

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

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

Deacon Matt Dudek

matt.dudek@dor.org

Deacon Patrick Graybill

patrick.graybill@dor.org

Emanuel Colon, Multi-Parish
Finance Director

emanuel.colon@dor.org

Jeanne Engelbrecht,
Finance Manager

jeanne.engelbrecht@dor.org

Mary Ellen Fischer,
Pastoral Minister

mary.ellen.fischer@dor.org
ext. 119

Precious Fontenette,
RCIA Coordinator

myrtle.fontenette@dor.org

Margot VanEtten,
Pastoral Minister

margot.vanetten@dor.org
ext. 115

Tracy Jordan,
Secretary

tracy.jordan@dor.org
ext. 116

Angela Nkugwa,
Music & Choir Director

angela.nkugwa@dor.org

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS
Due by 4pm Sunday prior

monicabulletin@dor.org

Jessica Tette,
Minister of Youth Faith Formation &
Communications

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

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

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.



Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

— Romans 1

December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday
of Advent

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. 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.

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

Weekly Mass Intentions



Sat. Dec. 20	Diane H. Salamone – Family
Sun. Dec. 21	Rev. James Engle – Bob & Karen Engle Carlos Perez-Albuerne – Lourdes & Evelio Perez-Albuerne
Tues. Dec. 23	Royal Chamberlain – Sandy Chamberlain
Wed. Dec. 24	All Parishioners
Thur. Dec. 25	Mass @ Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church
Fri. Dec. 26	Judy & Paul Henderson – Mike Henderson
Sat. Dec. 27	Joseph Siracusa – Family
Sun. Dec. 28	Patrick Bertram – Patricia Mitchell & Family Special Intention for Jennifer Ertel – Bob & Joy Boyd

We are looking for a baby to star in our Christmas pageant! Our beautiful tradition here at St. Monica's is to have a real baby play the baby Jesus in our Christmas pageant, and in our community, you'll find a whole host of proud former baby Jesus actors! The baby is held by Mary (a teenager) on the altar for the pageant (about 15 minutes). Do you know a baby between 2 and 10 months old of any gender who would make a great Jesus? Parents can email our pageant director at jessica.tette@dor.org to sign their baby up.



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US & THE LORD

HOLIDAY MASSES

ST. MONICA CHURCH · EMMANUEL CHURCH OF THE DEAF
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION/ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH

All Masses ASL interpreted.

Christmas Eve Mass Wednesday, December 24:

4:00 pm with pageant @ St. Monica Church

Christmas Day Mass Thursday, December 25:

10:00 am @ Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church

New Year's Day Mass Thursday, January 1:

10:00 am @ Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church



St. Monica
CHURCH

ST. MONICA CHURCH
EMMANUEL CHURCH OF THE DEAF
CORNER OF GENESEE & MONICA STREETS
ROCHESTER, NY 14619



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION/
ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH
445 FREDERICK DOUGLASS ST.
ROCHESTER, NY 14608

ALL ARE WELCOME... ESPECIALLY YOU!

Let Us Pray



Our Deceased
Fr. Alexander Bradshaw

Those who are housing vulnerable

An end to racism

An end to war

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 December

SANCTUARY LIGHT

Battisti, Leonardo & Pugliese Families

Pugliese Family



Higgins Family

Barbara Higgins

CROSS ALTAR LIGHT

Don Wiegand, Sr.

Family



Robert & Jean Vane

Children/Family

We Need Weekly Mass Intentions!

Please consider scheduling Mass intentions during the week.
Please call or stop by the office to schedule. Thank you!

This Week at St. Monica Church: Dec 21-28, 2025

Sunday, 12/21	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Family Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church 1:30-3:30 pm – Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, Church
Monday, 12/22	4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer (contact Dorothy Siegel to join: kenanddor@yahoo.com or 880-5519)
Tuesday, 12/23	12:10 pm – Mass, Chapel
Wed., 12/24	Christmas Eve – Office Closed 4:00 pm - Christmas Eve Mass, St. Monica Church
Thurs., 12/25	Christmas Day – Office Closed 10:00 am – Mass at Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church
Friday, 12/26	Office Closed 8:00 am – Mass, Chapel
Saturday, 12/27	4:00 pm – Mass, Church
Sunday, 12/28	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Coffee Hour, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church

CMA Goal:
\$25,000
63 Donors
\$14,637 pledged
58% of goal



As of this date,
 63 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!

