

# St. Monica Catholic Church, Converse, Texas

*Christ is Born  
Cristo ha Nacido*



© Diocesan

*For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests.*

*They name him Wonder-Counselor,  
God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.*

*Isaiah 9:5*

*Porque un niño nos ha nacido, un hijo se nos ha dado; le ponen en el hombro el distintivo del rey y proclaman su nombre:  
Consejero Admirable, Dios Fuerte,  
Padre Que no Muere, Príncipe de la Paz.*

*Isaías 9, 5*

Dear St. Monica Family,

As we are celebrating Christmas, I am filled with gratitude and warmth, reflecting on the profound sense of community that defines our parish. In the spirit of John 3:16, which beautifully encapsulates the essence of Christmas, I want to extend my heartfelt wishes to each one of you.

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

May this verse serve as a guiding light, a reminder that the true meaning of Christmas lies in the gift of Christ and the boundless love He brings. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, my prayer is that each of you may find Christ in your daily lives, illuminating your path with hope, joy, and compassion.

In the midst of the challenges faced by our parish, I am profoundly thankful for the unwavering support and resilience shown by the St. Monica family. Your generosity, kindness, and commitment have been a source of strength, especially during difficult times. Together, we have weathered storms and embraced the warmth of community, embodying the teachings of Christ..

This Christmas, let us not only rejoice in the festivities but also carry the spirit of Christmas beyond the season. May the love we share within our parish extend to those in need, reaching the corners of our community where hope may be scarce. Let us be beacons of light, reflecting the love of Christ in our actions and interactions.

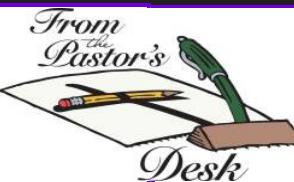
As we exchange gifts and gather with loved ones, let us also remember the ultimate gift—the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. May this awareness fill our hearts with gratitude and inspire us to live out the teachings of the Gospel in our daily lives.

I want to express my deepest appreciation for the dedication and support you have shown to St. Monica Parish. Your contributions, whether big or small, your prayers, words of support and encouragement through your calls, emails, texts, greeting cards, have made a significant impact, and I am truly blessed to serve alongside such a wonderful community.

May the grace of God be with you all during this Christmas season and throughout the coming year. May you be blessed abundantly, and may the love of Christ continue to shine brightly in your lives. Merry Christmas to you and all your family members. With gratitude and Christmas blessings.

Yours truly,

Fr. Thumma Prathap



Querida Familia de Santa Mónica,

Mientras celebramos la Navidad, me siento lleno de gratitud y calidez, reflexionando sobre la profundo sentido de comunidad que define a nuestra parroquia. En el espíritu de

Juan 3:16, que resume maravillosamente la esencia de la Navidad, quiero extender mis más sinceros deseos a cada uno de ustedes. *"Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo que dio a su único Hijo, para que todo aquel que en él cree no perezca, sino que tenga vida eterna"*.

Que este versículo sirva como una guía de luz, un recordatorio de que el verdadero significado de la Navidad reside en el regalo de Cristo y el amor ilimitado que Él trae. Al celebrar el nacimiento de nuestro Salvador, mi oración es que cada uno de ustedes pueda encontrar a Cristo en su vida diaria, iluminando su camino con esperanza, alegría y compasión.

En medio de los desafíos que enfrenta nuestra parroquia, estoy profundamente agradecido por el apoyo inquebrantable y la resiliencia mostrados por la familia de Santa Mónica. Su generosidad, amabilidad y compromiso han sido una fuente de fortaleza, especialmente en tiempos difíciles. Juntos, hemos capeado tormentas y abrazado la calidez de la comunidad, encarnando las enseñanzas de Cristo.

Esta Navidad, no sólo regocijémonos en las festividades, sino también llevemos el espíritu navideño más allá de la temporada. Que el amor que compartimos dentro de nuestra parroquia se extienda a los necesitados, llegando a los rincones de nuestra comunidad donde la esperanza puede ser escasa. Seamos faros de luz, reflejando el amor de Cristo en nuestras acciones e interacciones.

Mientras intercambiamos regalos y nos reunimos con nuestros seres queridos, recordemos también el regalo supremo: el regalo de la salvación a través de Jesucristo. Que esta conciencia llene nuestros corazones de gratitud y nos inspire a vivir las enseñanzas del Evangelio en nuestra vida diaria.

