

# 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	(585)-235-3340
Rev. Raymond Fleming, Pastor	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
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Mary Ellen Fischer, Pastoral Minister	mary.ellen.fischer@dor.org ext. 119
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Tracy Jordan, Secretary	tracy.jordan@dor.org ext. 116
Angela Nkugwa, Music & Choir Director	angela.nkugwa@dor.org
<b>BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS</b> <i>Due by 4pm Sunday prior</i>	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	<a href="mailto:jecurran@rochester.rr.com">jecurran@rochester.rr.com</a>
Jake Hart	Mary Fran Kolbuc
Meg Lute	
Best Batchateu	Bob Passalugo

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.**



The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

And when he had said this,

he breathed on them and said to them,

"Receive the Holy Spirit.

Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

- John 20

May 24, 2026

# Pentecost

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. May 23 Special Intention for Bernard & Dorothy Fischer – Mary Ellen Fischer  
Special Intention for Glenn & Lisa Nowakowski – Mary Ellen Fischer
- Sun. May 24 Bill Clarke – Chuck & Ruth Petersdorf  
Ann Marie Drobach – Brian McNulty
- Tues. May 26 Mary LoCastro – Jean Button
- Wed. May 27 All Parishioners
- Thur. May 28 Special Intention for Ellen & Conor Wood – Jessica Tette
- Fri. May 29 All Souls
- Sat. May 30 Lorraine Tempio – Rosetti & Cumming Friends
- Sun. May 31 Robert Mulcahy – John & JoAnn DeMott  
Carol Ann Malovics – John & JoAnn DeMott



*Let Us Pray*



**Our Sick**  
Judy Predmore  
**Our Deceased**  
Shirley Sayre

**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 May

**SANCTUARY LIGHT**



Guy, Rita, Annabelle Pugliese  
& Norma Caiazza  
Pugliese Family

**CROSS ALTAR LIGHT**



Rhonda Neri  
John Delibert

### The Westside Farmers Market starts in June!

We are once again looking for 2-3 volunteers to run the St. Monica booth each week. **Please sign up** by emailing [Jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:Jessica.tette@dor.org) – we want to make sure we evenly distribute volunteers across market days. The market runs every Tuesday from June 2<sup>nd</sup>-October 6<sup>th</sup>.



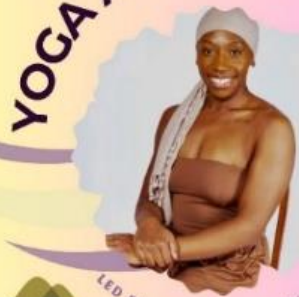
### We Need Weekly and Weekend Mass Intentions!

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!

### This Week at St. Monica Church: May 24-31, 2026

Sunday, 5/24	10:00 am – Pentecost Mass, Church 11:00 am – Reception, Narthex
Monday, 5/25	Memorial Day – Office Closed 4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer (contact Dorothy Siegel to join: <a href="mailto:kenanddor@yahoo.com">kenanddor@yahoo.com</a> or 880-5519)
Tuesday, 5/26	12:10 pm – Mass, Chapel
Wed., 5/27	8:00 am – Mass, Chapel 5:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal, Church 6:30 pm – Youth Group, Dining Room
Thurs., 5/28	12:10 pm – Mass, Chapel 1:30 pm – Prayer Shawl Group, Dining Room
Friday, 5/29	8:00 am – Mass, Chapel
Saturday, 5/30	4:00 pm – Mass, Church
Sunday, 5/31	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Family Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church

**YOGA AT THE MARKET**



LED BY KENYA FROM TRU YOGA



831 GENESEE ST.  
JUNE-OCTOBER

FIRST TUESDAYS | 5:00 PM

CALM YOUR MIND - MOVE YOUR BODY

**Following our Call to Love Our Neighbors:  
Outreach at the 19th Ward Square Fair  
Saturday June 6**



The 19th Ward Community Association's 60th anniversary Square Fair is the perfect chance to engage neighbors, showcase St. Monica vitality, and promote our August VBS. Can you represent St. Monica's at our booth for an hour or two between 10am and 4pm on June 6? Call John & JoAnn DeMott at 313-2559.



Congratulations to two of our Gospel Choir members and parishioners who graduated this month!

**Dr. Chari Peter, Ph.D.,**  
Doctor of Philosophy,  
Chemistry, who graduated  
from the University of  
Rochester



**Josephat Mwambula,**  
who graduated from the Simon  
Business School



We are so proud of both of you!  
May God continue to bless you  
on the next steps of your  
journey!



Thank you for your generosity – we have more food containers than we could ever imagine! Please note that **we no longer need plastic food containers.** Thank you and we love you!

