

St. Monica Catholic Church
501 North St.
Converse, Texas 78109



Pastor:

Fr. Thumma Prathap

Email: pator@saintmonicaconverse.net

Parochial Vicar:

Fr. Rafael Antonio Lopez-Negrone

Email: rlopez@saintmonicaconverse.net

ST. MONICA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs. Karmen Chavez

Early Childhood-8th Grade

Academy Day Care 18 months—3 year olds

210-658-6701

E-mail: office@saintmonica.net

Registration on going for the 2024/2025 School Year

Ya está abierta la inscripción para el Año 2024/2025

MINISTRIES

ACTS: Giselle Zamago

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

ART & ENVIRONMENT (DECORATIONS) MINISTRY: Alma Castillo

BALLET FOLKLÓRICO : Bertha Castellanos

BIBLE STUDY (English): Timo Zepeda & Annette Winfield

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY: Dcn. Sean Dooley

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

Contact: **Melinda Vanderdrink**

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 AND ALTAR SERVER: Contact **Anita Moreno** to join any of these ministries.

FAMILY OF THE ROSARY Graciela Morgan

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

HEALING HEART: Elsa Lopez

HOMEBOUND: Barbara Ward

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

LIVE STREAMING: Delia M. Finch & Pablo Garcia

LOVESTRONG: Tony & Isabel Canez

PERPETUAL ADORATION: Christian Zunino

POWER POINT MINISTRY: Claudio Corrales & Courtney Sheehan

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

ST. KIZITO'S HOPE MINISTRY Meet 2nd Sunday of month after the 11am Mass in the Mollicone Building #101

VOCATIONS: Elvia Armenta

WELCOME MINISTRY: Tony Canez

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: Gabe & Diana Canez

YOUTH MINISTRY: Lyle Pearce Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall

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

COMMITTEES

Pastoral Council President: Timo Zepeda

Finance Council President: Barbara Stewart

Building Board President: Tony Canez

CHOIR DIRECTORS

Music Coordinator: Jorge Castellanos

Gil Lugo, Sat.; 5:30pm & Sun; 7:30am

David Rodriguez Sun 3:00pm

Bill Staggs, 9:15 a.m.

Michelle Hernandez, 11 a.m..

Jorge Castellanos, Spanish 1p.m.

Lilli Soto, 5 p.m. or **Bill Staggs** 5 p.m.

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

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

RECONCILIATION: Wed. 5:30 p.m.& Sat. 3:30 p.m. or by appt.

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



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 De nuestras hermanas y nuestros hermanos enfermos:

Glyssie Esquivel, Reynaldo Vela, Angel Cantu, Linda Duncan, Maria J., Olga B., 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, , Tyler Acosta, Jo-Ann Case, Manuel M., Brenda, Diane Thatcher, Jennifer Sanchez, Jose Martinez, John Cortez, Andrew, Velma Duran, Jan Beland, Kenia Aguilar, Dolores Vaquera & family, Sara Chase, Navarro, Catarina Garza, Ruddy Ballesteros DeLeon, Debbie Garcia, Armando Aguero, Nicanora Rodriguez, Paul D., Angel Cantu, Barbara Garza, Evan Pesek, Laura Cynthia Peters, Bill Eastman, Felix Davila, Ernesto Sosa, Robert, Adam Thomas, Melissa, Michael Burgos, Rose, Christine, Pawlick family, Rhonda Hogan, Barbara Rials, Trini & Jackie Cantú, Tony Rippy, Edwardo Guevara, Adalene, Janet Hillson, Pablo Martinez, Lucy Zamora, Ariel & Clara Casiano, Vanessa P., Donelia Jimenez, Jeannie & Paul, Maria Ramos, Roland Guerra, Ignacio Urabazo, Becky Cortez, Francis, Judy Gutierrez Kahn, Alfredo Covarrubias & family, Sergio Martinez Ortiz, Rocio Martinez Ortiz, Derrick Hensley, Edith, Blanca, Juan Esquivel, Rocio Martinez, Hector Balderas, Diana Palomo, Vicky Guevara, Mary Angel Garcia, Manuel Lozano, Sylvia Gonzales, Sophia Pusateri, Jose Reyes, Anna Cortez, Manuel & Tenchia Trevino, Anna Roberta Kotso, Nicholas Kerwin, Nick Ramos, John Baldwin, Joann & Sebastian, Julie Martinez, Carlos Alberto Garcia, Daniela Basulto, Donna Ann Salinas, Maria Luisa Nieto, Michael Thompson, Mary Lou Thompson, Aleda, Camelia Pineda, Maya Kadinca Roa, Karen Margarita Gomez Roa, Francisco Valenzuela , Nicole Marie Mondani, Ernesto Maestas, Leticia Carmelino

please pray for the sick

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, January 13th

St. Hilary, Bishop & Dr of the Church / San Hilario, Obispo y Dr de la Iglesia
Mass/ Misa 8:15 a.m. Fr. Rafael

Tuesday/Martes, January 14th

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

Wednesday/Miércoles, January 15th

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

Confessions / Confesiones 5:30 p.m.

