

St. Monica Catholic Church
Archdiocese of Galveston - Houston
8421 West Montgomery Rd., Houston, TX 77088-7116
Fr. John Ayang, S.O.L.T., Pastor
Fr. David Mumba, S.O.L.T., Parochial Vicar
Dcn. John Lane, Permanent Deacon

Third Sunday of Lent
March 7, 2010

Scripture Readings

Monday

2 Kings 5:1-15ab
Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday

Daniel 3:25, 34-43
Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday

Deuteronomy 4: 5-9
Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday

Jeremiah 7:23-28
Luke 11:14-23

Friday

Hosea 14:2-10
Mark 12:28-34

Saturday

Hosea 6:1-6
Luke 18:9-14

Sunday

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Parish Life and Organization

Parish Numbers

Office—281-447-5837
Rectory—281-447-7671
Hall—281-448-2082
C.C.E.—281-447-5837
Fax—281-447-8410
Email – stmonica@sbcglobal.net
Website - www.stmonicahouston.com
St. Vincent De Paul-281-447-3212

Choir Rehearsals

Teen Choir - Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Voices of Praise - Tues. 7:30 p.m.
Gospel - Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Friday - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Prayer & Sacramental Life

Confessions: Sat., from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in addition to Mon., 6:15 p.m.- 6:45 p.m. or by appointment.

Marriages: Minimum 6 months preparation required. Contact Fr. John or Deacon Lane before setting a wedding date.

Baptisms: To register your child, please call the church office. All registration must be submitted to the church office 1 week prior to the class date.

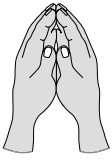
Masses Schedule:

Sat. Vigil - 6:00 p.m.
Sun. - 8:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Mon. - 7:00 p.m.
Tues., Wed., Thurs., &
Fri. - 9:00 a.m.
Sat. - 8:00 a.m.

Mission Statement

We, the people of St. Monica Catholic Church, recognize ourselves as a community of God's children called to holiness through Baptism and the Eucharist, to share the love of Christ through the message of the Gospel. Our mission is to pray and worship, teach and share Christ's saving message as we evangelize, build up, and nurture communities of faith; serving in Christ's name as we journey with each other to the fullness of eternal life.

Please remember to pray for the sick & shut-in!



Sick: Richard Anderson, Tom Andreoli, Linda Avila., Maria Blount, Joyce Brantley, Elmore Breaux, Sr., Kathy Burbee, Hisae Casey, Mary Chapa, Kelly Crosby, Sr. Eileen Dougherty, George Estes, Mary Lou Farrell, Fr. Jim Flanagan, Joseph Francis, Willie Goldsmith, Melvin Gotch, Linda Green-Timmons, Fr. Joe Hadgkiss, Paul Harper, Delphie Holcombe, Mary Jenkins, Isabella Jones, Fr. Ralph Jones, Shebra-Dean Jones, Theola Joseph, Evelyn LaCour, Angela Landry, James Landry, Dorothy Leblanc, Dwight Leblanc, Overton Leblanc, Tillie Lopez, Robert Malonson, Sr., Courtney Mathis, Jack Meunier, Georgia Meyers, Wanda Milburn, Larry Montgomery, Sr., Junies Mouton, Ethel Moss, Susan Neubauer, Richard Padilla, Michael Page, Fr. Jack Purtell, Alfonso Ramirez, Dorothy Richardson, Mary Samuels, Mary Sanders, Monica Sanders, Leocada Serbin, Jacqueline Sheehan, Fr. Tom Showalter, Alma Siner, Mary Lee Skipper, Edith Hodge Smith, Frank Smith, Daryl Spencer, Pearl Syon, Barbara Tatum, Andrew Tolliver, Israel & Paula Trevino, Sr. Tinity Vaughn, Shelia White, Mary Earline Williams

Shut-in: Rose Andrews, Mandoria Daigle, Ray Gafford, Gwen Harper, Lessie Johnson, Rosalinda Sanchez

Special Intention: Robert Smith, Gwen Smith

Next Week Ministers of the Mass (March 13th & March 14th)

Altar Servers

6:00 p.m. Check with Altar Server Coordinator
8:00 a.m. Check with Altar Server Coordinator
11:00 a.m. Check with Altar Server Coordinator

Lectors

6:00 p.m. Carver & Vivian Walker
8:00 a.m. Emory & Lorena Robertson
11:00 a.m. Gerald & Nan Arceneaux

