

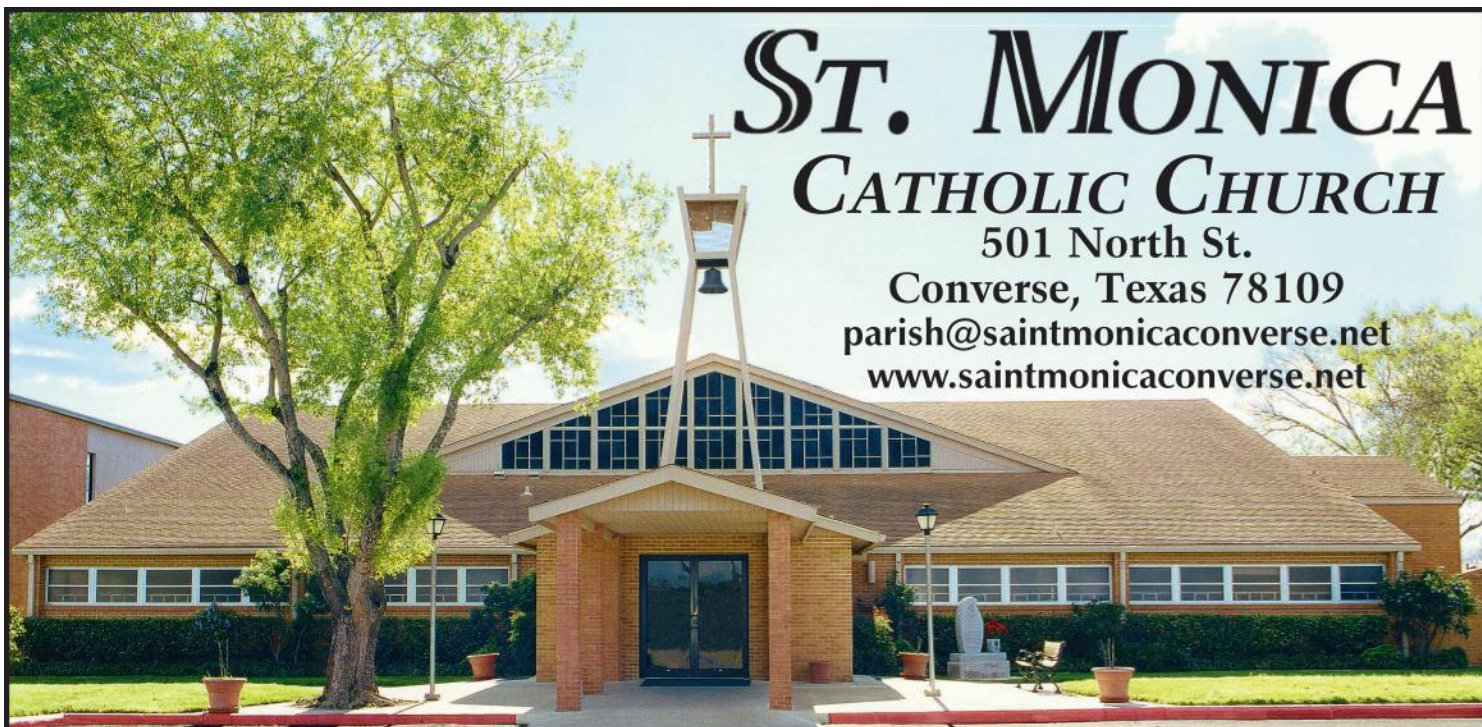
# ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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
Business Manager	Mrs. Mary Howard, ext. 235
Housekeeper	Mrs. Limbania Reyes
RCIA Director	Mr. Paul Cassetta

#### 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 to 7:30 p.m. Office hours - Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 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.

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

**PARISH COUNCILS:** Pastoral Council meets monthly

**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: Gustavo Munoz, 663-5642.

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

**ACTS:** Contact Steve Van Slambrouck, 602-5950.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Meets second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Contact Timo Zepeda, Grand Knight, 410-7647.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** 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., Alma Castillo, 659-0056.

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** Meets Wednesdays 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Contact Steve Van Slambrouck, 602-5950.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** Meets Thursdays 6:30-8:00 p.m. Contact Annette Winfield 885-0861

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

**HALL RENTAL:** Contact Leroy Kruse at 560-5375.

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

**YOUNG AT HEART GROUP:** Meets second Thursday of the month. Call Adalene at 658-6934 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**



# Mass Intentions for the Week

- Mon 12/5 8:15 A.M. † Carmen Rodriguez
- Tues 12/6 8:15 A.M. L&D Adolph/Mary Schmann Scheel
- Wed 12/7 8:15 A.M. Luis Flores  
5:30 P.M. † Jack Cleveland, Jr.
- Thurs 12/8 8:15 A.M. † Irene, Bruce/Rodney Friesenhahn
- Fri 12/9 8:15 A.M. † Norma Samuda
- Sat 12/10 5:30 P.M. Abitzel R. Hobson = SI
- Sun 12/11 7:30 A.M. † Idalia Rodriguez  
9:00 A.M. † Edmund Manuel Perez  
† Susana Garza  
11:00 A.M. † Raul Trevino  
1:00 P.M. † David Nuno  
5:00 P.M. † Max/Minerva Cuellar  
George Hawkins = SI  
7:00 P.M. † Felicita Maldonado

SI = Special Intention L & D = Living and Deceased

\*\*\*\*\*



SANCTUARY CANDLE  
This week's Sanctuary Candle will burn  
in loving memory of  
*Rose Lauer*

TEEN ACTS IS FORMING THEIR TEAM!  
St. Monica's Teen ACTS is now accepting applications for those interested in being part of the team conducting the 2017 retreat to be held March 17-20 at Slumber Falls Camp in New Braunfels. The only requirements are that you must be between the ages of 15 to 19 and have attended a Teen ACTS retreat previously. Applications are located at the back of the church and need to be turned in no later than December 4th to either Michelle Vaughan 823-8379 or Steve Van Slambrouck 602-5950.