Quiero expresar mi más profundo agradecimiento por la dedicación y apoyo que ha mostrado a Parroquia de Santa Mónica. Sus contribuciones, ya sean grandes o pequeñas, sus oraciones, palabras de apoyo y el aliento a través de sus llamadas, correos electrónicos, mensajes de texto y tarjetas de felicitación ha tenido un impacto significativo y tengo una verdadera bendición de servir junto a una comunidad tan maravillosa.

Que la gracia de Dios esté con todos ustedes durante esta temporada navideña y durante todo el año que viene. Que sean bendecidos abundantemente y que el amor de Cristo continúe brillando en sus vidas. Feliz Navidad para usted y todos sus familiares. Con gratitud y bendiciones navideñas.

Sinceramente,

Fr. Thumma Prathap

**COMMITTEES**

Pastoral Council President: Timo Zepeda  
 Finance Council President: Sandra Lyssy  
 Building Board President: Tony Canez

**CHOIR DIRECTORS**

Music Coordinator: Jorge Castellanos

Gil Lugo, Sat.; 5:30pm & Sun; 7:30am  
 Bill Staggs, 9:15 a.m.,  
 Michelle Hernandez, 11 a.m.,  
 Jorge Castellanos, Spanish 1p.m.  
 Lilli Soto, 5 pm. or Bill Staggs 5 pm  
 Ernesto Diaz, 7pm Sunday or  
 Lupita Gonzalez 7pm Sunday

To join the choir, call the director of the Mass you attend.

**SACRAMENTS**

**ANointing of Sick:** Contact the church office to setup an appointment with a priest.

**INFANT BAPTISMS:** 3rd Saturday of the month in English & 4th Saturday of the month in Spanish. Please contact the parish office to register.

**MARRIAGE & QUINCEANERA:** At least 6 months notice is required. Contact **Deacon David** at the parish office.

**RCIA:** Adult converts or those needing sacraments are invited. Please contact **Timo Zepeda** for more information.

**RECONCILIATION:** Wed. 6:00p.m. & Sat. 4:00 p.m. or by appt.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** To include preparation for First Communion and Confirmation Grades K– High School. Email: RE@saintmonicaconverse.net 210-658-3816

**EDGE:** JD Flores & Karina Gonzales

Having a Mass said for a specific prayer intention is a wonderful way to glorify God. You may request a Mass to be said for a living or deceased person, or for a particular intention. Mass intentions provide opportunities for prayerful remembrance of anniversaries and birthdays, and additional prayers for a deceased loved one. A donation of \$10 is requested.



REQUEST	Ofrecer una Misa para una intención específica de oración es una manera maravillosa de glorificar a Dios. Usted puede solicitar una misa para una persona viva o fallecida, o para una intención particular. Las intenciones de Misa brindan oportunidades para el recuerdo en oración de aniversarios y cumpleaños, y oraciones adicionales por un ser querido fallecido. Se solicita una donación de \$10 cuando se pide una intención.
A MASS INTENTION	

**MINISTRIES**

**ACTS:** Giselle Zamago

**ALTAR SOCIETY: THRIFT STORE:** Open Wednesdays & Saturdays from 9 a.m. till Noon

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY:** Dcn. Sean Dooley

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS:** Meet 3rd Sat. of the month 9a.m. NO MEETINGS June or July. Contact: Janet Swanson

**ART & ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY:** Alma Castillo,

**DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP:** (Spanish) Meet Tues. 6-7:30pm & Wed. 9 to 11am in the Parish Hall contact **Lupita Ruiz**

**DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP:** (English) Meet every 2nd & 4th Sat. at 10am & the following Mon. at 6pm contact **Christine Warren**

**EXTRAORDINARY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER, LECTOR, USHER OR ALTAR SERVER:** Contact **Anita Moreno** to join any of these ministries.

**FAMILY OF THE ROSARY** Graciela Morgan

**GUADALUPANAS:** Meets 2nd Mon. 10:00 a.m. parish hall, Joe Luera



We are here to Pray for you  
 Estamos aquí para orar por ti

In our prayers let us ask the Lord for health  
 for our sisters and brothers who are ill:

En nuestras oraciones pidamos al Señor por la salud  
 para nuestras hermanas y nuestros hermanos enfermos:



