

# St. Monica CHURCH

*All are welcome here!*

## 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

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.**

## 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

Rev. Raymond Fleming, Pastor

(585)-235-3340

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

Deacon Matt Dudek

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

Deacon Patrick Graybill

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

Emanuel Colon, Multi-Parish  
Finance Director

[emanuel.colon@dor.org](mailto:emanuel.colon@dor.org)

Jeanne Engelbrecht,  
Finance Manager

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

Mary Ellen Fischer,  
Pastoral Minister

[mary.ellen.fischer@dor.org](mailto:mary.ellen.fischer@dor.org)  
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**  
*Due by 4pm Sunday prior*

[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

Brian McNulty  
Deacon: Senior Status

### Parish Pastoral Council

John Curran - 747-2324

Jake Hart

Meg Lute

Best Batchateu

Mary Fran Kolbuc

Bob Passalugo

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



*Our Youth Group had a service retreat on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> helping with a senior citizens' ball. Story on Page 3.*

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You were once darkness,  
but now you are light in the Lord.  
Live as children of light.  
— Ephesians 5


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March 15, 2026  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
of Lent

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). If you were receiving the weekly parish email and are no longer receiving it, please check your email settings and make sure you allow emails from [monicabulletin@dor.org](mailto:monicabulletin@dor.org).

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

### Weekly Mass Intentions

|               |   |   |
|---------------|---|---|
| Sat. Mar. 14  | Guy, Gary & Michael Pugliese – Family<br>Patti Grant-Zollo - Family |  |
| Sun. Mar. 15  | Richard Robinson – Mary Robinson                                    |   |
| Tues. Mar. 17 | Special Intention – Pat Fox Zahn                                    |   |
| Wed. Mar. 18  | All Parishioners  |   |
| Thur. Mar. 19 | Danny Siplin – Jean Button  |   |
| Fri. Mar. 20  | Special Intention for Joe & Sean McNulty – Brian McNulty            |   |
| Sat. Mar. 21  | Joseph Siracusa – Family<br>Donna Whitehair – Sheilla Wray          |   |
| Sun. Mar. 22  | Steve Moss – Kris & Jeremy Moss                                     |   |

#### We Need Weekly and Weekend Mass Intentions!

Please consider scheduling Mass intentions to remember a deceased loved one or celebrate a birthday, anniversary, etc. Please call or stop by the office to schedule. Thank you!

*Let Us Pray*



**Those who are housing vulnerable**  
**An end to racism**  
**An end to war**  
**Caregivers**  
**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 March



#### **SANCTUARY LIGHT**

**Robert, Doris & Peter Will**

*Doris Will Meadows*

**Steve Moss**

*Kris & Jeremy Moss*



#### **CROSS ALTAR LIGHT**

**Riley, Sara & Norman Will**

*Doris Will Meadows*

**Robert & Jean Vane**

*Children/Family*



### Needed: Candy for our Easter Egg Hunt



Help us reach 1,000 eggs for our joint Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's, Emmanuel Church of the Deaf, and St. Monica Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 5!

We need small, individually-wrapped candies that can fit into small eggs.

**PLEASE, NO PEANUTS.**

Candy can be donated anytime before March 18 to the office. Contact [Jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:Jessica.tette@dor.org) with questions.

Thank you for helping make Easter special!

## **Holy Week 2026**

St. Monica Church,  
Emmanuel Church of the Deaf, &  
Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church

**Palm Sunday Mass:** 10:00 am @ St. Monica Church  
March 29 831 Genesee St.

**Youth presentaion of the passion**

**Holy Thursday Mass & Adoration:** April 2  
7:00 pm  
Emmanuel Church of the Deaf  
8:00-9:00 pm - Adoration

**Good Friday Service:** Noon - Immaculate Conception  
April 3 445 Frederick Douglass St. 14608

**Stations of the Cross in ASL with interpreter:** 6:00 pm  
Emmanuel Church of the Deaf

**Easter Vigil:** 7:01 pm  
April 4 Immaculate Conception Church

### **Easter Sunday Mass: April 5**

**10:00 am @ St. Monica Church  
followed by Easter Egg Hunt**

All are welcome, especially you!



