

St. Monica Catholic Church

501 North St.

Converse, Texas 78109

BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Fiesta del Bautismo del Señor

Pastor: Fr. Thumma Prathap

Email: pastor@saintmonicaconverse.net

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Lubin Moreno

Email: vicar@saintmonicaconverse.net

Working Hours:

Mon., Tue., Thur., & Friday

9:00 am - 5:30 pm

Wed. 9 am - 7pm

Closed for lunch 12:30 - 1pm Mon. - Fri.

Sat: 10am - 2pm & Sun: 10am - 3pm

St. Monica Catholic Church Converse



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

*You can still register your child for the
2025/2026 School Year*

*Todavía puede registrarse para el
Año 2025/2026*

www.saintmonicaconverse.net/saint-monica-catholic-school

St Monica Catholic School

MASS SCHEDULE: The 9:15 a.m. & 1 p.m. Sunday
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 DE SACERDOTES ES SUJETO A CAMBIO

Monday/Lunes, January 12th

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

Tuesday/Martes, January 13th

Optional Memorial of Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
 Memoria Opcional de San Hilario, Obispo y Doctor de la Iglesia

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

Wednesday/Miércoles, January 14th

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

Confessions / Confesiones 5:30 p.m.

Thursday/Jueves, January 15th

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

Holy Hour 7:00 p.m.

Friday/Viernes, January 16th

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

Saturday/Sabado January 17th

Memorial de San Antonio, Abad / Memoria de San Antonio, Abad

Rosary (Bilingual/Bilingüe) 9:00 a.m.

Mass 9:30 a.m. Fr. Thumma

Confessions / Confesiones 3:30 p.m.

Mass/ Misa 5:30 p.m. Fr. Lubin

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
20 Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Sunday/Domingo, January 18th

Masses in a.m. 7:30 a.m. Fr. Lubin
 & Dcn. Luis Gomez

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

11:00 a.m. Fr. Thumma
 & Dcn. Sean

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

3 p.m. (Español) Fr. Thumma
 & Dcn. Luis Mata

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

7 p.m. (Español) Fr. Lubin
 & Dcn. David



COLLECTIONS

for **December 25th** \$ 11,617.00

Online collection \$ 4,623.00

Second Collection Dec. 25th for Assumption Seminary \$ 2,993.00

for **December 28th** \$ 12,556.00

Online Collection for St. Vincent de Paul \$ 479.00

Online Collection for St. Monica School \$ 343.00

January 1st \$ 6,015.50

January 4th \$ 15,211.20

Online collection \$ 4,807.00

Online Collection for St. Vincent de Paul \$ 294.00

Online Collection for St. Monica School \$ 290.00

January 18th - Second Collection
St. Monica School



Mon	1/12	8:15 a.m.	(SI) St. Monica Parishioners
Tue	1/13	8:15 a.m.	(SI) Sister Mary † Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wed	1/14	8:15 a.m.	(SI) Conversion of Sinners (B) Lupita Ruiz † Tom Silk † Dale Wilson
Thurs	1/15	8:15 a.m.	(B) Lupita Ruiz
Fri	1/16	8:15 a.m.	(SI) Kevin & Steven Rose † Heather Rose † Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sat.	1/17	9:30 a.m.	(SI) St. Monica Parishioners
		5:30 p.m.	(B) Karyna Flores † Leissa Sutton † Pedro & Nelda Herrera † Jose Trevino † Joaquin S. Ada
Sun.	1/18	7:30 a.m.	(A) Jose & Carmelita Arispe † Rafael & Maria Zuluaga
		9:15 a.m.	(SI) Tony & Isabel Canez (SI) Knights of Columbus Council #9681 (A) Pablo & Herlinda Garcia
		11:00 a.m.	(B) Beth Hovis † Bob Hovis † Reynold & Alicia Gonzalez † Rachel Gonzalez † Irma Kotanan
		1:00 p.m.	(SI) Martin & Delia Sanchez (SI) Milagros Ramirez (SI) James & Blanca Payton (SI) Gilbert & Rosa Garcia † Benilda Del Carmen Arena
		3:00 p.m.	(SI) Maria Antu † Julio Roman
		5:00 p.m.	(B) Emmanuel Fernandez (SI) Miriam Ward (SI) Barbara Stewart (SI) Howard & Anna Guilluly (SI) Conversion of Sinners † Kyra Tyquiengco † Kapryna Lynn Tyquiengco † Jose S. Cruz † Claudia Montoya
		7:00 p.m.	(SI) Ludy Kent (B) Celia Loayza (B) Lupita Ruiz (B) Candido Santos

This week's sanctuary lamps are for the repose
 of the souls:

Christopher Tufino and
Fr. Manuel Perez Fernandez



Please keep Fr. Thumma in your prayers as he is in India celebrating his sister's 50th anniversary as a religious sister. Also pray for his safe return later this week.

Por favor, tengan al Padre Thumma presente en sus oraciones, ya que se encuentra en la India celebrando el 50.º aniversario de su hermana como religiosa. Oren también por su regreso sano y salvo a finales de esta semana.