Glyssie Esquivel, Reynaldo Vela, Angel Cantu, Linda Duncan, Maria J., Arthur Thomas, Lisa Lee, Luis M Vega, Barbara Cantley, Suzie Littrell, Helen Arispe, Alena Quintero, Irma Mendez, Nildia Johnston, Olga, Lucy Barajas, Tim Knotts, Lisa Lee, Douglas, Bob Andrews, Tyler Acosta, Jo-Ann Case, Diane Thatcher, Joanne & Sebastian, Brenda, Jennifer Sanchez, Jose Martinez, John Cortez, Andrew, Velma Duran, Manuel M., Jan Beland, Dolores Vaquera & family, Sara Chase, Navarro, Kenia Aguilar, Ruddy Ballesteros DeLeon, Debbie Garcia, Armando Aguero, Preston Trinkle, Evan Pesek, Nicanora Rodriguez, Paul D., Angel Cantu, Barbara Garza, Laura Cynthia Peters, Bill Eastman, Catarina Garza, Olga, Felix Davila, Ernesto Sosa, Christine, Connie Martinez, Robert, Adam Thomas, Melissa, Michael Burgos, Ruben Pacheco, Rose, Christine, Pawlick family, Rhonda Hogan, Ignacio Urabazo, Barbara Rials, Trini & Jackie Cantú, Jason Silk, Adalene, Emilio Fernandez, Tony Rippy, Edwardo Guevara, Mary Kirby, Martha Gonzalez, Janet Hillson, Pablo Martinez, Lucy Zamora, Ariel & Clara Casiano, Kristina Hare, Karen Grady, Kristi Spark, Donny Krueger, Donelia Jimenez, Mary Kirby, Jeannie & Paul, Maria Ramos, Mildred Myles, Sandra Bell, Will Clouse, Roland Guerra, Becky Cortez, Rosemary Debacker



Please call the office to add the name in the bulletin.  
 Por favor hablen a la oficina para agregar nombres al boletín.

**HEALING HEART:** Elsa Lopez

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** Bernardo Castellano & Lyle Pearce Beginning Wednesday October 4th at 7:45pm in the Parish Hall

**HOMEBOUD:** Barbara Ward

**WELCOME MINISTRY:** Eliza Reyna

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Meets 2nd Tues. at 7:00 p.m.  
 Steve Steele, Grand Knight

**LOVESTRONG:** Tony & Isabel Canez

**SPANISH BIBLE STUDY:** Meet every Monday 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall: Omar Garnica

**SPANISH PRAYER GROUP:** Meet every Fri. 7:00 p.m. at parish hall: Rafael & Betzy Torres

**POWER POINT MINISTRY:** Claudio Corrales & Gabby Olivares  
**VOCATIONS:** Elvia Armenta

Contact the parish office for more information on  
 any of the above ministries.

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

**The 9:15 a.m. & 1 p.m. Sunday Masses & Mon-Sat daily Masses are live-streamed on Facebook.**

**HORARIO DE MISA: Las misas de 9:15 a.m. y 1 p.m. el domingo son transmitido en vivo en Facebook.**

**THE PRIEST SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
EL HORARIO SACERDOTE SUJETO A CAMBIO**

**Monday/Lunes, December 25th**

*Merry Christmas / Feliz Navidad*

Mass/ Misa	9:00 a.m. Fr. Thumma
Mass/Misa	11:00 a.m. Fr. Thumma
Misas de la tarde	1 p.m. (Español) Fr. Artemio
	7 p.m. (Español) Fr. Artemio

**Tuesday/Martes, December 26th**

Feast of Saint Stephen, first martyr / Fiesta de san Esteban, protomártir  
Mass/Misa 8:15 a.m. Fr. Thumma

**Wednesday/Miércoles, December 27th**

Feast of Saint John, Apostle and evangelist  
Fiesta de San Juan, Apostol y Evangelista

Mass/Misa	8:15 a.m. Fr. Artemio
Confessions / Confesiones	6:00 p.m.

**Thurs./Jueves, December 28th**

Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs  
Fiesta de los Santo Inocentes, mártires

Mass/Misa	8:15 a.m. Fr. Thumma
Holy Hour / Hora Santa	7:00 p.m.

**Friday/Viernes, December 29th**

Memorial of Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr  
Memoria de Santo Tomás Becket, obispo y mártir

Mass/Misa	8:15 a.m. Fr. Thumma
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**Saturday/Sábado, December 30th**

Rosary/Rosario	9:00 a.m.
Mass/Misa (Bilingual)	9:30 a.m. Fr. Artemio
Confessions/Confesiones	4:00 p.m.
Mass/Misa	5:30 p.m. Fr. Artemio

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus,**

**Mary and Joseph**

**Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia**

**December 31st**

Masses in a.m.	7:30 a.m. Fr. Artemio
Misas de la mañana	9:15 a.m. Fr. Artemio
	11:00 a.m. Fr. Artemio
Masses in p.m.	1 p.m. (Español) Fr. Thumma
Misas de la tarde	5 p.m. (English) Fr. Thumma
	7 p.m. (Español) Fr. Thumma