### This Week at St. Monica Church: March 15-22, 2026

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Sunday, 3/15</b>   | 10:15 am – Mass, Church<br>11:15 am – Family Faith Formation, Dining Room<br>11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church   |
| <b>Monday, 3/16</b>   | 4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer (contact Dorothy Siegel to join: <a href="mailto:kenanddor@yahoo.com">kenanddor@yahoo.com</a> or 880-5519)        |
| <b>Tuesday, 3/17</b>  | 12:10 pm – Mass, Chapel  |
| <b>Wed., 3/18</b>     | 8:00 am – Mass, Chapel<br>5:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal, Church<br>6:30 pm – Youth Group, Dining Room  |
| <b>Thurs., 3/19</b>   | 12:10 pm – Mass, Chapel<br>1:30 pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry, Dining Room  |
| <b>Friday, 3/20</b>   | 8:00 am – Mass, Chapel   |
| <b>Saturday, 3/21</b> | 4:00 pm – Mass, Church<br>5:00 pm – Soup Supper, Narthex   |
| <b>Sunday, 3/22</b>   | 10:15 am – Mass, Church<br>11:15 am – Family Faith Formation, Dining Room<br>11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church<br>1:30 pm – Palm Sunday Play Rehearsal, Church |

**CMA Goal:**  
**\$25,000**  
**86 Donors**  
**\$23,406 pledged**  
**93% of goal**



As of this date, 86 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 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!

**HELP FEED OUR TEENS**  
**YOUTH GROUP DINNER PROGRAM**

Wednesdays during the school year, 6:30-7pm

- Cook and serve,
- send a meal,
- or give a \$ gift

Feed physical and spiritual hunger

Studies show that food is an important factor in youth group attendance!



Let's support our teens on their faith journey!  
 Contact [jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:jessica.tette@dor.org) to sign up.

Our youth group members had an amazing time at their retreat on Sunday, March 8 helping with the Charlotte Community Association's senior ball at the Port of Rochester! The teens did an amazing job and did not stop receiving compliments from the guests and organizers of the event all night. They cleared tables, poured water, helped seniors get around, danced, and had a great time. We are continually impressed by and proud of our teens. They are amazing and we are so blessed to have them as part of St. Monica's!

Shout out to Amy Taylor, one of our youth group leaders, who is part of the Charlotte Community Association and who got us involved with this opportunity to serve others! And a big thank-you to the Charlotte Community Association for having us!



**Feeding Dreams in Timor-Leste**

By participating in CRS Rice Bowl, we're helping young people in Timor-Leste find opportunities and support to fulfill their dreams of becoming leaders in their communities. Visit [crsricebowl.org/week-4](http://crsricebowl.org/week-4) to read about Adriana's dream of becoming a doctor in this week's Story of Hope.

**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/StMonicaChurch)

**Did You Encounter Jesus Last Week?**

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Attendance Mar 7/Mar 8</b>                     | <b>172</b> |
| <b>Attendance Feb 28/Mar 1</b>                    | <b>192</b> |
| <b>Attendance Feb 21/Feb 22</b>                   | <b>167</b> |
| <b>2026 YTD Average Attendance</b>                | <b>153</b> |
| <b>2025 Full Year Average Attendance</b>          | <b>189</b> |
| <b>CMA goal: \$25,000 • Given: \$23,406 • 93%</b> |            |

**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, email [jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:jessica.tette@dor.org) for training instructions..

**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.

**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!

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



**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).

## Water: Essential Element

Praised be you, my Lord, through our Sister Water who sustains us and is so useful, humble, precious, and chaste.

The Bible says, "In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth...a wind from God swept over the waters" (Genesis 1:1-2).

Water is life. The human body is 50-60 percent water. No human being can survive more than three or four days without it. And nothing refreshes like a cool drink of water. Water is considered one of the world's four essential elements and it may be most threatened.

We confess to Almighty God and to you, our sister Water, that we have sinned against you. We are called to be stewards of water.

- With 50% of the population facing water shortages, over 2 billion people lack safe drinking water.
- Our global water problem is a crisis of scarcity, quality, and access; driven by pollution, depletion of resources, and climate change.
- All gardeners and farmers pray for rain. Harvest yields are directly related to the amount of water available to the plants. Too little water (drought or desert expansion) or too much (floods, hurricanes, or tsunamis) can be catastrophic.

Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more.

### A few tips to conserve water

**Indoor Water Conservation:** Fix leaky faucets and running toilets promptly; install high efficiency toilets and low-flow showerheads; run dishwashers/washing machines with full loads, turn off your tap when brushing teeth, washing dishes, shaving. Shorten showers to 5 minutes or less.

**Outdoor Water Conservation:** Landscaping: replace thirsty grass with native, drought-tolerant plants, water lawns 1-2 times a week in the AM or PM to reduce evaporation, use mulch to retain soil moisture, set up a "rain barrel" to collect rainwater -use it to water lawns/plants.  
<https://www.worldwildlife.org/our-work/freshwater/water-scarcity/>  
<https://water.ca.gov/water-basics/conservation-tips>  
<https://www.graf.info/en/news-presse/graf-blog/the-importance-of-water.html>

## St. Monica Neighborhood Businesses

*Jesus, who is my neighbor?*

It's Spring-cleaning time! Luckily there's a way to bring the light of Christ's presence by hiring a cleaning business that serves the community around St. Monica Church.

**Hart Cleaning Services**, 215 Tremont St., has been providing safe, reliable, trustworthy home, office, and commercial cleaning for over 30 years. Hart does one time deep-cleans, move-in/ move-out cleans, and scheduled janitorial work.

Business owner Jake Hart is a neighborhood resident, a familiar presence at Sunday Mass, and a Knight of Peter Claver.

Hart Cleaning Services is a certified MWBE (Minority Business Enterprise) business and always hires from our neighborhood. Call them 24-7 at 585-581-5548 or email [hartcleaning@frontier.com](mailto:hartcleaning@frontier.com).



## Social Justice News

**No Kings Part Three:** On March 28th from noon-3:00, there will be a demonstration against government policies which go against our Christian and Catholic faith. This event will be peaceful, legal, and non-violent and will take place almost in our backyard at the Genesee Gateway Park at 115 Mt. Hope Ave. just south of the Ford Street bridge. Details are available at <https://www.mobilize.us/nokings/event/900737/>.

**Celebrating American Catholic Women:** For over 100 years, women in the Church have been continuously represented by the National Council of Catholic Women - <https://d2r0txsugik6oi.cloudfront.net/neon/resource/nccw/files/We%20Are%20NCCW.mp4> - and so it seems only appropriate to focus this week on an American female saint. St. Kateri Tekakwitha was born even before our country was established. A convert to Catholicism, she would frequently walk in the woods and create wooden crosses, and is considered to be the patroness of the environment, Native Americans, orphans, and people in exile. She was canonized by Benedict the XVI and her feast day is July 14th.

**March Blue Bag Collection:** The Blue Bag donations for the month of March will be on March 21 & March 22, and it will be for St. Joseph's Northside on Lyell Ave. St. Joseph's Northside is in need of travel-size hygiene products, white cotton wash cloths, oatmeal, grits, and Nature Valley sweet and salty nut granola bars (they serve breakfasts 4 days a week). They also have a wish list on Amazon, which you can find on their website: <https://www.ssrochester.org/st-josephs-northside>. Thank you for your consistent generosity for those in need.

If you would like to be part of the Social Justice team at St. Monica or if you would like to be informed/updated on events, contact Dan Lill at [danlill126@gmail.com](mailto:danlill126@gmail.com) or 585-313-6027.

**Needed: CLEAN plastic food containers with lids to send food home with youth group teens. New or used, but CLEAN, please! Thank you!**



## Lenten Soup Supper Saturday, March 21 after 4 pm Mass

The Welcome and Social Justice Committees would like to invite everyone to a simple soup supper in the narthex. The Blue Bag collection for that weekend March 21 and 22 will be for St. Joseph's Northside and our speaker will be William Camp, the Program Coordinator at St. Joseph's Northside. Bill will be sharing the many services that they offer for their guests. Look for the signup sheets and sign up to attend, or help with set up, take down or bring a pot of soup, a loaf of bread, or a salad. Please plan on coming to share this simple meal during our time of reflecting on the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord. Questions: call JoAnn DeMott at 313-2614.

