

St. Monica CHURCH

All are welcome here!

34 Monica Street (at 831 Genesee St.)

Rochester, NY 14619

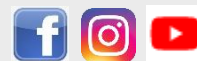
Office: (585) 235-3340

Fax: 235-8315

Emergency Line: (585) 723-6531

www.stmonicaofrochester.org

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.



Attendees of the Soup, Salad, Song, and Sweets event on December 2, 2023. See page 3.

“The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor,
to heal the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to the prisoners.”

– Isaiah 61

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

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

(585)-235-3340

Rev. Raymond Fleming, Pastor

fr.ray.fleming@dor.org

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Did you know? Our website, 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.

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

Weekly Mass Intentions

Sat, Dec 16 Manuel & Diomedes Rodriguez - Dorca Rodriguez
 Sun, Dec 17 David Divers - Donna Whitehair
 Thomas Bostick - Bostick Family
 Tues, Dec 19 Rev. James T. Engle - Bob & Karen Engle
 Wed, Dec 20 Fr. Ray Fleming - All Parishioners
 Thurs, Dec 21 Betty Bunce - Linda Pugliese
 Fri, Dec 22 Robert, Doris & Peter Will - Doris Will Meadows
 Sat, Dec 23 Royal Chamberlain - Sandy Chamberlain
 Marshall Patrick - Sandy Chamberlain
 Sun, Dec 24 Mae Stirrat - Ellen Wiest



**Come celebrate Christmas Eve Mass with us
on December 24 at 4:00 pm!
Bring a bell to ring in the birth of our savior!**

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)
- *\$10 cash or a check written out to SWEM per basket to cover the cost of meat, eggs, and margarine that SWEM provides.



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.

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

**Our Sick
David McCrary**

Lea Chamberlain-McCrary's husband

**Our Deceased
Timothy Nolan**

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 December
SANCTUARY LIGHT

**Caiazza, Leonardo, & Pugliese Families
Family**



Higgins Family

Barbara Higgins

CROSS ALTAR LIGHT



Donald Wiegand, Sr.

John Delibert

Robert & Jean Vane

Children/Family

This Week at St. Monica Church: December 17-24, 2023

Sunday, 12/17	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church 1:00 pm – Christmas Basket Giveaway, Parking Lot 1:30 pm – Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, Church
Monday, 12/18	4:45 pm – Virtual Contemplative Prayer (contact Dorothy Siegel to join: kenanddor@yahoo.com or 880-5519)
Tuesday, 12/19	12:10 pm – Mass, Church
Wed., 12/20	8:00 am – Mass, Church 6:30 pm – Youth Group, Rectory
Thurs., 12/21	12:10 pm – Mass, Church
Friday, 12/22	8:00 am – Mass, Church
Saturday 12/23	4:00 pm – Mass, Church
Sunday, 12/24	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church 4:00 pm – Christmas Eve Mass, Church

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!

We have 4 "Faith Over Fear" shirts available for purchase! All size L. \$18 each. First come, first served. To purchase, email jessica.tette@dor.org.

**FAITH
OVER
FEAR**



Soup, Salad, Song, and Sweets

On December 2nd, St. Monica hosted Soup, Salad, Song, and Sweets, which was a smashing success! Parishioners came through with amazing home-cooked soups and desserts. Christmas carols, sung by all, were led by Brian Coughlin and Linda LoCastro. And of course, everyone felt the love of our wonderful community. With this combination, who could go wrong? What an awesome way to kick off our Advent season!



Follow Jesus with us:

www.stmonicaofrochester.org

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

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

[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.

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!



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 online training or email jessica.tette@dor.org for a packet of information to help you.

Our Collection: Week of December 10, 2023

	Collection Goal	Our Collection	Variance
12/10/2023	4,750	4,106	(644)
Year-to-Date	84,750	78,520	(6,230)
Online Giving/week (included in actual total)		\$420	
CMA	\$26,000	\$10,880	41%



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.

Laudate Deum Action Pledge

So, you haven't taken the pledge yet? Don't worry, there's still plenty of time. Visit

<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/my-laudate-deum-action-pledge/> and complete the pledge form. Check as many of the actions as you are already doing or will do and submit the form. Your pledge will be added to thousands of others from the United States and presented to Pope Francis on the Epiphany. Let's let him know we hear and are heeding his message.



The Christmas Creche is 800 Years Old This Year

"In his exuberance and passionate love for the incarnation of God that is revealed in Jesus of Nazareth, Francis [of Assisi] invented a dramatic way to preach about this mystery. In 1223, he created the first Christmas crib so that the people around the Italian village of Greccio could have a practical and personal experience of the incarnation of Jesus and what it meant for ordinary people.

On Christmas Eve, St. Francis invited the people of the region into a cave that he had filled with straw and animals. He wanted them to feel the heat generated by the animals in the stable and to smell the damp hay crammed into the cave's close quarters. He prepared a crib that was originally intended for the animals' food as a resting place for the infant Christ. The cave was a small, cramped space—quite unpleasant, certainly not exotic or romantic, particularly for farming people who labored in such conditions daily. However, it was a dramatic and practical demonstration of how God had entered and continues to enter into their familiar world. God, who is infinite love, shared their lot and lived as one of them."

-John Quigley, OFM, Franciscan Spirit Blog
www.franciscanmedia.org



St. Monica Commemorative Mosaic at the Ravenwood and Thurston Community Garden

Each ceramic tile was hand-cleaned to remove an environmental film that concealed the shimmering appearance of the nine segments that feature 19th Ward landmarks. The photo doesn't reveal the stunning pearlescent appearance and bright contrasts of the tiles. The St. Monica title appears in the upper right-hand side. The mosaic panels were restored by members of the 19th Ward History & Archives group recently. Check it out in person at 330 Thurston Rd.



An Advent Opportunity: Preparing for the Birth of Christ

St. Monica Contemplative Prayer Group meets on Zoom every Monday. We gather 4:35-4:45pm and begin promptly at 4:45 to sit in silence for half an hour, resting in the Lord and opening our hearts to God's presence and action within us. You are particularly welcome to join us Dec. 18. Contact Dorothy Siegel: kenanddor@yahoo.com or Marilyn Catherine: mcatherine@rochester.rr.com and we'll send you the link on Sunday night.



St. Monica Neighborhood Businesses

Jesus, who is my neighbor?
Christmas gifts purchased from neighborhood businesses benefit the business owners and their employees. Here is a mom & pop business couple who are life-long neighborhood residents, celebrating over 10 years as the 19th Ward's finest cafe.

The Arnett Café at 334 Arnett Blvd. offers authentic southern-style breakfast and lunch. They call it "dining with a Southern flair." Find shrimp & grits, chicken & waffles, sweet potato fries, in addition to the usual eggs, toast and home fries. For lunch, it's wings, burgers, wraps, and salads.



Owners Norman and Kim Brown feature flowers on your table, art on the walls and soft jazz. The café is open 8am to 2pm, Tues. to Sat. The café offers gift certificates for \$25 and \$50. Visit <https://www.arnett.cafe/> or call 279-9639.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US & THE LORD

HOLIDAY MASSES

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

Saturday, Dec 23: 4:00 pm Mass @ St. Monica

Sunday, Dec 24: Regular Sunday morning Mass schedule

4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass with pageant @ St. Monica

Monday, December 25: 10:00 am Mass @ St. Monica

Saturday, Dec 30: 4:00 pm Mass @ St. Monica

Sunday, Dec 31: Regular Sunday morning Mass schedule

Monday, January 1: 10:00 am Mass at Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's

ALL ARE WELCOME... ESPECIALLY YOU!