

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Stewardship Report – Treasure

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Budgeted Amount:	\$5,000.00
Sunday Collection – 4/2/17:	\$3,588.00
Parish Pay – 4/2/17:	461.00
Total Sunday Collection – 4/2/17:	\$4,049.00
Monthly Capital Improvements/Repairs – 4/2/17:	\$1,435.00
Parish Pay – CIR – 4/2/17:	\$ 320.00
Total CIR – 4/2/17:	\$1,755.00

EASTER

April 16, 2017

ST. MONICA’S ANNUAL PASTA DINNER

Monday evening, April 24th

5pm to 8pm

**Prices are: Adults: \$9.00, Seniors: \$8.00 and
Children under 12: \$6.00.**

Take out is also available.

Parish Pay ---is a convenient way for you to set up your weekly contributions - **online – visit ParishPay.com**

2016 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN STATISTICS – AS OF 3/7/17

Total # of Families:	443
Total # Pledged:	131
% of Participation	29.57%
Total Amount Pledged:	\$38,215.00
Total Amount paid:	\$35,610.00
Average Pledge:	\$ 291.72
% of Pledges Collected:	93.18%

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

In memory of: Theresa Del Monico

Given by: Mary Del Monico

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

4/17	MON:	9:00a	No Mass today
4/18	TUES:	9:00a	People of the parish
4/19	WED:	9:00a	No Mass today
4/20	THU:	9:00a	Giorgio Gallara Kathy Shaw (LIV)
4/21	FRI:	9:00a	Frank Rankl Kathy Shaw(LIV)
4/22	SAT:	5:00p	Theresa DelMonico Margaret Schreiber Sharon Smith Kathy Shaw(LIV)
4/23	SUN:	8:00a	Henry & Stella Hosbach Sonia Frankowski
		10:00a	Peter Randall Salvatore Basile Kathy Shaw (LIV) Susan McGovern
		11:45a	Edward Losiewicz James Scala Michael Lawlor

COFFEE & DONUTS – first Sunday of each month after the 8:00am Mass in the Church Hall. Join us!

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION –Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading/ reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow.

ST. MONICA’S LEISURE GROUP - St. Monica's Leisure Group meets in the Church Hall at 12:00 noon on the first Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Dues are \$10.00 a year. Listed below is a schedule of meetings for 2017. Please call Grace Casalino at 973-702-8569 of you would like further information.

- May 3 - Pot Luck. (Team 1); June 7 - Pot Luck (Team 2)
- July 12 - (2nd Wed.) Indoor Picnic
- August 2 - Remember When; September 6 - Labor Day Pizza
- October 4 – Oktoberfest; November 1 - Halloween Party
- December 7 (Thursday) - Christmas Party at Lamp Post Rest.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS

The next Baptismal Preparation class for parents anticipating the Baptism of their child here at St. Monica’s will be held on Tuesday, April 18th at 7:30pm in the Rectory Meeting Room. Please call the Rectory and leave your name and phone # if you are interested in attending.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT SESSION – Thursday, April 20th at 7:30pm in the Rectory meeting room. Call Carol at 862-266-6626 to RSVP.

BOOK DISCUSSION – Tues. April 25th – 7:30pm in the Rectory meeting room. We will finish the book Jesus, A Pilgrimage. Please call Carol at 862-266-6626 to RSVP.

NEW PARISHIONERS – WELCOME!!

Have you been attending our parish, but haven’t formally registered yet? Registration forms are located in a large white envelope on the table near the Church Hall exit. Mail completed form to the Rectory.

ST. MONICA’S CHURCH – Contact info
 Phone # 973-875-4521 Fax # 973-875-7538
Parish office hours: 9:30– 1:30pm Mon-Fri
Website: www.stmonicasussex.org
Email: stmonica@ptd.net
Deadline for bulletin submissions: Tuesday of each week for information to be printed on the following Sunday. Email to stmonica@ptd.net



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Grades 1-8
CALENDAR FOR 2017

FIRST AND SECOND GRADE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SESSION/GRADE(S)</u>
4/23	14 th session

THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SESSION/GRADE(S)</u>
4/23	14 th session

FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SESSION/GRADE(S)</u>
4/29	14th session

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD – this program is open to children in Grades 1-4 at the 10:00am Mass each week. The children are dismissed to listen to the Sunday readings with volunteer Catechists who read and reflect with the children. Please consider having your child participate each week.

-----Carol Bezak, Coordinator of ReligiousFormation

EASTER

First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

In this passage, Peter testifies that he and his followers saw the miracles performed by Christ, witnessed His death, and believe in His resurrection. Now they will proclaim to all that Christ is the Son of God.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Paul tells the Colossians that they will appear with Christ in glory. They should be mindful of things above rather than things on earth.

