

THE CHURCH OF
SAINT MONICA
 BERWYN, PENNSYLVANIA

Encountering Christ - Through Scripture, Through Liturgy, Through Serving Others

**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

FirstInitialLastName@
 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 8:30 a.m.

of Obligation 12 noon

The Sacrament of

Reconciliation (Confessions)

Monday 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 6:00 to 7:00 a.m.

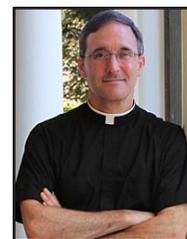
Saturday 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.

Anytime by appointment.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 10, 2019

FROM the PASTOR'S DESK...



Last week I began to talk about "Mission" "Vision" and how Saint Monica can determine whether we are on track with "The Great Commission" of Jesus Christ or not. One tool that I have been using to see if we are touching hearts in the specific liturgical area of hospitality, hymnody and homilies is the kiosk in the vestibule of the church. Reactions, naturally, have been mixed. Last week I began to broach the topic by offering some comments. This week I would like to offer my thoughts. The following will not satisfy a number of people but here goes:

There were concerned and skeptical voices who wondered about the appropriateness of the kiosk when it was first rolled out. Some also felt that the kiosk might be feeding a "consumeristic" mentality. That is certainly a risk.

Doing nothing - or not doing anything that seems too new or radical or strange - is an option. It's safe. Doing what we've always done is another option. It feels good because it feels comfortable. The parish is not crashing. Why do anything different?

Because this is short-sighted and not a viable long-term option. The problem is, across the country, in all denominations, parishes ARE crashing. Homilies, hymnody, and hospitality are the three leverage points why people come to liturgy - or why they are leaving for other churches. I recognize and admit that these three are not "the solution." (That's a deeper topic for another day.) They are part of the solution, however.

There are a number of ways through which I can determine that people are being fed by our liturgy. Collections and numbers-in-the-pews are two. At Saint Monica, numbers have been down slightly over the past 10 years. Collections have fluctuated. Last year was up. This year it's down. One thing's for sure, we are certainly not growing by 10% or more.

Why is that? The numbers are symptoms. These numbers don't tell me why people don't come - or why they do. That is information that I absolutely need. How to solicit that feedback is the question that you raise.

For example, I once had a homily committee with whom I met on a regular basis. It was a great faith sharing group and provided valuable insights for my homilies (Cont'd on Pg. 4)



**OUR PARISH PRAYER
 INTENTION for THIS WEEK**

*May the couple being Married at St. Monica's
 this weekend experience God's love and strength
 throughout their marriage.*

-the office of-
Discipleship and Formation

We would like to congratulate our High School Varsity boys basketball team! They have completed their regular season for Region 32 in first place with an undefeated season, going 12-0! We wish them luck in the Regional Tournament which begins this weekend through Thursday night. As the first place team, all of our games will be played at the St. Monica gym.

Feel free to come out and support the team!!

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFICE FOR DIVINE WORSHIP - WORKSHOPS

At the request of the Archdiocese, St. Norbert Parish will host Workshops for Extraordinary Ministers and Lectors. These workshops are required for all new ministers, as well as for current ministers who have not attended a workshop in over 3 years. These are the only workshops currently offered outside the Philadelphia Basilica location in 2019.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Tuesday, February 19

7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Main Church

Lector Workshop

Wednesday, March 13

7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Main Church

To register, please email worship@archphila.org.

POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Monica is considering a new position in the parish. We're looking for someone who wants to use his or her marketing/communications skills to impact

the local – and wider - St. Monica community for the Gospel. The role will require a firm understanding of our parish Mission and Vision and how the position supports that Mission and Vision.

We've estimated 12 - 15 hours/week. Tasks would include managing the website, Facebook account, composing and sending out weekly news briefings via FlockNote, handling the scheduling software for the various ministries (altar servers, lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, etc.). We're also looking for this person to help inform strategic decisions concerning social media/communications needs and opportunities, as well as to help provide or coordinate training opportunities for staff and volunteer team members.

If interested, please contact parishoffice@saintmonicachurch.org.

REMINDER!

The Sacrament of Baptism is not celebrated during Lent, which begins on March 6.

Please make your plans accordingly and contact the Rectory at 610-644-0110.

Registration is Open! Don't Delay ... space is limited!!

