

# 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

(585)-235-3340

Rev. Raymond Fleming, Pastor

[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

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

Jake Hart

Mary Fran Kolbuc

Meg Lute

Best Batchateu

Bob Passalugo

## Black History Month



*Jesus washes the disciples' feet as a reminder that we are called to turn toward God by serving one another.*

A clean heart create for me, O God,  
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.

– Psalm 51

## February 22, 2026

# 1<sup>st</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. Feb. 21	Juba Family – Mark & Sharon Juba
Sun. Feb. 22	Don Wiegand Sr. – Family
	Elnora Delibert – Family
Tues. Feb. 24	Special Intention – Pat Fox Zahn
Wed. Feb. 25	Joan Giblin – Patty & Ed Giblin
Thur. Feb. 26	All Parishioners
Fri. Feb. 27	For Volunteers of St. Monica
Sat. Feb. 28	Diane Salamone – Jean Button
Sun. Mar. 1	Willie Mayhill – Jean Button



#### 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!



#### 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!

*Let Us Pray*



**Our Sick**  
Terry Watson

**Our Deceased**  
Father John Mulligan

Sister Mary Marvin RSM  
*former principal of St. Monica's School*

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 February

#### SANCTUARY LIGHT



Rita Pugliese  
*Family*

Special Intention  
Pat Fox Zahn

#### CROSS ALTAR LIGHT



Chris C. Wightman &  
Carol L. Wightman  
*John Delibert*

Russell Pappert  
Pat Fox Zahn

## 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  
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: Feb. 22-March 1, 2026

Sunday, 2/22	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Family Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church
Monday, 2/23	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, 2/24	12:10 pm – Mass, Chapel
Wed., 2/25	8:00 am – Mass, Chapel 5:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal, Church 6:30 pm – Youth Group, Dining Room
Thurs., 2/26	12:10 pm – Mass, Chapel 1:30 pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry, Dining Room
Friday, 2/27	8:00 am – Mass, Chapel
Saturday, 2/28	4:00 pm – Mass, Church
Sunday, 3/1	10:15 am – Mass, Church 11:15 am – Family Faith Formation, Dining Room 11:30 am – ECD Mass, Church 1:00 pm – Altar server training, Church

**CMA Goal:**  
**\$25,000**  
**81 Donors**  
**\$19,921 pledged**  
**79% of goal**



As of this date, 81 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!

**CONGRATULATIONS to Emmanuel Torres**, who was hired as a camp counselor for summer 2026 at Camp Stella Maris! We are so proud of him for all his hard work and can't wait to see the amazing things he does this summer! He will see throughout the summer the 25 St. Monica youth who will attend as campers. Fr. Ray will journey to CSM twice over the summer to celebrate Mass.

Your generosity has allowed our St. Monica youth to attend Camp Stella Maris over the last several years, yielding life-changing experiences and opportunities. CSM's campership fund covers most of the camp expenses for our kids, and we need your help in paying the \$25-per-camper registration fee. If you can support our youth's camp experience, please contact Jessica at [Jessica.tette@dor.org](mailto:Jessica.tette@dor.org). Thank you so much for supporting our youth's spiritual, emotional, social, moral, and physical development!



**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.

**Ending Hunger with CRS Rice Bowl**

This Lent, our community will participate in CRS Rice Bowl—connecting our prayers, fasting and almsgiving to encounter God through our global family. We'll meet, pray for and learn from families in Ghana, Guatemala and Timor-Leste who are rising above the challenges of hunger and malnutrition. Pick up your rice bowl at Mass. Then, visit [crsricebowl.org/join](http://crsricebowl.org/join) to share your Lenten prayer intentions and 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)

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

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

**Worship Participants**

Last week's attendance	165
Two weeks ago attendance	102
Three weeks ago attendance	162
YTD 2026 Average Attendance	142
2025 Average Attendance	189

CMA goal: \$25,000 • Given: \$19,921 • 79%

**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

*Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Mother Earth who feeds us and rules us,  
And produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs.*

These words are from St. Francis' famous Canticle praising God for all the gifts given us in this world. This section gives praise and thanks for the earth itself. And this earth is composed of two things - water and soil. Consider soil, a complex living system composed of minerals, organic matter, water and air as well as bacteria, fungi, insects and earthworms. Together these form a web of life that supports nutrient cycling, decomposition, soil formation and water retention.

A healthy soil ecosystem supports plant growth and resilience against pests and disease. But deforestation, urbanization and modern agricultural practices degrade soil quality. Restoring soil health is essential for food production and environmental protection but restoring soil will require large scale changes in how we treat the earth.

There are some things we can do as individuals and within our communities. Composting, controlled decomposition of materials such as food scraps and yard waste, is a powerful tool we can use. If these materials are sent to landfills, they produce methane, a potent greenhouse gas. Instead, by composting, nutrients are recycled back into the earth. In addition to composting on your own, those who live in the city or the village of Fairport, can join a municipal composting program for food waste.

Urbanization is another area where individuals can contribute. Restrictive zoning laws are used to prevent building of multiple family housing. At the same time, homelessness is increasing. A number of local churches, which are exempt from these zoning laws, have built apartment buildings on their properties. Zoning laws happen at a very local level - in the towns and cities where the properties are located. Let your local representatives know that you approve of building multiple unit dwellings in your area.

Source: *Live to Plant website.*

## Social Justice News

**Blue Bags** for February will be for SWEM, Southwest Ecumenical Ministries which serves 11 zip codes including SW Rochester and westside suburbs. Please be as generous as you always are and donate canned food: soup, vegetables, fruit, pasta, beans and tuna. Where possible, choose healthy low salt alternatives. Our collection will be on the last weekend of February, the 28th and the first of March. Bags will be given out the weekend before.

**Social Justice Saints: St. Katherine Drexel** was born into wealth in the 19th century but devoted much of her time and fortune to helping the American Indian and Afro-American communities especially in the Southern and Western states. She decided to form her own religious community, The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. She also founded the only Catholic HBC in the country, Xavier University of Louisiana. John Paul II canonized her in 2000 as she became only the second American-born saint.

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.

**“This is a call to be a missionary church, not a country club. A club exists to serve its members. The Church exists, on the other hand, to go out and serve all people — on fire with faith, with hope, and charity in the name of Jesus Christ. This is not a criticism; it’s simply an invitation to constantly renew who we are and to rediscover why the Church exists. We exist to follow Jesus, who fed the hungry, healed those ill in body and spirit, rejected hatred and proclaimed love.”**

-Archbishop Ronald A. Hicks, homily at his Mass of installation as the new archbishop of the Archdiocese of New York, given Feb. 6, 2026 at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York. *Catholic Courier.*

<https://catholiccourier.com/articles/read-archbishop-hicks-homily-from-installation-mass/>

## St. Monica Neighborhood Businesses

*Jesus, who is my neighbor?*

Abstinence on Fridays during Lent offers a chance to bring the light of Christ’s presence to another family-owned St. Monica neighborhood business.

### The Cornerstone Market & Shops

at 398 Thurston Rd. is a community green grocery offering amazing daily take-out dinners. “Seafood Friday” might have pan seared haddock, salmon in garlic butter, honey-glazed or croquettes, creole gumbo, or lobster bisque!



Owner and chef Iben Asante operates the store with her granddaughters and other family members. The store is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 AM to 8 PM. Call 435-8065.



**St. Monica CHURCH**  
Save the date  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**2026**  
**AUGUST 10-14**  
8:45am-noon \* Grades K-7  
Free + lunch included  
Registration to come at [stmonicaofrochester.org](http://stmonicaofrochester.org)

**LIGHT OF THE WORLD**