

# St. Monica CHURCH

*All are welcome here!*

34 Monica Street (at 831 Genesee St.)

Rochester, NY 14619

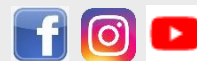
Office: (585) 235-3340

Fax: 235-8315

Emergency Line: (585) 723-6531

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

Walk with us on:



## St. Monica Roman Catholic Church of Rochester Vision and Mission

We are a Resurrection people rooted in our rich Catholic heritage. We are growing in the *SPIRIT*, as individuals and as a faith community. We answer the **CALL** to LIVE

**OUT** our Baptismal **VOCATION** in our daily lives, bringing the **LIGHT** of Christ's presence to our families, workplaces, neighborhoods, and the **WORLD**.

**We dare to LIVE the LIFE of Jesus Christ, transforming discouragement into HOPE, fear into LOVE, isolation into COMMUNITY.**

### Weekend Masses

Saturday at 4:00 pm

Sunday at 10:15am + Livestream

### Emmanuel Church

of the Deaf:

Sunday at 11:30 AM



### Daily Masses

Tuesday & Thursday: 12:10pm

Wednesday & Friday: 8am



### Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

9:00am-3:00 pm

## Join us Online!

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

Visit our website to get connected to all our online resources, including Mass, faith activities and reflections, online giving, and ways to get involved.

### Parish Office

(585)-235-3340

Rev. Raymond Fleming, Pastor

[fr.ray.fleming@dor.org](mailto:fr.ray.fleming@dor.org)

Deacon Matt Dudek

[matt.dudek@dor.org](mailto:matt.dudek@dor.org)

Deacon Brian McNulty

[brian.mculty@dor.org](mailto:brian.mculty@dor.org)

Deacon Patrick Graybill

[patrick.graybill@dor.org](mailto:patrick.graybill@dor.org)

Jeanne Engelbrecht,  
Finance Manager

[jeanne.engelbrecht@dor.org](mailto:jeanne.engelbrecht@dor.org)

Mary Ellen Fischer,  
Pastoral Minister

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ext. 119

Precious Fontenette,  
RCIA Coordinator

[myrtle.fontenette@dor.org](mailto:myrtle.fontenette@dor.org)

Margot VanEtten,  
Pastoral Minister

[margot.vanetten@dor.org](mailto:margot.vanetten@dor.org)  
ext. 115

Tracy Jordan,  
Secretary

[tracy.jordan@dor.org](mailto:tracy.jordan@dor.org)  
ext. 116

Angela Nkugwa,  
Music & Choir Director

[angela.nkugwa@dor.org](mailto:angela.nkugwa@dor.org)

### BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

[monicabulletin@dor.org](mailto:monicabulletin@dor.org)

Jessica Tette,  
Minister of Youth Faith Formation &  
Communications

[jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:jessica.tette@dor.org)  
ext. 124

Carol Wynne, Director of Finance &  
Administration/ Westside Parishes

[carol.wynne@dor.org](mailto:carol.wynne@dor.org)  
ext. 121

CYO – Tami Divers

[tamidivers@icloud.com](mailto:tamidivers@icloud.com)

### Facilitation Team

John Curran - 747-2324

Connie Chau

Kathy Garrant

Meg Lute

Mary Fran Kolbuc

Best Batchateu

Bob Passalugo

[jecurran@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jecurran@rochester.rr.com)

## Black Catholic History Month



“Jesus”  
by  
Emily  
Carter

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did  
for one of the least of mine, you did for me.”

– Matthew 25

November 26, 2023

Feast of  
Christ the King

**Did you know?** Our website, [stmonicaofrochester.org](http://stmonicaofrochester.org), is your one-stop shop for all our online offerings. On our homepage you will find links to Mass videos, social media, online giving, outreach opportunities, virtual gatherings, at-home faith tools, and more! Visit our website and follow us on social media for even more ways to stay connected to our community. For help or to join the parish email list and receive our weekly news, email [monicabulletin@dor.org](mailto:monicabulletin@dor.org).

