

# 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

## 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

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Mary Ellen Fischer,  
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Secretary

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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)

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.**



*Our Rusty Halos senior luncheon is always a great celebration of community! Here is part of the group enjoying lunch on March 12.*

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Thus says the Lord GOD:  
O my people, I will open your graves  
and have you rise from them,  
— Ezekiel 37

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## March 22, 2026

# 5<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. 21  | Joseph Siracusa – Family   |  |
| Sun. Mar. 22  | Donna Whitehair – Sheilla Wray   |   |
| Tues. Mar. 24 | Steve Moss – Kris & Jeremy Moss  |   |
| Wed. Mar. 25  | Special Intention – Pat Fox Zahn   |   |
| Thur. Mar. 26 | All Parishioners   |   |
| Fri. Mar. 27  | Eric Davis – Jean Button   |   |
| Sat. Mar. 28  | Special Intention for Gardeners of St. Monica  |   |
| Sun. Mar. 29  | Gladys Gaines – Nash & Fulmore Families  |   |
|               | Donna Whitehair – Bill & Cathy Ripperger   |   |
|               | All Parishioners of Emmanuel Church of the Deaf,<br>Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church, & St.<br>Monica Church |   |

#### 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!

**Palm Sunday Coffee Gathering:** Please join us for a Palm Sunday coffee and sweets celebration after the 10 am Mass at St. Monica's. If you would like to bring a treat for the gathering, please drop it off at the narthex before Mass begins. All are welcome, especially you!

*Let Us Pray*



**Our Deceased  
Terry Watson**

**Sister Mary Lynch SSJ**  
**Sister Joan Margaret Kunz SSJ**  
**Jonnie Waller**  
*Mariah Brown's sister*

**Those who are housing vulnerable**

- An end to racism**
- An end to war**
- Caregivers**
- God's creation**
- Bishop Bonnici**
- Bishop Matano**



#### **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*

## **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: April 3** Noon - Immaculate Conception  
445 Frederick Douglass St. 14608

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

**Easter Vigil: April 4** 7:01 pm  
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 22-29, 2026**

<b>Sunday, 3/22</b>	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church 1:30 pm – Palm Sunday Play Rehearsal, Church
<b>Monday, 3/23</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, 3/24</b>	12:10 pm – Mass, Chapel
<b>Wed., 3/25</b>	8:00 am –Mass, Chapel 5:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal, Church 6:30 pm – Youth Group, Dining Room
<b>Thurs., 3/26</b>	12:10 pm – Mass, Chapel 1:30 pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry, Dining Room
<b>Friday, 3/27</b>	8:00 am –Mass, Chapel
<b>Saturday, 3/28</b>	4:00 pm –Mass, Church
<b>Sunday, 3/29 Palm Sunday</b>	10:00 am – Palm Sunday Mass, Church 11:00 am – Coffee Hour, Narthex

**CMA Goal:**  
**\$25,000**  
**87 Donors**  
**\$23,758 pledged**  
**95% of goal**



As of this date, 87 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!

**Thank you, Bishop Matano,** for your many years of dedicated service to our diocese! We pray that you are blessed in your next endeavors, and we will long remember your gift of ministry to us. We also welcome **Bishop John Bonnici,** who was installed as the 10<sup>th</sup> bishop of Rochester on March 19. *Photo from the Catholic Courier.*



We've been extremely blessed by our youth group dinner chefs and supporters! We could not meet this important need without an amazing community of people. Many parishioners have cooked for us, spent time with us, sent food to us, or given funds so we can get dinner. Our teen chefs are even sharing their gifts and cultures by cooking for youth group dinner! Thank you to all who have helped.

There is still time to help - there are many open Wednesdays between now and June that need dinner coverage. We love when chefs also stay to eat with us. Contact [jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:jessica.tette@dor.org) to sign up and continue to build community with us!

## 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.



### Embracing God's Love, United in Generosity

God created man and woman in his image, reminding us that every person is sacred and reflects God's love. Each of us has a purpose, woven into God's plan. Our support of CRS Rice Bowl provides hope and opportunity to families around the world. Let's reflect on how our prayers, fasting, and almsgiving can help our sisters and brothers fulfill their potential. Visit [crsricebowl.org/week-5](http://crsricebowl.org/week-5) to read this week's Story of Hope.

