

St. Monica Catholic Church

501 North St.
Converse, Texas 78109

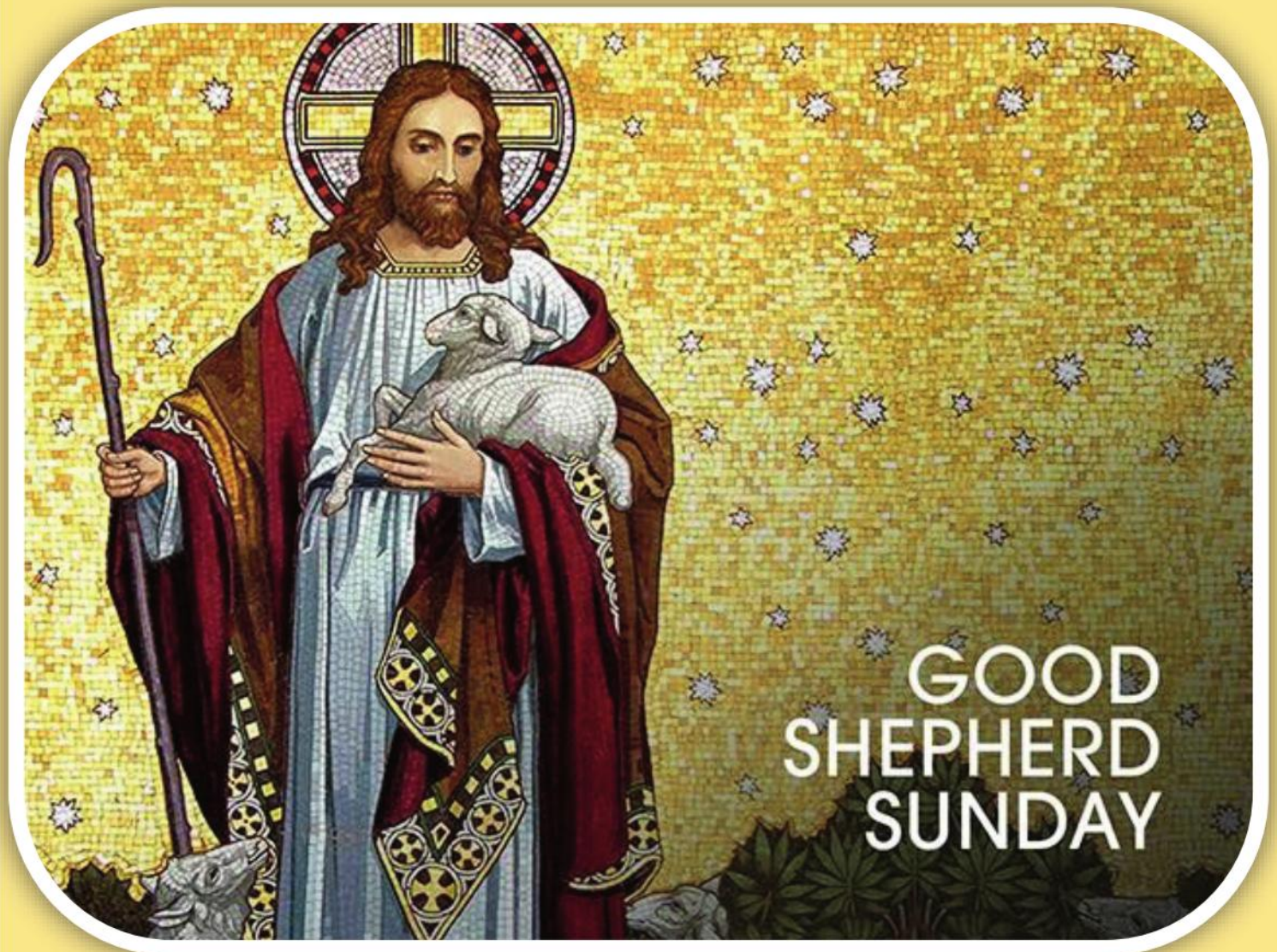
Phone Number: (210)658-3816

Website: www.saintmonicaconverse.net

Email: parish@saintmonicaconverse.net

Working Hours: Mon., Tue., Thur., & Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm & Wed. 9 am-7pm
Sat: 10am-2pm & Sun: 10am-3pm