*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, Olga B., Linda Duncan, Maria J., Maxine Lerma, Helen Arispe, Arthur Thomas, Lisa Lee, Luis M Vega, Barbara Cantley, Suzie Littrell, Alena Quintero, Irma Mendez, Brenda, Nildia Johnston, Manuel M., Lucy Barajas, Tim Knotts, Lisa Lee, Douglas, Tyler Acosta, Melissa, Diane Thatcher, Maria F., Jennifer Sanchez, Irene Cantu, Leo Cantu, Jose Martinez, Vanessa P., John Cortez, Andrew, Velma Duran, Jan Beland, Ernie & Sally Gonzales, Kenia Aguilar, Dolores Vaquera & Family, Sara Chase, Navarro, Catarina Garza, Debbie Garcia, Armando Aguero, Rose, Paul D., Angel Cantu, Barbara Garza, Evan Pesek, Pawlick family, Laura Cynthia Peters, Bill Eastman, Felix Davila, Ernesto Sosa, Robert, Adam Thomas, Gabriel M., Michael Burgos, Rob Wick, Barbara Rials, Trini & Jackie Cantú, Tony Rippy, Eduardo Guevara, Adalene, Blanca, Donelia Jimenez, Janet Hillson, Pablo Martinez, Aleda, Lucy Zamora, Emma Phillips, Lee Myers, Ariel & Clara Casiano, Jeannie & Paul, Maria Ramos, Anna Cortez, Ignacio Urabazo, Becky Cortez, Francis, Mary Gutierrez, Judy Gutierrez Kahn, Juan Esquivel, Alfredo Covarrubias & Family, Sergio Martinez Ortiz, Lee Myers, Rocio Martinez Ortiz, Derrick Hensley, Edith, Rocio Martinez, Hector Balderas, Diana Palomo, Christina S., Vicky Guevara, Mary Angel Garcia, Manuel Lozano, Sophia Pusateri, Sylvia Gonzales, John Baldwin, Maria Luisa Nieto, Anna Roberta Kotso, Manuel & Tenchia Trevino, Julie Martinez, Nicholas Kerwin, Nick Ramos, Daniela Basulto, Ginobili Villa, Joann & Sebastian, Leticia Carmelino, Maria J., Carlos Alberto Garcia, Gil Chagoya, Donna Ann Salinas, Michael Thompson, Marissa Rubio, Melquiades Cardenas, Mary Lou Thompson, Farzad Farzan, Camelia Pineda, Maya Kadinca Roa, Mike Say, Mark Rivera, Karen Margarita Gomez Roa, Jose & Rosa Haydee Soltero, Francisco Valenzuela, Vickie Rubio, Rafael Torres, Nicole Marie Mondani, Juan Pablo Torres, Reynaldo Ricky Yanong, Olivia Rodriguez, Raul Ramirez, Jorman Guerra, George San Augustin, Dcn. Joel Castellanos, Richard Valentino, Matthew Chavez, Diana Villela, Miguel Rodriguez, Linda Olin, Rogelio Rodriguez, Rebeca Silva, Marilyn Luther, Michael Deriso, Linda Santillan, Samuel Saldana, Iker Andre Ceja Marquez, Clemente Hernandez Orozco, Maria Ramirez Rodriguez, Linda Gomez, Jesus Garcia, Mauro Daniel Torres, Betty Chrisman, Wilson Washington, Christy Arriola, Agnes McKenzie, Nora Landin, Monica Martinez

*Please
pray for
the sick*

Weekly Contributions/Updates

Dear St. Monica Family,

All contributions must have been received and processed by December 31st to be included in your 2025 year-end giving record. We are sincerely grateful for your generosity and continued support of our parish.

If you would like a copy of your end-of-year contribution statement, please contact the parish office by calling 210-658-3816 or emailing: parish@saintmonicaconverse.net to submit your request. All requests must be received by January 31st, and statements will be sent on January 31st.

Yours Truly,

Fr. Thumma



Contribuciones/Actualizaciones semanales

Querida familia de Santa Mónica,

Todas las contribuciones deben haber sido recibidas y procesadas antes del 31 de Diciembre para incluirse en su registro de donaciones de fin de año 2025. Estamos sinceramente agradecidos

por su generosidad y su continuo apoyo a nuestra parroquia. Si desea una copia de su declaración de contribución de fin de año, por favor contacte a la oficina parroquial llamando al 210-658-3816 o enviando un correo electrónico a: parish@saintmonicaconverse.net para hacer su solicitud. Todas las solicitudes deben ser recibidas antes del 31 de Enero y las declaraciones se enviarán el 31 de Enero.

Atentamente, P. Thumma

Knights of Columbus (KofC) Council 9681 invites all Catholic Men to join the largest Catholic Fraternal Organization for Men in the World. With over 2 million members worldwide, the KofC support the Holy Roman Catholic Church from the Pope to the Parish. KofC serves the Church at all levels, from funding Pope Leo initiatives to assisting Father Thumma and St Monica with service projects. Membership offers men the opportunity to support the parish through service, strengthen their faith through our COR program and build lifelong relationships with other men in the parish. There will be members of the council available after all Masses 17 and 18 January. Please stop by and find out what being a member of the Knights of Columbus can mean to you.

