Mary Hernandez
Dorothy LaDue	Richard	Penny Belfiglio
Franco	McCormick	Theresa Salas
Miramontes	Ellen Rhodes	Santano R.
Thelma Leuck	Victor Hurtado	Martinez
Dorothy Lucido	Rodney Doomes	Michael Guerrero
Chris Nalborski	Augustine Gaitan	Ray
Jill Rapsey	Frank Campise	Redlingshafer
Maria Gutierrez	Greg Hultgren	Samantha
Louella Marx	Patricia Boehm	Martinez
Sally Reilly	Effie McMahon	Leo Londenberg
Linda Duckworth	Rosemary	Bill Durick
Robert Smith	Elizondo	Ellenore Flynn
Alberto Gutierrez	Patricia Abshire	Pete Cano
Mary Daniels	Helen Vega	Thomas Sabedra
Caroline Bowen	Carmen Cedillo	Santos Sabedra
Richard Rapsey	Cecilio Cardenas	Carmen Sabedra
Dorothy Joubert	Andrew Rapoza	Alma Sabedra
Doris Walker	Dolores	
Riad Ghorra	Gonzales	

**For our Deceased:** Ricardo Espiritu, Rosemary Salm, Robert Turney, Richard Seltzer.

#### Sanctuary Light

This week the Sanctuary Light is burning for the Souls in Purgatory.

## News & Events

### Church Offices Now Open on Sunday

For your convenience, the Church Offices will now be open on Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A member of the St. Monica Church Staff will be available to assist you.

### Ushers Needed!

Ushers welcome the community as they gather for Mass, assist parishioners in finding a place in the church, gather their offerings for the church, and thank them for their attendance and participation as they leave. Join us and help make a difference in the St. Monica Community! To join the Ushers contact Ilda Manriquez at (214)352-8245 or by email at [ildam44@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ildam44@sbcglobal.net) or Bob Andres at (214)351-6918.

### Holy Name Breakfast

The Holy Name Society will have breakfast after the 8 a.m. Mass today, Sunday, January 12 in the Family Center room 109. For details contact Bob Noyes (214)351-6925.

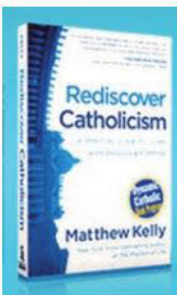
### Eucharistic Adoration

Jesus is in need of people willing to give Him one hour a week in the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 11 p.m. To sign up contact Margie Giangulio at (214) 769-4407.

### 2014 Roe Memorial Mass

*Transportation from St. Monica will be Available!*

Join Bishop Farrell and thousands of faithful in marking the 41st anniversary of the January 22, 1973 Roe v. Wade U.S. Supreme Court decision, which made abortion available on demand in America. This year, the events will be held on January 18. The Roe Memorial Mass will be held in the Dallas Convention Center at 1 p.m. with homilist Fr. Alfonse Nazzaro. Also, new this year there will be a Youth Rally featuring World Youth Day Musician Steve Angrisano preceding the Mass (12:30 p.m.). A bus shuttle will be available leaving St. Monica Church from the Walnut Hill parking lot at 11:30 a.m. and coming back at 5:30 p.m. from the Memorial events. For details about the bus contact Deacon Lucido at (214)351-6934 or email him at [lmucido6555@att.net](mailto:lmucido6555@att.net). The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.



### St. Monica Moms Circle

All moms are invited to McAlister's Deli at 7 p.m. on January 22 to discuss Parts One and Two of *Rediscover Catholicism* by Matthew Kelly. The St. Monica Moms Circle, a group that provides Catholic

fellowship and support for relatively new moms within our parish. For more information about the event or the Moms' Circle please contact Lucy Piotrowski at [misscoldsteele@yahoo.com](mailto:misscoldsteele@yahoo.com).

### Family Vocation Chalice

January 11 at 5:00 p.m.

Carol Ann Hobrecht

January 12 at 8:00 a.m.

Berta Montes

January 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Dan & Sally Cook

January 12 at 11:00 a.m.

Kent & Cynthia Warren

January 12 at 12:30 p.m.

Larry & Diana Eppard

January 12 at 5:00 p.m.