*The Parish Office will be Closed Monday January 1st  
La Oficina de la Parroquia estará cerrada el  
Lunes, 1º de Enero*

*Beginning Saturday January 6, 2024  
Spanish Vigil Mass at 7:15pm*

*A partir del sábado 6 de enero de 2024  
Misa de Vigilia en español a las 7:15 p.m.*



The Sanctuary Lamp is for a special intention:  
*Glen Hovis*

And for the repose of the soul for: *Jennifer Silk*



Mon 12/25	9:00 a.m. † Frank Cortez † Joanne Neal † Elgin & Genny Schaefer † Art Lugo
	11:00 a.m. (B) Maxine Lerma † Bob Hovis † Joanne Neal † Leissa Sutton
	1:00 p.m. (B) Eugenia Sadler (SI) Sadler Family † Nelida Torres † Timeuteo Vasquez † Adelenia Diaz † Ranolfo Villa † Victoria Eugenia Hernandez Bertrand † Luis Maldonado
	7:00 p.m. (SI) Parishioners of St. Monica (SI) Father Thumma Prathap (SI) Father Artemio Ortiz
Tue 12/26	8:15 a.m. † Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wed 12/27	8:15 a.m. (SI) Conversion of Sinners † Elgin G. Schaefer
Thurs 12/28	8:15 a.m. † Alan Pague
Fri. 12/29	8:15 a.m. † Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sat. 12/30	9:30 a.m. † Jennifer Silk
Sat. 12/30	5:30 p.m. (SI) Margaret Wick
Sun. 12/31	7:30 a.m. (SI) Justin Payton † Pearl Chang † Jose L. Saucedo III 9:15 a.m. † Eric Aaron
	11:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Delgado
	1:00 p.m. † Parishioners of St. Monica
	5:00 p.m. (SI) Conversion of Sinners
	7:00 p.m. (SI) St. Monica Parishioners

**COLLECTIONS**

**December 17th** \$ 12,606.50  
Online \$ 1,891.00



Collection for St. Monica School \$ 1,962.00  
Online Collection for St. Monica School \$ 265.00  
Online Collection for St. Vincent de Paul \$ 434.00

**January 7th NO Second Collection**

This week altar flowers for a special intention to:

**St. Jude Tadeo**

Donated by:





# St. Monica Catholic School

## Dragon Tales



*Dear Families of St. Monica Parish,*

Merry Christmas....

We have some exciting news! We have just added a new member to our St. Monica School and Parish. Deacon Rafael Lopez-Negrone. For the last year I have been praying for a deacon or sister to come be part of the St. Monica school family. Deacon Rafael is very special to us as his son Coach Lopez is already part of our faculty. Deacon Rafael will officially start in January 2024. However, last week for the basketball game Deacon Rafael gave us all a blessing to start the game. The initial blessing is a beautiful tradition the Archdiocese has for all sports.

Here is a picture of staff and students in line waiting to offer Our Blessed Virgin Mother La Virgen de Guadalupe. On December 12th Father Thumma was the celebrant at the children's mass and Deacon Rafael was the attending deacon. Altar Serving was our eighth grade student and parishioner Sebastian Diaz Velazquez. What a team!

We are going to keep Deacon Rafael busy in the spring semester supporting students and staff professional development.



Let's all welcome Deacon Rafael Lopez-Negrone.



Does this Santa's helper look familiar to anyone? WELL, this is none other than Deacon Sean Dooley. Deacon Sean Dooley has taken on the role of Santa's helper for a picture fundraiser at your school. Deacon Dooley very graciously helped the school in a picture fundraiser. It's heartwarming to see members of the clergy, such as priests and deacons, actively involved in the community and contributing to the faith formation of students. The holiday season often provides a special opportunity for joy and community spirit, and it's great that Deacon Dooley is part of creating those positive experiences for your school. Our deacons are very much involved in the faith formation of all our students both the parish and the school.



This last week we had some very special activities at St. Monica with a guest train conductor reading the Polar Express to our students. We had popcorn and chocolate to go with the great movie. Thank you to our volunteer grandparent Ms. Rebecca Silvas who brought in the popcorn and chocolate. She is the grama of the Castanan children. It was a really great treat for our students.



The school choir and mariachi group performed at the San Antonio Airport, Lake View College and the Converse Senior Center this past week. It takes a village to support our school. Coach Morrison of OLPH drove the JP II HS bus to get the children around to all their events. We all have to help one another as Jesus calls us too. Thank you Coach Morrison and JPII HS.