5th Annual
HELPING HANDS

LEND A HAND
packing meals for those in need
a fun volunteering opportunity for all ages

EVENT INFORMATION

What: Packing 60,000 meals for hungry children, women and men in Burkina Faso

When: Sunday, March 10th 2-4:30pm, Check-in at 1:30pm

Where: St. Monica Parish Center, 601 First Avenue, Berwyn, PA 19312

How: Please RSVP at CYACC.org/hands

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS for DECEMBER 2018

December 2018	\$90,455	36% Electronic	December YTD 2018	\$408,808	48% Electronic
December 2017	\$76,748	43% Electronic	December YTD 2017	\$426,591	48% Electronic
December Budget	2018-2019	\$80,771	December YTD Budget	2018-2019	\$425,536

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Sunday, February 3, 2019

Sunday Collection	\$7,871
Electronic	\$10,059
Total	\$17,930

We have 186 families contributing electronically.

POOR BOX

Money collected from the Poor Boxes during the Month of February will be for the benefit of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. May God bless you for your continued generosity.

The Fiscal Year 2019 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 feedback afterwards. They also provided some general information in passing about how the parish was doing. They were only 6 people though - hardly a representative sample. Also, it was only giving me good information on homilies. Hospitality? Nothing. How the music was? No idea. Aesthetics like sound levels and temperature comfort? No information.

People could be leaving for a whole host of reasons (and at Saint Monica - 3,200 have!) The problem is, I have absolutely no idea why. Conversely, people are also coming and signing up to be new parishioners. But unless I know why, I don't know the strengths of the parish upon which we can focus and build. It might seem cold and "business like" but I still need raw data about what's going on, what people are thinking, what is touching hearts, and what isn't.

The analyses that we have done have been especially helpful to me personally over the past few weeks. Let me give you two examples: there was one case when we asked whether the homily was "audible." Three masses scored 95+. The 11:30 Mass score was 75. That much of a discrepancy begs the question, "What happened?" So I went into the 11:30 Mass the next week and asked. It turns out that there were significantly fewer people attending the 11:30 and - with fewer bodies in the space - the echo effect was quite significant and unpleasant. We made adjustments. We turned down the mic levels. The organist began playing with "stops" that were lower pitched and not as shrill. Two weeks later, people personally spoke to me and emailed me to say that they noticed the improvement. Is that consumerism? Look at it from another perspective. Suppose we don't have that information because we didn't ask. People have complained about the sound volume. I know because they've told me - for years! Now I had data that told us specifically what the problem was and when it was.

Doing nothing or not addressing it would have been a sin against charity. It says, "We don't care and you don't count." Addressing it is good "stewardship" of the hearts (and ears) of our people. They now (1) have a more pleasant "Experience of Christ Through the Liturgy" and (2) know that they DO count. We said, "Your opinion matters because - you're important."

Another example: After personally receiving fairly high scores (in the 90s) as to whether my homilies were audible, passionate, relevant and understandable, I received lower scores (in the low 80s) on "Was the Homily Organized?" Okay, what's going on? The data "pointed" to something, but I needed to dig deeper to find out what. So I sent out 20 emails and asked why. I found that I often say, "I'm going to cover 3 points." I cover point 1 and then point 2, but then go off on tangents. Hence the idea thread gets lost. That was a tremendously valuable insight. I went to a homily leadership site for advice on how I could address that. The speaker provided some ideas and a guide on how to organize a good homily. I have tried using these over the past few weeks. I became more cognizant on the organization of the homily. When asked this same question about 3 weeks ago, my scores were in the 90s. But none of this happens unless I have the data.

That's an important lesson. If I don't have the data - I don't make the change and the quality of the homily suffers. If I have a "chronic" shortcoming in my homilies, and I don't know that, I will do that again and again and again. Over time, if homilies are of consistently poor quality - people leave.

The Catholic Church has had this "they'll come for the Eucharist and other sacraments" attitude for far too long. That is simply not true any more. They're not coming, and with good reason. I travel to other churches - Catholic and non-Catholic. Catholic Churches are terrible. The homilies are vapid. There is no hospitality or sense of welcoming. The music is okay but not inspiring to the point where people are streaming into the churches. People are voting with their feet. We simply have to be better because we're not that good. One big problem is most pastors and churches have absolutely no idea what is happening. Why? Because they don't ask. You don't ask ... you don't care.

