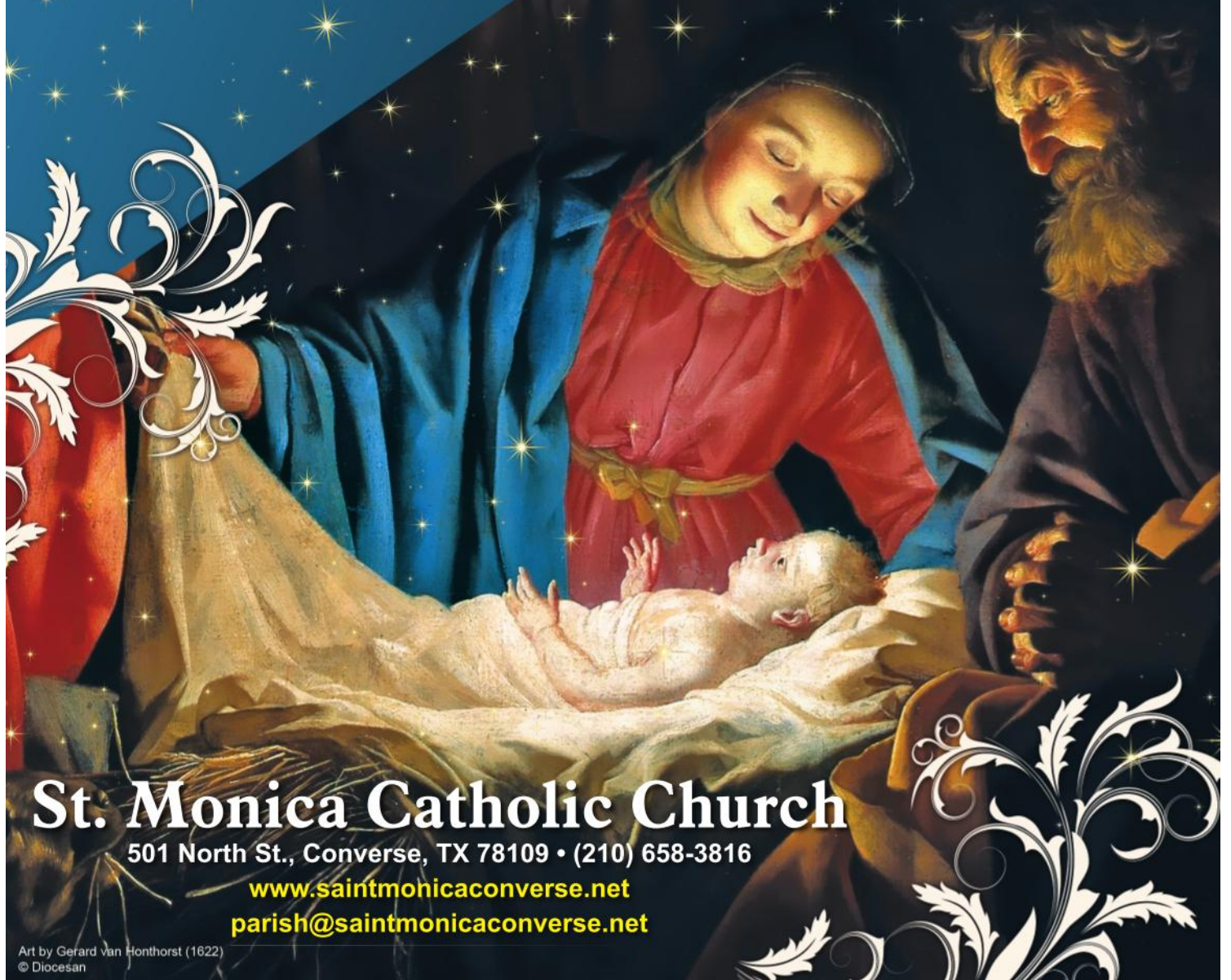


CHRISTMAS *Blessings* BENDICIONES *de Navidad*



St. Monica Catholic Church

501 North St., Converse, TX 78109 • (210) 658-3816

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parish@saintmonicaconverse.net

