

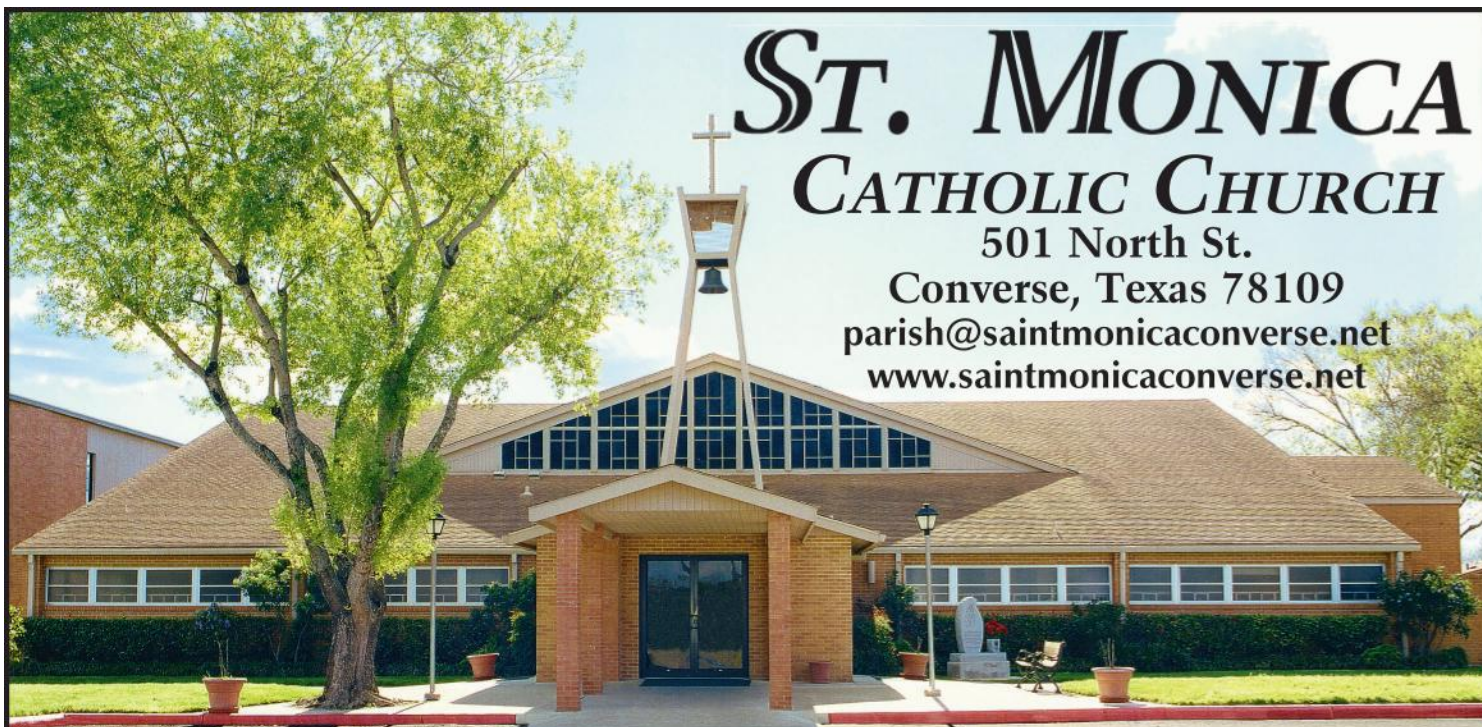
ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

501 North St.

Converse, Texas 78109

parish@saintmonicaconverse.net

www.saintmonicaconverse.net



The Mission of St. Monica is to build a welcoming community of faith, making God's love visible through service to others.