Thursday/Jueves, January 16th

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

Mass/Misa (Bilingual/Bilingüe) 6:30 p.m. Fr. Thumma

Holy Hour / Hora Santa 7:15 p.m.

Friday/Viernes, January 17th

St. Anthony, Abbot / San Antonio, Abad

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

Confessions / Confesiones 5:00 p.m.

Healing Mass/ Misa de Sanacion (Bilingual/Bilingüe)
7:00 p.m. Fr. Thumma

Saturday/Sábado, January 18th

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. Rafael
& Dcn. Sean

**2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time
2o Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario**

Sunday/Domingo, January 19th

Masses in a.m. 7:30 a.m. Fr. Rafael
& Dcn. Sean

Misas de la mañana 9:15 a.m. Fr. Rafael
& Dcn. Sean

11:00 a.m. Fr. Rafael
& Dcn. Luis

Masses in p.m. 1 p.m. (Español) Fr. Thumma
& Dcn. Luis

3 p.m. (Español) Fr. Thumma
& Dcn. Joel

Misas de la tarde 5 p.m. (English) Fr. Thumma
& Dcn. David

7 p.m. (Español) Fr. Rafael



Mass Intentions

Mon	1/13	8:15 a.m.	† Maria Del Carmen Munoz
Tue	1/14	8:15 a.m.	(SI) James Sutton † Souls in Purgatory
Wed	1/15	8:15 a.m.	(B) Lupita Ruiz
Thurs	1/16	8:15 a.m.	(SI) St. Monica Parishioners
		6:30 p.m.	(SI) For the Jubilee Pilgrims (B) Mario Efrain Garcia † Rosario Pelayo
Fri.	1/17	8:15 p.m.	(B) Karyna Flores † Holy Souls in Purgatory
		6:30 p.m.	(SI) Mario Efrain Garcia † For the Jubilee Pilgrims † Rosario Pelayo
Sat.	1/18	9:30 a.m.	(SI) Mario Efrain Garcia † Tere Mata † Rosario Pelayo
		5:30 p.m.	† Leissa Sutton † Thomas Wilhelmi
Sun.	1/19	7:30 a.m.	(SI) Carolyn Perez (B) Rosita Z. Payton (A) Jose & Carmelita Arispe † Mary Kirby
		9:15 a.m.	(B) Pablo B. Garcia † Carmen Rosas † Hector Balderas † Rosario Pelayo
		11:00 a.m.	(B) Beth Hovis † Irma Kotanan † Dale Wilson † Reynold & Alicia Gonzalez
		1:00 p.m.	(SI) Santiago & Cynthia Castellanos † Tere Mata † Maria Del Rosario Pelayo Pelayo † Maria Guadalupe Granados
		3:00 p.m.	(B) Lupita Ruiz † Maria Del Rosario Pelayo Pelayo
		5:00 p.m.	† John Dunlavy † Joan Dunlavy
		7:00 p.m.	(SI) Parishioners of St. Monica

COLLECTIONS

December 25th collection \$ 13,542.00

December 29th \$ 14,701.00
Online collection \$ 3,460.44

Collection for Assumption Seminary \$ 3,037.00
Online Collection for St. Vincent de Paul \$ 259.00
Online Collection for St. Monica School \$ 6,080.00


January 5th \$
Online collection \$ 4,214.00

Online Collection for St. Vincent de Paul \$ 134.00
Online Collection for St. Monica School \$ 242.00

January 19th NO Second Collection:



Weekly Offering

 Sanctuary Lamp for:
15th Wedding Anniversary
Joe & MJ Luera

Altar Flowers for this week are for:
The 15th Birthday of
Araceli Garza
Donated by Hector & Yvette Garza



Altar Flowers

Pilgrimage to Italy during the Jubilee year 2025.

We will be visiting Milan, Padova, Venice, Florence, Assisi and Rome. Round trip airfare and two meals a day along with entry and admissions is all included in the cost to this pilgrimage. A non-refundable fee of \$300 and registration is what is required to hold your spot. For more information please contact the office.