Art by Gerard van Honthorst (1622)
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Mass Intentions

Mon 12-24 3:00 P.M. †Guadalupe Ramos
5:00 P.M. †Edilio/Carmen R.Cantu, Sr
† Rebecca Cantu
7:00 P.M. † Armando Sanchez
12:00 A.M. Angela Cominetti = SI
Tues 12-25 9:00 A.M. †Ella Tillman
11:00 A.M. Maxine Lerma = 85th B
†Miguel Angel Gonzalez
1:00 P.M. †Juan Soto
†Luis Angel Maldonado
†Emerita Torres
†Leon Diaz
Wed 12-26 8:15 A.M. Tomas/Olivia Rodriguez = SI
Thurs 12-27 8:15 A.M. Velma Santos = SI
Fri 12-28 8:15 A.M. †Souls in purgatory
Sat 12-29 5:30 P.M. †June / Rigo Santiago, Jr.
† Helen Littlefield
Sun 12-30 7:30 A.M. Justin/Victoria Payton = SI
9:00 A.M. †Souls in purgatory
11:00 A.M. St. Monica Parishioners = SI
1:00 P.M. †Almas de purgatorio
5:00 P.M. Victims of child abuse = SI
7:00 P.M. Priesthood = SI

December 16th Collection:

\$11,068.50

Retired Priests: \$2,217.00

Our Lady of Guadalupe: \$573.00



Second Collection this weekend for the St.
Monica's School.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Monday, December 24th

Christmas Eve: 3 p.m.;

5 p.m.; 7 p.m. Spanish;

12 a.m Bilingual

Tuesday, December 25th

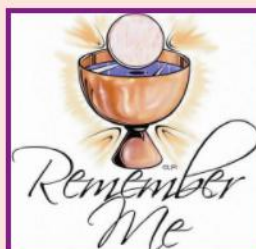
Christmas Day: 9 a.m.;

11 a.m.; 1 p.m. Spanish



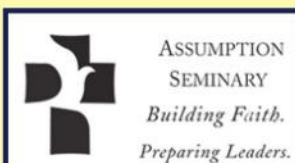
SANCTUARY LAMP

The sanctuary light will burn all week in lov-
ing memory of
Victoria N. Marco



The best time you spend on earth
is with Jesus, your Best Friend,
in the Blessed Sacrament! Join
us for the next bilingual Holy
Hour and Adoration; Thursday,
December 27 at 7 p.m.

La proxima hora santa es jueves
27 de Diciembre a las 7 p.m. Venga a estarse una hora
con Jesus. Su mejor amigo. No es tiempo perdido.



This coming 2019 four men
will be ordained to the
priesthood for the Archdio-
cese of San Antonio. As-
sumption Seminary is
grateful for the generosity

of this parish that enables these men and many oth-
ers to receive the Pastoral training, theological edu-
cation, and spiritual preparation needed to be Christ
centered priests. The Second Collection at Christmas
is designated for the mission of your seminary—
Assumption Seminary. Please continue praying for
vocations.

Este próximo 2019, cuatro hombres serán ordenados
al sacerdocio para la Arquidiócesis de San Antonio.
El Seminario de Asunción está agradecido por la
generosidad de esta parroquia que les permite a estos
hombres y muchos otros recibir la capacitación pas-
toral, la educación teológica y la preparación espiri-
tual necesaria para ser sacerdotes centrados en Cris-
to. La Segunda Colección en Navidad está designa-
da para la misión de su seminario: el Seminario de
Asunción. Por favor sigan orando por las vocacio-
nes.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Church office will close Monday, December
25 and Tuesday, December 26 for Christmas.



