



THE PARISH of SAINT MONICA

Called by Name; Gifted by God; Committed to Prayer; Driven to Serve... Abiding in Hope

THE CHURCH of SAINT MONICA

Founded January 11, 1897

Parish Offices

(Pastoral Administration; Religious Education; Business & Finance; Worship & Music; Facilities)

Saint Monica Rectory
635 First Avenue
Berwyn, Pennsylvania 19312
Phone: 610.644.0110
Facsimile: 610.695.0850

Office of Religious Education (Rectory)

610.647.4757

Parish Website

www.saintmonicachurch.org

Twitter & Instagram

@StMonicaBerwyn

Join Flocknote!

Text "Monica1897" to 84576

Parish Staff E-mail

FirstInitial.LastName@
saintmonicachurch.org

Parish Leadership

financecouncil@
saintmonicachurch.org

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass 8:30 a.m.
*(Monday thru Saturday with a
Communion Service on Wednesday)*

Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

Holy Days of Obligation 8:30 a.m.
12 noon

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

Saturday from 4 to 4:45 p.m.
Anytime by appointment.

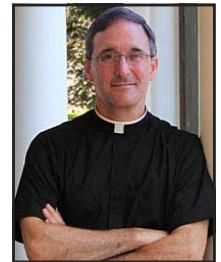


Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 8, 2017

FROM the PASTOR'S DESK...

Roe v. Wade (January 22, 1973) was the landmark decision by the United States Supreme Court on the issue of abortion. The Court ruled 7–2 that a “right to privacy” under the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment extended to a woman’s decision to have an abortion, however, that this right must be balanced against the state’s two legitimate interests in regulating abortions: protecting women’s health and protecting the potentiality of human life (*emphasis mine*).



Zubik v. Burwell was a recent case before the United States Supreme Court which considered whether *religious institutions other than churches* should be exempt from the contraceptive mandate, a regulation adopted by the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that requires non-church employers to cover certain contraceptives for their female employees. Churches were already exempt under those regulations. On May 16, 2016, the Supreme Court vacated the Court of Appeals ruling in Zubik v. Burwell and the six cases it had consolidated under that title and returned them to their respective Courts of Appeals for reconsideration.

Zubik vs. Burwell is a complex mix of seven cases, argued in four Courts of Appeals and involving 37 petitioners. It is critical to realize that these challenges to the HHS mandate involve much more than just contraception but go to the heart of “Freedom of Religion” and religious liberty. Thus, as Catholics, we need to pay attention - and get involved.

In a 2016 article, Father Frank Pavone wrote that the HHS mandate “brought together a diverse group of opponents.” This coalition included Catholic priests (example, “Priests for Life), religious communities (example, “The Little Sisters of the Poor”), Catholic Charities in Washington, D.C., Pittsburgh and Erie.

This is not just a Catholic issue. Other petitioners include Baptist (*Continued on Page 4*)

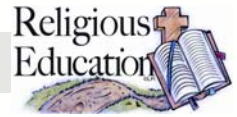


THE SOLEMNITY of the EPIPHANY of the LORD

January 8

May the splendor of your majesty, O Lord, we pray, shed its light upon our hearts, that we may pass through the shadows of this world and reach the brightness of our eternal home. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FROM *the* OFFICE of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



The Religious Education Program classes will resume on Monday, January 9. Classes are not in session on January 16.

Registration for this year's Summer Session and for the 2017-2018 Monday night session is now underway. The registration forms be found on our parish website.



FAMILY *and* YOUTH MINISTRY



Steubenville Youth Conference

June 16-18 2017

Open to graduating 8th-12th Students
Cost-\$350

(\$199 deposit to secure your spot)

Scholarship money available if needed

Limited spots available, 1st come 1st served

for more info:

steubenvilleconferences.com/youth

Jcarter@saintmonicachurch.org

FROM *the* OFFICE of WORSHIP *and* MUSIC



**THE RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY of SAINT MONICA PARISH
INVITES ALL TO JOIN US ON THIS PRAYERFUL JOURNEY . . .**



**THE 44TH ANNUAL MARCH for LIFE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2017
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

The bus departs from Saint Monica's at 7:00 a.m. and returns at 8:00 p.m.