For more information contact Grand Knight Stephen Steele at stevesteelegk@gmail.com or the Knights of Columbus website: KofC.org.



Los Caballeros de Colon (CdC), Consejo 9681 invita a todos los hombres Católicos a unirse a la Organización Fraternal Católica de Hombres más grande del mundo. Con más de 2 millones de miembros en todo el mundo, CdC apoya a la Santa Iglesia Católica Romana, desde el Papa hasta la Parroquia. CdC sirve a la Iglesia en todos los niveles, desde financiar las iniciativas del Papa León hasta ayudar al Padre Thumma y a Santa Mónica con proyectos de servicio. La membresía ofrece a los hombres la oportunidad de apoyar a la parroquia mediante el servicio, fortalecer su fe a través de nuestro programa COR y forjar relaciones duraderas con otros hombres de la parroquia. Habrá miembros del consejo disponibles después de todas las misas del 17 y 18 de Enero. Visítenos y descubra lo que significa para usted ser miembro de Caballeros de Colón.

Para más información, comuníquese con el Gran Caballero Stephen Steele en stevesteelegk@gmail.com o visite el sitio web de Caballeros de Colón: KofC.org.

**“Pastor’s Voice”
Baptism of the Lord**

Dearest St. Monica Family,

As we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we are invited to see our own lives through the power of this moment. Today’s Gospel shows us Jesus, anointed by the Spirit at the Jordan. The First Reading from Acts (10:34-38) reveals the breathtaking meaning of this event for us and for our families.

Saint Peter proclaims a revolutionary truth: “God shows no partiality.” In every nation, whoever fears God and acts uprightly is acceptable to Him. This is the world-changing consequence of Christ’s baptism and ministry. The love that descended upon Jesus at the Jordan is now poured out without limit or distinction upon all who are baptized into Him.

For our families, this truth is both a comfort and a commission.

First, it is a comfort. We often feel the pressure of comparison—to other families, to cultural ideals, to our own expectations. Peter’s words free us. God’s gaze upon your home is not one of judgment against a perfect standard, but a look of infinite love for your unique, faithful journey. He accepts you and anoints you where you are.

Second, it is a commission. Peter explains that God anointed Jesus “with the Holy Spirit and power,” and He “went about doing good.” This is now our family’s baptismal calling! The same Spirit given to us in baptism empowers us not just for private holiness, but for active goodness. Our “domestic church” is our first mission field.

How do we live this? By ensuring our family is a school of acceptance, mirroring God’s impartiality in how we welcome others. By being a workshop of “doing good,” where small acts of kindness, justice, and forgiveness are practiced daily. By trusting that the Spirit’s power is with us in the mundane tasks of care, education, and reconciliation.

Today, let us renew our baptismal promises with joy. May our families be living proof of God’s impartial love, anointed by the Spirit to go about our daily lives “doing good,” and bringing the peace of Christ to a world in need.

God bless America. God bless your family.

Yours truly,

Rev. Thumma Prathap

January 10 & 11, 2026

**“Voz del Pastor”
Bautismo del Señor:**

Querida Familia de Santa Mónica,

Al celebrar la Fiesta del Bautismo del Señor, se nos invita a ver nuestras propias vidas a través del poder de este momento. El Evangelio de hoy nos muestra a Jesús, ungido por el Espíritu en el Jordán. La Primera Lectura de los Hechos de los Apóstoles (10,34-38) revela el significado sobrecogedor de este acontecimiento para nosotros y nuestras familias.

San Pedro proclama una verdad revolucionaria: “Dios no hace acepción de personas”. En toda nación, quien teme a Dios y actúa con rectitud le es grato. Esta es la consecuencia transformadora del bautismo y el ministerio de Cristo. El amor que descendió sobre Jesús en el Jordán se derrama ahora sin límites ni distinciones sobre todos los que son bautizados en Él.

Para nuestras familias, esta verdad es a la vez un consuelo y una comisión.

Primero, es un consuelo. A menudo sentimos la presión de la comparación: con otras familias, con ideales culturales, con nuestras propias expectativas. Las palabras de Pedro nos liberan. La mirada de Dios sobre su hogar no es una mirada de juicio contra un estándar perfecto, sino una mirada de amor infinito por su trayectoria única y fiel. Él los acepta y los unge donde están.

Segundo, es una comisión. Pedro explica que Dios ungió a Jesús “con el Espíritu Santo y poder”, y que él “anduvo haciendo el bien” ¡Este es ahora el llamado bautismal de nuestra familia! El mismo Espíritu que recibimos en el bautismo nos capacita no solo para la santidad personal, sino para la bondad activa. Nuestra “Iglesia doméstica” es nuestro primer campo misionero.

