



# ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

501 North St.

Converse, Texas 78109

parish@saintmonicaconverse.net

www.saintmonicaconverse.net

**The Mission of St. Monica is to build a welcoming community of faith, making God's love visible through service to others.**

## STAFF

Pastor	Fr. Alejandro Del Bosque, ext. 241
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Mauricio Lopez, ext. 238
Deacon	Jacques Abat
Deacon	Sean Dooley, ext. 242
Deacon	Jack Karam
Secretary	Mrs. Sofia Flores, ext. 240
Pastoral Secretary	Mrs. Jackie Cantú, ext. 237
Dir. of Religious Ed.	Mrs. Janice Van Slambrouck, ext. 244
Business Manager	Mrs. Mary Howard, ext. 235
Housekeeper	Mrs. Limbania Reyes
RCIA Director	Mrs. Mersi Schorran, ext. 234

## MASSES

<b>Saturday Vigil:</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.; 1:00 (Spanish), 5:00 p.m.</b>
	<b>7:00 p.m. (Spanish)</b>
<b>Weekdays:</b>	<b>8:15 a.m.</b>

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday 4:00 p.m. & Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.

**BAPTISMS:** First Saturday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Parents and Godparents must attend class held on prior Thursday 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Family Center.

**FIRST COMMUNION:** Two-year program required; usually received in the second grade.

**CONFIRMATION:** Must complete a two-year program which begins in high school years.

**MARRIAGE:** Six months notice required. Contact parish office.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:** Director, Mrs. Janice Van Slambrouck, (210) 701-7831. Classes - Grades K-10, Wednesday 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Office hours - Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**RCIA:** Adult converts or those needing sacraments are invited. Classes begin in September on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the parish hall. Call Mersi Schorran at 658-8669 for more information. Spanish RCIA contact: Sr. Esperanza Buitron 659-4242.

**ST. MONICA SCHOOL:** Early Childhood through 8th Grade. Principal, Mrs. JoAnn Wood, 658-6701. School Annex 659-5939. Inquiries to school office.

**PARISH COUNCILS:** Pastoral Council meets monthly

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Every Friday after Mass until 7:00 p.m.

**EUCCHARIST FOR SICK & SHUT-INS:** Contact church office.

**ROSARY:** Rosary recited Monday - Friday at 7:45 a.m. and Sunday 7 a.m.

**CHOIR:** 9:00 a.m., *Bill Staggs, Music Minister, 274-8847*. Adult Choir Rehearsal - Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; Children's Choir and Guitar Rehearsal - Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.; Teen Musician Rehearsal after 11:00 a.m. Mass, *Lilli Soto, Music Minister, 241-7666*. Spanish Choir - Monday, 7:00 p.m. *Glissie Esquivel, Director, 251-2902*.

**SPANISH PRAYER GROUP:** Every Friday at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall. Contact: Gustavo Munoz, 663-5642.

**ALTAR SOCIETY & THRIFT SHOP:** Altar Society meets first Tuesday at 12:00 noon, September through May. Thrift Shop open Wednesday and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Contact: Edna Diaz, 598-9885.

**ACTS:** Contact Steve Van Slambrouck, 602-5950.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Meets second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Contact Timo Zepeda, Grand Knight, 410-7647.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** Meets second Tuesday at 12:00 p.m.

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS:** Meets third Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Contact Mary Jane Garza, 210-843-2190.

**GUADALUPANOS:** Meets second Monday of every month in the church cry room from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., Alma Castillo, 659-0056.

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** Meets Wednesdays 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Contact Steve Van Slambrouck, 602-5950.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** Meets Thursdays 6:30-8:00 p.m. Contact Annette Winfield 885-0861

**REGISTRATION FORMS:** Located in parish office or next to the bulletin board inside of the church.

**HALL RENTAL:** Contact Leroy Kruse at 560-5375.

**BULLETIN:** Submit notices by 12:00 noon on Monday prior to issue.

**YOUNG AT HEART GROUP:** Meets second Thursday of the month. Call Adalene at 658-6934 for more information.

**DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP:** (Spanish) Meets every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel.