**Our bus will make 2 stops:
National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the
Rally and March in D.C.**

**Suggested donation: \$25 for adults; Students and Children are free.
For more information and to register, please visit www.saintmonicachurch.org,
or contact Rosemary Friedrich at rfriedrich@verizon.net or 610-688-4771.**

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS for NOVEMBER 2016

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|---------------------|-----------|----------------|
| November 2016 | \$65,214 | 43% Electronic | November YTD 2016 | \$327,246 | 46% Electronic |
| November 2015 | \$74,566 | 42% Electronic | November YTD 2015 | \$356,562 | 44% Electronic |
| November Budget | 2016-17 | \$71,423 | November YTD Budget | 2016-17 | \$346,562 |

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, December 25, 2016

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday Collection | \$12,262 |
| Electronic | \$7,096 |
| Total | \$19,358 |
| Christmas Collection: | \$41,893 |

We have 164 families contributing electronically.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, January 1, 2017

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday Collection | \$9,525 |
| Electronic | \$11,595 |
| Total | \$21,120 |
| Christmas Collection: | \$51,848 |
| Christmas Budget: | \$62,203 |

We have 164 families contributing electronically.

POOR BOXES

The monies collected from the Poor Boxes during the month of January will be for the benefit of the Bethesda Project. God bless you for your continued generosity.

The Fiscal Year 2016 budget for Saint Monica Parish is available on line at www.saintmonicachurch.org under the Parish Information tab in the Parish Leadership section.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 1)

and non-denominational universities in Texas and Oklahoma, a Presbyterian college in Pennsylvania as well as numerous religious high schools. It includes **Reaching Souls International**, a non-denominational Christian group who assists African children orphaned by civil war, HIV/AIDS, and malaria. **Reaching Souls** bases its work on a biblical definition of "religion that is pure and undefiled before God" – that is "to visit orphans and widows in their affliction."

There's **AWESOME** (Assistance With Education, Shelter, Organization, Money Management and Employment), a program run by the Prince of Peace Center in Farrell, PA that helps people achieve independence. Southern Nazarene University boasts a winning NCAA Division 2 basketball team, 2,000 students majoring in everything from business to theology and committed to the inviolable belief in the sanctity of life.

Friend-of-the-court briefs filed afford an even better understanding of how seriously *religious liberty* is threatened by the HHS mandate. Briefs were filed by **World Vision; Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America; National Jewish Coalition on Law and Public Affairs; Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; International Society for Krishna Consciousness; Orthodox Church in America; American Islamic Conference and Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.**

Arguments and conclusions on three key points of the cases are important:

- Does the HHS mandate poses a substantial burden on religion?
- Does the government has a *compelling interest* to pursue this mandate?
- Does the government, to pursue that interest, utilize the *least restrictive* means necessary to accomplish its goals?

The Supreme Court has called the lower courts, from which the original judgments came, to review these cases again. Whether there will be a unified outcome or more division among the courts is an open question. Each of the four court cases have unique circumstances.

Guidance and questions have been provided through the deliberations of the Supreme Court with additional information provided in the briefings the Supreme Court requested from petitioners and from the (continued)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

(Continued)

government. The heart of the matter is the distinction between "*freedom of worship*" and not necessarily "*freedom of religion*." Some have alleged that the current administration has tried to sow confusion between the two with the idea is that "Freedom of Worship" keeps us in the church building. In effect, it says that religious voices have no place in public discourse or the free exchange of ideas in the public square. **Full transparency:** Some prominent Catholics have said that this is "conspiracy theory" (See Father Thomas Reese, S.J.'s article on "*Freedom of Worship vs. Freedom of Religion*"). Other prominent Catholics have said just the opposite - that this is exactly what the administration, and others, are doing (See Archbishop Chaput's article on threats to religious freedom).

Whatever you believe, such a diverse group indicates that something about the HHS mandate seems ominous, so much so that the plaintiffs represented "a wide array of religious beliefs, all united by the proposition that the government should not be instructing us in our faiths."

We do not believe a federal bureaucrat should be telling us what is - and what is not - allowed by our churches' teachings. Now we need four Courts of Appeal to agree, or all of this ends up back at the Supreme Court - a court whose future ideological makeup is dependent on this year's presidential/congressional election results.