It's wonderful to hear about Harrison Corrales's impressive presentation on the Chia Seed project in Ms. Carmen Cruz's second-grade class. It's quite remarkable that a young student is confidently using technology with a clicker and presenting information through an 8-page PowerPoint. The fact that Harrison is learning to use technology with ease and smartness is a testament to the teacher's educational methods plus the adaptability of the younger generation. Kudos to Harrison and Ms. Cruz for fostering such a positive learning environment!



Saint Monica...Pray for us!  
Karmen Chavez, Principal  
Saint Monica Catholic School  
2023-2024



**Thrift Store Holiday Hours**  
**NO Donations will be accepted**  
**December 17, 2023 until January 7, 2024**  
Closed Saturday December 23, 2023  
Closed Wednesday December 27, 2023  
Closed Saturday December 30, 2023



**Horario de la Tienda de Segunda**  
**NO se aceptarán donaciones del 17 de Diciembre, 2023 hasta el 7 de Enero del 2024**  
Cerrada el Sábado 23 de Diciembre, 2023  
Cerrada el Miércoles 27 de diciembre, 2023  
Cerrada el Sábado 30 de Diciembre, 2023

### Christmas Schedule / Horario de Navidad

Sunday Dec. 24th Christmas Eve / Víspera de Navidad  
5 pm Children Mass with Pageant - English  
7 pm Mass - Misa en Español  
12 Midnight Mass—Bilingual/Bilingüe

Monday Dec 25th Christmas Day / Navidad Domingo 25 de Diciembre  
9:00 & 11 am English Mass  
1 & 7 pm Misa en Español



*Parish Office will be Closed Monday December 25th and Tuesday December 26th*

*La oficina de la parroquia estará cerrada Lunes 25 de Diciembre y Martes 26 de Diciembre.*

**Sunday December 31, 2023 Mass Schedule as normal (if any changes , will be posted in advance)**

**Monday January 1, 2024 Mary Mother of God**  
**9 & 11 am Mass in English**  
**1 & 7 pm Misa en Español**

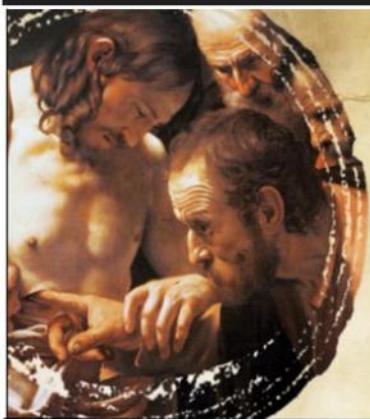
**Beginning Saturday January 6, 2024 Spanish Vigil Mass at 7:15pm**

## Christmas Word Find

G	C	P	M	E	H	E	F	F	N	Y	Y	A	S	E
V	F	I	O	G	K	N	O	C	Y	R	R	I	L	B
Z	H	S	J	Z	X	U	H	E	G	A	B	Z	N	B
H	A	T	I	D	U	R	X	S	Z	M	E	I	P	E
R	P	L	R	S	I	L	E	N	T	N	I	G	H	T
R	K	O	Q	S	N	E	M	E	S	I	W	A	J	H
Y	L	X	T	Y	Z	S	W	C	Z	S	P	E	P	L
M	I	M	F	H	F	N	P	N	S	J	V	E	K	E
J	A	B	T	T	B	A	R	I	O	R	S	X	Z	H
S	A	I	Y	L	Y	T	E	K	V	O	F	L	W	E
H	A	Y	E	Y	T	I	G	N	J	I	O	E	E	M
F	A	M	K	R	H	V	N	A	E	V	U	G	P	E
M	A	A	N	W	A	I	A	R	S	A	S	N	O	E
C	I	H	O	T	C	T	M	F	U	S	O	A	H	F
D	J	E	D	K	Q	Y	S	V	S	W	T	E	K	Q

JESUS	HAY
MARY	ANGEL
JOSEPH	FAITH
WISEMEN	HOPE
MANGER	FRANKINCENSE
NATIVITY	MYRRH
BETHLEHEM	SILENT NIGHT
CAMEL	LORD
DONKEY	SAVIOR
STAR	CHRISTMAS





**LECTIO®**  
THE CASE FOR  
**JESUS**

Choose Classes on Mon evenings 6:30-8:30 or Tues mornings 9:30-11:30 Parish Hall (Stuebben room)

No cost for Registration

Lectio The Case for Jesus Study guides may be purchased at <https://catholic.market/programs/lectio-the-case-for-jesus>

Classes begin  
22/23 January 2024

11 Classes Total

Please register by phone or at Parish Website

For More Information:  
Annette Winfield  
(210) 885-0861



**TRIP INCLUDES**  
(\$4,599 PER PERSON)



Round-Trip Air  
First-Class Hotels  
Land Transportation  
Professional Tour Guides  
Medical Protection Plan AND MORE!