Money Counters

6:00 p.m. Team 3 **8:00 a.m.** Team 3
11:00 a.m. Team 3

Extraordinary Ministers

6:00 p.m. Lori Gray, Jose Hernandez, Harry Hill
8:00 a.m. Adrian Adams, Dominic Ambe, Sidney Brewer, Sr., Willie French, Jr., Doris Barrow
11:00 a.m. Lillie Gobert, Ursula Johnson, Shirley Phillips, Anthony Richards, Willie Richards

Hospitality Ministries

6:00 p.m. Margaret Scott
8:00 a.m. Keith McKinney & Joseph Murray
11:00 a.m. Alva & Herbert McCullum

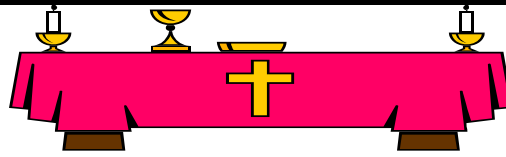
Mass Intentions (March 6th - March 12th)

Sat.	03/06/2010	6:00 p.m. — † James Moss, Jr.
Sun.	03/07/2010	8:00 a.m. — † Christopher Adams & The Deceased Members of the Altar Society — † Earl Wesley Egland, Jr. — Jason Nero
		11:00 a.m. — The People of the Parish
Mon.	03/08/2010	9:00 a.m. — † Huey Jones—Helen Jones

HOLY SPIRIT, LEAD US THE WAY

St Monica Prayer Warriors invites you to the 3rd Annual Lenten Retreat, on March 27th, 2010 from 8:00AM-1:30PM. Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided. Deadline to register is March 21st, 2009

Announcements



Eucharistic Adoration

Our weekly Eucharistic Adoration will be on Wednesdays and Fridays after the weekday Masses.

Hospitality Ministry

Greeters, the March schedule is on the bottom wall rack next to the secretary's office. Don't forget to get a replacement when you plan to be absent. Thank you and God Bless you for your dedicated service. Church family: we will not provide candy during the Lenten season.

Monthly Recollection

The monthly recollection for ministries in the parish has been rescheduled to Saturday, March 20th beginning with the 8:00 a.m. Mass. The ministries assigned are: Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Liturgy Committee and Altar Servers Trainers. Bring a dish for fellowship after the service.

Second Collection

The Catholic Relief Services Collection is an important opportunity to express Christian compassion and generosity. The Collection theme, Jesus in disguise, reminds us of the presence of Christ in every one of our brothers and sisters in need. The Collection helps build the Church's international social ministry by funding the work of six agencies: Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., Migration and Refugee Services, Justice, Peace, and Human Development, and the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church. By giving to the Catholic Relief Services Collection, you are responding to Jesus in disguise. Thank you for your generosity.

Praying the Rosary During the Lenten Season

St. Monica's Vocation Ministry invites our parish family to join us in praying the Rosary (30 min) before every Mass during Lent.

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross is every Friday during the Lenten Season at 6:00 p.m. The "Stations of the Cross" represents the sorrowful journey that Jesus made with the cross on His shoulders, to die on Calvary for the love of us.

Stewardship Reflection

The parable in today's Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

Sick and Homebound

Parishioners, if you know of anyone sick at home or in the hospital, contact Fr. John. Please leave the following information: the person's name, phone number, home address or name of hospital.

Announcements

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Lent is a call not just to “give up something” but more important to “give something to the poor.” Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.



Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter

ST. MONICA FOOD PANTRY 2ND ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT



We are very excited about St. Monica Catholic Church's 2nd Annual Golf Tournament scheduled for Saturday, June 12, 2010 at Longwood Golf Club.

The goal is to eventually make this event our major SPRING fundraiser to compliment our major FALL fundraiser. The entire parish is invited to assist. Visit www.stmonicagolf.webs.com for more information regarding the tournament or contact Doris Barrow @ 281-804-4037 for additional information.

Knights of St. Peter Claver & Ladies Auxiliary

News Release:

Do something special for someone by donating blood Sunday, April 11, 2010 at the Spring Blood Drive sponsored by the Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver Council and Court #151. Let's prepare to donate blood by eating a healthy diet daily. We owe it to ourselves to be a healthy parish. Please sign up and donate blood Sunday, April 11, 2010 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. in the CCE building. For more information contact Knight Clarence Deville at 281-255-2656 and Lady Mary Earline Williams at 281-376-0307.



Lenten Reflection

The Lenten Scripture Reflections and Sharing is still open for all to join. We have four weeks to go. We have two group sessions at St. Monica on Saturdays from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Sundays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Those who cannot be at these sessions are encouraged to do so at home with their families or in organized neighborhood family groups. For more info, contact Dominic A. @ 281-743-3346 or Elizabeth G @ 713-299-4537.