¿Cómo vivimos esto? Asegurándonos de que nuestra familia sea una escuela de aceptación, reflejando la imparcialidad de Dios al acoger a los demás. Siendo un taller para hacer el bien, donde se practican a diario pequeños actos de bondad, justicia y perdón. Confiando en que el poder del Espíritu nos acompaña en las tareas cotidianas del cuidado, la educación y la reconciliación.

Hoy, renovemos con alegría nuestras promesas bautismales. Que nuestras familias sean prueba viviente del amor imparcial de Dios, ungidas por el Espíritu para vivir nuestra vida diaria haciendo el bien y llevando la paz de Cristo a un mundo necesitado.

Dios los bendiga y que Dios bendiga a Estados Unidos.

Atentamente,

Rev. Thumma Prathap

10 y 11 de Enero de 2026

Religious Education Aides Needed

Our Religious Education program is in need of aides for all grade levels, Kindergarten through High School, on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

Classes resume this week Edge and Spanish RE classes on Tues. Jan. 13th and all other Wed., Jan. 14th, and continue through the end of April.

For more information, please contact our Religious Education Director, Mrs. Toni Espinosa, at 210-658-3816 ext. 242 or re@saintmonicaconverse.net.



Se Necesitan Asistentes de Educación Religiosa

Nuestro programa de Educación Religiosa necesita asistentes para todos los grados, desde Pre-escolar hasta preparatoria, los Miércoles por la tarde a las 6:30 pm. Las clases se reanudan esta semana.

EDGE y clases en Español regresan el Martes, 13 de Enero. Clases en Inglés regresan el Miércoles 14 de Enero de 2026 y continúan hasta finales de Abril. Para mas información, comuníquese con nuestra Directora de Educación Religiosa, la Sra. Toni Espinosa al 210-658-3816 ext. 242 o re@saintmonicaconverse.net.

A New Year, A New Opportunity to Serve

As we begin this New Year, we thank God for the many blessings He has poured out upon our parish community. A new year is also a beautiful time to reflect, renew our faith, and ask how we can more fully place our gifts at the service of the Lord and His Church.

Our parish is inviting you to prayerfully become more involved in the life of the Church by serving in our liturgical ministries. We are currently welcoming new volunteers for ministries such as Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Ushers, and other areas of service.

No experience is necessary—training will be provided. What is needed is an open heart, a willingness to serve, and a love for the Eucharist and our parish community. If you have been discerning a way to become more involved, we invite you to prayerfully consider saying “yes” this year. Your time and talents make a difference, and through your service, you help build up the Body of Christ.

All trainings will be held in the church at 6:30pm.

We look forward to having you joining us.

Let us begin this New Year by serving the Lord with joy.

Jan 13th Tuesday - Lectors in Spanish

Jan 14th Wednesday - Lectors in English

Jan 26th Monday - Altar servers & now training for live-streaming Masses 9:15am & 1pm, Solemnity Masses along with other special events held in the church

Feb 2nd Monday - Eucharistic Ministers in English

Feb 3rd Tuesday - Eucharistic Ministers in Spanish

**Nuevo Año, Nueva Oportunidad para Servir**

Al comenzar este Año Nuevo, agradecemos a Dios por las muchas bendiciones que ha derramado sobre nuestra comunidad parroquial. Un nuevo año también es un momento hermoso para reflexionar, renovar nuestra fe y preguntarnos cómo podemos poner nuestros dones al servicio del Señor y de su Iglesia.

Nuestra parroquia los invita a participar más activamente en la vida de la Iglesia, sirviendo en nuestros ministerios litúrgicos. Actualmente damos la bienvenida a nuevos voluntarios para ministerios como Lectores, Ministros Extraordinarios de la Sagrada Comunión, Ujieres y otras áreas de servicio.

No se necesita experiencia; se proporcionará capacitación. Lo que se necesita es un corazón abierto, disposición para servir y amor por la Eucaristía y nuestra comunidad parroquial. Si ha estado buscando la manera de involucrarse más, lo invitamos a considerar con oración dar su “sí” este año. Su tiempo y talento marcan la diferencia, y a través de su servicio, usted contribuye a la edificación del Cuerpo de Cristo.

Todas las capacitaciones son en la Iglesia a las 6:30 pm.

Esperamos contar con su presencia.

Comencemos este Año Nuevo sirviendo al Señor con alegría.

