

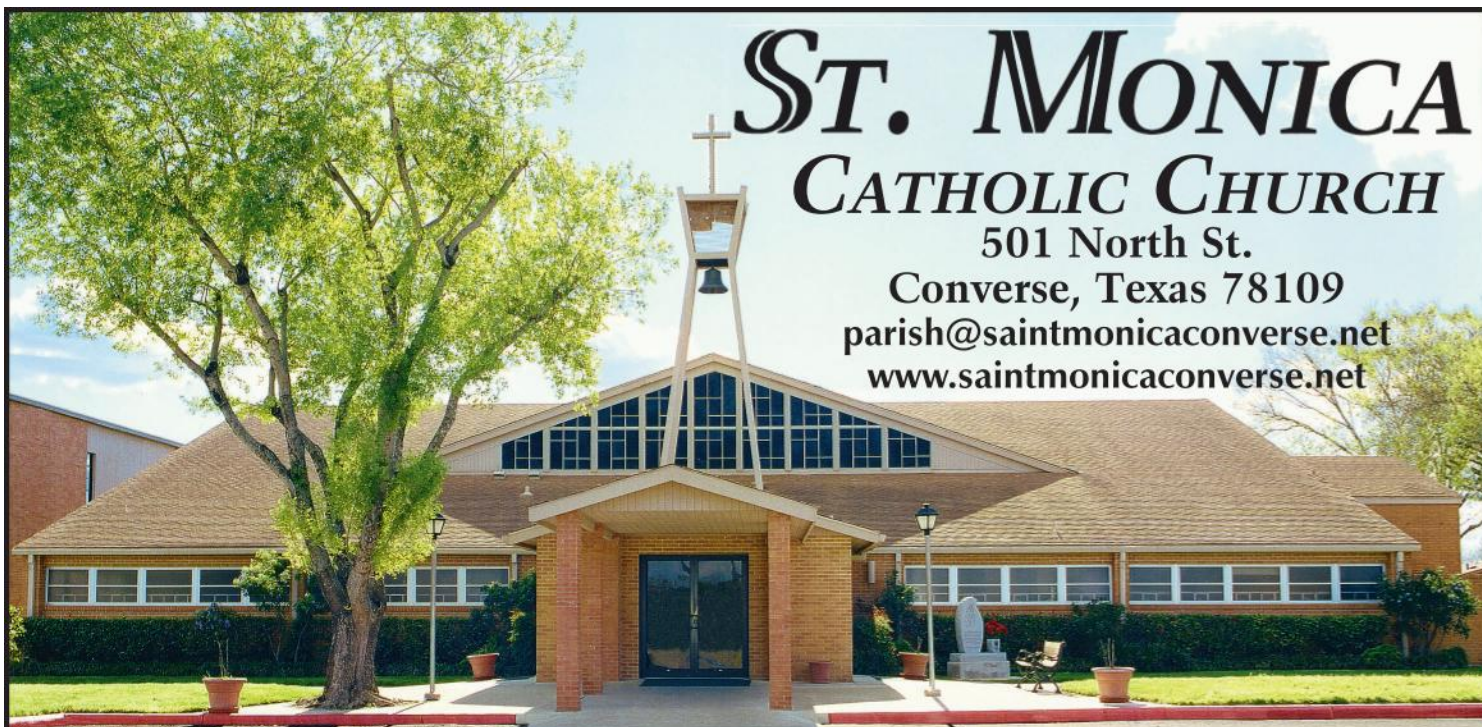
ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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.
Weekdays:	7:00 p.m. (Spanish) 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, Lilli Soto, Music Minister, 241-7666. Spanish Choir - Monday, 7:00 p.m. Clissie 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 9/19 8:15 A.M. † Luis Malagon
- Tues 9/20 8:15 A.M. † Craig Bottiglieri
- Wed 9/21 8:15 A.M. † Bruna Paes
- Thurs 9/22 8:15 A.M. Lilibiana Garcia & Fam = SI
- Fri 9/23 8:15 A.M. Blanca Ortiz = SI
† Richard Flores
- Sat 9/24 5:30 P.M. Derrick Bent = SI
- Sun 9/25 7:30 A.M. † Ignacio Asuncion
† Pedro/Maria Rodriguez
- 9:00 A.M. † Ruben Garza
† Carmen Cantu
- 11:00 A.M. Florencia Miranda = SI
† Albertina P. Sosa
- 1:00 P.M. In honor of St. Jude = SI
† Everardo Olvera
† Teodoro Vasquez
† Johnny Campos
- 5:00 P.M. † Arnold W. Koch
- 7:00 P.M. † Lorenza Gutierrez

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



CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

This Sunday is Catechetical Sunday. This year the Catholic Church will focus on the theme "Prayer: The Faith Prayed". Those whom the community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. We ask for your prayers and support of all of our catechists that have been called to serve the community of St. Monica. These volunteers devote a great deal of time and love to teach our youth and adults.

LIFE TEEN IS NOW HERE!

