



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	Mr. Paul Cassetta

MASSES

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

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 Paul Cassetta at 343-9655 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, *Michelle Hernandez, Music Minister, after 5 p.m. call (210) 215-0811*. 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	10/24	8:15 A.M.	The Amrhein Fam = SI
Tues	10/25	8:15 A.M.	✠ Maria Alvina Martinez Esperanza Mendoza = B
Wed	10/26	8:15 A.M.	✠ Miguel Angel Gonzalez Jack McDonough = B
Thurs	10/27	8:15 A.M.	✠ Edward Matthews ✠ Florencio Castilleja
Fri	10/28	8:15 A.M.	Marcela Moran = SI ✠ Lourdes Espiritu
Sat	10/29	5:30 P.M.	✠ Martin/Elvira Samaniego
Sun	10/30	7:30 A.M.	✠ Charles J. Wheeler, Sr. ✠ Angelica A. Valdez
		9:00 A.M.	✠ Ella Tillman ✠ William/Shirley Nelson
		11:00 A.M.	✠ Antonio Valdez ✠ Luis G. Lopez
		1:00 P.M.	✠ Jesus Andrade ✠ Lorenza Gutierrez
		5:00 P.M.	✠ Ben Lyssy ✠ Gertrude Prukop
		7:00 P.M.	✠ Lucia Matty

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

SANCTUARY CANDLE

This week's Sanctuary Candle will
burn in loving memory of
William and Shirley Nelson



SUNDAY COLLECTION REPORT

Sunday, October 9th: \$ 10,052.02
Hope for the Future: \$1,663.00
Capital Campaign:
October 9 & 16; \$1,232.50 / \$7,136.50

We want to express our gratitude to the parishioners who have always been so loyal about sharing your earnings, blessings, abundance, etc. with your parish family. May God continue to shine his favor upon all of you and your immediate families!



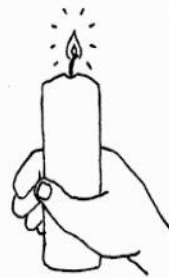
LIVING OUTDOOR ROSARY

"There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the holy Rosary", Sr. Lucy of Fatima.

Come celebrate the month of Our Lady of the Rosary with a bilingual outdoor Rosary sponsored by our youth, Sunday, October 23rd after the 5 p.m. Mass.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23rd

This Sunday, the second collection will be for the Propagation of the Faith which supports the work of the Mission Church with the poor especially in the Americas, Europe, Asia and Africa.



FAITHFUL DEPARTED REMEMBERED

For All Souls Day, the Mass (bilingual) with the candles for the faithful departed will be Wednesday, November 2nd at 7 p.m. If you would like to have the names of your loved ones memorialized at the altar, please complete the envelopes located under the bulletin board in back of church and place them in the collection basket.

PARTY LIKE A SAINT!

Come Celebrate with the Saints on October 29th from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m.! The Family of Families, Faith Formation program is sponsoring an afternoon and evening of fun for all ages! Dress up like your favorite Saint; play games for prizes with St. Peter and St. Cecelia; get creative with St. Isadore and St. Monica, even try your hand at Bingo/Loteria with a whole crowd of Saints. Bring a donation for St. Vincent de Paul for a free ticket! All proceeds will go towards the parish renovation.

Bible Study



THE BOOK OF SAMUEL 2

The Adult Bible Study Class will resume on Monday, November 14, 2016 at 7 p.m. Classes will be held each Monday from 7 - 9 p.m. in the Goertz room. During the coming session we will be studying the Book of 2 Samuel. A 3-ring binder containing a copy of the Book of 2 Samuel in enlarged print will be provided. There is a \$10 pass-through charge for this binder. We will proceed with a careful reading of and commentary on the text at the rate of approximately one chapter each hour. This will be our ninth class since beginning in the spring of 2013. Classes are designed to allow students to determine their own level of participation. Among other things, this means that you will be asked no questions yet enjoy the freedom to ask as many questions as you wish. Please address any inquiries to the class teacher, Chuck Hall, at 210-410-7674.

From Padre Alejandro's Desk

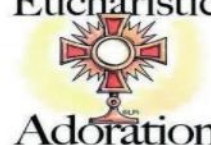
How can we know if our prayer is pleasing to God or not? The prophet Hosea, who spoke in God's name, said: "I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice". The prayers and sacrifices we make to God mean nothing to him if they do not spring from a heart of love for God and for one's neighbor. How can we expect God to hear our prayers if we do not approach him with humility and with a contrite heart that seeks mercy and forgiveness? We stand in constant need of God's grace and help. That is why Scripture tells us that "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble".

Jesus reinforced this warning with a vivid story of two people at prayer. Why did the Lord accept one person's prayer and reject the other's prayer? Luke gives us a hint: despising one's neighbor closes the door to God's heart. Expressing disdain and contempt for others is more than being mean-minded. It springs from the assumption that one is qualified to sit in the seat of judgment and to publicly shame those who do not conform to our standards and religious practices. Jesus' story caused offense to the religious-minded Pharisees who regarded "tax collectors" as unworthy of God's grace and favor. How could Jesus put down a "religious person" and raise up a "public sinner"?

Jesus' parable speaks about the nature of prayer and our relationship with God. It does this by contrasting two very different attitudes towards prayer. The Pharisee, who represented those who take pride in their religious practices, exalted himself at the expense of others. Absorbed with his own sense of self-satisfaction and self-congratulation, his boastful prayer was centered on his good religious practices rather than on God's goodness, grace, and pardon. Rather than humbling himself before God and asking for God's mercy and help, this man praised himself while despising those he thought less worthy. The Pharisee tried to justify himself before God and before those he despised; but only God can justify us. The tax collector, who represented those despised by religious-minded people, humbled himself before God and begged for mercy. His prayer was heard by God because he had true sorrow for his sins. He sought God with humility rather than with pride.

This parable presents both an opportunity and a warning. Pride leads to self-deception and spiritual blindness. True humility helps us to see ourselves as we really are in God's eyes and it inclines us to seek God's help and mercy. God dwells with the humble of heart who recognize their own sinfulness and who acknowledge God's mercy and saving grace. *I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and humble spirit.* God cannot hear us if we boast in ourselves and despise others.

Eucharistic Adoration



HE'S WAITING FOR YOU

Yes, the one who put the sun in motion and the stars to light up the sky, is more concerned about the little things. . . . like us! Come share your triumphs, sorrows and worries with the only one who can appreciate and fix them. The next Holy Hour and Adoration is Thursday, October 27 at 7 p.m. (bilingual)

WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE

The Guadalupeans would like to thank all of those who supported them at the bake sale this past weekend. It was a great success!

MAGNIFICAT SUBSCRIBERS

The November issue of the Magnificat will be distributed after all Masses this weekend

YOUR HELP IS APPRECIATED

If you are a Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Usher, Sacristan and/or Usher, please sign up to help at one of the Masses for All Saints Day.

ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints' Day, celebrated on November 1st, is a Holy Day of obligation and is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. We will have Masses on Monday, October 31st at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 1st 8:15 a.m., 12 Noon and 7 p.m. Mass (bilingual).

PLEASE NOTE IN YOUR CALENDAR!

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, November 1st in observance of All Saints Day.

HEALTH SCREENING COMING TO OUR CHURCH

You may call (281) 616-9192 to schedule with Rightway Imaging.



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