Martes 13 de Enero - Lectores en Español

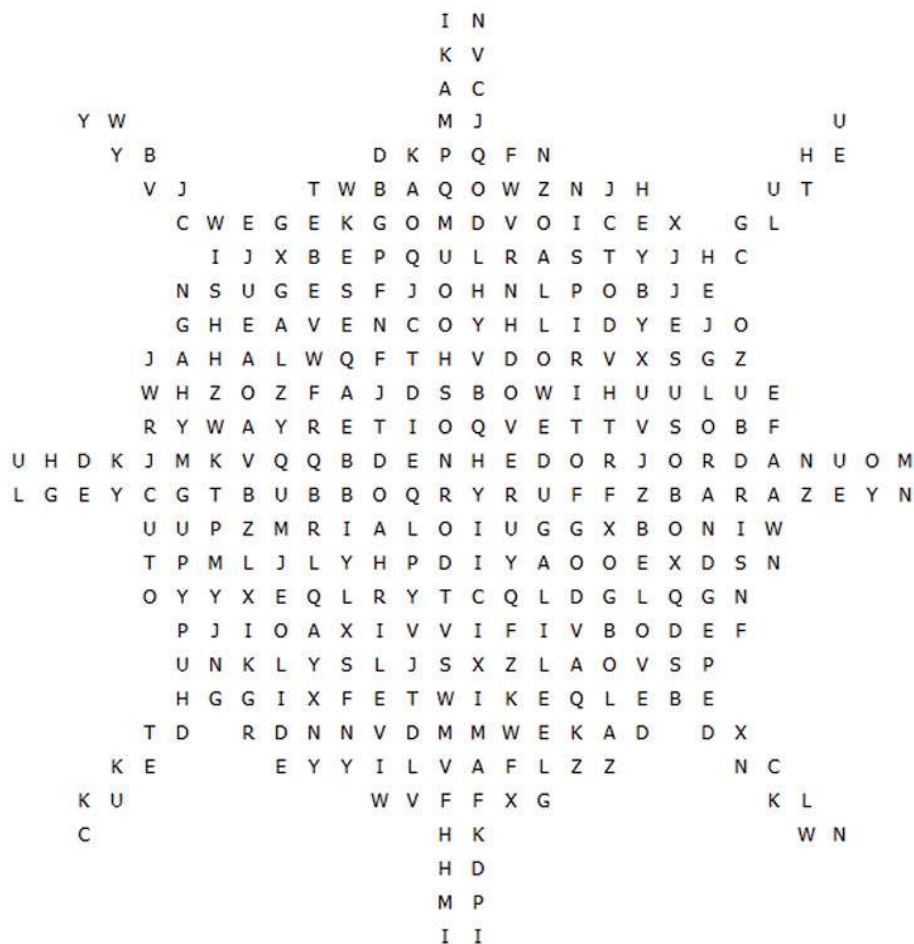
Miércoles 14 de Enero - Lectores en Inglés

Lunes 26 de Enero - Monaguillos y capacitando para misas transmitidas en vivo de 9:15 am y 1 pm., Misas de

Solemnidad, junto con otros eventos especiales en la Iglesia

Lunes 2 de Febrero - Ministros de la Eucaristía en Inglés

Martes 3 de Febrero - Ministros de la Eucaristía en Español

**Baptism of the Lord**

Allowed	Baptize
Beloved	Dove
Galilee	Heaven
Jesus	John
Jordan	Pleased
Son	Spirit of God
Voice	Water

Even though Jesus was sinless, He was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River to show He was God's Son and to start His mission.

Water as a Symbol:

Going under the water: Represents dying to our old, sinful life.

Coming out of the water:

Represents starting a new life with Jesus.

The Holy Spirit:

A dove came down, showing God sent the Holy Spirit, and a voice said, "This is my beloved Son," revealing Jesus' true identity.

Our Baptism:

When we are baptized, it's a public sign that we've chosen to follow Jesus, like an adoption ceremony where God says, "You are my child, and I love you!"

**San Antonio 2026 March For Life
CELEBRATE LIFE WITH YOUR
FAMILY AND FRIENDS!**

SAN ANTONIO MARCH FOR LIFE

**WHEN: SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026
12:00 - 3:00 PM**

**WHERE: MAIN PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SA
115 MAIN PLAZA**

For more info visit [SAMFL.com](https://www.SAMFL.com)



**PRO-LIFE EXPO: 12 PM
LIVE CHRISTIAN BAND: 12 PM
MARCH: 1 PM
RALLY: 2 PM**

Location: MAIN PLAZA in front of
San Fernando Cathedral

**LIFE IS THE PRE-EMINENT
SOCIAL ISSUE. JOIN IN
THE SAMFL TO PROPOSE
THAT LIFE IS A BLESSING TO BE
THANKFUL TO GOD FOR HIS GIFT.**

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.SAMFL.com>

Social Media: @SAMarchForLife

Tag: #SAMFL2026

**EXPO PRO-VIDA: 12 PM
BANDA CRISTIANA EN VIVO: 12PM
MARCHA: 1 PM
MITIN: 2 PM**

Sitio: PLAZA PRINCIPAL en frente de la
Catedral San Fernando

**LA VIDA ES EL ASUNTO SOCIAL
POR EXCELENCIA. UNASE A
SAMFL PARA PROPONER QUE LA
VIDA ES UNA BENDICION PARA
AGRADECER A DIOS POR SU DON.**

Para mas información, visite:

<https://www.SAMFL.com>

Redes Sociales: @SAMarchForLife

Tag: #SAMFL2026

2026 TEXAS RALLY FOR LIFE

At the Capitol in Austin

[TexasRallyforLife.org](https://www.TexasRallyforLife.org)



**Saturday, Jan. 24
1-4 PM**

Please join the Knights of Columbus on Saturday January 24th.