BUY YOUR POINSETTIAS HERE  
Buy a poinsettia at any Mass this weekend or next weekend in memory of someone or to honor someone you love. The cost is \$12 each. The name of your loved one will be placed on the altar for prayer throughout the

Christmas season. The poinsettia will be used to decorate the altar for Christmas.



This weekend's altar flowers were donated in honor of *Marlene* and *Richard Chambers* 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. May God continue to bless your love and commitment to one another.

## OUR VERY OWN GUADALUPANA TO ADORE!

We are so glad to announce to you that from now on we will have our very own image of The Virgen de Guadalupe adorning our sanctuary area for years to come. We are especially thankful to The Guadalupanas for their thoughtfulness in presenting to our parish this invaluable and precious image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This image is a replica of the original one in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

## BLESSED MOTHER'S SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS

There will be special Masses and celebrations beginning with *The Immaculate Conception Masses* ( holy day of obligation) that will be :  
Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass  
and Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 a.m., 12 Noon, 3 p.m. No Mass; Solemn Divine Mercy Prayer and 7 p.m. Mass (bilingual).



## VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE

**Our Lady of Guadalupe's Feast Day is December 12<sup>th</sup>.**

The following is the schedule of events in her honor:  
Novena beginning Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5 p.m. before the 5:30 p.m. Mass. The novena will continue every day thru Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. More info on times of novena being posted soon!

**Vigil Mass, Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** at 5 p.m.

**Procession** 9 p.m. thru 12 Midnight in the church parking lot. Wear comfortable shoes and warm clothing. Procession will conclude with *Las Mananitas at 12 a.m.* in the parish hall.

**Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.** Masses are 6:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Spanish Mass with Matachines Dance.

**Las Mananitas at 6 a.m.** Breakfast tacos and refreshments for everyone in the parish hall after the morning Masses. Sponsored by The Guadalupanas. **Spanish Mass at 7 p.m.** will be followed by reception in parish hall.



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THERE WILL NOT BE AN 8:15 A.M. MASS ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, HOWEVER, THE MORNING MASS WILL BE AT 6:30 A.M. DUE TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE FEAST DAY.



### LAS POSADAS

We invite the entire parish family to this beautiful Christmas tradition, Las Posadas. It's a re-enactment of Mary and Joseph's search for lodging in

Bethlehem, performed by our very own youth. Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall. This parish event will need many volunteers to help make it enjoyable and memorable! We are looking for:

- *Team members to put together and lead the Posada planning efforts.*
- *Volunteers to bring cookies, pastries, make hot chocolate and/or perhaps even donate other foods (buñuelos or tamales).*
- *Donors of piñatas and candies.*

Please contact Bertha at 210-862-5549 or [berthacastellanos4@gmail.com](mailto:berthacastellanos4@gmail.com) for questions, to donate or to volunteer.



WE WILL NOT HAVE HOLY HOUR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> DUE TO THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

### HOLY HOUR CAN TRANSFORM A SOUL

During Eucharistic Adoration, we "watch and wait", we remain "silent" in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist ... We welcome everyone to the next bilingual Holy Hour Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. If you wish to share a poem, prayer or participate in some way, please call Christian Zunino (210) 725-4908.

### SUNDAY COLLECTION

November 27<sup>th</sup>: \$11,482.00

Capital Campaign: \$6,417.00



The Knights of Columbus are serving up their hot and delicious Pancake Breakfast in the parish hall from 7:30 to 11 a.m. next Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Stop by with the family. Plates are \$4.50 each for adults and \$2.50 for kids under age 13.



The Young at Heart will meet next Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall at 10 a.m. We will enjoy a musical presentation and a delicious holiday luncheon. In the spirit of giving, please bring the following items for the St. Vincent de Paul Pantry: Macaroni and Cheese, Pasta, Pasta Sauce and Jelly. All members of Young at Heart will receive a reminder call. For more information, please call Adalene at 658-6934.

### ATTENTION ALL MINISTERS OF THE MASS

Please sign up for the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe Masses. Very few have signed up. The sign-up sheets are in the chapel or you may sign up on line.



Our Advent Penance Service will be Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m. There will be several priests assisting with confessions including those who speak Spanish.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

There will be classes held at the regular time of 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the following dates:

December 7 and 14

NO CLASSES ON THE DATES:

December 21 and December 28 and January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

CLASSES RESUME: January 11, 2017

### OFFICE CLOSURES

The church office will be closed Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> due to the Feast of the Immaculate Conception; Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> and Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> for Christmas.





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