EVENTS THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, December 24, Vigil of Christmas

Mass 3:00 P.M. Fr. Thumma
 5:00 P.M. Fr. Thumma / Fr. Marcin, SDS
 7:00 P.M. (Spanish) Fr. Marcin, SDS / Fr. Thumma
 12:00 A.M. (bilingual) Fr. Thumma/ Fr. Marcin, SDS

Tuesday, December 25, The Nativity of Our Lord

Mass 9:00 A.M. Fr. Thumma
 11:00 A.M. Fr. Thumma / Fr. Paul Amaliri
 1:00 P.M. Fr. Marcin, SDS

Wednesday, December 26, St. Stephen

Mass 8:15 A.M. Fr. Marcin, SDS
 Confessions 6:00 P.M. Confessions
EDGE and CCD cancelled for Christmas vacation

Thursday, December 27, St. John

Mass 8:15 A.M. Fr. Marcin, SDS
 Holy Hour 7:00 P.M. Fr. Marcin, SDS
GLOW cancelled for Christmas vacation

Friday, December 28, The Holy Innocents

Mass 8:15 A.M. Fr. Thumma
 Adoration 9 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Fr. Marcin, SDS
Spanish Prayer Group meeting in church at 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 29, St. Thomas Becket

Confessions 4:00 p.m. Fr. Marcin, SDS
 Masses 5:30 p.m. Fr. Marcin, SDS
Holy Land religious articles for sale after Mass

Sunday, December 30, The Holy Family

Masses in a.m. 7:30, 9:00, 11 Fr. Marcin, SDS
 Masses in p.m. 1, 5 and 7 (Spanish) Fr. Thumma
Holy Land religious articles for sale in foyer after Masses
Bible Study in Spanish 11—12:30 p.m. in hall
RCIA in English AND in Spanish cancelled
Life Teen on break for Christmas vacation

EVENTOS ESTA SEMANA EN LA PARROQUIA

Lunes, 24 de Diciembre, Nochebuena

Mass 3:00 P.M. Padre Thumma
 5:00 P.M. Padre Thumma/ Padre Marcin, SDS
 7:00 P.M. (Español) Padre Marcin, SDS/ Padre Thumma
 12:00 A.M. (bilingüe) Padre Thumma/ Padre Marcin, SDS

Martes, 25 de Diciembre, La Natividad del Señor

Misa 9:00 A.M. Padre Thumma
 11:00 A.M. Padre Thumma/ Padre Pablo Amaliri
 1:00 P.M. Padre Marcin, SDS

Miércoles, 26 de Diciembre, San Esteban

Misa 8:15 A.M. Padre Marcin, SDS
 Confesiones 6:00 P.M. Confesiones
EDGE y CCD cancelado por las vacaciones de la navidad

Jueves, 27 de Diciembre, San Juan, apostol

Misa 8:15 A.M. Padre Marcin, SDS
 Hora Santa 7:00 P.M. Padre Marcin, SDS
GLOW esta cancelado por vacaciones navidenas

Viernes, 28 de Diciembre, Los Santos Inocentes

Misa 8:15 A.M. Padre Thumma
 Adoración 9 A.M.—7:00 P.M. Padre Marcin, SDS

Sábado 29 de Diciembre, Santo Tomas Becket

Confesiones 4:00 p.m. Padre Marcin, SDS
 Misas 5:30 p.m. Padre Marcin, SDS
Articulos religiosos de la Tierra Santa de venta en el vestibulo después de misa

Domingo, 30 de Diciembre, La Sagrada Familia

Misas de mañana 7:30, 9 y 11 Padre Marcin, SDS
 Misas de la tarde 1, 5 y 7 (Español) Padre Thumma
Articulos religiosos de venta en el vestibulo después de misas
RICA en Ingles y Espanol cancelado por la navidad
Life Teen cancelado por las vacaciones navidenas
Estudio de biblia español en salón 11-12:30 p.m.



EXÁMENES DE SALUD

Marque sus calendarios para el 21 al 22 de enero de 2019 para que **Stroke Scan** conduzca una evaluación de su salud. Se harán un total de 8 evaluaciones a cada participante por un bajo

precio de \$149. El año pasado hubo 82 participantes en nuestra parroquia y estos fueron los resultados:

Enfermedad Arterial (leve a severa): 8

Aorta anormal: 0

PAD anormal: 0

Hígado anormal: 4

Riñones anormales: 7

Vesícula biliar anormal: 11

Tiroides anormales: 28

Habrà más información en futuros boletines.