We will carpool or provide a ride to Austin for this event. Leaving from parking lot in front of parish around 8:30 am. Please call 806-535-6565 if need ride, so we can plan on extra cars.

Únase a los Caballeros de Colon el Sábado 24 de Enero.

Compartiremos el vehículo o ofreceremos transporte a Austin para este evento. Saldremos del estacionamiento frente a la parroquia alrededor de las 8:30 am. Si necesita transporte, llame al 806-535-6565 para que podamos planificar vehículos adicionales.



**St. Monica Council 9681
Converse, Texas**

Get ready and Save the Date

Join us for a day of fun with family and friends!

Enjoy delicious food, lively music, local vendors, games for all ages, and best of all plenty of fellowship with your fellow parishioners.

More details coming soon.
We look forward to celebrating together!.



Prepárense y reserven la fecha

¡Únase a nosotros para un día de diversión con familiares y amigos!!

Disfrute con comida deliciosa, música, vendedores locales, juegos para todas las edades y, lo mejor de todo, mucha camaradería con sus feligreses.

Más detalles en el futuro.
¡Esperamos celebrarlo juntos!



Happy Birthday
Letty DelaGarza
January 9th



Happy Birthday
Sandra Bell
January 14th



Happy 66th
Wedding Anniversary
Ray & Josie Farias
January 19th



Happy Birthday
JoAnn Tufion
January 18th



Happy Birthday
Oddie B.
January 18th

Thank you every one for sending in your pictures of birthday's, wedding anniversary and special accomplishments.

May Our Dear Lord watch over all of you and your families, may your lives always be filled with God's blessings.

Turn in your **February** Birthdays, anniversary or accomplishment picture by **Sunday January 25th**
to: parish@saintmonicaconverse.net
or come by the parish office

Gracias a todos los que mandaron sus fotos de cumpleaños, aniversario de bodas y ocasiones especiales.

Que nuestro amado Señor los cuide al igual que a sus familias, y que sus vidas estén siempre llenas de las bendiciones de Dios.

Manden sus fotos de los cumpleaños, aniversario, ocasiones especiales de **Febrero para el Domingo, 25 de Enero** a: parish@saintmonicaconverse.net
o passé por la oficina.

Credit and Money Management Workshop

Join us for a special Operation HOPE, Credit and Money Management Workshop hosted right here at St. Monica! This event is designed to empower our community with tools and knowledge to build a stronger financial future. All the services provided by

Operation HOPE are at no cost.

Date: Saturday January 17, 2026 **Time:** 10—11 am

Location: Mollicone building Room # 102

Whether you're looking to improve your credit, learn budgeting strategies, or explore ways to achieve financial goals, this workshop is for you. Led by a bilingual Financial Wellbeing Coach from Operation HOPE, the session will be informative, supportive, and rooted in our values of financial education to build financial resilience.

All are welcome — bring a friend or family member!

Let's come together to grow financial confidence. For more information or to RSVP,
contact Cedric Elevancini, (210) 300-7996,
cedric.elevancini@operationhope.org



Credit and Money Management Workshop

Únase a nosotros para un taller especial de Crédito y Manejo del Dinero de Operation HOPE, aquí mismo en Santa Mónica! Este evento está diseñado para ayudar a nuestra comunidad con herramientas y conocimientos para un futuro financiero más sólido. Todos los servicios proporcionados por

Operación HOPE son sin costo alguno.

Fecha: Sábado 17 de Enero 17, 2026 **Hora:** 10-11 am

Ubicación: Edificio Mollicone, Salon # 102

Ya sea que desee mejorar su crédito, aprender estrategias de presupuesto o explorar formas de alcanzar sus metas financieras, este taller es para usted. Dirigido por un entrenador Bilingüe de Bienestar Financiero de Operación HOPE, la sesión será informativa y basada en nuestros valores de educación financiera para fomentar la económica personal y familiar. ¡Todos son bienvenidos traiga a un amigo o familiar!

Unámonos para fortalecer nuestra confianza financiera. Para más información o para confirmar su asistencia, comuníquese con Cedric Elevancini, (210) 300-7996,
cedric.elevancini@operationhope.org

St Monica Catholic School



FEB 4TH 2026
Applications open

MID MARCH 2026

Expected Application Close Date

A GUIDE TO TEFA FOR FAMILIES



Senate Bill 2 established TEFA to help families access funds for approved educational expenses starting in 2026-27. With final rules released on November 25, 2025, families now have clarity on how the program will work.

ELIGIBILITY

Any Texas resident **eligible for public school (PK-12)** may apply.

This includes:

- Children entering PK3-PK4 who meet Texas eligibility
- Students currently in public, private, or homeschool settings
- Students with TEFA qualifying disabilities

There is no income limit to apply, but awards are offered based on State priority groups.