African American Breast Cancer Walk

On April 10th, Sisters Network, Inc. is hosting the Stop the Silence 1st National African American Breast Cancer 5K Walk/Run at Emancipation Park. This event is aimed at increasing awareness of breast cancer and replacing fear with hope as participants from across the country walk together to find a cure. The Sister Network Inc. is a leading voice and only national African American breast cancer survivorship organization in the United States. St. Monica would like to form a local team of ten or more participants. If you or someone you know is interested in supporting this event, please contact the church office or visit www.sistersnetworkinc.org.



Announcements

CCE—Continuing Christian Education & Youth Ministry



NO CCE

Parents, there will be NO CCE classes Sunday, March 14th—Spring Break. Classes will resume Sunday, March 21st at the regular time. Please have a safe Spring Break!!

Confirmation Candidates

The candidates for Confirmation are required to attend the Chrism Mass, Tuesday, March 30th at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart at 7:00 p.m. At the Chrism Mass the priests renew the commitments they made at their ordination. Also, the sacramental oils—Oil of the Sick, Oil of Catechumens, and the Sacred Chrism which is used during Confirmation, is blessed by the bishop. Parents and Sponsors, this is a great opportunity to accompany this faith journey with the candidates.

RCIA

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, please call the church office.



"Follow Me..." 2010 Diocesan Services Fund

Our 2010 Diocesan Services Fund begins next weekend in every parish throughout the Archdioceses of Galveston-Houston. Our theme this year is "Follow me..." We are called to be Christ to those sick or in need, to teach, to reach out. The Archdioceses of Galveston-Houston needs your compassion and generosity. Your gift to DSF enables us to reach out to people in your parish and in the Archdiocese through more than 60 important programs.

This past week, all registered parishioners have received a letter from His Eminence, Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston, along with a personalized pledge card, inviting you to head Christ's call and follow him by your participation in this year's Diocesan Services Fund. Please complete the enclosed pledge card and return it in the mail in the special envelope provided or bring it to Mass. If you prefer, you may go online at www.archgh.org/dsf to make your donation. Your generous gift will allow our Catholic community to continue many vital programs and services. Our parish goal for this year is **\$37,000**.

Lenten Revival

St. Anne de Beaupre at 2810 Link Rd is having a Lenten Revival. The revivalist is Rev. Chester Smith, SVD. It begins on Sunday, March 7th at 5 pm (Youth Night), Monday, March 8th at 7 pm, Tuesday, March 9th at 7 pm. (Confessions) and end Wednesday, March 10th at 7 pm (Mass). All are invited to attend!

Food for Thought!

What "fig leaves" do I need to leave behind this Lent in order to return to God?

*Announcements*Lenten Season:

- ✦ Lent has a dual character: preparing catechumens for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Communion) by the Rite of Election, catechesis, and scrutinizes; as well as preparing the faithful by word of God, prayer, and penance, to renew their baptismal vows.
- ✦ The journey through Lent is called an “Ascent to the Mountain of Easter.”
- ✦ Lent has a penitential tone. As such, the *Gloria* and the *Alleluia* are omitted in the liturgies.
- ✦ Altars are not decorated with flowers.
- ✦ Musical instruments are used only as low-keyed accompaniments. (They may be used in full on the 4th—*Laetare* = *Rejoice*—Sunday only.)
- ✦ Ash Wednesday is a universal day of fast and abstinence.
- ✦ A communal celebration of the Sacrament of Penance, as well as an individual celebration, is highly encouraged.
- ✦ There will be a Communal Penance Service at St. Monica Parish, Wednesday, March 10th at 7:00 p.m.
- ✦ We will pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 6:00 p.m.

F Y IFast (small meals, no snacks):

* What days are we to fast?

There are two major days: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Self-imposed observance of fasting on all weekdays of Lent is strongly recommended.

* How are we to fast?

We are to fast with only one meal a day, but it does not forbid that a little bit (of food) be taken in the morning and evening (for example, we can exchange the evening meal with lunch).

* Who are to fast?

Those who have reached the age of 18 and are not yet 60.

Abstinence (no meat)

* What days are we to abstain?

We are to fast from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during the Lenten Season. Abstinence from fresh meat on all Fridays of the year (excluding solemnities like Christmas which

Congratulation!

St. Monica 's own, Lori Chambers Gray won the Primary Election and will advance to the general election in November. May God continue to bless you!!

Bulletin/Announcements

Deadline - Wed. by 2 p.m.

In writing, email

(stmonica_dre@sbcglobal.net) or by fax
(281-447-8410).

No announcements will be taken over the phone. There will be no exceptions.