STAFF

Pastor	Fr. Alejandro Del Bosque, ext. 241
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Mauricio Lopez, ext. 238
Deacon	Jacques Abat
Deacon	Sean Dooley, ext. 242
Deacon	Jack Karam
Secretary	Mrs. Sofia Flores, ext. 240
Pastoral Secretary	Mrs. Jackie Cantú, ext. 237
Dir. of Religious Ed.	Mrs. Janice Van Slambrouck, ext. 244
Housekeeper	Mrs. Limbania Reyes
RCIA Director	Mr. Paul Cassetta
Counselor	Joanne Ayala Mylacraine

MASSES

Saturday Vigil:	5:30 p.m.
Sunday:	7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.; 1:00 (Spanish), 5:00 p.m.
	7:00 p.m. (Spanish)
Weekdays:	8:15 a.m.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4:00 p.m. & Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.

BAPTISMS: First Saturday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Parents and Godparents must attend class held on prior Thursday 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Family Center.

FIRST COMMUNION: Two-year program required; usually received in the second grade.

CONFIRMATION: Must complete a two-year program which begins in high school years.

MARRIAGE: Six months notice required. Contact parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM: Director, Mrs. Janice Van Slambrouck, (210) 701-7831. Classes - Grades K-10, Wednesday 6:30-7:30 p.m. Office hours - Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

GLOW (4th-6th grade group) meets Thursday in hall 6:30-8:00 p.m.

RCIA: Adult converts or those needing sacraments are invited. Classes begin in September on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the parish hall. Call Paul Cassetta at 343-9655 for more information. Spanish RCIA contact: Sr. Esperanza Buitron 659-4242, & Josie Rodriguez (210) 988-3954

ST. MONICA SCHOOL: Early Childhood through 8th Grade. Principal, Mrs. Kristi Geyer, 658-6701. School Annex 659-5939. Inquiries to school office.

PARISH COUNCILS: Pastoral Council meets monthly.

To schedule **Quinceanera Mass:** must be registered parishioner at least one year; attend Religious Education classes at parish; have priest's permission.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Every Friday after Mass until 7:00 p.m.

EUCCHARIST FOR SICK & SHUT-INS: Contact church office.

ROSARY: Rosary recited Monday - Friday at 7:45 a.m. and Sunday 7 a.m.

CHOIR: 9:00 a.m., *Bill Staggs, Music Minister, 274-8847.* Adult Choir Rehearsal - Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; Children's Choir and Guitar Rehearsal - Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.; Teen Musician Rehearsal after 11:00 a.m. Mass, *Michelle Hernandez, Music Minister, after 5 p.m. call (210) 215-0811.* Spanish Choir - Monday, 7:00 p.m. *Glissie Esquivel, Director, 251-2902.*

SPANISH PRAYER GROUP: Every Friday at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall. Contact: Martin Sanchez, 387-3469.

ALTAR SOCIETY & THRIFT SHOP: Altar Society meets first Tuesday at 12:00 noon, September through May. Thrift Shop open Wednesday and Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 noon. Contact: Edna Diaz, 598-9885.

ACTS: Contact Tony Canez, 857-0789.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Meets second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Contact Tony Canez, Grand Knight, 857-0789.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: Ruben Rosas, President, (210) 818-1230. Meets second Tuesday at 12:00 p.m.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS: Meets third Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Contact Mary Jane Garza, 210-843-2190.

GUADALUPANOS: Meets second Monday of every month in the church cry room from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., Margie Moncada, 661-7381.

LIFE TEEN (High School Youth Group): Meets Sunday, 3:00-4:30 p.m., in the parish hall. Contact Timo Zepeda, 410-7647.

EDGE (Middle School Youth Group): Meets Wednesday 6:15-7:45 p.m. Contact Lyle Pearce, 913-5585.

REGISTRATION FORMS: Located in parish office or next to the bulletin board inside of the church.

BULLETIN: Submit notices by 12:00 noon on Monday prior to issue.

YOUNG AT HEART GROUP: Meets second Thursday of the month. Call Bea Ramirez at 210-658-4439 for more information.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP: (Spanish) Meets every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel.

FAMILY OF THE ROSARY (bilingual) Meet last Tuesday of Month in church cry room 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. contact Carmenza Barrios, 210-724-8660.