Richard & Madeline Florkski

To participate call  
(214) 368-3640

## Parish Calendar

### Sunday, January 12, 2014

9:30 a.m. Adult Education | 217  
3:00 p.m. Divina Misericordia | Iglesia  
6:00 p.m. Youth Night | 212

### Monday, January 13, 2014

7:30 a.m. Rosary  
9:00 a.m.—12 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel  
1:00 p.m. Monday Bible Study | 129  
6:00 p.m. Centering Prayer | Bride's Room  
7:00 p.m. Immaculate Heart  
Cenacle | Chapel

### Tuesday, January 14, 2014

7:30 a.m. Rosary  
9:00 a.m.—12 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel  
1:30 p.m. Tuesday Scripture Study | Conf  
6:00 p.m. Catholic Daughters Mtg | 109

### Wednesday, January 15, 2014

7:30 a.m. Rosary  
9:00 a.m.—12 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel  
6:30 p.m. Legión de María | 129  
8:00 p.m. Young Serrans Holy  
Hour | Chapel

### Thursday, January 16, 2014

7:30 a.m. Rosary  
9:00 a.m.—12 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel  
6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training | 129  
6:30 p.m. Pastoral Familiar | 211

### Friday, January 17, 2014

7:30 a.m. Rosary  
9:00 a.m.—12 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel  
6:00 p.m. Holy Face Novena | Chapel  
6:00 p.m. Apoyo Familiar | 211

### Saturday, January 18, 2014

9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Group | 217  
9:00 a.m. Quinceañera Workshop | 201  
10:30 a.m. Gower Memorial Mass | Church  
12:00 p.m. Altar Server Training | Church  
3:15 p.m. Adult Education | 317

### Stewardship of Treasure

Christmas & Dec. 29	\$113,500.75
Solemnity of Mary & Jan.5	\$92,818.10
Trujillo	\$4,730.00

### Total Mass Attendance

for January 5, 2014  
3,365

## † De El Pastor †

### Cáliz Vocacional Familiar

12 de enero  
Familia Rocha

19 de enero  
Familia Cabrera

26 de enero  
Familia Muñoz

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



**E**n el Evangelio de hoy, dice que Juan el Bautista trató de prevenir que Jesús fuera bautizado por él. Podemos entender su resistencia. Nosotros trataríamos de prevenir que una persona pobre nos compartiera lo poco que tiene, no teniendo nosotros la necesidad. Nos gustaría privar que un niño tomara las responsabilidades de un adulto. Y nos preguntamos por qué Jesús bajaría al río y se juntó con los pecadores.

Esa es la belleza del Bautismo de Jesús. El tomó la naturaleza humana, compartió nuestras experiencias humanas, amo y fue amado, se cansó, sufrió y lloró.

Ese día, aunque no necesitaba arrepentirse o cambiar su vida a una dirección diferente, fue al Río Jordan y se reunió con los pecadores. Años después, tomaría la cruz y conociendo bien nuestros pecados se ofreció

personalmente a Dios por cada uno de nosotros, para que no tuviéramos duda alguna de lo mucho que nos ama y nos perdona.

El día de nuestro bautismo entramos en una relación única con Dios, que no era nuestra sino hasta ese momento. Nos hacemos hijos de Dios y abre en nosotros nuevas maneras de mirar todas las cosas de nuestra vida. Nos bendice más de lo que podemos imaginar. Nos da la oportunidad de amarle directamente y a través de las personas que nos rodean. Confía tanto en nosotros que nos ha dado parte de Su plan para transformar el mundo, algo que otro no puede llenar. Es sorprendente lo que podemos lograr con Cristo en nuestra vida. Pero a menudo, en vez de invitarlo a trabajar con nosotros, se lo prohibimos.

Nunca ha sido el deseo de Dios que escojamos el pecado. Jesús nos enseña cual debe de ser nuestra oración, "hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo."

Pero, caemos en el pecado porque una persona o cosa nos parece más importante o atractivo en ese momento.

El plan de Dios es que nos amemos unos a otros como Él nos amó. Pero, cuando alguien lastima nuestros sentimientos, decidimos que las cosas se ven mejor si tienen la misma experiencia que nosotros tuvimos.

Nuestro Bautismo nos llena de la gracia de Dios y dispone nuestro camino personal a crear un mejor mundo a través de nuestra influencia y ejemplo. Pero piensa que tan a menudo estamos enojados, somos egoístas o indiferentes a hacer el bien.

“**Somos bautizados para ...**”

Durante un juego de fútbol entre los Chicago Bears y los New York Giants, uno de los comentaristas observo que Walter Payton, el running back de los Chicago Bears, había acumulado más de nueve millas en yardas durante su carrera. El otro comentarista dijo, "Si, eso fue con alguien tumbándolo cada 4.6 millas!" Walter Payton, running back mas exitoso en fútbol americano, sabe que todos – hasta los mejores – caen. La llave del éxito es levantarse y correr de nuevo igual de fuerte.