Share what other teens in 31 countries and in your own city are experiencing! Join us this Sunday, September 18th at 5 p.m. for Mass and then gather with us to meet in the parish hall to find out how this parish based youth ministry is leading teenagers and their families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. Meeting concludes at 8 p.m. All students who need the Sacrament of Confirmation must attend Life Teen sessions. For more information, contact Jan Van Slambrouck (210) 416-2018 or Jan@saintmonicaconverse.net.

ADULT CATHECHISM CLASSES

You can still join the RCIA. This program is for any adult wishing to become Catholic or for those baptized Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. The sessions are held in the Bauman Room of the parish hall from 10:00 am -12 Noon every Sunday. There is a \$20.00 fee for class materials. Call Paul Cassetta at (210) 343-9655 to register. The *Spanish RCIA* classes are also held every Sunday in the parish hall after the 1 p.m. Spanish Mass. You will find green forms by the bulletin board with more information or you may call Sr. Esperanza Buitron at (210) 659-4242.



SANCTUARY CANDLE

This week's Sanctuary Candle will burn in love, honor and deep devotion to St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina.



Next bilingual Holy Hour is Thursday, September 22nd. Please invite your friends and family to participate and if you would like to share a prayer, song, poem during this Holy Hour, please contact Christian at (210) 725-4908

PLEASE HELP US RE-STOCK THE FOOD PANTRY

The St. Vincent de Paul pantry is in need of tomato sauce and can diced tomatos. You may place your donation in the box in the church foyer. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

THE SUNDAY FAMILY MOVIE

Sunday, September 25th the Knights of Columbus will be showing *The Jungle Book* in the parish hall. Doors open at 2 p.m. Movie begins at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free. Refreshments and popcorn will be available for everyone free of charge. Bring your sleeping bags and pillows!

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LECTORS, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND USHERS:

Please mark your calendars! We would appreciate your attendance at our upcoming Spiritual Retreat on Saturday, October 15th in the parish hall . We will have more details next week!

DIAPER DRIVE

St. Monica's Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Diaper and Baby Items drive this month. A crib will be placed in the church foyer. All items collected will go to assist the pregnant, unwed mothers at the Guadalupe Home. Thank you for being generous ☺

ADULT SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

The Archdiocese of San Antonio requires all adults who minister/work with children/youth to complete Adult Safe Environment Training. Training is required to be renewed every three years. The Archdiocese of San Antonio is currently using Protecting God's Children developed by Virtus to educate adults on abuse prevention. Virtus provides on-line training, and on-line renewal training. To register for a training or to conduct the on-line training, please go to <https://www.archsa.org/child-protection/safe-environment-training>. After you complete the online training, a report will be generated and sent to the parish for our files. If you have any questions, please contact Mari Gonzalez at (210) 725-2265. Thank you for protecting our children. God bless you!

WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE

We very much appreciate the generous donation of \$15,000.00 from the Altar Society of St. Monica's to be used for the renovation project. Their great generosity is made possible as a result of their continued hard work and dedication. We thank them for this example of their love and devotion to Our Lord, Our Blessed Mother and our church.



SUNDAY COLLECTION REPORT
Sunday, September 11th ; \$10,065.50
Captial Campaign: \$ 1,271.50

SECOND COLLECTION

Severe flooding has impacted the state of Louisiana. There has been loss of life, property and livelihoods. This Sunday's second collection will be used to support the efforts of Catholic Charities USA, as they and their member agencies respond to immediate emergency needs for such necessities as shelter, clean water, food and medical care, as well as, long term need to rebuild and recover.

From Padre Alejandro's Desk

Why do we celebrate Catechetical Sunday?

In 1935, the Vatican published On the Better Care and Promotion of Catechetical Education, a document that asks every country to acknowledge the importance of the Church's teaching ministry and to honor those who serve the Christian community as catechists. For the first few years after Catechetical Sunday was established, national catechetical congresses were held in conjunction with the celebration. Beginning in 1971, the USCCB's Department of Education began producing materials to help parishes celebrate the event at the local level. When the Committee on Catechesis, now named the Committee of Evangelization and Catechesis, was named by the Conference as a standing Committee, it continued to publish Catechetical Sunday materials each year. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated the third Sunday in September as Catechetical Sunday.

What Does the Word "Catechetical" Mean?

The word might be more familiar than you think. Many Catholics have used the word "catechism" for years, and they know it has something to do with the compendium of the Church's teachings. The root word, "catechesis," is from a Greek word meaning "to echo, or resound." Catechesis is the act of resounding or bringing the Church's teachings to the world. A catechist is one who teaches in the name of the Church.

Why do we have a special day set aside to commission catechists? Catechesis is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, "Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church's life . . . her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis" (no. 7). This ministry of teaching in the name of the Church has a profound dignity, which is why catechists are formally commissioned by the Church. It is only fitting that we set aside a day to highlight this ministry and invite the entire church community to think about our responsibility to share our faith with others.

How are parents, the primary catechists of their children, recognized on Catechetical Sunday?

Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation. This is why the rite of blessing of catechists used on Catechetical Sunday includes an optional blessing of parents and guardians.



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