**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/StMonicaChurchMass)

**Transforming isolation into community.  
Invite your family to Mass next week!**

<b>Attendance May 9/May 10</b>	<b>216</b>
<b>Attendance May 2/ May 3</b>	<b>176</b>
<b>Attendance April 25/April 26</b>	<b>166</b>
<b>2026 YTD Average Attendance</b>	<b>189</b>
<b>2025 Full Year Average Attendance</b>	<b>189</b>
<b>CMA goal: \$25,000 • Given: \$25,000 • 100%</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

### Forest Bathing: A Practice

Forest Bathing is nature connection. It invites a love of nature by restoring our relationship with the Earth, our common home: through the Heart. The art of this practice fills us with curiosity and wonder when we awaken our senses and find harmony as we bridge a connection with the natural world.

Also known as “shinrin-yoku” forest bathing originated in Japan and has been linked to many benefits, including: simple relaxation, physical health and well-being (“Nature is a powerful physician”), emotional and mental health, activism in action (we protect what we love – becoming lovers of the land), healthy forest ecosystems (connects us to the loveliness of the forest), and social connection (sharing meaningful experiences with others). Forest bathing can be done outdoors or indoors.

While outdoors, forest bathing is a guided slow-paced, sensory based mindful walk with invitations to interact and experience your relationship with the forest and natural world over a 2-hour span.

This practice begins with an orientation and what to expect with forest bathing/ forest therapy, followed by Guided Mindful Movement and Sensory Awareness Meditation to anchor attention to breath, body and senses, and then guided invitations to deepen your connection with the forest/nature through your senses.

So, join us for Forest Bathing among the creation stations on the beautiful grounds of Mercy Spirituality Center (<https://www.mercyspiritualitycenter.org/>), sponsored by St. Monica Creation Stewards.

**Theme:** Welcome to Summer Solstice

**Date/Time:** Sunday, June 14, 2026, 2:00pm-4:00pm, rain or shine

**Maximum participants:** 18

**Where:** Mercy Spirituality Center, 65 Highland Ave. Rochester, NY 14620

**For questions and to sign up please contact:**

Kathy Garrant, Certified Forest Therapy Guide

St. Monica parishioner

Email: [kmgarrant1006@gmail.com](mailto:kmgarrant1006@gmail.com)

References:

Clifford, M. A. (2018, 2021). *Your Guide To Forest Bathing*. Red Wheel Books.

Li, Qing Dr. (2018). *Forest Bathing: How Trees Help You Find Health and Happiness*. Viking Penguin.

Stacey, Regan. (2024) *The Forest Therapy School Guidebook*. The Forest Therapy School, LLC.

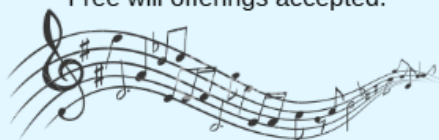
## ST. MONICA SUMMER CONCERT

Sunday, June 28, 2026

4:00 PM

Join us for our fourth annual showcase of the talented musicians from our parish and community.

Refreshment reception to follow.  
Free will offerings accepted.



## Social Justice News

### Mary's Place and Rochester Refugee Resettlement Services

are two affiliated agencies that work directly with incoming refugee families. They both also have close ties to St. Monica as we have helped them in various ways in the past, including sponsoring a family many years ago. They are now coming to us in dire need of financial support due to cutbacks by the federal government. You can go to their respective websites: [marysplaceoutreach.org](http://marysplaceoutreach.org) and [rochesterrefugeeservices.org](http://rochesterrefugeeservices.org) for more detailed information. They work closely to provide services that ensure assimilation into our community. Some of those services include housing, employment, and education to assist in the development of independent and self-sustaining citizens in our community. Pope Leo shared his concern in this quote: “Migrants and refugees remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by a hope that is a theological virtue.” — Pope Leo’s message for the Oct. 4-5 111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, given July 25, 2025.

**Blue Bags:** This month we will be collecting for St. Peter’s Kitchen and their needs are as follows: paper towels, brown sugar, black pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, paprika, corn starch, mayo, BBQ sauce, pasta, rice.

**Blue Bag Update:** Recently, we made a large donation of food to St. Joseph’s Northside, and we then received a beautiful note from its director, Bill Camp. In it, he thanked us for the warm welcome we gave him at our soup supper and for the tremendous outpouring of generosity in terms of food donations. “We will not have to buy oatmeal for months.”

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.

## Garden Helpers Needed

We all enjoy the beautiful gardens around the church; however, it does take a little effort to maintain their beauty. Do you like to garden and spend time outdoors caring for plants? Would you be able to help keep our parish grounds welcoming by spending a few hours a week on small tasks in God’s creation? Please contact JoAnn DeMott at (585) 313-2614 for more information.



## St. Monica Neighborhood Businesses

*Jesus, who is my neighbor?*



Meeting and supporting St. Monica neighborhood businesses could not be easier or more fun than at the 16th annual **Ease on Down Thurston Road** sidewalk festival on Saturday, May 30, from 11 am to 4 pm.

This family-friendly community celebration comprises businesses, organizations, and vendors along 10 blocks of Thurston Road from Brooks Avenue and east to 2 blocks of Arnett Boulevard.

**Ease on Down Thurston Road 2026** is sponsored by the Thurston-Brooks Merchants Association. Call 585-201-1133 for more information.