### Follow Jesus with us:

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

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

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

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

### Were Your Eyes Opened This Week?

<b>Attendance Mar 14/Mar 15</b>	<b>177</b>
<b>Attendance Mar 7/Mar 8</b>	<b>172</b>
<b>Attendance Feb 28/Mar 1</b>	<b>192</b>
<b>2026 YTD Average Attendance</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>2025 Full Year Average Attendance</b>	<b>189</b>
<b>CMA goal: \$25,000 • Given: \$23,758 • 95%</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).

## Creation Corner

Praise be you, my Lord, through our sister, Mother Earth, who has given us beautiful and wondrous animals, large and small. We confess to Almighty God, that we have sinned against you and have failed to protect farm animals.

According to the ASPCA, more than 9.5 billion chickens, turkeys, pigs, and cows are slaughtered every year for food in the United States. Most of these animals are raised on "factory farms," where they are confined in huge numbers in barren, industrial settings. These facilities are not just inhumane; they are also environmentally unsound and dangerous for public health.

Animals on industrial farms endure almost unimaginable cruelty, some in enclosures so crowded that they can't turn around. Many never see the sunlight or get to graze on fresh grass.

Raising so many animals in confinement is a significant contributor to air and water pollution, and that directly impacts climate change.

Pollution, poor working conditions, cutthroat systems, and a vicious working contract system put farmers and farm workers in danger.

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.

What you can do:

**Change your shopping habits:** Use the ASPCA's Shop with a Heart database to search for food made from plant-based ingredients or to find animal products that have earned one or more recommended animal welfare certifications.

<https://www.aspc.org/shopwithyourheart/consumer-resources/shop-your-heart-grocery-list>

**Contact Congress:** The U.S. House Agriculture Committee just passed the House Farm Bill, which still contains language that would overturn state laws banning extreme confinement of farm animals. Contact the office of Rep. Joseph Morelle, who represents Monroe County, and tell him to vote against the bill should it come to the House floor for a vote: <https://morelle.house.gov/contact>

For more information, go to <https://www.aspc.org/protecting-farm-animals>

## St. Monica Neighborhood Businesses

*Jesus, who is my neighbor?*

We can bring the Light of Christ's presence to our neighborhood by supporting organizations that have served for decades!

**Rochester Presbyterian Home** at 256 Thurston Road just celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. RPH offers traditional assisted living as well as memory care for those living with various dementia.

The RPH Homestead provides a loving home where residents are honored and cared for as family. It's a warm, friendly, supportive place for seniors of all faiths and ethnicities. Several of our parish family have enjoyed retirement days there.

RPH provides jobs for over 100 nurses and aides. Volunteers and visitors are always welcome. Visit RPH.org or call 235-9100 ext. 111.



## Social Justice News

**Love Never Fails:** For the next few weeks, you will find in the pews *Love Never Fails* cards. You are invited to write a short and anonymous note to a person who is incarcerated in an upstate correctional facility. This is part of the mission of Prison Ministry of Upstate NY (PMUNY) and is a continuation of our Advent outreach. The note can be a very simple message to let the individual know that they are loved and are important and valued.

**St. Frances Cabrini (1850-1917)** was an Italian-born but naturalized American citizen who is widely recognized as the patron saint of immigrants. She originally worked among the largely Italian immigrant population in NYC, eventually establishing more than 60 schools and orphanages not only there but in places all around the country. The religious order that she founded, Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, now operates in more than 15 nations worldwide. She was canonized in 1946.

**No Kings Rally March 28<sup>th</sup>:** Genesee Gateway Park 115 Mt. Hope Ave. from 12:30:00 PM. A peaceful, legal, nonviolent protest against unjust government practices. Be there!

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 [daniill126@gmail.com](mailto:daniill126@gmail.com) or 585-313-6027.

## St. Monica Garden Cleanup

Let's cleanup our gardens around the church so that they will be ready to welcome our parishioners and guests on Palm Sunday and Easter. All parishioners of any age are welcome to join in a quick sprucing up of the gardens around the outside of St. Monica's on Saturday morning, March 28th from 10:00 AM to Noon. Tools, gloves, and a pizza lunch will be provided. If you are planning on attending, please contact Tracy Jordan in the church office at (585) 235-3340.

Our youth group kicked off Lent with a service day! They walked over to Family Dollar to pick out supplies to make kits for unhoused people we often see asking for help.

They also helped with ash distribution, followed by a meatless dinner. Our Faith Formation families made cards to go in the kits. What a beautiful reminder to be God for others!

Lent is all about getting closer to God through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. What is God calling you to this Lent? Thank you to our youth for living out their faith and inspiring us to do the same.