In the meantime, if I might offer some unsolicited advice: Write a letter. Send an e-mail. Pick up a phone and make a call. Make your Catholic voice heard in the public square.

Charles Flock Jr

YOUNG ADULTS: "THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS" BEGINS WITH SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Are you a Catholic adult in your 20s and 30s? **If so, join CYACC this Wednesday January 11, 2017 at 7:30 PM at Ss. Peter and Paul in West Chester.** We will begin Bishop Barron's latest series, Catholicism: "The Pivotal Players" with a look at Saint Francis of Assisi. For more info, check us out on Facebook or email us at cyacc1@gmail.com.

LET THE CHURCH ALWAYS BE A PLACE OF MERCY AND HOPE, WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOMED, LOVED AND FORGIVEN . . .

Pope Francis

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE . . .

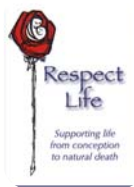
Team Trivia 2017 - Our 20th Edition. This year's event will be held on **Saturday, March 11th**. This year's theme is, **"A Night At The Movies"**. Start planning now. Registration forms will be made available in early February. Our event again will be the 1st half of a parish wide active weekend as **Sunday, March 12th**, will be the **3rd Annual Helping Hands Event**. Stay tuned for more details.

MARCH FOR LIFE



Donations sought for youth attending.

Registration for the Saint Monica bus trip to Washington, DC for the March for Life on Friday, January 27, 2017 is now open! To **register** or get **more information** about the trip, see the March for Life registration webpage accessible from the parish website or contact Rosemary Friedrich at rfriedrich@verizon.net. Can't attend the March yourself? Please consider making a donation to help defray the cost of the trip for others, especially students and children who are invited to participate at no charge. In this way, you can be involved and demonstrate your support for this peaceful witness for life. Donations can be made on the March for Life registration webpage or by contacting Maurita Buhmer at jbuhmer1@verizon.net.



LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

The Catholic Church reminds us that "...Every person bears God's image and has an immortal soul." Yet many are viewed as being outside the circle of love — unborn children whose parents are tempted to eliminate them, vulnerable people with illnesses or disabilities who risk being abandoned or even killed through misguided 'mercy', prisoners on death row forgotten or despised long after they have repented of their wrongdoing. Let us ask God to stretch our hearts so that we can witness to the meaning of Jesus' mission: *"I came that all might have life, and have it to the full."* (USCCB, Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities).

PRAYERS PLEASE....

Please keep our parish's second graders in your daily prayers as they prepare to receive their First Penance at the end of this month.



DISCERNMENT RETREAT

JANUARY 20 - 22: VILLA MARIA HOUSE OF STUDIES

Young women (18-35) are invited to join us for this retreat which focuses on the IHM Charism and the importance of listening to God's call and discovering the many ways that God speaks to us. Time will be included for personal and communal prayer as well as the opportunity to interact with the sisters in formation. For information, contact ihmvoc@aol.com or 610-889-1553.

COME PRAY THE ROSARY



We have been blessed to have a parish community Rosary said **every Monday evening at 7:15 p.m.** The church will be opened for ALL to come and pray.

Saint Louis de Montfort said, "Public prayer is far more powerful than private prayer to appease the anger of God and call down His mercy, and Holy Mother Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, has always advocated public prayer in times of public tragedy and suffering."
Please join us!



WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE for January 8

| DAY | TIME | EVENT | LOCATION |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Monday | 9:00am-4:30pm | Adoration | Church |
| Tuesday | | | |
| Wednesday | | Communion Service | |
| Thursday | 7:00-8:30 pm | Walking With Purpose | Parish Center |
| Friday | 9:15-10:45 am | Legion of Mary Nocturnal Adoration | Rectory Church |
| Saturday | 4:00-4:45 pm | Confession | Church |

THE CHURCH of SAINT MONICA

WWW.SAINTMONICACHURCH.ORG

SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook
The Church of Saint Monica, Berwyn



Twitter
@StMonicaBerwyn



Instagram
@StMonicaBerwyn

FATHER ZLOCK



Website
Frzlock.com



Facebook
Fr. Charlie Zlock



Twitter
@FrZlock

FAMILY & YOUTH MINISTRY

Edge: Middle School Youth Group
Lifteen: High School Youth Group



Facebook
CSMEge
CSMLifteen



Twitter
@CSMEge
@CSMLifteen



Instagram
@CSMEge
@CSMLifteen

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

The Saint Monica Parish Bulletin is published weekly and is available both on the parish website and distributed to the assembly after Sunday Worship.