Don't miss out. Reserve your spot by January 31, 2025

Peregrinación a Italia durante el Año Jubilar 2025

Visitaremos Milán, Padua, Venecia, Florencia, Asís y Roma. El precio de esta peregrinación incluye el boleto de avión de ida y vuelta y dos comidas al día, además de la entrada y las admisiones. Una cuota no reembolsable de \$300 y registro es lo que se requiere para reservar su lugar. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con la oficina. **No se lo pierda.**

Reserve su lugar antes del 31 de Enero, 2025



The Shrine of
ITALY
Celebrate the 2025 Jubilee from Milan to Rome!

Nativity Pilgrimage

Where Faith Meets Adventure

August 18 - 28, 2025

11-Day Pilgrimage

Fr. Thumma Prathap

Spiritual Director

St. Monica's Catholic Church
San Antonio, TX

FLIGHTS DEPARTING FROM SAN ANTONIO, TX
\$5,899
per person

FOR INFO

Delia Medrano-Finch

(210) 658-3816

delia@saintmonicaconverse.net

travel.nativitypilgrimage.com/thumma

Los Santuarios de

ITALIA

Celebre el Jubileo 2025 de Milán a Roma!

Peregrinación Natividad

Donde la Fe se Encuentra con la Aventura

18 a 28 de Agosto 2025
Peregrinación de 11 Días

Padre Thumma Prathap -
Director Espiritual

Vuelos saliendo de San Antonio
\$5899. por persona

Para Información:
Delia Medrano-Finch
210-658-3816

Thank you to everyone who purchased Poinsettias to honor your loved ones. It is because of your kind generosity St. Monica Was radiant with divine light, it truly was a sanctuary of peace and grace with a visible manifestation of God's love.

The Art & Environment committee will be taking down the Christmas decorations and if you wish to pick up your poinsettia you can come by any time between Tuesday Jan. 14th to Friday Jan. 17th.



Gracias a todos los que compraron Poinsettias para honrar a sus seres queridos. Es por su bondadosa generosidad que Santa Mónica estaba radiante de luz divina, verdaderamente era un santuario de paz y gracia con una manifestación visible del amor de Dios.

El Comité de Arte y Medio Ambiente retirara las decoraciones navideñas. Si desea recoger su flor, puede venir en cualquier día entre el Martes 14 de Enero y el Viernes, 17 de Enero.

“Pastor’s Voice”
Baptism of the Lord

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, a moment of profound significance in the life of Jesus and in the story of our salvation. As Jesus steps into the waters of the Jordan, He humbles Himself to be baptized by John, not because He needed cleansing, but to identify with us and to reveal the depth of His solidarity with humanity.

The Baptism of the Lord marks the beginning of His public ministry. It is a powerful manifestation of the Holy Trinity: the voice of the Father proclaiming Jesus as His beloved Son, the Holy Spirit descending upon Him like a dove, and Jesus, the Son of God, humbly submitting to the Father’s will. This moment invites us to reflect on our own baptism and its implications for our daily lives.

Through our baptism, we are not only cleansed of original sin but also reborn as beloved children of God, called to share in His mission of love and service. Each of us has received the light of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit, empowering us to be His witnesses in the world.

Today, I encourage you to revisit the promises of your baptism. Are we living as true disciples of Christ, reflecting His light in our families, workplaces, and communities? Are we striving to grow in holiness, to forgive, and to love as He has loved us?

The Baptism of the Lord also reminds us of the importance of our vocation as a Church family. We are called to support one another in faith, to nurture the gifts of the Spirit in our children, and to build a community where God’s love is evident to all.

As we conclude the Christmas season and step into Ordinary Time, let us draw strength from the grace of our own baptism. Let us renew our commitment to live as beloved children of God, bearing witness to His love and mercy in all we do.

May the example of Jesus’ humility and obedience inspire us to embrace our baptismal call with joy and faith. And may we always remember that, like Christ, we are beloved sons and daughters of the Father. God Bless America.

Yours Truly,

Rev. Thumma Prathap

January 11th & 12th 2025

“Voz del Pastor”
Bautismo Del Señor

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo,

Este fin de semana celebramos la fiesta del Bautismo del Señor, un momento de profundo significado en la vida de Jesús y en la historia de nuestra salvación. Cuando Jesús entra en las aguas del Jordán, se humilla para ser bautizado por Juan, no porque necesitaba purificación, sino para identificarse con nosotros y revelar la profundidad de su solidaridad con la humanidad.