Gospel: John 20:1-9

In vivid detail, John tells us that when Mary Magdalene visited Christ's tomb, the tomb was empty. She told the apostles, who ran to the tomb, and saw the "wrappings" on the ground. The disciple who entered first "saw and believed."

Bishop To Lead Spiritual Journey To Fatima, Spain

Bishop Serratelli will lead a spiritual journey to Fatima (during the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of the Blessed Mother) in Portugal and to Seville, Cordoba, Granada, Malaga in Spain from July 16 to 24. A brochure with the day-to-day itinerary and complete details may be obtained by contacting Great Experiences Inc. at (201) 825-3725 or email

greatexinc@verizon.net

Upcoming community events:

Knights of Columbus, #5563, Vernon, NJ will hold a **Pasta Dinner Fundraiser** for Parishioner on Friday, April 21, 2017 – 6:00 – 8:00pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Highland lakes, NJ. Price is \$11 adults; \$10 senior citizens; \$5 children 6 to 12 yrs & under 5 free. Save \$1 per person with each dry pantry item donation. 50/50 Raffle and music provided. Call John Higgins at 845-536-3938 for information.

Casino Trip to Sands Casino, Bethlehem, PA sponsored by Sussex Elks 2288 - Saturday, May 6, 2017. Chartered coach bus, continental breakfast prior to departure, 5 hours of casino fun; outlet mall on site. Cost is \$39 per person. Space is limited – RSVP as soon as possible to 973-875-3990 or sussexelks2288@gmail.com

A Salute to our Veterans, sponsored by Sussex Elks Lodge 2288 – join us for a fifth annual Salute to our Veterans at the High Point Monument in Montague, NJ – Sunday, May 21, 2017. Commemorative Wreath laying at 2:00pm, Complimentary dinner for all veterans at Sussex Elks Lodge – 4:00pm, Non-Veteran Guests Dinner - \$10 per person. To register, Contact Sussex Elks Lodge at 973-875-3990 or Sussexelks2288@gmail.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

PHASE II CANDIDATES – your Confirmation forms are due. These forms are extremely necessary for us to complete the paperwork for Confirmation. Some of you have forwarded your documents but there are still many outstanding. Please get them completed and return to Mrs. Vernacchio ASAP. Forms that were missing were forwarded to you a few weeks ago. The Confirmation Fee of \$75.00 is also due at this time.

PHASE II CANDIDATES – Please remember that a Day of Reflection is scheduled for Saturday, April 22nd at 1pm and your presence is required. It will be followed by Reconciliation and the 5pm Mass at which the Rite of the Candidate will be celebrated. We hope your sponsor can attend with you; if not, a parent can fill in. More information will follow.

SERVICE PROJECTS: Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board for the Spring Roadside Clean Up and the Pasta Dinner. Your help is needed at these events and as always, greatly appreciated. Please check your schedules to see if you could help out.

CALENDAR:

Saturday, April 15th - Spring Road Side Clean Up

Saturday, April 22nd - Phase II Candidates – Day of Reflection/Recon Time: 1pm concluding with the Rite of the Candidate at the 5pm Mass Dinner will follow for Candidates and Sponsors/parents

*"Wishing all our families a very Blessed,
Happy Easter"*

EASTER

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Sunday Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 or, at an afternoon or evening Mass Lk 24:13-35

Monday Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

Friday Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15

The Lord has Risen! Alleluia!

Easter is the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. As we know from the Gospels, Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day following his crucifixion (which is Easter Sunday). His resurrection marks the triumph of good over evil, sin and death. It is the singular event which proves that those who trust in God and accept Christ will be raised from the dead. This dogma of our faith Saint Paul stated in this way: *unless Christ rose from the dead, our faith is in vain (1 Corinthians 15:17)*. Through his death, Christ saved mankind from bondage to sin, and He destroyed the hold that death has on all of us; but it is His Resurrection that gives us the promise of new life, both in this world and the next.

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we die to our old self and sinfulness, and rise to newness that is filled with hope. We identify ourselves with the Cross, for it is in the Cross that we unite our own sufferings, pain, difficulties, addictions, and challenges to fully participate in His Resurrection.

Life will rarely be simple, but we can be hope-filled that our true destiny will be reached if we walk in the footsteps of Christ by serving Him and others. By following the way of cross in our daily life, we will grow in humility, love and hope. We can find Christ in the midst of the challenges and difficulties, and be ready to face them for we know that it is the same cross that leads to redemption.

There is inherent foundation of hope that is based in faith that God will see us through our challenges and difficulty. No matter the length of time or the degree of that challenge, we see the light at the end if we are well rooted in our faith, embrace the cross, and believe in God's love and promise of everlasting life.