Office Hours: 9:00 to 5:00, M-F
St. Vincent De Paul: 658-8791

Parish: 658-3816
Religious Ed: 658-7920

Fax: 566-3821
School: 658-6701



Mon 1/22 8:15 A.M. † Cecilia Baker
Tues 1/23 8:15 A.M. † Esmeralda Barron
Wed 1/24 8:15 A.M. † Carmen Villarreal
† Joseph Hromision, Sr.
Thurs 1/25 8:15 A.M. † Dominick Scarpati
Fri 1/26 8:15 A.M. † Michael Cole
Sat 1/27 5:30 P.M. † Chalouy Rehome
Sun 1/28 7:30 A.M. † Grace Ingraham
† Roberto Lugo
9:00 A.M. † Frank Kruse
11:00 A.M. † Gerard Marcel Schaezel
1:00 P.M. † Arnulfo Torres Barajas
5:00 P.M. † Souls in purgatory
7:00 P.M. † Ana Rebeca Medina

SI = Special Intention L & D = Living and Deceased



The Sanctuary Candle will burn all week in loving memory of a treasured son
Christopher Tufino

SUNDAY COLLECTION: \$12,455.82

You can pick up your Magnificat for February after Masses next weekend in the church foyer.

HOLY HOUR EVERY THURSDAY AT 7 P.M.
Your hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament will bring healing, peace and surrender to His will, mercy and mystical power. Join us Thursdays at 7 p.m. for praise, prayer and meditation. This is bilingual.
We also have Adoration every Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the chapel.

DON'T LET THIS OPPORTUNITY PASS BY!
There will be an ACTS retreat for women in Spanish on February 1-4, 2018. It will be held at St. Anthony of Padua's Retreat Center. The cost is \$170 per person. A deposit of \$85 is required at the time the application is turned in for retreat. Please don't let the cost of the retreat keep you from attending this life changing experience. You can contact the following ladies for additional information: Maria Rosaura Apolinar (210) 373-6913, Evelyn Martinez: (210) 376-9110, Lupita Arroyo: (210) 291-8049. Marta M Lopez (210) 663-5150.



Happy Birthday Padre Alejandro! (January 24th)
You have managed to keep the childlike qualities of humility, curiosity, simplicity and playfulness all these years while still bringing the word of God to God's people ardently and respectfully. Thank you and may God bless you with health, joy and peace that only He can provide ☺

¡Feliz cumpleaños Padre Alejandro! (24 de enero)
Usted ha guardado las calidades infantiles de humildad, curiosidad, simplicidad y alegría todos estos años mientras has compartido la palabra de dios a la gente de dios ardientemente y respetosamente. Gracias y que dios lo sigue bendiciendo con salud, alegría y la paz.



Have you considered answering the call to serve the Poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says: "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." As disciples, we are called to

continue God's work on earth. Taking care of God's Poor is indeed living the Gospel values. St. Monica's Society of St. Vincent de Paul is in need of new members. If you feel strongly about helping others and are seeking for a means of doing so, please consider joining us to help the needy within our parish boundaries. For further information, please call Rene Silk at 210-656-8020.

CHURCH NEEDS MORE SACRISTANS

The Sacristan is crucial to the Catholic Mass; in that, he or she prepares for the Liturgy by ensuring that the books for celebration, the cruets, chalices, ciboria, linens, oils, processional crosses, candles and torches are set up for Mass. If you would like to help your church in this capacity, please contact Mary Kirby at the parish office. One must be in good standing with the Catholic Church meaning one should have all the sacraments and be attending Mass.

Letter from Archbishop Gustavo to Parishioners



ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

Post Office Box 28410 | San Antonio, Texas 78228-0410 | 210-734-2620 | Facsimile 210-734-0708

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It has been truly extraordinary and inspiring to witness your generosity in the seven years that I have been your Archbishop. While much of the Church's ministry takes place in our parishes, we also come together as an archdiocesan Church to carry out critical services and ministries that have an impact far beyond any one parish. United as 171 parishes and missions, these efforts help us accomplish a mission of faith, hope, and love. I invite you and your loved ones to join me and your brothers and sisters from across the archdiocese to continue our journey as missionary disciples, **In the Spirit of Love**, through the 2018 Archbishop's Appeal.