El Bautismo del Señor marca el comienzo de su ministerio público. Es una manifestación poderosa de la Santísima Trinidad: la voz del Padre que proclama a Jesús como su Hijo amado, el Espíritu Santo que desciende sobre él como una paloma y Jesús, el Hijo de Dios, que se somete humildemente a la voluntad del Padre. Este momento nos invita a reflexionar sobre nuestro propio bautismo y sus implicaciones para nuestra vida diaria.

A través de nuestro bautismo, no sólo somos limpiados del pecado original, sino que renacemos como hijos amados de Dios, llamados a compartir su misión de amor y servicio. Cada uno de nosotros ha recibido la luz de Cristo y el don del Espíritu Santo, que nos capacita para ser sus testigos en el mundo.

Hoy, los animo a que revisen las promesas de su bautismo. ¿Estamos viviendo como verdaderos discípulos de Cristo, reflejando su luz en nuestras familias, lugares de trabajo y comunidades? ¿Estamos esforzándonos por crecer en santidad, por perdonar y por amar como Él nos ha amado?

El Bautismo del Señor también nos recuerda la importancia de nuestra vocación como familia de la Iglesia. Estamos llamados a apoyarnos unos a otros en la fe, a nutrir los dones del Espíritu en nuestros hijos y a construir una comunidad donde el amor de Dios sea evidente para todos.

Al concluir la temporada navideña y entrar en el Tiempo Ordinario, saquemos fuerzas de la gracia de nuestro propio bautismo. Renovemos nuestro compromiso de vivir como hijos amados de Dios, dando testimonio de su amor y misericordia en todo lo que hacemos.

Que el ejemplo de humildad y obediencia de Jesús nos inspire a abrazar nuestro llamado bautismal con alegría y fe. Y que siempre recordemos que, como Cristo, somos hijos e hijas amados del Padre. Dios bendiga a Estados Unidos.

Atentamente,

Padre Thumma Prathap

11 y 12 de Enero 2025

Confessions & Healing Mass

Join us for our:
Healing Mass on Fri. Jan. 17th at 7pm
with Confessions to begin at 5pm
There will be several priest available.



Confesiones y Misa de Sanación

Únase a nosotros para nuestra:
Misa de Sanación el Viernes
17 de Enero a las 7 p.m.
con Confesiones a partir de las 5pm
Habrá varios sacerdotes disponibles.

Dear St. Monica Family,

Greetings from Fr. Thumma. Since July 6th, 2024, our parish has been presenting shawls (from India) to married couples on their wedding anniversaries as a gesture of love, respect, and blessings and we continue to present shawls till July 5th & 6th, 2025. This tradition honors your commitment to one another and your witness to Christ through your married lives.

We thank you for living out your vocation, even amid difficulties and challenges, showing the strength of God’s love in your union. Your acceptance of the precious gift of children and your dedication to nurturing them in faith are true reflections of God’s blessings in your family.

The shawl symbolizes warmth, protection, unity, and God’s care for your journey as a couple. It is not just a gift but a reminder of the parish’s prayers for your continued joy, love, and strength.

May this tradition enrich your celebrations, and may God bless you with many more years of witnessing His love through your marriage. Remember, with God, everything is possible, and His grace will always sustain you. Enclosed is a detailed explanation of the shawl tradition and ways to cherish and use it meaningfully.

Yours Truly,

Fr. Thumma Prathap



Reasons for Presenting Shawls in Indian Tradition

The tradition of presenting shawls in India has deep cultural, spiritual, and practical significance. Here are the key reasons:

Symbol of Respect and Honor: Presenting a shawl is a way of showing deep respect and honor to someone. It is often given to elders, guests, and dignitaries as a mark of esteem.

Blessings and Warmth: The shawl represents the giver’s blessings for the recipient’s well-being, offering both literal warmth and metaphorical care.

Cultural Significance: It is a traditional way to acknowledge someone’s role or contribution, especially during celebrations, ceremonies, and rites of passage.

Ritualistic Purpose: Shawls are used in religious and spiritual contexts, often placed around the shoulders of priests, deities, or individuals performing sacred duties.

Welcoming Guests: In Indian hospitality, shawls are presented to guests as a gesture of warm welcome and appreciation.

Auspicious Gift: Shawls are considered auspicious and are often exchanged during weddings, festivals, and special occasions.

Cultural Identity: Different regions in India have their own unique shawl traditions (e.g., Pashmina in Kashmir, Kullu in Himachal Pradesh), representing local heritage and artistry.

Mark of Achievement: In academic or professional contexts, shawls are given to honor achievements or milestones.