World Day of Prayer for Vocations *Dia Mundial de Oraciones por las Vocaciones*



DOMINGO DEL BUEN PASTOR

ST. MONICA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs. Karmen Chavez

Early Childhood-8th Grade

210-658-6701

E-mail: office@saintmonica.net

Registration now open for the 2023/2024 School Year / Ya está abierta la inscripción para el Año 2023/2024

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 **Natalia Lopez**

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**

HEALING HEART: Elsa Lopez

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

HOMEBOUND: Barbara Ward

WELCOME MINISTRY: Tony Canez

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.

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, 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, Miranda Moncada Nicanora Rodriguez, Paul D., Angel Cantu, Barbara Garza, Evan Pesek, Laura Cynthia Peters, Bill Eastman, Catarina Garza, Felix Davila, Ernesto Sosa, Connie Martinez, Robert, Adam Thomas, Melissa, Michael Burgos, Ruben Pacheco, Rose, Christine, Pawlick family, Rhonda Hogan, Barbara Rials, Trini & Jackie Cantú, Jason Silk, Emilio Fernandez, Tony Rippy, Eduardo Guevara, Adalene, Martha Gonzalez, Janet Hillson, Pablo Martinez, Lucy Zamora, Ariel & Clara Casiano, Donny Krueger, Donelia Jimenez, Jeannie & Paul, Maria Ramos, Will Clouse, Roland Guerra, Ignacio Urabazo, Mary Kirby, Becky Cortez, Francis, Corina Silk, Jason Silk, Olga B., Judy Gutierrez Kahn, Alfredo Covarrubias & family, Sergio Martinez Ortiz, Rocio Martinez Ortiz, Derrick Hensley, Edith, Blanca, Margie Moncada, Sean Koonhow, Tom Milton



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

David Sat: 7:15pm

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. 5:30p.m.& Sat. 3:30 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



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

*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:*



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
A
MASS
INTENTION**

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.

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

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, April 22nd

Mass/ Misa 8:15 a.m. Fr. Artemio

Tuesday/Martes, April 23rd

St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop & Martyr
San Jorge, Mártir; San Adalberto, Obispo y Mártir

Mass/Misa 8:15 a.m. Fr. Thumma

Wednesday/Miércoles, April 24th

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr
San Fidel de Sigmaringa, Presbítero y Mártir

Mass/Misa 8:15 a.m. Fr. Thumma
Confessions /Confesiones 5:30 p.m.

Thursday/Jueves, April 25th

St. Mark, Evangelist / San Marcos, Evangelista

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

Friday/Viernes, April 26th

Mass/Misa 8:15 a.m. Fr. Artemio

Saturday/Sábado, April 27th

Rosary/Rosario 9:00 a.m.
Mass/Misa (Bilingual) 9:30 a.m. Fr. Thumma
Confessions/Confesiones 3:30 p.m.
Mass/Misa 5:30 p.m. Fr. Artemio
Mass/Misa 7:15 p.m. Fr. Artemio

**5th Sunday of Easter
5º Domingo de Pascua**

Sunday/Domingo, April 28th

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



Mon	4/22	8:15 a.m. (SI) Toni Boyd
Tue	4/23	8:15 a.m. (B) Elena Lazo (SI) Liliane Hagelberg & Family † Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wed	4/24	8:15 a.m. (B) Matheo Gonzalez (SI) Conversion of Sinners
Thurs	4/25	8:15 a.m. †Victoria Eugenia Hernandez Bertrand
Fri	4/26	8:15 p.m. † Holy Souls in Purgatory † Luis D. Salgado
Sat.	4/27	9:30 a.m. (SI) Parishioners of St. Monica 5:30 p.m. (B) Maria Castro Lopez (SI) Maddie Olague † Margaret Hammersley † Leissa Sutton 7:15 p.m. (SI) Mary Kirby
Sun.	4/28	7:30 a.m. † Mike Juarez Sr. † Cristina Juarez Kuka 9:15 a.m. (SI) Mary R. Agnew (SI) Members of St.Vincent De Paul (SI) Isabel Templeton † Daniel Serna Jr. † Jesus Lopez 11:00 a.m. (SI) Donors of St. Vincent De Paul † Bob Hovis † Irma Kotanan † Margarito Yanez Sr. 1:00 p.m. (A) Antonio & Deyra Jaimes (SI) Felipe Ramos y Familia 5:00 p.m. (SI) Conversion of Sinners (SI) Manuel De Santiago 7:00 p.m. (A) Belinda & Armando Tamez † Alan Pague