Mark your calendars for January 21 and January 22, 2019 for Stroke Scan to conduct a health screening. A total of 8 screenings will be done on each participant

for a low price of \$ 149. Last year there were 82 participants at our parish and these were the results:

Arterial Disease (mild to severe): 8

Abnormal Aorta: 0

Abnormal PAD: 0

Abnormal Liver: 4

Abnormal Kidneys: 7

Abnormal Gallbladder: 11

Abnormal Thyroid: 28

There will be more information in future bulletins.



MISAS PARA LA NAVIDAD

Lunes 24 de diciembre Nochebuena:
3 p.m. ; 5 p.m. ; 7 p.m. Español; 12 a.m bilingüe

Martes, 25 de diciembre

Día de Navidad: 9 a.m. ; 11 a.m. ; 1 p.m. Español



RELIGIOUS ED CLASS SCHEDULE:

December 26: *HOLIDAY - Christmas*

January 2: *HOLIDAY - New Years*

January 9: **Classes resume 6:25 – 7:35 PM**

LIFE TEEN (High School – Sunday classes):

December 23: *HOLIDAY - Christmas*

December 30: *HOLIDAY - Christmas*

January 6: *HOLIDAY - New Years*

January 13 **Session Held 3 – 4:30 PM**

RELIGIOUS VOCATION

DISCERNMENT WEEKEND FOR MEN AND WOMEN

There will be a Religious Vocation Discernment weekend on January 11-13, 2019. This is a time and place to clarify your calling in Life. Don't spend your life wondering if you are called to the Priesthood or Religious Life. Come join us at the Cordi-Marian Retreat Center, 11624 Culebra Road; SAT 78253. Registration required at www.archsa.org/vocations; for ages 18-45. For more information contact Vocations Office at 210-735-0553

Mass celebrated by Most Reverend Gustavo Garcia-Siller, MSpS



FIN DE SEMANA DE DISCERNIMIENTO DE VOCACIONA RELIGIOSA

Este es un momento y lugar para aclarar su vocación en la vida. No pase su vida preguntándose si está llamado al sacerdocio o a la vida religiosa. Únase a nosotros en el Centro de Retiros Cordi-Marian, 11624 Culebra Road, SAT 78253. Se requiere registro en www.archsa.org/vocations; para edades de 18-45 años. Para más información comuníquese con a la Oficina de Vocaciones al 210-735-0553

Misa celebrada por el Reverendísimo Gustavo García-Siller, MSpS

This weekend's altar flowers were donated in loving memory of a daughter, sister and aunt,
Maria Cecilia Urrabazo



SAVE THE DATE !

We want to hear from you! St Monica Listening Weekend January 18-20 2019 in the Parish Hall Before and after weekend Masses. Come and share your thoughts and ideas on how St Monica can best serve you, your family and the entire community. Refreshments will be served ☺

Dear St. Monica Family,

I wish you all a Blessed Christmas! I pray that your lives be filled with warmth and good cheer this Holy season and that this is a time filled with unbounded Joy. May this Christmas bring with it a silent night for our parish, a bright star above our world, and the blessed gift of Hope and Love to you all. I wish you and your whole family the unconditional love of God, and that all the dreams of your heart are made true, and your everyday prayers are answered. May you find Christ in your family now and throughout the New Year.

It has been an absolute pleasure having my ministry at St. Monica, Converse. Thank you for your unending cooperation, support, love and encouragement. Fr. Marcin and I are very happy to be at St. Monica and we feel very blessed to be able to serve you with the help and support of our staff and the parishioners.

Christmas is a special time for gifts. While we are busy buying gifts for our family members, looking forward to surprising them on Christmas Day, let us all spend time this season remembering that Christ is the best gift that we have already received in this world. God has blessed me with many gifts that I would like to acknowledge including the life that He has given me, my family and friends, and the many different parishes where I have worked in the past. I thank God for the precious gift of my priesthood and all that is good in my life.