**Confessions by appointment –  
call office at (585) 235-3340 to schedule.**

### Weekly Mass Intentions

Sat, Nov 25 David Divers - Jean Button  
 Sun, Nov 26 John & Ella Vasko - Cheryl Bazil-Vasko  
 Tues, Nov 28 In Gratitude to all the Saints - Rodriguez- Torres Family  
 Wed, Nov 29 All Souls  
 Thurs, Nov 30 Deceased Family Members Rodriguez-Lopez - Dorca Rodriguez  
 Fri, Dec 1 All Parishioners  
 Sat, Dec 2 Aonica Chamberlain - Sandy Chamberlain  
 Sun, Dec 3 Bodensteiner & Reifsteck Families - Family  
 Vera Slattery - Slattery Family



### Musicians! Lectors! Greeters! Ushers!

**Reminder that you must be CASE trained to do your ministry.**

**This is a policy of the Diocese of Rochester.  
Contact [jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:jessica.tette@dor.org) if you need to be trained or update your CASE training, which must be done every 3 years.**

### PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING A CHRISTMAS BASKET FOR A FAMILY IN NEED

SWEM needs you to make a difference for our neighbors! The Christmas baskets are designed for families of 3 & 4 people, and for each basket, please provide the following:

- \*Fruit cocktail or canned fruit
- \*Soup (large can)
- \*Fruit juice
- \*Instant mashed potatoes
- \*Large can of sweet potatoes (15oz)
- \*2 canned vegetables
- \*Cranberry sauce
- \*Can gravy
- \*Bag or box of stuffing (12oz)
- \*Dessert (Jell-o, or pudding, or cake mix/ frosting, or pie crust/ & filling)



The baskets will be collected at St. Monica's on Dec. 16 & 17, 30 minutes before the 4 pm and 10:15 am Masses at the garage near the Monica Street entrance to the parking lot.

A box will be available for submitting \$10 cash or a check written out to SWEM per basket to cover the cost of meat, eggs, and margarine that SWEM provides.

Please place your food in a box, tote or laundry basket and label it if you have all the supplies. Feel free to decorate your basket, box, or tote and include holiday touches of your own, such as coffee, tea, candies, mints, or napkins. Laundry baskets or totes to hold the contents always make an additional gift. Thank you for looking out for our community!

*Let Us Pray*

**An end to racism  
All those affected by violence  
God's creation**



### THOSE IN THE MILITARY

CJ Arnell, Joshua Bartlett, Zachary Bartlett, Jarid Cook, Andrew Chmiel, Andrea Gerard, David Englert, Richard Lewis, Angela Aviles Lewis, Andrea Christ, Terry Redfield, Jr.

### Lamp Intentions for November

#### SANCTUARY LIGHT

**Reilly Family**

*Barbara Higgins*

**Catherine Ann Kress**

*John & JoAnn DeMott*

#### CROSS ALTAR LIGHT

**Elnora & James Delibert**

*John Delibert*

**Marjorie Ochs**

*Your loving children*



**Did you have a change of address, phone number, or email address?**

**Please contact the office so we can update our records.**

**(585)-235-3340 or [Tracy.jordan@dor.org](mailto:Tracy.jordan@dor.org)**

**Thanks!**

### This Week at St. Monica Church: November 26-December 3, 2023

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday, 11/26</b>  | <b>10:15 am – Mass, Church<br/>11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church</b>  |
| <b>Monday, 11/27</b>  | 4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer<br>(contact Dorothy Siegel to join:<br><a href="mailto:kenanddor@yahoo.com">kenanddor@yahoo.com</a> or 880-5519) |
| <b>Tuesday, 11/28</b> | 12:10 pm – Mass, Church   |
| <b>Wed., 11/29</b>    | 8:00 am – Mass, Church  |
| <b>Thurs., 11/30</b>  | 12:10 pm – Mass, Church   |
| <b>Friday, 12/1</b>   | 8:00 am – First Friday Mass, Church   |
| <b>Saturday 12/2</b>  | <b>4:00 pm – Mass, Church</b>   |
| <b>Sunday, 12/3</b>   | <b>10:15 am – Mass, Church<br/>11:15 am – Faith Formation, Dining Room<br/>11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church</b>  |

## CHEFS NEEDED YOUTH GROUP DINNER

-  → Wednesdays  
6:30 pm
-  → Cook and serve  
dinner to teens
-  → Feed physical and  
spiritual hunger!
-  → Donate ingredients  
or let St. Monica's  
buy them

CONTACT [JESSICA.TETTE@DOR.ORG](mailto:JESSICA.TETTE@DOR.ORG) TO SIGN UP!

## CYO: Remembering David Divers

This 2023-2024 winter CYO basketball season is dedicated to David Divers, long-time pillar of our St. Monica basketball and parish community, who passed away in August. We mourn our loss of a friend, husband, coach, father, grandfather, and parishioner. We honor David by carrying out his vision was to bring basketball and community to our neighborhood. Can you help our youth have positive experiences in one of the following ways?