Submissions are due each Monday by noon and should be e-mailed to parishbulletin@saintmonicachurch.org with formatting left to a minimum.

Please include a contact name and phone number with your submission. In the case where announcements must be submitted handwritten, please make sure the text is legible.

BULLETIN INSERTS

All inserts must be submitted to the Rectory Office for approval a minimum of **two weeks** before you would like it to appear.

MASS INTENTIONS for January 8 – January 15

| MASS TIME | INTENTION | PRESIDER | MUSIC MINISTRY | NOTES |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------|
| 5:00 pm | + Billy Hamburger | Fr. Fitzgerald | Cantor | |
| 7:30 am | + Dominic Coyle | Fr. Serano | Quiet | |
| 9:30 am | People of the Parish | Fr. Antry | Choir | |
| 11:30 am | + Kenneth P. Yangello | Fr. Antry | Cantor | |
| Monday, 9th | Christine Rocks | Fr. Driesch | | |
| Tuesday, 10th | + Mary DiAntonio | Fr. Antry | | |
| Wednesday, 11th | Communion Service | | | |
| Thursday, 12th | + John McGee | Fr. Danielski | | |
| Friday, 13th | + James Edward Fitzgerald | Fr. Driesch | | |
| Saturday, 14th | + Regis Filtz | Fr. Avicolti | | |
| 5:00 pm | + Patrick Maher | Abbot Antonucci | Cantor | |
| 7:30 am | + Dominic L. Coyle | Fr. Fitzgerald | Quiet | |
| 9:30 am | + Thomas Losoncy | Fr. Fitzgerald | Choir | |
| 11:30 am | People of the Parish | Fr. Avicolti | Cantor | |

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Sonia Altirman, Jack Barausky, Drew Brazer, Michael Byrne, Phyllis Campbell, John Canfield, Lina Cappelli, Terri Carson, Lilly Ciocca, Umberto Degli Esposti, James DiAntonio, William Dahlman, Rita Dunn, Joseph Erwin, Yolanda Fazzini, Christine Florkowski, Kelly Glacken, Mary Hartley, Karen Hastings, David Hill, Jenna, Maya and Eva Izzi, Eleonora Jauslin, Faith Johnson, Libby Judge, Anne Maas, Jackson MacTaggart, Mark Maholick, Jean McKinley, Eugene Matta, Susan McDonnell, Louise Merlino, Melanie Mizenko, Dr. Mark Nardone, John and Lilly Neff, Bruce Niccolo, Sr., Courtney Frances Patterson, Rita Reilly, John Robinson, Mary Rose, Cathy Russell, Gary Smith, Tallon Family, Helen Triolo, Bob and Mildred Walsh, Stephanie Walsh Beilman

THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may Your perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

H.O.P.E. — HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCIES

Leader for this week: Sandie Concannon at 610-647-1068

PARISH LEADERSHIP

FINANCE COUNCIL

Robert Carden
Dennis Connell
Richard Deak
Kathleen Keough
Michael McCabe
Peter Lynch
Gerald O'Brien
Giulio Perillo
Michael Vadner
Lawrence Wieser

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

Reverend Charles Zlock, M.Div., M.A., M.B.I.S., *Pastor*
Reverend Allan Fitzgerald, O.S.A., Ph.D., *Pastoral Assistance*
The Norbertines of Daylesford Abbey, *Pastoral Assistance*
Mary C. Pizzano, *Director of Religious Education*
Frank K.J. Orman, *Director of Worship & Music*
Jason Carter, *Director of Family & Youth Ministry*
Theresa Carey, *Business Manager*
Catherine H. Levine, *Parish Administrative Assistant*
Diane Kirsch Pealer, *Religious Education Assistant*
Elizabeth P. Tenaglio, *Cemetery Administration*
Frank Pantano, *Facilities Manager*