**MAY 06 - 17, 2024**

ROUND-TRIP AIR FROM AUSTIN, TX

Nativity Pilgrimage | 832-406-7050 | [info@nativitypilgrimage.com](mailto:info@nativitypilgrimage.com) | [www.nativitypilgrimage.com](http://www.nativitypilgrimage.com)

**CONTACT US**  
TOUR COORDINATOR



Esther Cotton  
210-653-3163  
[estherc@sthelena.org](mailto:estherc@sthelena.org)



**SUNDAY KIDZ**

# Christmas

The maze features several cartoon characters and illustrations:

- Start:** Located at the bottom left, near a figure of a man with a staff and a lamb.
- Finish:** Located at the bottom right, near three figures holding golden gifts.
- Top Left:** An illustration of a palm tree with a star on top, set against a blue background.
- Top Right:** An illustration of an angel with wings and a yellow star.
- Bottom Left:** An illustration of a figure in green robes holding a staff, with a small lamb nearby.
- Bottom Right:** Illustrations of three wise men (Magi) holding golden gifts.

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***Consider joining the St. Monica Welcome Ministry!***

We are in search of many smiling, friendly faces to help greet newcomers to our parish. We want to help them to feel welcome and comfortable in our place of worship.

***What does the Welcome Ministry do?***

Our members will greet new parishioners and welcome guests to our church before each Sunday Mass.

Provide general information at our welcome desk.

We are also planning Welcome Socials to introduce them to members of our parish, let them know about opportunities to serve, and activities for spiritual growth and social interaction in our community.

We will contact newly registered parishioners to update them on what is happening in our parish and to ensure that they feel included in our community.

***How can you serve the Welcome Ministry?***

Can you offer a few minutes before and/or after each Mass to greet newcomers to our church?

Can you help organize a regular meeting to provide information about St. Monica to new members?

Can you be a smiling face and a friendly voice to bring new parishioners into our community?

Please contact Tony Canez with any questions. (210) 857-0789 or tcwildcat1992@gmail.com

***Por favor, considere unirse al Ministerio de Bienvenida!***

Estamos en busca de muchas caras sonrientes y amigables para ayudar a saludar a los recién llegados a nuestra parroquia. Queremos ayudarlos ellos a sentirse bienvenidos y cómodos en nuestro iglesia.

***¿Qué hace el Ministerio de Bienvenida?***

Nuestros miembros saludarán a los nuevos feligreses y darán la bienvenida a los invitados a nuestra iglesia antes de cada misa dominical. Proporcionar información general en nuestro mostrador de bienvenida. También estamos planeando eventos sociales para presentar a los miembros de nuestra parroquia, informarles sobre oportunidades de servicio y actividades para el crecimiento espiritual y la interacción social en nuestra comunidad. Nos comunicaremos con los feligreses recién registrados para actualizarlos sobre lo que está sucediendo en nuestra parroquia y asegurarnos de que se sientan incluidos en nuestra comunidad.

***¿Cómo puedes servir al Ministerio de Bienvenida?***

¿Puede ofrecer unos minutos antes y después de cada Misa para saludar a los recién llegados a nuestra iglesia?

¿Puede ayudar a organizar una reunión periódica para brindar información sobre Santa Mónica a los nuevos miembros?

¿Puedes ser una cara sonriente y una voz amigable para atraer nuevos feligreses a nuestra comunidad? Comuníquese con Tony Canez si tiene alguna pregunta. (210) 857-0789 o tcwildcat1992@gmail.com.

## Congratulations & Thank You St. Monica family!



Because of your generosity we have not only reached our goal but have surpassed it, for the 2023 Archbishop Appeal for ministries. This is truly a blessed community.

### "2023 Archbishop's Appeal for Ministries,"

in receiving the Eucharist, we are called to serve," is now halfway from the goal. Thank you! With your effort and generosity, we are making possible vital ministries for the present and future of our overarching mission: to spread God's Word and Love.

### The Mission & Purpose

With support from all faithful, the Archbishop's Appeal for Ministries provides the material, faith formation, and spiritual needs of God's people across the 19 counties that make up the Archdiocese of San Antonio. The Archbishop's Appeal for Ministries enables all faithful to support essential resources that help the Church learn and share the Good News while also loving and serving those trusted to our care. Thank you to those who have sent in their donation and for your generosity to the Archbishop Ministry Appeal. It is not too late to still participate.