As stated in the Gospel, we are called to a love so profound that all whom we encounter will know that we are of Christ. *"Let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God."* (1Jn 4:7) The Appeal is an essential way for each of us to contribute to the work of the Church in love for others throughout our community. The Appeal ministries funded by your generosity enable us to reach across parish boundaries to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, protect the unborn, evangelize Christ's people, and care for those in need. I humbly request that you consider making a gift to the 2018 Archbishop's Appeal. When doing so, you will be joined with thousands of Catholics who are eager to share the Gospel message of love to those among us in great need.

I pray that you accept this missionary call to generously share your blessings with others through the 2018 Appeal. Thus, we are the hands and feet and face of Christ in our community, bringing the power of faith to as many as possible. I hold each and every one of you in my heart, and I am grateful and proud of our Catholic community for your willingness to support the work of the Church through your generosity. You, your loved ones, and your parish community remain in my prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gustavo García-Siller, MSpS

Archbishop of San Antonio

Carta del Arzobispo a los parroquianos



ARQUIDIÓCESIS DE SAN ANTONIO

OFICINA DEL ARZOBISPO

Post Office Box 28410 | San Antonio, Texas 78228-0410 | 210-734-2620 | Facsímil 210-734-0708

Queridos hermanos en Cristo,

En los siete años que he sido su Arzobispo, ha sido realmente extraordinario e inspirador ser testigo de la generosidad de ustedes. Si bien gran parte del ministerio de la Iglesia se desarrolla en nuestras parroquias, también nos reunimos como Iglesia arquidiocesana para ofrecer servicios y ejercer ministerios fundamentales que influyen mucho más allá que cualquier parroquia en particular. Unidos como 171 parroquias y misiones, estos esfuerzos nos ayudan a cumplir una misión de fe, esperanza y amor. Los invito a ustedes y a sus seres queridos a acompañarnos, a sus hermanos de toda la Arquidiócesis y a su servidor, para continuar nuestra peregrinación como discípulos misioneros, **En el Espíritu del Amor**, a través de la Campaña Anual del Arzobispo 2018.

Como se afirma en el Evangelio, estamos llamados a un amor tan profundo que todos los que encontremos sepan que somos de Cristo. *“Hermanos queridos, amémonos los unos a los otros, porque el amor procede de Dios. Todo el que ama ha nacido de Dios y conoce a Dios”* (1Jn 4,7). La Campaña Anual es una vía primordial para que cada uno de nosotros contribuya a la obra de la Iglesia, amando a los demás miembros de nuestra comunidad. Los ministerios financiados por su generosidad nos permiten llegar más allá de los límites de las parroquias para alimentar a los hambrientos, dar asilo a los desamparados, proteger a los no nacidos, evangelizar al pueblo de Cristo y cuidar a los necesitados. Les pido humildemente que consideren hacer un donativo a la Campaña Anual del Arzobispo 2018. Al hacerlo se unirán a miles de católicos que están ansiosos por compartir el mensaje de amor del Evangelio con aquellos que tienen gran necesidad.

Ruego a Dios que acepten este llamado misionero para compartir generosamente sus bendiciones con otros a través de la Campaña Anual de 2018. De este modo somos las manos, los pies y el rostro de Cristo en nuestra comunidad, llevando el poder de la fe al mayor número de personas posible. A todos y cada uno de ustedes los llevo en mi corazón, y estoy agradecido y orgulloso de nuestra comunidad católica por su disposición a apoyar la obra de la Iglesia mediante su generosidad. Ustedes, sus seres queridos y su comunidad parroquial permanecen en mis oraciones.