COLLECTIONS

April 14th \$ 14,947.00
Online collection \$ 2,166.00

Collection for St. Monica School \$ 2,210.00
Online Collection for St. Monica School \$ 85.00
Collection for St. Vincent de Paul \$ 2,558.00
Online Collection for St. Vincent de Paul \$ 464.00

**April 28th Second Collection
Catholic Home Mission Appeal**



Need Baptismal Preparation Class?

Parents & 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.



This week altar flowers for the wedding of :

Daniel Olivares & Sarah Gaitan

Donated by: Eduardo & Reyna Vazquez



St. Monica Catholic School

Dragon Tales



Registration now open for the 2024/2025 School Year

For more information call 210-658-6701
A faith filled education is a wonderful gift to give your child a gift that no one can ever take it away from them.

Ya está abierta la inscripción para el Año 2024/2025

Para mas información llame al 210-658-6701
Una educación llena de fe es un regalo maravilloso para darle a su hijo un regalo que nadie podrá quitarle.



Jessie Traxler
Summer Fun Coordinator
jtraxler@saintmonica.net



2024-2025 School Year

St. Monica Catholic School

TUITION AND FEES FOR PK-8TH

Registration Fee

Returning Students \$350 per Student
(Registration Fee is Non-Refundable)

New Students \$500 per Student

10 Month		11 Month	
1 Child	\$595.00	1 Child	\$540.91
2 Children	\$1,130.50	2 Children	\$1,027.73
3 Children	\$1,666.00	3 Children	\$1,514.55

10% sibling discount reflected in rates above

2024-2025 ANNUAL TUITION \$5,950



Before School Care Included

After School:
\$250/Mo 1st Child
\$200/Mo 2nd Child

Drop-in Rate \$15/Hr

AIAL Sports Participation Fee (5th-8th Grade)
\$100/first sport
\$50/each additional

Graduation Fee (8th)
\$175

Catholic Life Raffle Tickets
Family must sell \$160
100% of proceeds benefit the school

Instrument Rental Fee
\$100/year

5% Military Discount

Tuition Assistance Kinder- 8th
WWW.hopeforthefuture.org

Academy for Children (2-3yrs)

Frogstreet Curriculum
Four Core Collaborative Curriculum

(210)658-6701

515 North Street
Converse Tx 78109



SESSION 1
JUNE 03- JULY 02

SESSION 2
JULY 08- AUG 02

ST. MONICA SUMMER FUN
PRE-K 3 TO 8TH GRADE
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

FEES AND INFO:

- Registration Fee \$60 per child
- \$650 per Session per child
- 2 Sessions: June and July
- Hours: 7AM-5:30PM
- Open to the Public

ACTIVITES:

- Swimming
- Field Trips
- Cheer Lessons
- Fine Arts
- and More!

(210)658-6701

515 North St., Converse, TX 78109

ACADEMY OPENING

Second Room
Target Date April 2024

- 2yr old learning program ✓
- State Licensed Child Care Center ✓
- 4-1 Student Teacher Ratio ✓

St Monica Catholic School
NOW ENROLLING
PreK-8th grade

Where Gods love is taught
Practiced, and ever present.

Registering Now
(210)658-6701

515 North Street
Converse, Texas 78109

Welcome Deacon Luis Raul Mata

We are delighted to introduce Deacon Luis Raul Mata, who recently joined our community at St. Monica Parish. Born in Chihuahua, Mexico, Deacon Mata and his family immigrated to the United States when he was five and a half years old. He married his wife, Bertha, in 1977 and later moved to the United States with her. They have been blessed with two sons, Luis Jr. and Elias, as well as five grandchildren: Keaten (17), Calvin (16), Kalissa (13), Ellie (10), and Noah (9). Deacon Mata was ordained in June 2010 and has served faithfully in his calling. In September 2023, he and his family relocated from Midland to Converse. Deacon Mata eagerly anticipates dedicating his service to the people of God here at St. Monica Parish.