**FAMILY OF THE ROSARY** (bilingual) Meet last Tuesday of Month in church cry room 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. contact Carmenza Barrios, 210-724-8660.

**Office Hours: 9:00 to 5:00, M-F**  
**St. Vincent De Paul: 658-8791**

**Parish: 658-3816**  
**Religious Ed: 658-7920**

**Fax: 566-3821**  
**School: 658-6701**

# Mass Intentions for the Week

- Mon 8/22 8:15 A.M. † Luis Malagon
- Tues 8/23 8:15 A.M. † Felipe Martinez
- Wed 8/24 8:15 A.M. Jovany Vides = B
- Thurs 8/25 8:15 A.M. L&D Adolph/Mary Schumann Scheel
- Fri 8/26 8:15 A.M. Brandon/Monica Peck = SI
- Sat 8/27 5:30 P.M. Scott/Annette Winfield = SI  
† Ramona Delgado
- Sun 8/28 7:30 A.M. Roland Salazar = B  
9:00 A.M. † Consuelo Garza  
Sheila B. Sharpe = SI  
11:00 A.M. Ed/Lilli Soto = SI  
1:00 P.M. † Lizmarie Goldilla  
5:00 P.M. St. Monica Parishioners = SI  
7:00 P.M. † Lorenza Gutierrez

† = Deceased A = Anniv B = Birthday  
SI = Special Intention L & D = Living and Deceased

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### SANCTUARY CANDLE

This week's Sanctuary Candle will burn  
in loving memory of  
*Valerie Gomez*



THIS HOLY HOUR IS EXTRA SPECIAL  
Next Holy Hour is August 25 at 7 p.m.  
Invite your family and friends. We will  
have it in honor of our patron saint  
St. Monica.

PLEASE HELP US RE-STOCK THE FOOD PANTRY  
The food pantry is running low of the following staples:  
canned Tuna/Chicken, Pancake Mix, Chicken Broth,  
canned and dried Beans. Please bring your donation to  
the church foyer and place in designated box.

### SUNDAY'S COLLECTION REPORT:

Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> ; \$12,321.50 Building Fund: \$20  
Sunday, Aug 7<sup>th</sup> ; \$13,267.00 Building Fund: \$20  
Sunday, Aug 14<sup>th</sup> ; \$10,126.50 Building Fund: None  
St. Vincent de Paul: \$5,218.00

**CONFESSIONS** HAVE BEEN **CANCELLED** FOR  
**WEDNESDAY** EVENINGS THE MONTH OF **AUGUST**.  
THEY WILL **RESUME** WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>

CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION (CYO) SPORTS  
Come out and register your child with our CYO. Registration  
for all sports for the ages 3 to 12. Last day to register is  
**Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>** for: Soccer, Volleyball and  
Flag Football and these are the dates for the following:  
Basketball Oct 1 – Oct 30  
Track Jan 2 – Jan 29, 2017  
Baseball, Softball & Tee ball Feb 1 – Feb 26, 2017  
For registration online [saintmonicaconverse.net/cyo](http://saintmonicaconverse.net/cyo)  
or email: [stmonicacyoconverse@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicacyoconverse@gmail.com)/ 978-328-4644



### ALTAR FLOWERS

This weekend are in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup>  
Wedding Anniversary of  
*Lorraine and Michael Say.*

### ST. MONICA'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

We will begin the celebration of our patron saint Thursday,  
August 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. with a special Holy Hour and Reflection  
of the Life of St. Monica. Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup> we will serve  
Bill Miller's barbeque plates in the parish hall at 6 p.m.  
Barbeque tickets will not be sold that evening. You can buy  
your ticket for \$10 after Mass this weekend. The evening will  
continue with a free concert outside with music by our very  
own, Britt Mitchell and his band; Britt is the music minister  
for the 5 p.m. Sunday Mass. The night will end with dancing  
from 9 to 11 p.m. in the parish hall with DJ Herrera.  
Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. the celebration concludes  
with a Mass to celebrate our patron Saint's Feast Day.