Atentamente en Cristo,

+S.E. Mons. Gustavo García Siller, MSPS
Arzobispo de San Antonio

LA IGLESIA NECESITA MÁS SACRISTANS

El Sacristan es crucial a la misa católica; en ése, él o ella se prepara para la liturgia asegurándose de que los libros para la celebración, las vinajeras, el cáliz, el copón, los manteles del altar, los aceites, las cruces del processional, las velas y las antorchas están instalados para la misa. Si usted quisiera ayudar a su iglesia en esta capacidad, por favor comunicase con Mary Kirby en la oficina de la parroquia. La persona tendrá que tener los sacramentos y estar en buenas circunstancias con la iglesia.

INVEST IN A CATHOLIC EDUCATION

We would like to invite you to check out St. Monica's Catholic School. There will be an Open House on Sunday, January 28th from 12:30 to 2 p.m. If you or someone you know has children ages 2 years-8th grade looking for a challenging, fun place with reasonable rates to send their children, invite them to the Open House.

INVIERTA EN UNA EDUCACIÓN CATÓLICA

Quisiéramos invitarlos a que compruebe la escuela católica de Santa Monica. Habrá una casa abierta el domingo 28 de enero el horario de las 12:30 hasta 2 de la tarde. Si usted o alguien que conosca tiene hijos de las edades 2 hasta 13 años por favor invitalos a esta casa abierta para enterarse de lo que ofrece la escuela de santa Mónica.

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

The 2018 Archbishop's Appeal is this weekend. The Archdiocesan goal is to raise \$4.5 million, and our parish target is \$39,900 of this total. This year's theme is "In the Spirit of Love" and on behalf of Archbishop Gustavo, Fr. Alejandro and Fr. Mauricio, we invite you and your family to server our brothers and sisters in need. Your prayers and gifts to this year's Appeal are essential to continue serving homeless women and children, providing clothes and food for the poor, bringing spiritual support to the hospitalized, forming future priests and deacons to provide the Sacraments of our faith in our communities and so much more! If you have not yet had an opportunity, we invite you to pray and consider how you and your family can renew (or make) your gift to this year's Appeal. Pledge envelopes are in the Church foyer along with additional information about the Appeal. You may either mail your envelope to the Archdiocese, or simply place in offering basket if you prefer. Thank you for all of your prayers and generosity, and may God bless you!

NO ES POSIBLE SIN SU AYUDA

Ha comenzado ya la Campaña Anual del Arzobispo de 2018 con el tema En el Espíritu del Amor y un objetivo general de campaña de \$4.5 millones. Nuestra meta parroquial de la Campaña Anual 2018 es \$ 39,900. La Campaña Anual del Arzobispo es el esfuerzo anual continuo de la comunidad católica, que apoya a más de 40 ministerios que evangelizan localmente al pueblo de Cristo y sirven a los necesitados.

GUADALUPE HOME NEEDS SUPPLIES

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the Diaper Drive for the young mothers at Guadalupe Home. Your donations are appreciated. The following is what has been requested: Cleaning supplies, (antibacterial cleaners, sponges, toilet cleaners, dish soap, laundry detergent, mops) Hangers, Bath Towels, Bed Sheets (twin and crib sizes), crib mattresses, blankets, diaper bags, baby wipes, diapers, paper towels, hygiene items (shampoo, conditioner, liquid body wash, razors and sanitary napkins), ponytail holders, women's undergarments, socks, maternity clothes, women's and baby shoes, first aid items, furnishings and housewares. Put in crib in foyer next weekend!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Ash Wednesday, February 14th

Easter Sunday, April 1st

Confirmation Mass, Thursday, April 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Parish Festival, Sunday, April 29th First Communion

Masses, Saturday, May 5th & May 6th Last class

Religious Education on Wednesdays, May 2nd.

IT TASTES LIKE HOMEMADE!

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and pans afterwards! Come enjoy fine Mexican food at

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(210) 973-7099.

THANK YOU FOR TREATING ME LIKE FAMILY

I would like to thank all of you who remembered me during

Christmas with presents, cards, giftcards, money, etc. I truly

feel loved and appreciated ☺ Fr. Mauricio Lopez

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