Please join us in welcoming him and his family to our community.

Bienvenido Diacono Luis Raul Mata

Estamos encantados de presentar al Diácono Luis Raúl Mata, quien recientemente se unió a nuestra comunidad en la Parroquia de Santa Mónica. Nacido en Chihuahua, México, el diácono Mata y su familia emigraron a los Estados Unidos cuando él tenía cinco años y medio. Se casó con su esposa, Bertha, en 1977 y luego se mudó a los Estados Unidos con ella. Han sido bendecidos con dos hijos, Luis Jr. y Elias, así como cinco nietos: Keaten (17), Calvin (16), Kalissa (13), Ellie (10) y Noah (9). El diácono Mata fue ordenado en Junio del 2010 y ha servido fielmente en su llamado. En Septiembre del 2023, él y su familia se mudaron de Midland a Converse. El Diácono Mata espera ansiosamente dedicar su servicio al pueblo de Dios aquí en la Parroquia de Santa Mónica.

Por favor, únase a nosotros para darle la bienvenida y su familia a nuestra comunidad.

We are excited to announce that St. Monica's Youth Group plan to attend Steubenville Lonestar in Irving, TX (DFW) the weekend of June 21-23, 2024! Life Teen, in collaboration with Franciscan University of Steubenville, puts on these wonderful conferences each year around the country for over 50,000 teens with dynamic speakers, small groups, times of praise and worship, reconciliation, adoration, and so much more! The Cost is \$500 per person. This includes conference registration, meals, hotel, and transportation. Limited scholarships are available by completing an application to be submitted no later than May 1st. Please email:



Nos complace anunciar que el Grupo de Jóvenes de Santa Mónica están planeando asistir a Steubenville Lonestar in Irving, TX (DFW) el fin de semana del 21 al 23 de Junio de 2024! "Life Teen", en colaboración con la Universidad Franciscana de Steubenville, organiza estas maravillosas conferencias cada año en todo el país para mas de 50,000 adolescentes con oradores dinámicos, grupos pequeños, momentos de alabanza y adoración, reconciliación, y mucho mas!

El costo es \$500 por persona. Esto incluye inscripción a la conferencia, comidas, hotel y transporte. Hay becas limitadas disponibles completando una solicitud que se enviara a mas tardar el 1o de Mayo. Favor de mandar un correo electrónico a: re@saintmonicaconverse.net para mas información. Todos los estudiantes de secundaria están invitados a asistir, desde los estudiantes entrantes del primer año hasta los recién graduados del ultimo año, así como los padres acompañantes con credenciales adecuadas.

The deadline to register is May 10, 2024.

**Link for online application:
QR code for online application**



La fecha limite para registrarse es el 10 de Mayo de 2024.

**Enlace para aplicación en línea:
código QR de aplicación en línea**

POSTPONED / POSPUESTO

**Due to unforeseen circumstances we are postponing Blessing of the Rectory.
Debido a circunstancias imprevistas posponemos la Bendición de la Rectoría.**

Invitation to Rectory Blessing

**You will be cordially invited to
The Celebration of the New Rectory Blessing
of St. Monica Parish**

Date and Time:

**To be announced in the near future
We look forward to celebrating
with you in the near future!**



**Warm regards,
The Pastoral & Finance Councils, Building Board, the Deacons and the Staff, Fr. Artemio Ortiz Romo & Fr. Thumma Prathap**

Invitación a la Bendición de la Rectoría

**Esta cordialmente invitado a La Celebración de
la Bendición de la Nueva Rectoría de la Parroquia
de Santa Mónica.**

Fecha y Hora:

**Se anunciará en un futuro próximo
¡Esperamos celebrar con ustedes
en el cercano futuro!**

**Un cordial saludo,
Los Consejos Pastoral y de Finanzas, la
Junta de Construcción, los Diáconos y el personal, Padre
Artemio Ortiz Romo y Padre Thumma Prathap**