- Collecting admissions
- Selling concessions
- Setup
- Tear-down
- Running the time clock



We have 3-6 Saturdays that have home games scheduled at our gym at 841 Genesee St. Help with one Saturday or all of them. If you can help, contact [jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:jessica.tette@dor.org). Thank you for giving your time to help our community!

## ST. MONICA CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL GOAL: \$26,000

As of this date, 39 families have contributed to the CMA. We thank those who have given generously and ask all who have not yet given to prayerfully consider doing so. The CMA helps our Church and our parish in so many ways. Please consider all the ways that God has blessed you and your family and think how the Church has brought goodness into your lives. Join our appeal and give back what you can so that we remain strong and able to do God's great work! Visit [www.dor.org](http://www.dor.org) to view the video and make your gift.

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER  
2023-2024 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

*Go Forth  
With  
Christ*



- Go to [www.dor.org](http://www.dor.org)
- View the video • See how the funds are distributed
  - Make your gift



### Follow Jesus with us:

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

 [@stmonicaofrochester](https://www.facebook.com/stmonicaofrochester)

 [@stmonicachurch](https://www.instagram.com/stmonicachurch)

 [St. Monica Church - Mass](https://www.youtube.com/StMonicaChurchMass)

### Bulletin

Did you sign up to receive the bulletin by email but are no longer receiving it? Please check your email settings to ensure you allow emails from [monicabulletin@dor.org](mailto:monicabulletin@dor.org). Be sure to check your junk/spam folder. If the problem persists, email [monicabulletin@dor.org](mailto:monicabulletin@dor.org).

**Our links in the bulletin are live!** If you are viewing this bulletin electronically, hold down Ctrl and click links in the bulletin to visit those sites.

### BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS:

Please send submissions by 4pm on Sundays: [monicabulletin@dor.org](mailto:monicabulletin@dor.org) with 10-pt Arial font and any photos.

**Emergency Food:** If you are in need of emergency food, you can contact St. Peter's Kitchen at (585) 235-6511 or come to 681 Brown Street Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 AM to 11 AM.

### How do I give my offering?

1. Weekly offering envelopes, cash, or checks can be brought to Mass or mailed to

**St. Monica Church  
34 Monica St.  
Rochester, NY 14619**

2. **OSV Online Giving:** Visit our website (<https://www.osvhub.com/stmonicaofrochester/giving/funds>) for secure one-time or recurring online giving.

3. **Text 2 Give:** Text your donation amount to 226-7514.

Thank you for supporting our community and ministries!



### Our Collection: Week of November 19, 2023

|   | Collection Goal | Our Collection | Variance |
|---|-----------------|----------------|----------|
| 11/19/2023                                    | 4,313           | 3,171          | (1,142)  |
| Year-to-Date                                  | 70,938          | 69,324         | (1,614)  |
| Online Giving/week (included in actual total) |                 | \$554          |          |
| CMA   | \$26,000        |                |          |

### ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE PARISH? WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE?

You are welcome at St. Monica Catholic Church! **Do you want to know more about how to join the parish?** Call the parish office today at 235-3340. It's that easy!

### VOLUNTEERS:

All volunteers who encounter youth and vulnerable adults need to complete online Creating a Safe Environment training, background check and sign a Code of Conduct every three years. To complete the online course, go to [dor.org](http://dor.org) online training or email [jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:jessica.tette@dor.org) for a packet of information to help you.



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Victims of sexual abuse should always report to the civil authorities. To receive help and guidance from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, contact our Victim Assistance Coordinator:

**Deborah Housel**  
585-328-3228, ext. 1555  
Toll-free: 1-800-388-7177, ext. 1555  
or by e-mail to [victimassistance@dor.org](mailto:victimassistance@dor.org).

## Augustine's African Heritage Matters

Seeing this saint and doctor of the church in the context of his culture and ethnicity helps us value the intellectual and cultural gifts Africa has given the world.

By Tia Noelle Pratt. Read the article at

<https://uscatholic.org/articles/202304/augustines-african-heritage-matters/>

St. Augustine was an African man. For many years, I didn't appreciate the magnitude of this because his African identity was usually muted in favor of describing him as



a North African citizen of the Roman Empire with a distinct emphasis on "North" and "Empire." Currently, the United States Census classifies individuals of Middle East and North African (MENA) descent as white. Consequently, emphasizing that St. Augustine was North African allows him, especially in the United States, to be racially coded as white. At the very least, it allows for deemphasizing his Amazigh origins—the endonymic term for the people of North Africa.