Puede ser desalentador considerar cuantas veces hemos tratado de prevenir que Dios trabaje a través de nosotros y con nosotros. Podríamos ser mucho mejor de lo que somos. Pero, recordamos que Jesús entro al río con nosotros los pecadores, no porque lo necesitaba, pero porque quería que nos diéramos cuenta que nunca nos demos por vencidos. El siempre estará ahí para levantarnos y regresarnos a completar grandes cosas para él. ¡Somos bautizados para eso!

- Padre Stephen W Bierschenk

## Noticias y Eventos

### Bodas en Comunidad

Si viven en unión libre o están casados solamente al Civil y están considerando su Matrimonio Sacramental les invitamos a que consideren recibir su sacramento de matrimonio en las Bodas Comunitarias que se llevaran a cabo el 12 de abril de 2014. Esta es una manera especial y económica para recibir su sacramento. Para mas información por favor llame a María Gonzales-Rocha al (214)3578549.



### Misa Memorial de Roe

Únase al Obispo Farrell y miles de fieles de Dallas para participar de una marcha pasiva en el centro de la ciudad y la celebración de la Santa Misa para manifestar el hermoso valor de la vida. El evento se llevara a cabo el 18 de enero. La parroquia de Santa Mónica tendrá un autobús que saldrá de los estacionamientos de Walnut Hill a las 11:30 a.m. y estará de regreso a las 5:30 p.m. Se les pide un donativo de \$5 por niño y \$10 por adultos.



### Cara a Cara al Trono de la Gracia

Consagremos nuestras vidas este 2014 a Jesús Sacramentado. Les invitamos a vivir un encuentro Eucarístico que se llevara a cabo el 25 de Enero de 7:45 a.m. a 8 p.m. en la Cafetería de Sta. Mónica. Nos acompañara el Pdr. Mauricio Cuesta desde Bogotá Colombia y el grupo Emmanuel desde México. El evento es solo para personas mayores de 15 años. El donativo por persona es \$30 antes del día del evento, \$35 el día del evento. Para más información comuníquese al (214)815-3103 o al (214)789-7421.

### Clases de Inglés como Segundo Idioma

Si está interesado en aprender Inglés comenzaremos las inscripciones para las clases de Inglés. Las clases se llevan a cabo los martes y jueves de 6:00 p.m. a 8:30 p.m. en el la Escuela de Sta. Monica. Las fechas de registración serán el 28 y 30 de enero de 6:30 pm. a 8 p.m. Las clases comenzaran el 14 de febrero y terminaran el 15 de mayo. No hay costo por las clases solo tiene que comprar su libro de \$25. Para más información comuníquese con Lorena Villanueva al (214)796-2526 o por correo electrónico: [lorena.villanueva@wnco.com](mailto:lorena.villanueva@wnco.com).

### Quinceañeras

Si está interesado en celebrar los XV años de su hija en esta parroquia es necesario que los padres e hija asistan a unos talleres de formación. El próximo taller de XV será el 11 de enero, de 9 a.m. a 3 p.m. Es necesario asistir a los talleres antes de separar la fecha para la celebración. Para más información por favor comuníquese a la Oficina de Ministerio Hispano (214)357-8549.



### Retiro para Proclamadores

El proclamar la Palabra de Dios es una dignidad, es una misión Divina, y esa dignidad no la puede ejercer cualquier persona que simplemente lea bien, si antes no ha penetrado en el contenido de esa Palabra, si no vive el mensaje de esa Palabra. Le invitamos a participar del retiro para Proclamadores que se llevara a cabo el sábado 18 de Febrero de 9 am. a 4 pm. Venga aprender sobre la espiritualidad de

este ministerio y discerna si el Señor le está llamando para servirle como proclamador. Para más información comuníquese con María González-Rocha al 214-357-8549.



### Clase de Planificación Familiar Natural

¿Cómo planificar su familia, sin ir contra su moral? Las clases de planificación familiar es un método natural aprobado por la Iglesia Católica para que parejas planifiquen el número de hijos que desean tener. Es un método donde la mujer reconocer los signos de la fertilidad. La próxima clase será el 19 de Enero de 8 a.m. a 2 p.m. en la biblioteca de la Iglesia. No hay costo por las clases solo por el material. Para mas información comuníquese a las Oficinas parroquiales (214)357-8549.

### Clase de Bautismo

Para bautizar en Santa Mónica necesita registrar a su hijo/a en la oficina o en línea. Debe de proporcionar el acta de nacimiento, los padrinos deben de ser practicantes en la fe. Padres y Padrinos deben asistir a una clase pre-bautismal. Los bautizos en español son el tercer sábado de cada mes a las 3 p.m. Por favor llame a la Oficina Parroquial para informarse sobre las fechas disponibles. Para información llamar a María González- Rocha, (214)357-8549.

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