Seeking a Children's Liturgy Leader

Have you ever considered leading Children's Liturgy of the Word? This is the Holy Spirit calling YOU! Jessica is in search of a children's liturgy leader for one Sunday of the month (either 1st or 3rd Sundays). Lead by yourself or bring a friend to help you. Help our young children know the great love of God. CASE training is required! Contact Jessica.tette@dor.org to answer the Holy Spirit's call!



Thank you

for helping us get to the
 National Catholic
 Youth Conference!



Please join us at coffee hour on Sunday, December 28th after the 10:15 Mass, where we will share photos and memories of the trip.



St. Monica's Welcome Committee sponsored a soup supper after the 4:00 PM Mass on Saturday, December 13. Six different soups, salad, bread, and many desserts were enjoyed by parishioners from both St. Monica's and Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's. Sister Carol Cimino also gave a thoughtful Advent reflection. Thank you to JoAnn DeMott and her team for organizing the event!

Follow Jesus with us:

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. Be sure to check your junk/spam folder. If the problem persists, email 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 with 10-pt Arial font and any photos.

Our Collection: Week of Dec. 14, 2025

Physical collection:	\$2,711
Online giving:	\$377
Total collection this week:	\$3,087
Weekly expenses:	\$10,516
Weekly Surplus/ Deficit :	(\$7,429)
CMA goal: \$25,000 • Given: \$14,637 • 58%	

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.

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 for training instructions..



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.

Creation Corner

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.

Today is the Winter Solstice – the longest night of the year. As far back as we can tell, human beings have observed the movement from darkness back to light.

Incised in rocks from Irish hilltops to Chaco Canyon, New Mexico, we find spirals struck by a shaft of light on the winter solstice designed to mark the shattering of the deep darkness. Romans celebrated Saturnalia ending in the Feast of the Invincible Sun, and when Christians could worship openly, it became the time we chose to celebrate the coming of the Son of God.

By Christmas morning, the days will be growing longer. The Light of the World comes just as the light in our world expands!

So many of our Christmas and Advent traditions involve light: Advent wreath candles, lights on the tree, lights in the windows, or a candle set on a mantle or table. Tonight, on the Solstice, and every night until Christmas, make time each evening to sit with only the lights and candles of Christmas. Allow yourself to sense and notice how the warm glow casts a special atmosphere. Allow the peace and meaning of Christ's coming to seep into your heart and mind, quieting whatever other scrambling we might still be doing and reminding us: the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

May the light of Christ shine brightly in your heart, dispelling the cold and darkness, this Christmastide and throughout all your life.



St. Monica Neighborhood Connection

Jesus, who is my neighbor?

We can be the Light of Christ's presence to our neighborhood businesses even on a holiday. For those who might need them on Christmas Day, here are a couple of neighborhood restaurants that give up some of their Christmas holiday time to remain open for serve the community.

Chili Family Diner at 945 Chili Ave. is open 365 days a year, with full-service dine-in and take-out for breakfast and lunch. The diner offers comfort food and excellent service. Christmas hours are 7 a.m. to noon. Call 464-8820 to order take-out for pick-up.



The Wok restaurant at 912 Genesee St. will be open from 11 a.m.- 9 p.m. on Christmas day. The Wok features Chinese, Vietnamese and Thai favorites. Its super-fast service is now entirely take-out and delivery. Call 235-7888 to order ahead.



Social Justice News

This weekend, we are being asked to compose a brief and anonymous note to people incarcerated in NYS facilities. Cards will be distributed at weekend Masses. The notecards are preprinted on one side with "The Light of Christ" and on the other with "A Message of Hope" and the salutation, "Dear Friend in Christ.". Please take a minute and add your own personal thoughts or greetings and the cards will be collected and distributed to incarcerated inmates. End your note with a simple message like "A friend of Jesus" or "Yours in Christ." Do not sign your name.

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 at danlill126@gmail.com or 585-313-6027.

Sunday Photos

St. Nicholas

blessed us with a visit! What a beautiful thing to learn about how he helped others. May we be inspired to do the same!



What a great father and son team to give the welcome last Sunday!



Holy Beginnings Outreach

Cordially invites you to join us in prayer and conversation, for monthly gatherings of our LGBTQ+ community (family, friends and allies welcome as well).

First Thursdays Every Month

Thursday January 8th

Mass at 6pm (adoration at 5:30pm)

Gathering 6:45-7:45 pm

St. Rita Catholic Parish 1008 Maple Drive, Webster 14580

Holy Beginnings is a collaboration of Catholic faith communities fostering inclusion and dialogue to those on the margins of the church and society, allowing us, as children of God, to live our call authentically.

Learn more: holybeginnings.org

Contact: Deacon Jim Fien at James.Fien@dor.org