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Please do not eat candy or
chew gum during Mass.
Please do not stick gum
under the pews.**

**DON'T TRASH GOD'S
HOUSE**

From the Pastor's Desk: The third week of lent features the last call for repentance. The focus is still on playing our part in the salvation offer that God is giving us. As St. Augustine put it, "God who created you without your consent will not save you without your consent." That is how much he loves us: making us participants in bringing about our salvation.

In the first reading, we see Moses instructed to remove his shoes before listening to God's assignment for him. He had to strip himself of the item separating him from his origins – the soil (humus), so that he can properly carry out God's will in a spirit of humility, and with a firm purpose. The second and the gospel readings remind us of the dire need for repentance if we are to avoid coming to the sorry fate of the people of old. A lot of stripping and purging called for here!

What behaviors and ways of life do you need to strip off, or purge from your person in order to be ready for what God has for you? Of course, those who meet with bad luck in life are not necessarily guiltier than others. Our continued good fortune may be, yet, one more reprieve from God to help us amend our ways. Let's heed the call, as we get ready to celebrate his love and mercy.

Our prayers go with Bishop Joe S. Vasquez, as he assumes the office of Chief Pastor and Bishop of the Diocese of Austin on March 8, 2010. Grateful to God for the great service he rendered to us in this Archdiocese, we pray that God may bless him in his new ministry. Msgr. George A. Sheltz is the new Chancellor, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

His Eminence, Cardinal DiNardo invites all the faithful of the Archdiocese to a special Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations at St. Mary's Seminary, on Saturday, March 13, 2010, beginning at 9 a.m. At this event, the Cardinal will bless 5 monstrances, which will travel to all the parishes in the Archdiocese for Eucharistic Adoration service and prayer for vocations. St. Monica will host one of the monstrances for adoration from Sunday, May 16 – Sunday, May 23, 2010.

Our Lenten Penance Service is on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 7 p.m. Check out other parishes for their schedules. There will be the anointing of the sick at all the Masses on the weekend of March 13/14, 2010. Bring you sick ones to the healing mercy of God. Our monthly prayer service for the ministries in the parish is rescheduled for Saturday, March 20, 2010. Lectors, Communion Ministers, Liturgy committee, and Altar Servers Trainers, take note. Stations of the Cross are every Friday. I wish all of you a fruitful Lenten journey, and God's blessings today, and everyday.

Fr. John Ayang, SOLT

Things to Remember:

Please link your Randall's Remarkable Card to 3614


Please use your Kroger Share Card

Please support our Recycling Program.

Please bring non-perishable food items for our Food Pantry

Collections

Last Week - \$7,185.81

 <p>HOUSTON TAE KWON DO ACADEMY Sidney Brewer Tae Kwon Do Educator / Success Coach® 281-999-9078 5740 W. Little York, Suite 340 • Houston, Texas 77091 Fax: 281-999-1978 Web Site: www.houstontkda.com</p>	<p>Air Conditioning SERVICE INSPECTIONS INSTALLATIONS SERVICE REPAIR</p> <p>TOOLS ENTERPRISES A/C & HEATING COMPLETE AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING SERVICE NO JOB TOO LARGE • NO JOB TOO SMALL COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL</p> <p>WILLIE (BILL) FRENCH JR. 713 306-4069</p> <p>T.A.C.L. #B002440C</p>	
	<p>Please call for our monthly specials! 713.528.0040</p> <p>LASTING IMPRESSIONS Dental Group, PLLC</p>	<p><i>Royal Building Services</i></p> <p>281-788-5644</p> <p>Roofing Flooring Painting Electrical Plumbing Fencing Sheet Rock</p> <p>Johnny Gray General Contractor</p> <p>11500 Northwest Freeway Houston, TX 77092 Suite 410</p> 
 <p>MARY KAY® Deborah A Jones Independent Beauty Consultant</p> <p>281-447-0050 281-447-3244 (Fax) djones@marykay.com (Email) 713-851-6423 (Cell) www.marykay.com/djones</p>		 <p>Office: 281-847-0767 281-447-0737 Fax: 281-447-4797 Email: hhbizz@juno.com</p> <p>H.H. Business Services HOSEA HARRIS SR. Account Representative</p> <p>1028 N. Victory Houston, TX 77088</p>










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HAPPY 50th ANNIVERSARY
ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Wow!!! Has it really been 50 years? What an amazing accomplishment! In “CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF FAITH AND SERVICE”, we have a list of activities that will take place throughout 2010, beginning with our Anniversary Mass, which will be celebrated by His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo on May 2nd at 11:00 a.m.

Please check your bulletin each week and our website (www.stmonicahouston.com) for details regarding all of the exciting activities the 50th Anniversary Committee has planned and a *“DID YOU KNOW?”* section, highlighting some of our history. May our patroness, St. Monica continue to pray for us all.