Villanova University, one of two Augustinian higher education institutions in the United States, seeks to shift the narrative around St. Augustine through its ongoing commitment to become an anti-racist institution. An initiative that promises to be hugely consequential for Villanova came to fruition on November 3, 2022, when the university's president, Augustinian Father Peter Donohue, unveiled a newly commissioned portrait of St. Augustine. Now part of the university's permanent art collection, *An Unlikely Aquilegia: North African Saint of Hippo* was created by Texas-based artist, Vernon Adams. At a time when universities are divesting from their art collections, Villanova is investing in new art. The painting created by Mr. Adams depicts St. Augustine as an Amazigh man and bishop thus, celebrating his authentic heritage. In coordinating this project on behalf of the president's office, I knew it was important that a Black artist was selected for this commission because of Villanova's commitment to anti-racism and our desire to be intentional around how Villanova provides thought leadership on St. Augustine. It was equally important to have a Catholic artist who could convey the spirituality and Augustinian charism that are integral to Villanova's mission.

This painting invites a new conversation around St. Augustine. In the context of long-standing and lingering consequences of slavery and colonialism, this artwork invites us all into conversation around what it means for the Catholic Church to have an African man as one of its greatest writers and thinkers. For generations, Africa was continually robbed of its greatest treasures—its people—through the horrors of the transatlantic slave trade while the continent's natural resources were confiscated or decimated by colonial powers. Yet, throughout all of that time and into the present-day, the church and scholars of theology, philosophy, and literature alike have considered the works of St. Augustine—an African man—as some of the greatest writings ever produced. In order to reconcile the two, St. Augustine's African identity had to be suppressed by racially coding him as white. We are now in a moment where we can reckon with that long-standing dissonance and pivot away from that coding while affirming St. Augustine's African identity.

By depicting St. Augustine as an unabashedly African man, the painting invites all those who engage his writings including students, scholars, and members of the religious order that bears his name, to reconsider how we have thought about him. (continued)

(Augustine, continued) It also invites us to learn more about the Amazigh people—an ancient, diverse, culturally rich community found across the entirety of North Africa. Depicting St. Augustine as a Black man actively decenters whiteness and demands that we all recognize what it means for the church, the academy, and the world to acknowledge the depth and breadth of the intellectual and cultural gifts Africa has given the world. Centuries of slavery and colonialism not only robbed the African continent of so many of its treasures, but also robbed Africa of credit for those treasures. By racially coding St. Augustine as white, he became one of those treasures for which Africa was not given due credit. This painting compels us to think of St. Augustine as an African man and render to Africa that which is Africa's.

Since the unveiling, *An Unlikely Aquilegia* has been very well received. Perhaps the most moving response came from Augustinian Father John Abubakar—a visiting professor at Villanova. Father Abubakar, who is originally from Nigeria and the former Provincial of the Augustinian Province of Nigeria, visited my office to see the painting up close. Almost immediately after I removed the cover he said, "His nose is like mine. He is African!"

## SSSS

### Soup, Salad, Song and Sweets

Come join the fun on Saturday, December 2nd at 5:00 PM (Right after 4:00 Mass). There will be a soup and salad supper followed by great singing entertainment by our very own Brian Coughlin and Linda LoCastro. We'll top off the evening with an assortment of delicious desserts.

All adults are welcome. Please bring a dessert to share. Although not required to attend please help us estimate food quantities with an RSVP by calling Bob Engle at 329-6313 or by signing up on the board in the narthex by Sunday, November 26th.



## St. Monica Neighborhood Businesses

*Jesus, who is my neighbor?*

Here is a popular neighborhood eatery whose owner's reputation for great food is exceeded only by her generosity throughout the year!



**People's Choice Kitchen**, at 575 Brooks Ave, serves a mix of Jamaican and Southern dishes, reflecting owner Evangela "Van" Stanley's family roots.

Van strives to give back to her community. A window sign offers a meal to anyone, asking only what they can afford. She hosted free Thanksgiving dinners and is gathering donations for wrapped presents for as many as 300 neighborhood children.

People's Choice Kitchen is open Mon. to Sat, 11 to 6. Call 464-8790. Take home some great food, or just stop in, meet Van and donate to the charity fund.