## Felicidades y Gracias a la familia de Santa Monica

Gracias a su generosidad, no solo hemos alcanzado nuestra meta, sino que la hemos superado, para la Campaña del Arzobispo 2023 para los Ministerios. Esta es verdaderamente una comunidad bendecida

### "Campaña de Petición para Ministerios del Arzobispo 2023"

al recibir la Eucaristía, somos llamados a servir," va a la mitad de su objetivo. Gracias! Con su esfuerzo y generosidad, hacemos posible ministerios vitales para el presente y futuro de nuestra misión global: difundir la Palabra y el Amor de Dios.

### La Misión y el Propósito

Con el apoyo de los feligreses, la Campaña de Petición del Arzobispo para los Ministerios provee el material, formación de la fe y necesidades espirituales de el pueblo de Dios en todos los 19 condados que forman la arquidiócesis de San Antonio. Esta Campaña permite al feligrés apoyar recursos esenciales que ayudan a la Iglesia a aprender y compartir las Buenas Nuevas y al mismo tiempo amando y sirviendo a esos que han sido confiados a nuestro cuidado. Gracias a los que han mandado su donación a esta Campaña de Petición del Arzobispo. No es muy tarde para participar.

*St. Monica, pray for us.*



*Santa Mónica. ruega por nosotros.*

**There will be  
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**Edge Thursday January 11, 2024**



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esto incluye el programa EDGE los Jueves  
y también el Grupo de Jóvenes de Secundaria**

**Miércoles 20, 27 de Dic y 3 de Enero 2024**

**Jueves 21 y 28 de Dic & 4 de Enero 2024**

**Clases se reanudaran:**

**Miércoles, 10 de Enero, 2024 y**

**Edge el Jueves, 11 de Enero, 2024**

## SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES (SCCs)

So, what exactly is SCC, and how can you join? It's quite simple. SCC is a small group that gathers monthly to discuss faith and strengthen our connection with God. You can start your own group with 6, 10, or more individuals – parishioners, family, or friends. Meetings can take place in someone's home, and you have the option of organizing a potluck or providing a meal. You can even invite our priest to join one of your gatherings.

The heart of SCC lies in sharing and discussing the 1st and 2nd readings, the Psalm, and the Gospel. It's a chance for us to reflect on how the Word of God impacts our lives.

Visit our website: [www.saintmonicaconverse.net/scc](http://www.saintmonicaconverse.net/scc) and complete the online form to express your interest in joining a Small Christian Community. Alternatively, you can reach out to the parish office during business hours at (210) 658-3816 to share your contact information. We are here to assist you in finding a group that suits your schedule and provide resources for your meetings.

If you have already established a group, feel free and encouraged to commence meetings at any time. If your SCC has available space, please email [scc@saintmonicaconverse.net](mailto:scc@saintmonicaconverse.net) to allow us to assist in placing individuals seeking a group.



St. Monica Church is blessed to have **Perpetual Adoration** which begins on Sunday evening at 8pm and continues till Saturday afternoon at 5:15pm. We invite you to come and spend time with Our Dear Lord in adoration, prayer, contemplation, reflection start you new way of life with **HIM!** You pick your hour and day of the week you want to come to the chapel, located next to the confessionals. If you would like to come afterhours you can get your code in the office. This is a very intimate time that you can spend with Jesus who truly is present in the Blessed Sacrament.

*With the Advent season upon us, why not have your own journey with Our Dear Lord during this season?*

For more information please contact Christian Zunino at 210-725-4908

Jesus told the Apostles, "**Could you not spend one hour with me?**" in the garden of Gethsemane during His passion.

Adoration  
of the  
Blessed Sacrament



La Iglesia de Santa Mónica es bendecida en tener **Adoración Perpetua**, la cual empieza la noche de los Domingos a las 8pm y continúa hasta la tarde del Sábado a las 5:15pm. Invitamos a todos a que vengan y pasen tiempo con Nuestro Amado Señor en adoración, oración, contemplación, reflexión. Empieza una nueva manera de vida con **EL!!** Tu escoges la hora y el día de la semana que quieras venir a la capilla, localizada a un lado de los confesionales. Si quieres venir después de las horas normales puedes obtener el código en la oficina. Este es un tiempo muy íntimo que puedes pasar con Jesús, que está verdaderamente presente en el Santísimo Sacramento.

*Con la temporada de Adviento a la vuelta de la esquina, ¿por qué no tener tu propio viaje con Nuestro Querido Señor durante esta temporada?*

Para más información, comuníquese con Christian Zunino al 210-725-4908. Jesús dijo a los Apóstoles, "**No pueden pasar una hora conmigo?**" En el jardín de Getsemaní durante Su pasión.