Invitation

"What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me! I will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord." Psalm 116:12-13

Dear

With a heartfelt gratitude to God Almighty for His countless blessings and the unwavering guidance of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I am delighted to invite you to celebrate the **25th anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood.**

Please join me in the solemn Eucharistic Celebration in the presence of His Grace Most Reverend **Gustavo Garcia Siller, M.Sp.S.,** Archbishop of San Antonio, on Monday, April 29, 2024 at 6:30 PM
Location: St. Monica Catholic Church; 501 North Street; Converse, Texas - 78109
Reception: Parish Hall

Your presence on this momentous occasion would be a cherished gift, adding joy and significance to this milestone.

With cordial appreciation,
Yours Truly

Fr. Thumma Prathap



*With deepest gratitude, I acknowledge the untiring support of my beloved **Sr. Gnana Sundari Thumma,** whose 45 years of service to Christ have touched countless lives.*

With Sincere Gratitude to: Archbishop Gustavo Garcia Siller, M. Sp. S., Bishop Gali Bali, Bishop Ch. Bhagyaiah, Bishop Mike Boulette, Bishop Gary Janak, Rev. Eric Ritter, Rev. Martin Leopold, Rev. Jeff Pehl, OLPH (Selma), Our Lady of Grace, St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles & St. Monica Parishioners, Parents, Family, Friends and to all who have enriched my ministry and supported me in bringing faith and hope to others.



Invitación

“¿Qué devolveré al Señor por toda su dádiva para mí? Alzaré la copa de la salvación e invocaré el nombre del Señor”. Salmo 116:12-13

Queridos feligreses de Santa Mónica:
Con una sincera gratitud a Dios Todopoderoso por sus innumerables bendiciones y la guía inquebrantable de la Santísima Virgen María, me complace invitarlos a celebrar el

25^o Aniversario de mi Ordenación Sacerdotal.

Únanse a mí en la solemne Celebración Eucarística en presencia de Su Gracia

*el Reverendo **Gustavo García Siller, M.Sp.S.,** Arzobispo de San Antonio, el Lunes 29 de Abril de 2024 a las 6:30pm en la Iglesia Católica de Santa Mónica; 501 North St., Converse, TX 78109*

Recepción en el Salón Parroquial.

Su presencia en esta ocasión trascendental sería un regalo preciado, añadiendo alegría y significado a este hito. Con cordial aprecio,

*Atentamente suyo,
Padre Thumma Prathap*

Con la mas profunda gratitud,

Reconozco el apoyo incansable de mi amada **Sr. Gnana Sundari Thumma,** cuyos 45 años de servicio a cristo han tocado innumerables vidas.

Con sincera gratitud al:

Arzobispo Gustavo Garcia Siller, M.Sp.S., Obispo Gali Bali, Obispo Ch. Bhagyaiah, Obispo Mike Boulette, Obispo Gary Janak, Rev. Eric Ritter, Rev. Martin Leopold, Rev. Jeff Pehl, OLPH (Selma), Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de Gracia, Iglesia de San Pedro, Iglesia del Príncipe de los Apóstoles y nuestros Feligreses de Santa Mónica, Padres, Familiares, Amistades y a todos que han enriquecido mi ministerio y me han apoyado para llevar fe y esperanza a los demás.

“Pastor’s Voice”**A Celebration of Faith:****Reflecting on 25 Years of my Priestly Service**

Dear People of God,

With a heart overflowing with gratitude, I share the joyous news of celebrating the 25th anniversary of my priestly ordination on April 29th, 2024. This milestone prompts a profound reflection on the unwavering grace of God, who chose an unworthy servant like myself, and who has remained a constant source of strength throughout both challenging and fulfilling times. My deepest thanks ascend to God for this incredible journey.

I am eternally grateful to my parents and family, particularly Sr. Sundari, my sibling who has been serving as a dedicated religious nun for the past 45 years. Their unwavering support has been a constant blessing in my life and priestly ministry.