Spiritual Covering: A shawl symbolizes modesty and spiritual focus, often used during meditation, prayer, or worship.

Protection Against Evil: In some traditions, a shawl is believed to protect the recipient from negative energy or bad omens.

Querida Familias de Santa Monica,

Saludos de parte Padre Thumma. Desde el 6 de Julio de 2024, nuestra parroquia ha estado presentando chales (de la India) a parejas casadas en sus aniversarios de boda como un gesto de amor, respeto y bendiciones y continuamos presentando chales hasta el 5 y 6 de Julio de 2025. Esta tradición honra su compromiso mutuo y su testimonio de Cristo a través de su vida matrimonial.

Le agradecemos por vivir su vocación, incluso en medio de dificultades y desafíos, mostrando la fuerza del amor de Dios en su unión. Su aceptación del precioso regalo de los niños y su dedicación a nutrirlos en la fe son verdaderos reflejos de las bendiciones de Dios para su familia.

El chal simboliza calidez, protección, unidad y el cuidado de Dios por su camino como pareja. No es sólo un regalo, sino un recordatorio de las oraciones de la parroquia por su continuo gozo, amor y fortaleza.

Que esta tradición enriquezca sus celebraciones y que Dios los bendiga con muchos años más de testimonio de Su amor a través de su matrimonio. Recuerde, con Dios todo es posible y su gracia siempre se sostendrá. Adjunto se incluye una explicación detallada de la tradición del chal y las formas de apreciarla y utilizarla de manera significativa.

Atentamente,

Padre Thumma

Razones para Presentar Chales en la Tradición India

La tradición de presentar chales en la India tiene un profundo significado cultural, espiritual y practico. Estas son las razones clave:

Símbolo de Respeto y Honor: Presentar un chal es una forma de mostrar un profundo respeto y honor a alguien. A menudo se entrega a ancianos, invitados y dignatarios como señal de estima.

Bendiciones y Calidez: El chal representa las bendiciones del donante para el bienestar del receptor, ofreciendo tanto calidez literal como cuidado metafórico.

Importancia Cultural: Es una forma tradicional de reconocer el papel o la contribución de alguien, especialmente durante celebraciones, ceremonias y ritos de iniciación.

Propósito Ritual: Los chales se usan en contextos religiosos y espirituales, y a menudo se colocan alrededor de los hombros de sacerdotes, deidades o personas que realizan deberes sagrados.

Bienvenida a los Invitados: En la hospitalidad India, los chales se presentan a los invitados como un gesto de cálida bienvenida y agradecimiento.

Regalo Auspicioso: Los chales se consideran auspiciosos y a menudo, se intercambian durante bodas, festivales y ocasiones especiales.

Identidad Cultural: Las diferentes regiones e la India tienen sus propias tradiciones de mantón únicas (por ejemplo, Pashmina en Cachemire, Kullu en Himachal Pradesh), que representan el patrimonio y el arte local.

Marca de Logro: En contextos académicos o profesionales, los chales se entregan para honrar logros o hitos.

Cobertura Espiritual: Un chal simboliza modestia y concentración espiritual, y se usa a menudo durante la meditación, la oración o la adoración.

Protección Contra el Mal: En algunas tradiciones, se cree que un chal protege a quien lo recibe de energía negativa o malos augurios.

Using Shawls in Daily Life

Prayer and Meditation: Use a shawl as a sacred covering during personal prayer or meditation to create a sense of focus and warmth.

Giftng and Gratitude: Present shawls as a meaningful gift to express respect or gratitude to family, friends, or guests.

Decorative Purposes: Incorporate shawls into home decor by draping them over furniture, using them as table runners, or hanging them as wall art.

Traditional Attire: Wear shawls as part of traditional Indian attire for special occasions, adding an elegant and cultural touch.

Daily Comfort (if they are thick): Use shawls as a cozy wrap during cooler weather at home or outdoors.

Cultural Education: Teach children about the significance of shawls in Indian tradition by involving them in cultural activities.

Exercise: Use a shawl as a light covering during relaxation or cool-down exercises.

Symbolic Connection: Keep a shawl as a sentimental reminder of a special occasion or a loved one's blessing.

Shawls, with their blend of practicality and symbolism, enrich both our daily lives and the traditions they represent.

**Usar Chales en la Vida Diaria**

Oración y Meditación: Use un chal como cobertura sagrada durante la oración personal o la meditación para crear una sensación de concentración y calidez.

Obsequios y Gratitude: Presente chales como un obsequio significativo para expresar respeto o gratitud a familiares, amigos o invitados.