### Report Misconduct

The Archdiocese of San Antonio is committed to Safe Environments for everyone. If you know of or suspect misconduct, whether sexual or nonsexual, we encourage you to report it to us. The Archdiocese of San Antonio wants you to feel comfortable when reporting misconduct and has contracted with NavexGlobal to provide a third party reporting system called EthicsPoint. Your report to EthicsPoint will be completely confidential and the report will only be distributed via secure portal to those within the Archdiocese responsible for investigating such matters. You can make a report by calling (844) 709-1169 or online at <http://archsa.ethicspoint.com>.

### Reporten Mala Conducta

La Arquidiócesis de San Antonio esta comprometida a proveer un Ambiente Salvo para todos. Si alguien sabe o sospecha conducta inapropiada, sexual o no sexual, les pedimos que nos lo reporten. La Arquidiócesis de San Antonio quiere que se sientan cómodos reportando conductas inapropiadas y ha hecho un contrato con NavexGlobal para proveer un sistema de una tercera persona reportando llamado EthicsPoint. El reporte a EthicsPoint será completamente confidencial y solo será distribuido a través de un portal seguro a las personas de la Arquidiócesis responsables de investigar esos asuntos. Puedes hacer un reporte hablando al (844)709-1169 o hacerlo en línea en: <http://archisabido.ethicspoint.com>.



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# St Monica Catholic Church

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**Phone Number: (210)658-3816****Website:** [www.saintmonicaconverse.net](http://www.saintmonicaconverse.net)**Email:** [parish@saintmonicaconverse.net](mailto:parish@saintmonicaconverse.net)**Working Hours:** Mon., Tue., Thur., & Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm & Wed. 9 am-7pm**For an emergency:** Call the office and follow the instructions.

## PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Fr. Thumma Prathap ext. 242*Email:* [pastor@saintmonicaconverse.net](mailto:pastor@saintmonicaconverse.net)**Parochial Vicar:** Fr. Artemio Ortiz ext 238*Email:* [fr.ortiz1958@saintmonicaconverse.net](mailto:fr.ortiz1958@saintmonicaconverse.net)**Deacon** Sean Dooley**Deacon** Rafael Lopez-Negroni**Deacon** Jose Joel Castellanos**Deacon** David Espinoza**Deacon** Jacques Abat**Pastoral Administrative Assistant:** Mary Kirby ext.242**Administrative Assistant:** Delia Medrano-Finch ext. 240**Part-time Administrative Assistant:**

Martha Gonzales ext. 240

**Dir. of Religious Ed.** Toni Espinoza ext. 243*Email:* [RE@saintmonicaconverse.net](mailto:RE@saintmonicaconverse.net)**Bookkeeper:** Christine Pacheco ext. 235*Email:* [bookkeeper@saintmonicaconverse.net](mailto:bookkeeper@saintmonicaconverse.net)**RCIA Coordinator:** Timo Zepeda*Email:* [RCIA@saintmonicaconverse.net](mailto:RCIA@saintmonicaconverse.net)**Liturgy Coordinator:** Deacon David Espinoza ext. 237*Email:* [liturgy@saintmonicaconverse.net](mailto:liturgy@saintmonicaconverse.net)**Housekeeper** Limbania Reyes**Groundskeeper** Gilbert LaFuente**Custodian** Maria Elena Avalos

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Early Childhood-8th Grade

**210-658-6701****E-mail:** [office@saintmonica.net](mailto:office@saintmonica.net)**Registration now open for the 2023/2024 School Year** - The Altar Society and the parish will give tuition assistance of \$600.00 a year (\$60.00 a month for 10 months) for each new admission. We encourage parents to take advantage of this opportunity.**Ya está abierta la inscripción para el Año 2023/2024** - La Sociedad del Altar y la parroquia ayudarán con los pagos de colegiatura con \$600 al año (\$60 por mes por 10 meses) a cada alumno nuevo. Animamos a los padres a aprovechar esta oportunidad.

### Need Baptismal Preparation Class?

Parents &amp; Godparents must attend a baptism preparation class in order to baptize a child. English class will be held the first Saturday of the month and Spanish class on the second Saturday of the month.

*Please call the office to sign up.*

### Necesita la clase de preparación bautismal ?

Padres y padrinos deben asistir a una clase de preparación para el bautizo de su niño. La clase de inglés se llevará a cabo el primer sábado del mes y la clase de español el segundo sábado del mes.

*Por favor llame a la oficina para inscribirse.***St. Vincent de Paul Society (210) 658-8791**

By appointment Tues.—Thurs. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