I extend heartfelt appreciation to the many individuals who have played a pivotal role in shaping my vocation. This includes Bishop Gali Bali, who ordained me, and my current bishop in Guntur Diocese in India, Bishop Chinnabathuni Bhagyaiah. I am also deeply thankful to Archbishop Gustavo Garcia Siller, M. Sp. S., who provided me with the opportunity to serve in the Archdiocese of San Antonio. Reverend Jim Fischler, who accepted my application, and Reverend Eric Ritter, who guided me as a mentor and brother, deserve special recognition. Reverend Martin LeoPold stands as a model of discipline and hard work, and his support has been invaluable. Finally, Reverend Jeff Pehl's generosity, since my first day in the archdiocese, has been a true blessing. I thank Rev. John Mefrige for his continued support.

My deepest gratitude extends to the parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (OLPH) in Selma. They have been a cornerstone of my ministry, a model community filled with incredible support, generosity, kindness, and compassion. They embraced me unconditionally, teaching me about culture, God's love, and the power of faith. This community walked alongside me for the last 10 years, sharing God's love through acts of service, such as feeding the elderly and educating 540 children etc.... They have been my guiding force, and their support will never be forgotten. I also extend my appreciation to the parishioners of Our Lady of Grace and St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, for their love and care.

From the depths of my heart, I thank the parishioners of St. Monica. This humble and devout community embodies love, radiating compassion and thoughtfulness through their actions, which speak volumes. For the past six years, they have embraced me as family, weaknesses and all, offering unwavering support and constant encouragement. Thank you for walking alongside me on this journey of faith. Your trust and confidence in me have been a source of immense strength. Your generosity, charity, and thoughtful acts of love have truly been an inspiration. With your prayers and unwavering support, we've accomplished remarkable things together, completing numerous projects in the past six years – entirely debt-free. The credit for these achievements belongs to each and every one of you.

I am profoundly grateful for the gift of each individual who have been supportive in my priestly life. Your presence in my life has made the difference. As a token of my sincere appreciation, I invite you all to join me for a Silver Jubilee Mass on April 29th, 2024, at 6:30 pm at St. Monica Church. This celebration signifies not only my personal journey but also the collective strength of faith that binds us together.

Thank you for being a part of this incredible journey. May God bless you all and God Bless America.

With sincere gratitude in Christ,
Yours truly,

Fr. Thumma Prathap

Date: April 20th & 21st, 2024

“Voz del Pastor”**Una Celebración de Fe: Reflexionando sobre 25 Años de mi Servicio Sacerdotal**

Querida Comunidad de Dios,

Con un corazón rebosante de gratitud, comparto la feliz noticia de celebrar el 25° aniversario de mi ordenación sacerdotal el 29 de abril de 2024. Este hito nos invita a una profunda reflexión sobre la gracia inquebrantable de Dios, quien escogió a un siervo indigno como yo, y que ha sido una fuente constante de fortaleza en tiempos tanto desafiantes como gratificantes. Mi más profundo agradecimiento asciende a Dios por este increíble viaje.

Estoy eternamente agradecido a mis padres y familia, especialmente a la Hermana Sundari, mi hermana, quien ha servido como religiosa dedicada durante los últimos 45 años. Su apoyo inquebrantable ha sido una bendición constante en mi vida y ministerio sacerdotal.

Extiendo mi más sincero agradecimiento a las numerosas personas que han desempeñado un papel fundamental en la formación de mi vocación. Esto incluye al Obispo Gali Bali, quien me ordenó, y a mi obispo actual en la Diócesis de Guntur en India, Obispo Chinnabathuni Bhagyaiah. También estoy profundamente agradecido al Arzobispo Gustavo García Siller, M. Sp. S., quien me brindó la oportunidad de servir en la Arquidiócesis de San Antonio. El Reverendo Jim Fischler, quien aceptó mi solicitud, y el Reverendo Eric Ritter, quien me guio como mentor y hermano, merecen un reconocimiento especial. El Reverendo Martin LeoPold es un modelo de disciplina y trabajo arduo, y su apoyo ha sido invaluable. Finalmente, la generosidad del Reverendo Jeff Pehl desde mi primer día en la arquidiócesis ha sido una verdadera bendición. Agradezco al Padre John Mefrige por su continuo apoyo.