Fines decorativos: Incorpore chales a la decoración del hogar colocándolos sobre los muebles, utilizándolos como centro de mesa o colgándolos como arte de pared.

Atuendo Tradicional: Use chales como parte del atuendo tradicional Indio para ocasiones especiales, agregando un toque elegante y cultural.

Comodidad Diaria (sin son gruesos): Use chales como abrigo acogedor durante el clima mas fresco en casa o al aire libre.

Educación Cultural: Ensene a los niños sobre la importancia de los chales en la tradición India involucrándolos en actividades culturales.

Ejercicio: Utilice un chal como cobertura ligera durante los ejercicios de relajación o enfriamiento.

Conexión Simbólica: Mantenga un chal como recordatorio sentimental de una ocasión especial o la bendición de un ser querido.

Los chales, con su mezcla de practicidad y simbolismo, enriquecen tanto nuestra vida cotidiana como la tradiciones que representan.

Jubilee / Jubileo 2024-25

Sunday, Dec. 29, 2024 until Tuesday, Jan 6, 2026
Domingo, 29 de Diciembre 2024 al Martes, 6 de Enero 2026

Sunday / Domingo, February 16, 2025 at 11am for Vocations / Vocaciones
Celebrant: Auxiliary Bishop Gary

Friday / Viernes, March 28, 2025

24 Hours for the Lord / 24 Horas para el Señor
Eucharistic Adoration with Sacrament of Confession /
Adoración Eucarística con Sacramento de la Confesión

Saturday / Sabado, October 25, 2025

A Day of Prayer and Reconciliation / Un Día de Oración y Reconciliación
Every Thursday 6:30pm Bilingual Pilgrim Mass - Followed by Holy Hour
Cada Jueves 6:30pm Misa de Peregrino Bilingüe - Seguido por Hora Santa

1st Friday Spanish Mass 7pm / Primer Viernes Misa en Español 7pm
All Other Friday's 6:30pm Bilingual Pilgrim Mass
Todo Otro Viernes 6:30pm Misa de Peregrino Bilingüe

Lenten evening mass: everyday at 6:30 pm / Misa Vespertina de Cuaresma: todos los días a las 6:30pm

Healing Mass with Confessions / Misa de Sanación con Confesiones

Confessions begin / Confesiones comienzan @ 5pm
Mass begins / Misa comienza @ 7pm

January 17, 2025 Friday / Viernes

May 14, 2025 Wednesday / Miércoles

August 6, 2025 Wednesday / Miércoles

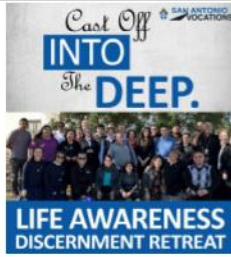
October 30, 2025 Thursday / Jueves

Every Saturday Morning / Todos los Sábados por la Mañana

Rosary 9am followed by 9:30 am Bilingual Pilgrim Mass / Misa de Peregrino Bilingüe



**Life Awareness Religious Vocation
Discernment Weekend Retreat
February 7-9, 2025**



Starting Friday at 4 p.m. |Ending Sunday 1 p.m.
Are you feeling called to a deeper relationship with God? Do you find yourself pondering a vocation to religious life or the priesthood? Join us for a Discernment Vocation Weekend Retreat, "Life Awareness" designed for both men and women who are seeking to explore God's calling in their lives. This retreat is an excellent opportunity to seek clarity and peace in your discernment. Register by Fri., Jan. 31st
Please contact Ms. Ana Bojorquez at 210-735- 0553 or abojorquez@archsa.org to confirm your participation or if you have any questions.

**Retiro de Fin de Semana de Conciencia de Vida
y Discernimiento de Vocaciones Religiosas
7-9 de Febrero, 2025**

A partir del Viernes, 4:00 de la tarde, Terminando el Domingo 1:00 de la tarde. Se siente llamado a una relación mas profunda con Dios? Se encuentra usted reflexionando sobre una vocación a la vida religiosa o al sacerdocio? Únase a nosotros para un Retiro de Fin de Semana de Discernimiento Vocacional, "Conciencia de Vida", diseñando tanto para hombres como para mujeres que buscan explorar el llamado de Dios en sus vidas. Este retiro es una excelente oportunidad para buscar claridad y paz en su discernimiento. Regístrese antes del Viernes, 31 de Enero. Contacte a Srta. Ana Bojorquez al 210-735- 0553 o abojorquez@archsa.org para confirmar participación o si tiene preguntas.