PRIORITY GROUPS

BASED ON THE FPL (FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL)

1	≤ 500% + Children with disabilities	2	≤ 200%
3	200% - 500%	4	≥ 500% (20% cap of total awards) Public school students may have priority in this group

FEDERAL POVERTY LEVELS

Household Size	200% of FPG Yearly Income	500% of FPG Yearly Income
2	\$42,300	\$105,750
3	\$53,300	\$133,250
4	\$64,300	\$160,750
5	\$75,300	\$188,250
6	\$83,920	\$215,750
7	\$108,300	\$270,750

ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

Tuition/Fees	Books/Materials	Tutoring	Therapies	Meals	Assessments	Technology	Transportation
Participating Private Schools			Therapies not covered by government or private insurance.	Provided at school for a fee		10% Cap	Commercial Only
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

*All purchases must be through the TEFA portal from approved providers.

\$10,800*

Award per student (85% of public funding).

Additional funding may be awarded based on a student's IEP for disabilities - up to \$30,000.

*TEA currently estimates this amount to be \$10,800, and the final amount will be released in January 2026.

PARENT: As defined by Education Code, §29.351(5), a resident of this state who is a natural or adoptive parent, managing or possessory conservator, legal guardian, custodian, or other person with legal authority to act on behalf of a child.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITY

Families must:

- Use funds only for approved expenses
- Not withdraw cash or request reimbursement
- Keep receipts
- Ensure annual testing (Grades 3-12)
- Report public school enrollment
- Follow all TEFA rules

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Choose **ONE** item from each column

1 Proof of Residency	2 Proof of Citizenship	3 Proof of Income
• Lease, mortgage, or utility bill • Texas ID/driver's license • Voter registration • Government agency letter • Notarized affidavit	• Birth certificate • U.S. passport • Naturalization certificate • DHS documents	• IRS transcript (if available) • Most recent tax return (2024) • Texas Workforce Commission income data

WHAT IF FUNDS RUN OUT?

If funds run out, eligible students go on a state waitlist.
If more funds become available, awards may be offered mid-year, prorated, and begin the month after approval.

WHAT'S NEXT?

When applications open on the Texas Comptroller Website, you will apply and select one approved school. Upon completion, eligibility will be determined. Awarding is expected to go out mid-April. If your child is selected, you'll receive instructions to accept the award in the TEFA portal. Your child's TEFA account is then created so you can choose approved schools, providers, and services.



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Scan for School Information

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A faith filled education is a wonderful gift to give
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from them.



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inscripción para el Año 2025/2026
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 na-
die podrá quitarle.

WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW HOPE FOR THE FUTURE + TEFA

Hope for the Future has been the bridge.

TEFA is the next step making Catholic education possible for more families than ever.

WHAT IS HOPE FOR THE FUTURE (HFF)?

Hope for the Future (HFF) is the Archdiocese of San Antonio's tuition assistance program. Thanks to incredible donors, Hope for the Future provides partial tuition assistance to families so their children can attend Catholic schools within the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

WHAT IS AN TEXAS EDUCATION FREEDOM ACCOUNT (TEFA)?

TEFA is a new program created by the State of Texas. Starting in 2026, families could receive approximately \$10,000 per child, per year to cover tuition and other educational expenses, often enough to pay for the full cost of Catholic school tuition in most of our schools.

HOW DO HFF AND TEFA WORK TOGETHER?

Most families who qualify for HFF fall into a TEFA priority group. While the selection of TEFA recipients is subject to a lottery with no guarantee that an application will be awarded, it is an incredible opportunity for our families. TEFA could cover up to 100% of K-8 tuition, plus extra expenses (uniforms, books, meals, technology, therapies). Have a high schooler? TEFA will still cover a majority of the tuition. HFF will continue to award qualifying families a portion of their students' tuition for those families not selected for TEFA.

SHOULD HFF FAMILIES APPLY FOR ESA?

We encourage all families to apply to both due to the TEFA lottery. Hope for the Future will still be available for qualifying families not awarded TEFA.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS FOR HOPE FOR THE FUTURE FAMILIES?

1. Stay connected: Sign up at sacatholicschools.org to receive TEFA updates.
2. Gather documents: You'll need your child's birth certificate and proof of residence when applications open, along with any supporting documentation to qualify in a specific tier.
3. Attend events at your current or future school to guide you through the process. To receive information about these events, make sure to sign up to stay connected today.



TEXAS EDUCATION FREEDOM ACCOUNT (TEFA)
GROWING OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN OUR FAITH COMMUNITIES.

sacatholicschools.org

MYTH "It's too complicated to apply."

FACT ✓

The process will be clear and guided.

STAY CONNECTED AND LEARN HOW ESA FUNDS CAN HELP YOUR CHILD REACH THEIR GOALS.

SACATHOLICSCHOOLS.ORG

LO QUE LOS PADRES NECESITAN SABER HOPE FOR THE FUTURE + TEFA

Hope for the Future ha sido el puente.

TEFA es el siguiente paso para hacer posible la educación católica para más familias que nunca.

¿QUÉ ES HOPE FOR THE FUTURE (HFF)?