Mi más profundo agradecimiento se extiende a los feligreses de Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro (OLPH) en Selma. Han sido la piedra angular de mi ministerio, una comunidad modelo llena de un increíble apoyo, generosidad, amabilidad y compasión. Me acogieron incondicionalmente, enseñándome sobre la cultura, el amor de Dios y el poder de la fe. Esta comunidad caminó a mi lado durante los últimos 10 años, compartiendo el amor de Dios a través de actos de servicio, como alimentar a los ancianos y educar a 540 niños, etc. Han sido mi fuerza orientadora, y su apoyo nunca será olvidado. También extiendo mi agradecimiento a los feligreses de Nuestra Señora de Gracia y San Pedro, Príncipe de los Apóstoles, por su amor y cuidado.

Desde lo más profundo de mi corazón, agradezco a los feligreses de Santa Mónica. Esta comunidad humilde y devota encarna el amor, irradiando compasión y consideración a través de sus acciones, que hablan volúmenes. Durante los últimos seis años, me han aceptado como familia, debilidades y todo, ofreciendo un apoyo inquebrantable y constante aliento. Gracias por caminar junto a mí en este viaje de fe. Su confianza en mí ha sido una fuente de inmensa fortaleza. Su generosidad, caridad y actos considerados de amor realmente han sido una inspiración. Con sus oraciones y apoyo inquebrantable, hemos logrado cosas notables juntos, completando numerosos proyectos en los últimos seis años, completamente libres de deudas. El crédito por estos logros pertenece a cada uno de ustedes.

Estoy profundamente agradecido por el regalo de cada individuo que ha apoyado mi vida sacerdotal. Su presencia en mi vida ha marcado la diferencia. Como un gesto de mi sincero agradecimiento, los invito a todos a unirse a mí para una Misa de Jubileo de Plata el 29 de abril de 2024, a las 6:30 pm en la Iglesia de Santa Mónica. Esta celebración no solo significa mi viaje personal, sino también la fuerza colectiva de fe que nos une.

Gracias por ser parte de este increíble viaje. Que Dios los bendiga a todos y que Dios bendiga a América.

Con sincera gratitud en Cristo,
Atentamente,

Padre Thumma Prathap

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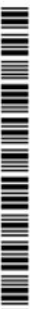
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Do you want to help children learn to love Jesus and their neighbor? Our VBS theme is **“Samaritans in a Submarine”** and VBS is June 24-28; 5:00- 8:30pm. Find out how you can be part of a great week of summer fun at the next volunteer meeting May 14th at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. For more information contact Annette Winfield at 210-885-0861. *We hope to see you there!*



**Únase al Equipo de la Escuela Bíblica del Verano!
Necesitamos Adultos y Jóvenes de la Secundaria!**

Quiere ayudar a los niños aprender a amar a Jesús y a su prójimo? El tema de este año es **“Samaritanos en un Submarino”** Las fechas para este año son el 24-28 de Junio, de 5:00 a 8:30pm. Venga a la junta de voluntarios para saber como puede ser parte de una gran semana de diversión de Verano. La próxima Junta será el 14 de Mayo a las 6:30 pm en el Salón Parroquial. Para mas información, contacte a Annette Winfield 210-885-0861. *Esperamos verlos en la Junta!*



The Archbishop's Appeal for Ministries

is an annual campaign supporting more than 30 shared ministries that advance the mission of the Catholic Church in our area. The Archbishop Appeal happens every year because the need remains each year, it's not a one and done. We still need to provide for children in crisis, young mothers who are homeless, and for the Assumption Seminary to ensure we have the deacons and priests we need in order to have Mass. The theme this year is *Walking United in Christ*. Our goal this year is \$57,000. If each family donates just \$60 for the year, we can pass our goal. To break it down that would be \$5 a month, which is about what it costs for cup of coffee from Starbucks. Please consider a donation so that Walking United in Christ, we can consistently care for those who rely upon the Archdiocese and our programs for life and faith sustaining support. Please visit archsa.org/archbishops-appeal to give today! Have questions? Please call (210) 734-1910