St. Monica Pictorial Directory

Hi all, Our pictorial directory is growing. We have close to 300 families! Don't worry, you still have time to participate. Take those holiday family photos and send them in. Email your photo to: Directory@saintmonicaconverse.net. We will upload your photo, then send you a confirmation email with instructions on how to create your member account. If you have any questions or need assistance, please email us at Directory@saintmonicaconverse.net. please email us with your name and phone number: After we receive your email, we will send you information and a link on how to participate. For those who submitted their emails with us directly on Sunday, you should be able to create a login with members.InstantChurchDirectory.com If you have questions about the Pictorial Directory, or are having problems logging in to the site, please email us. We will be happy to help you!



Directorio Pictórico de Santa Mónica

Hola a todos. Nuestro Directorio Pictórico está creciendo. ¡Tenemos cerca de 300 familias! No se preocupe, todavía está a tiempo de participar. Tome esas fotos familiares de vacaciones y envíelas. Envíe su foto por correo electrónico a: Directory@saintmonicaconverse.net. Descargaremos su foto y luego le enviaremos un correo electrónico de confirmación con instrucciones sobre cómo crear su cuenta de miembro. Si tiene alguna pregunta o necesita ayuda, por favor envíenos un correo electrónico a: Directory@saintmonicaconverse.net. Por favor envíenos un correo electrónico con su nombre y número de teléfono. Después de recibirá un correo electrónico con información y un enlace sobre cómo participar. Para aquellos que enviaron sus correos electrónicos directamente con nosotros el Domingo, deberías poder crear un inicio de sesión con miembros.InstantChurchDirectory.com Si tiene preguntas sobre el Directorio ilustrado, o tiene problemas para iniciar sesión en el sitio, envíe un correo electrónico a nosotros. ¡Estaremos encantados de ayudarle!

**The Knights of Columbus
next diaper drive will be on
January 11th - 18th.**

The Guadalupe Home is a Catholic charity co-founded by our beloved parishioner, Rose Marie O'Conner. As a transitional living program, it provides homeless expectant mothers a safe place to live while nurturing their babies. The home also encourages mothers to become independent, creating a new life for their families.



Baby Needs Wish List:

- Diapers: Sizes #3, #5, & #6
- Pull-ups 4T/5T & 5T/6T
- Baby Wipes & Paper Towels
- Baby Food & Similac Milk
- Tylenol for infants & children
- First Aid & Hygiene Items
- Laundry Detergent (Small Size)
- Twin Blankets for Winter
- Kids Toothbrush & Toothpaste

Please place your donations in the baby crib located in the church foyer and thank you for your support..

May God Bless You!

**Caballeros de Colon
Próximo colecta de pañales será
Enero 11 - 18.**

La Casa de Guadalupe es una Caridad Católica fundado por una de nuestras amadas feligreses, Rose Marie O'Conner. Es un programa de vivienda de transición que proporciona futuras madres sin hogar un lugar seguro mientras cuidan sus bebés. La casa

alienta a las madres a ser independientes, creando una nueva vida para sus familias.
Lista de Deseos de Necesidades Esenciales para Bebe:

- Pañales: Medida #3, #5, y #6
- Pull-ups medida 4T/5T y 5T/6T
- Toallitas Húmeda y Toallas de Papel
- Comida de bebé y Leche Similac
- Tylenol para bebés y niños
- Cepillos y pasta de diente
- Detergentes para ropa Colchas medida "Twin"
- Estuches de Primer Auxilio y Artículos de Higiene

Favor de poner sus donaciones en la cuna de bebé localizado en el vestíbulo de la iglesia y gracias por su apoyo.
Que Dios los Bendiga !



Due to publishing deadlines our January 5th bulletin was submitted earlier than usual. For this reason we want to include everyone who submitted their loved ones celebrations. Please turn in your February pictures no later than Sunday January 26th

Debido a fechas limite de publicación, nuestro boletín del 5 de Enero fue presentado antes de lo habitual. Por esta razón queremos incluir a todos los que enviaron celebraciones de sus seres queridos. Por favor entregue sus fotos de Febrero lo mas tardar el Domingo, 26 de Enero.

Happy Birthday Maddison Olague January 15th



Happy Birthday Julie Martinez January 6th

Happy Birthday Alexa Rose Rodriguez January 5th



Happy Birthday Sandra Bell January 6th



Did you hear about...

St. Monica's Teen ACTS Retreat will be held March 13-16, at Slumber Falls Camp in New Braunfels.