Hope for the Future (HFF) es el programa de asistencia para colegiatura de la Arquidiócesis de San Antonio. Gracias a donadores extraordinarios, Hope for the Future ofrece ayuda parcial en la colegiatura a familias para que sus hijos puedan asistir a escuelas católicas dentro de la Arquidiócesis de San Antonio.

¿QUÉ SON LAS CUENTAS DE LIBERTAD EDUCATIVA DE TEXAS (TEFA)?

TEFA es un programa reciente creado por el Estado de Texas. A partir de 2026, las familias podrían recibir aproximadamente \$10,000 por hijo al año para cubrir la colegiatura y otros gastos educativos. En la mayoría de nuestras escuelas, este monto puede cubrir por completo el costo de la colegiatura católica o dejar un saldo muy pequeño para la familia.

¿CÓMO FUNCIONAN JUNTOS HFF Y TEFA?

La mayoría de las familias que califican para HFF se encuentran en un grupo prioritario de TEFA. Aunque la selección de beneficiarios del TEFA está sujeta a una lotería y no hay garantía de que una solicitud sea aprobada, sigue siendo una oportunidad increíble para nuestros familias. TEFA podría cubrir hasta el 100% de la colegiatura de Kinder a 8.º grado, además de gastos adicionales (uniformes, libros, comidas, tecnología, terapias).

¿Tienes un estudiante de preparatoria? TEFA aún cubrirá la mayor parte de la colegiatura. HFF seguirá apoyando a las familias con una parte de la colegiatura de sus hijos en caso de que no sean seleccionadas para TEFA.

¿LAS FAMILIAS DE HFF DEBEN APLICAR PARA TEFA?

Motivamos a todas las familias a aplicar a los dos programas debido a la lotería del TEFA. Hope for the Future seguirá disponible para las familias que califiquen y que no sean beneficiadas con TEFA.

¿CUÁLES SON LOS SIGUIENTES PASOS PARA LAS FAMILIAS DE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE?

1. Mantente conectado: Regístrate en sacatholicschools.org para recibir actualizaciones sobre TEFA.
2. Reúne documentos: Necesitarás el acta de nacimiento de tu hijo y comprobante de domicilio cuando abran las solicitudes, junto con cualquier documentación adicional que respalde tu elegibilidad en un nivel específico.
3. Asista a los eventos en su escuela actual o futura para recibir orientación durante el proceso. Para recibir información sobre estos eventos, asegúrese de inscribirse y mantenerse conectado desde hoy.



CUENTAS DE LIBERTAD EDUCATIVA DE TEXAS (TEFA)
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we see you again in Heaven"
From Gil & Monica, Todd & Velma Ramirez
and Grandkids Thomas & Marisa



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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)

6:30 p.m. Bilingual Mass (Thurs & Fri)

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

Homebound Ministry

Be a part of this amazing ministry by sharing your love of the Eucharist.

Please be advised that if you are not able to attend Mass due to long term physical impediment, call the office so an Extra-Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion may be scheduled to visit you. *Call the office for more information.*



Ministerio para los Confinados en Casa

Sea parte de este maravilloso ministerio compartiendo tu amor por la Eucaristía.

Le informamos que si no puede asistir a misa debido a alguna discapacidad física a lo largo, llame a la oficina para que un Ministro de la Sagrada Comunión pueda programar una visita. *Llame a la oficina para más información.*

St. Vincent de Paul (210) 658-8791

By appointment only

Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Services are available to all parishioners.

Los servicios están disponibles para todos los feligreses.



MINISTRIES

ACTS: Sindia Aguirre

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

ART & ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY: Alma Castillo

BALLET FOLKLORICO: Meet Mon & Thurs 5-9 pm
Mollicone Rm 104 - Coordinator **Maria Cabigon**

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY: Meet every other Thurs.
in the Goertz room **Dcn. Sean Dooley**

BIBLE STUDY (English): Timo Zepeda & Annette Winfield

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) Tues 6-7:30pm & Wed. 9 - 11am in the Parish Hall **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.

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

HEALING HEART: **Elsa Lopez**

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Meet Wednesday evening after religious education at 7:45pm in the Parish Hall

HOMEBOUND: **Barbara Ward**

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

LOVESTRONG: **Tony & Isabel Canez**

MILITARY MINISTRY : Meet 2nd Thurs. of the month
6:30-8:30 pm Mollicone Rm 101 **Jourard Daep**

PERPETUAL ADORATION: **Christian Zunino**

PLANIFICACION FAMILIAR NATURAL:

Meet 3rd Wed 1-2 pm: **Reyna Vazquez**

POWER POINT MINISTRY: **Claudio Corrales & Courtney Sheehan**

ST. KIZITO'S HOPE MINISTRY Meets 2nd Sunday of the month after the 11am Mass - Mollicone building.

SPANISH PRAYER GROUP: Meet every Fri. 7:00 p.m.
Parish Hall: Contact: **Juan Delgado**

VOCATIONS: **Elvia Armenta**

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY-STRIVE: Contact - **Gabe & Diana Canez**

WELCOME MINISTRY: **Tony Canez**

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

St. Monica, pray for us.



Santa Mónica. ruega por nosotros.