Finally, my Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I would like to describe to you what my perfect Christmas gift would be this year:

- 1) It would make me smile because I am given an opportunity by God to care and serve others.
- 2) It would be wrapped in a beautiful 'paper' made up of a community united in purpose; that respects and accepts each other unconditionally; shares their talents and music with each other; celebrates festivals; serves in brotherhood and shows solidarity, Peace and joy all tied together with ribbon and a bow made from God's Love.
- 3) I would ask Jesus what it needs. I would seek His wisdom through prayer, and the counsel of others, for nurturing this 'child' to be the best it can be.
- 4) I would call my perfect present: St. Monica's Church of Converse, Texas.

You have been a great blessing to me this year and I appreciate your sincere efforts to make it a community of love, forgiveness and acceptance.

May God bless each and every one of you and the Joy, Peace and Love of Christ be with you all.

Fr. Thumma Prathap

Estimada familia de Santa Mónica,

¡Les deseo a todos una bendita Navidad! Oro por que sus vidas estén llenas de calidez y buen ánimo en esta temporada santa y que este sea un tiempo lleno de alegría sin límites. Que esta Navidad traiga consigo una noche de paz para nuestra parroquia, una estrella brillante sobre nuestro mundo y el bendito regalo de Esperanza y Amor para todos ustedes. Les deseo a usted y a toda su familia el amor incondicional de Dios, y que todos los sueños de su corazón se hagan realidad, y que sus oraciones diarias sean respondidas. Que encuentre a Cristo en su familia ahora y durante todo el año nuevo.

Ha sido un absoluto placer el tener mi ministerio en Santa Mónica, Converse. Gracias por su interminable cooperación, apoyo, cariño y ánimo. El padre Marcin y yo estamos muy felices de estar en Santa Mónica y nos sentimos muy afortunados de poder servirles con la ayuda y el apoyo de nuestro personal y los feligreses.

La Navidad es un momento especial para los regalos. Mientras estamos ocupados comprando regalos para los miembros de nuestra familia, esperando sorprenderlos el día de Navidad, pasemos tiempo esta temporada recordando que Cristo es el mejor regalo que ya hemos recibido en este mundo. Dios me ha bendecido con muchos regalos que me gustaría reconocer, incluyendo la vida que me ha dado a mí, a mi familia y amigos, y a las muchas parroquias en las que he trabajado en el pasado. Agradezco a Dios por el precioso don de mi sacerdocio y por todo lo que es bueno en mi vida.

Finalmente, mis hermanos y hermanas en Cristo, me gustaría describirles cuál sería mi regalo perfecto de Navidad este año:

- 1) Me haría sonreír porque Dios me ha dado la oportunidad de cuidar y servir a los demás.
- 2) Se envolvería en un hermoso "papel" formado por una comunidad unida en un propósito; que se respeta y se acepta incondicionalmente; comparte sus talentos y música entre ellos; celebra festivales; sirve en hermandad y muestra solidaridad, paz y alegría, todo ello atado con una cinta y un lazo hecho del amor de Dios.
- 3) Le preguntaría a Jesús qué necesita. Buscaría su sabiduría a través de la oración, y el consejo de otros, para nutrir a este "niño" para que sea lo mejor que pueda ser.
- 4) Llamaría a mi regalo perfecto: la Iglesia de Converse de Santa Mónica, Texas.

Ha sido una gran bendición para mí este año y aprecio sus esfuerzos sinceros para convertirla en una comunidad de amor, perdón y aceptación.

Que Dios los bendiga a cada uno de ustedes y que la alegría, la paz y el amor de Cristo estén con todos ustedes.

Padre Thumma Prathap

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



There will be hand made religious articles by the Catholic community in the Holy Land on sale in the church foyer the weekend of December 29/30. The money raised will go towards the building of a new church (St. Barbara) for the Catholic refugees who fled their homeland in Bethlehem and the Middle East because of religious persecution.



Habr  art culos religiosos hechos a mano por la comunidad cat lica en la Tierra Santa a la venta en el v stibulo de la iglesia el fin de semana del 29/30 de diciembre. El dinero recaudado se destinar  a la construcci n de una nueva iglesia (Santa B rbara) para los refugiados cat licos que huyeron de su tierra natal en Bel n y Medio Oriente debido a la persecuci n religiosa.



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