It will be a fun activity-filled three day retreat where you can grow in your faith and have a better relationship with God! The cost is \$200, however, financial assistance is available. For more details, contact Lyle Pearce at 210-913-5585 or Mrs. Toni Espinoza at 956-493-3867



Retiro ACTS para Adolescentes de Santa Mónica Se llevara a cabo del 13-16 de Marzo, En Slumber Falls Camp en New Braunfels.

Sera un retiro de tres días lleno de actividades divertidos donde podrá crecer en su fe y tener una mejor relación con Dios! El costo es de \$200; hay asistencia financiera disponible. Para obtener mas detalles, comuníquese con Lyle Pearce en 210-913-5585 o Sra.Toni Espinoza en 956-493-3867

The Baptism of the Lord

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- People
- Filled
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- Sandals
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- Dove
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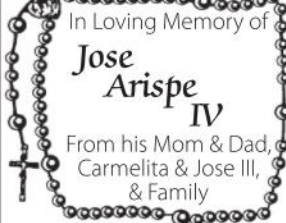
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 From his Mom & Dad,
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 & Family



In Loving Memory of
GUADALUPE F. CHAGOYA
 (12-27-21)

"We will hold you in our hearts until we see you again in Heaven"

From Gil & Monica, Todd & Velma Ramirez and Grandkids Thomas & Marisa



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Alex MacLean.

In loving memory of
Irma Maria Kotanan
1947-2022

♥ Martin Kotanan, Sharon, Pedro & Avery Irizzary, Claudia, Zach, Marley, Eden & Turin Keyes

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Phone Number: (210)658-3816

Website: www.saintmonicaconverse.net

Email: parish@saintmonicaconverse.net



Mass Schedule

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

Thursday & Friday 6:30 pm

(Bilingual/Bilingüe)

Saturday: 9 am Holy Rosary

Mass at 9:30 am (Bilingual/Bilingüe)

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm (English)

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

1:00, 3:00 & 7:00 pm (Spanish)

HOLY HOUR: Thursday 7 pm

1st FRIDAY MASS:

8:15 am English & 7:00 pm Spanish

PERPETUAL ADORATION

In the Chapel Hours for adoration:

Sunday at 8 pm to Saturday at 5:15pm

Chapel is open 7am to 7pm if coming after 7pm,

Please come by the office to get your entry code.

CONFESSIONS:

WEDNESDAY 5:30 PM

& SATURDAY 3:30 PM

Or call the office for an appointment



PARISH STAFF

Deacon: Sean Dooley

Deacon: Jose Joel Castellanos

Deacon: David Espinoza

Deacon: Luis Raul Mata

Deacon: Jacques Abat (retired)

Administrative Assistant: Delia Medrano-Finch ext. 240

Administrative Assistant: Martha Gonzalez ext. 240

Bookkeeper: Christine Pacheco ext. 235

Email: bookkeeper@saintmonicaconverse.net

Dir. of Religious Ed. Toni Espinoza ext. 242

Email: RE@saintmonicaconverse.net

Liturgy Coordinator: Deacon David Espinoza ext. 237

Email: liturgy@saintmonicaconverse.net

OCIA Coordinator: Timo Zepeda

Email: RCIA@saintmonicaconverse.net

Housekeeper Limbania Reyes

Groundskeeper Gilbert LaFuente

Custodian Ray Gonzales

St. Vincent de Paul: (210) 658-8791

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

Services are available to all parishioners.

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.

YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED!

We are grateful to those who have continued to give, since we depend on you for weekly contributions.

We kindly ask that you continue to contribute either by:

- Dropping off your donation at the church office during office hours 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. Wed. hours 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. & Sun. 10 a.m. to 3p.m.
- Mailing it to the church office: 501 North St., Converse; 78109
- Giving online, Visit <https://saintmonicaconverse.net> and slide "Give" in the upper menu for the online giving link. It will explain how to set up your ParishSOFT Giving Account.



Thank you for your continual support and prayers.

AGRADECEMOS SU APOYO!

Agradecemos a aquellos que han continuado dando, ya que dependemos de las contribuciones semanales de nuestros feligreses. Le pedimos amablemente que continúen contribuyendo ya sea:

- Dejando su donación en la oficina de la iglesia durante el horario de oficina de 9 a.m. a 5:30 p.m.
- Enviándolo por correo a la oficina de la iglesia: 501 North Street, Converse; 78109
- Donando en línea. Puede visitar el sitio web: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stmcc>.

Se le explicará cómo configurar su Cuenta de Donación en ParishSOFT. Vaya al enlace "Give" en la parte superior del menú. Ahí se explicará cómo empezar su Cuenta de ParishSoft.

Gracias por su apoyo constante y sus oraciones.