It is the resurrection of Jesus that gives us the internal flame and inspiration to know that He will be here to help us. In His Resurrection Christ offered us a new life filled with grace, hope and love. After all, in dying He destroyed our death, and in rising He restored our life.

Easter is a day of great joy and solemn celebration because it represents the fulfillment of God's promises to mankind. Easter Sunday is indeed the day of great joy for Christ is risen. As hope springs eternal, may we cherish the love of the Father and the selfless acts of Jesus. May we begin anew, refresh, rejuvenated, and our faith rekindled to reconsecrate ourselves to God who is our only answer. May we think of our Lord's gift to us, and be ready to offer a gift of faith, hope and love back to Him.

On behalf of all of us here at Saint Monica, I wish you a very joyful, and Blessed Easter. Happy Easter to you all !!

Fr. Jan



< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord | John 20:1-9

On Easter morning Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found it empty. She hurried to get Peter and John. Peter entered first, and when John entered he "saw and believed."

Jesus has risen! He is alive!

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Believe... Alleluia, Alleluia!

Choose a date and an Alpha and Omega... color the flame and choose a cross to color. Cut and glue all to the candle.

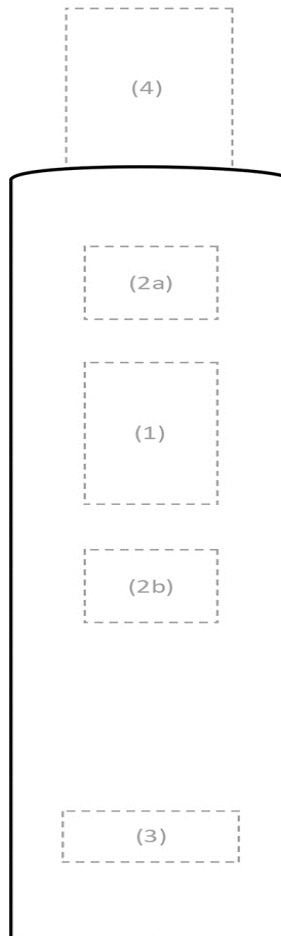
The Paschal or Easter Candle



Each year at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, a new fire is built and blessed. From this fire, a new Paschal Candle is lit for the first time and will be used for one year. Candle designs vary, but they are always white, the largest in the worship space and contain certain symbols - a cross, the Alpha and Omega and the date. Let's design our own candle by choosing, coloring and gluing on the designs you like. *Do you see the Paschal Candle in your church?*

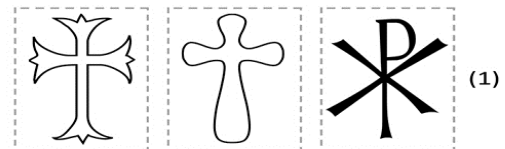
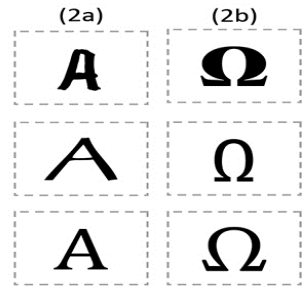
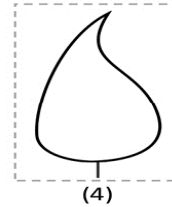
- (1) **THE CROSS** - Always the central symbol
- (2) **THE ALPHA AND OMEGA** - Tells us God is the beginning and the end
- (3) **THE CURRENT YEAR** - Says God is with us here and now
- (4) **THE FLAME** - Reminds us Jesus is the Light of the World
- (5) Use **RED** to make 5 points on the cross to represent the 5 wounds of Jesus

**HAPPY &
BLESSED
EASTER
TO ALL!**



Pick one design from each group

*A new candle,
a new LIFE*



**REJOICE,
CHRIST IS ALIVE**

EVENTS AT ST. PAUL INSIDE THE WALLS, MADISON, NJ

Catholicism from Scratch – Making Sense: Questions about the Eucharist

A course in basic Catholicism for those who need a brush-up, those who missed it the first time around, or those who never heard it before. Fr. Paul Manning, presenter.

Madison, Saturday, April 29 from 10:00 a.m.-noon

Being Single, Being Faithful (35+)

Whether single by choice or by circumstance, we must live every "single" day to the fullest. We can find fulfillment in Christ and his Church by embracing the opportunities in the Church for spiritual growth, meaningful service and a sense of community.

Madison, Saturday, May 13 from 10:00 a.m.-noon

Speaking of Faith

Fr. Manning talks with **Dr. Brian Beyerl**, deacon at Assumption Parish, Morristown and Chief of Neurosurgery at Morristown Medical Center, about his encounter with and response to God and the integration of faith into work and life.

Madison, Wednesday, May 17, 2017 from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