La Campaña del Arzobispo para los Ministerios

es una campaña anual que apoya a más de 30 ministerios compartidos que promueven la misión de la Iglesia Católica en nuestra área. La Apelación del Arzobispo ocurre todos los años porque la necesidad permanece cada año, no es una sola vez. Todavía tenemos que proveer para los niños en crisis, las madres jóvenes que no tienen hogar, y ara que el Seminario de la Asunción se asegure de que tengamos los Diáconos y Sacerdotes que necesitamos para tener Misa. El tema de este año es *Caminando Unidos en Cristo*. Nuestra meta este año es de \$57,000. Si cada familia dona solo \$60 por año, podemos pasar nuestra meta. Para desglosarlo, serían \$5 al mes, que es aproximadamente lo que cuesta una taza de café de Starbucks. Por favor, considere realizar un donativo, de manera que Caminando Unidos en Cristo, podamos cuidar constantemente de aquellos que dependen de la Arquidiócesis y de nuestros programas para sustentar la vida y la fe. Visite archsa.org/archbishops-appeal para donar hoy! ¿Tiene preguntas? Por favor llame al (210) 734-1910.

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 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 to allow us to assist in placing individuals seeking a group.

Our First SCC met last weekend. We look forward to other SCC getting together in their homes growing in faith with one another.



PEQUEÑA COMUNIDAD CRISTIANA (SCCs)

Entonces, ¿qué es exactamente SCC y cómo puede unirse? Es muy simple. SCC es un grupo pequeño que se reúne mensualmente para discutir la fe y fortalecer nuestra conexión con Dios. Puede iniciar su propio grupo con 6, 10 o más personas: feligreses, familiares o amigos. Las reuniones pueden tener lugar en la casa de alguien y usted tiene la opción de organizar una comida compartida o ofrecer una comida. Incluso pueden invitar a nuestro sacerdote a unirse a una de sus reuniones.

El corazón de SCC radica en compartir y discutir la primera y segunda lecturas, el Salmo y el Evangelio. Es una oportunidad para que reflexionemos sobre cómo la Palabra de Dios impacta nuestras vidas.

Visite nuestro sitio web: www.saintmonicaconverse.net/scc y complete el formulario en línea para expresar su interés en unirse a una Pequeña Comunidad Cristiana. Alternativamente, puede comunicarse con la oficina parroquial durante el horario usual al (210) 658-3816 para compartir su información de contacto. Estamos aquí para ayudarlo a encontrar un grupo que se adapte a su horario y brindarle recursos para sus reuniones.

Si ya ha establecido un grupo, siéntase libre y alentado a comenzar las reuniones en cualquier momento. Si su SCC tiene espacio disponible, envíe un correo electrónico a scc@saintmonicaconverse.net para permitirnos ayudarlo a ubicar a las personas que buscan un grupo. Nuestra primera reunión de SCC fue el fin de semana pasada. Esperamos que otros grupos SCC se reúnan en sus hogares y crezcan en la fe unos con otros.

Join Fr. Thumma & Deacon David on a 10 day Marian Shrine Pilgrimage. In July from the 8th to the 17th We will visit Lisbon, Santarem/ Fatima, Santiago de Compostela, San Sebastian de Garabandal, Burgos/Lourdes & Paris. Flyers are located in the back of the church and in the office.



Únase a Padre Thumma y Diácono David en una peregrinación de 10 días al Santuario Mariano en Julio, del 8 al 17. Visitaremos Lisboa, Santarem/Fátima, Santiago de Compostela, San Sebastián de Garabandal, Burgos/

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Mass Schedule

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Sunday: 7:30 & 9:15, 11 am & 5 pm (English)
1:00 & 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Weekdays: 8:15 a.m. (Mon-Fri)

Saturday: 9 am Holy Rosary
Mass at 9:30 am (Bilingual/bilingüe)

HOLY HOUR: Thursday 7 pm

1st FRIDAY MASS: 8:15am English
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CONFESSIONS:

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Pastor: Fr. Thumma Prathap
Email: pastor@saintmonicaconverse.net

Parochial Vicar:
Fr. Artemio Ortiz—Romo
Email: fr.ortiz1958@saintmonicaconverse.net

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Deacon: Jacques Abat (retired)
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