***We will not have a Latin Mass Friday,  
September 2<sup>nd</sup>.***

### END THE FIRST WEEK OF BACK TO SCHOOL

By coming to the Sunday Family Movie on  
**Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>** in the parish hall at 2 p.m.  
Free popcorn and refreshments for everyone.

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*From Padre Alejandro's Desk*



What does the image of a door say to us about the kingdom of God? Jesus' story about the door being shut to those who come too late suggest they had offended their host and deserved to be excluded. It was customary for teachers in Jesus' time to close the door on tardy students and not allow them back for a whole week in order to teach them a lesson in discipline and faithfulness.

Jesus told this story in response to the question of who will make it to heaven. Many rabbis held that all Israel would be saved and gain entry into God's kingdom, except for a few blatant sinners who excluded themselves! After all, they were specially chosen by God when he established a covenant relationship with them. Jesus surprised his listeners by saying that one's membership as a people who have entered into a covenant relationship with God does not automatically mean entry into the everlasting kingdom of God. Second, Jesus asserts that many from the Gentile (non-Jewish) nations would enter God's kingdom. God's invitation is open to Jew and Gentile alike.

But Jesus warns that we can be excluded if we do not strive to enter by the narrow door. What did Jesus mean by this expression? The door which Jesus had in mind was himself. I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved. God sent his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to open the way for us to have full access to the throne of God's grace and mercy. Through Jesus' victory on the cross, He has freed us from slavery to sin and hurtful desires and addictions, and He has made us sons and daughters of God and citizens of his heavenly kingdom. We are free now to choose the kingdom we will serve, the kingdom of truth and light ruled by God's wisdom or the kingdom of falsehood and darkness ruled by Satan and the world system or society of people who are opposed to God and his laws.

If we want to enter God's kingdom and receive our full inheritance which is stored up for us in heaven, then we must follow the Lord Jesus in his way of the cross through a willing renunciation of our own will for his will, our own life for his life, our own way for his way. Why did Jesus say we must strive to enter his kingdom

of righteousness and peace? The word strive can also be translated as agony. To enter the kingdom of God, we must struggle against every force or power of opposition, even the temptation to remain indifferent, apathetic, or compromising in our faith and personal trust in Jesus, our hope in holding firm to the promises of Jesus, and our uncompromising love for God above all else.

The good news is that we do not struggle alone. God is with us and his grace is sufficient? As we strive side by side for the faith of the Gospel, Jesus assures us of complete victory.

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**WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

Everyone is invited to upcoming presentations about the Parish Renovation Project. There will be two in English on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> after the 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Masses and one in Spanish on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> after the 1 p.m. Mass. These discussions will be held in the Knights of Columbus Hall located across the church office. All are welcome to come view the updated design concepts and hear more about the Parish Renovation Project. We encourage everyone to come see the progress that has been made for the newly updated design and to learn about the Capital Campaign. More info can be found at: [www.saintmonicaconverse.net/parishrenovation](http://www.saintmonicaconverse.net/parishrenovation).

**MAKE THE JOURNEY OF FAITH AS A FAMILY**

The Family of Families ministry begins meeting evenings on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the same time as Religious Education Classes for grades Kindergarten thru 8<sup>th</sup>. This ministry is open to family members supporting the children and youth in our religious education programs particularly those preparing to celebrate Sacraments for the first time. The first two weeks they will meet outdoors between the church and school. The ministry will then meet in the school cafeteria following those first weeks. For more information, you may call Annette Winfield at (210) 885-0861.



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