There is a whole host of other issues where I simply do not know how well we are doing as a parish. That's why, besides homily feedback, we're also asking about how welcoming/hospitable the parish is. Eventually we also will ask about music and hymnody. These are the three areas that, nationally, parishes are finding play a key role as to whether the liturgy experience is fruitful or not. It might not be a perfect solution but, considering the current culture, doing nothing or doing the same-old-same-old is no longer an effective evangelization option.

Final point. I know that the aesthetic of the kiosk is less than ideal. That is why, at a minimum, I commissioned to have the wooden stand constructed and ordered the wood grain to match the color of the wood in our church. I wish the kiosk button panel was a different color and design. I'm open to have you chair a small ad-hoc committee to address that. You probably know some creative people who could come up with a different design to at least reduce the harshness of the button panel. Feel free to call or write with any ideas. Thanks and God bless.

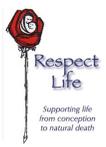
Charles Zlock Jr

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEAM TRIVIA NIGHT 2019

The St. Monica's Holy Name Society and Men's Club is proud to announce our 22nd consecutive edition of Team Trivia Night for the parish community. TTN will be held on **Saturday March 9th**. Registration forms will be in this weekend's bulletin. As in past years (last year 376 players), this event has sold out quickly, so ... get your team of 8 ready for what promises to be another great weekend as we are the 1st half of a most active weekend. Helping Hands will be held the following day - Sunday the 10th. Team Trivia questions, contact Mark DiLucca at mjddorset@gmail.com. For Helping Hands question, contact Levi Keene at levi.keene@gmail.com. Thanks everyone!

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL



Did You Know? *Abortion Was the Leading Cause of Death in 2018.* As of December 31, 2018, there have been some 41.9 million abortions performed in the year, *Worldometers* revealed. Globally, just under a quarter of all pregnancies (23 percent) were ended by abortion in 2018, and for every 33 live births, ten infants were aborted. There were more deaths from abortion in 2018 than all deaths from cancer, malaria, HIV/AIDS, smoking, alcohol, and traffic accidents combined. The staggering number of deaths from abortion, in fact, has led certain observers to call abortion the social justice cause of our time, since judging from the sheer magnitude of the problem, other human rights issues pale in comparison.

WE WANT AND NEED YOU !!!!

Come join others at St. Monica's as we build our future. We are the best, because our parishioners are great. Get involved. Become a lector, greeter, an altar server or an usher. Participate in ministries that support our local communities. Expand your faith journey by attending spiritual programs: *Alpha*, *This Man Is You* and *Walking with Purpose*.

Whoever you are---come join in the fun and fellowship. Forms are available at the Hospitality Desk in the narthex of the church and online under Get Involved on the church website or you may contact Martha McGurk at 610-722-9384 or martucia@aol.com

2018 TAX STATEMENTS

Please contact the Rectory Office at 610-644-0110 to request your 2018 End of Year Contribution Statement. Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

The Alpha Course is a practical introduction to the Christian faith, where guests have an opportunity to explore the meaning of life in a relaxed setting. At each session, people enjoy a simple meal, laughter and learning about the person and teachings of Jesus in a fun and non-threatening atmosphere where no question about life or God is too simple or too hostile. Alpha is for anyone: all backgrounds, religions and viewpoints. Everyone is welcome.

Registration is open at www.saintmonicachurch.org!

DISCOVER - Each Sunday

- February 24: Is There More to Life Than This?
- March 3: Who is Jesus?
- March 10: Why Did Jesus Die?
- March 17: How Can I Have Faith?
- March 24: Why and How Should I Pray?
- March 31: Why and How Should I Read The Bible?
- April 7: How Does God Guide Us?
- April 14: How Can I Resist Evil?
- April 28: Why and How Should I Tell Others?
- May 5: Does God Heal Today?
- May 19: What About The Church?

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 1:00 – Informal Meal;
- 1:25 – Welcoming and Announcements
- 1:30 – Video Presentation on Current Topic
- 2:00 – Small-Group Discussion.
- 2:30 – Session Ends.

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE for February 10

DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday	9:00 am-4:30 pm	Adoration	Church
	6:30-7:30 pm	Confession	Church
	7:15-7:45 pm	Parish Rosary	Church
Tuesday	6:00-7:00 am	Confession	Church
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Communion Service	Church
Thursday	7:00-9:00 pm	Walking With Purpose	Parish Center
Friday	9:15-10:45 am	Legion of Mary	Rectory
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
Lifeteen: High School Youth Group



Facebook
CSMEge
CSMLifeteen



Twitter
@CSMEge
@CSMLifeteen



Instagram
@CSMEge
@CSMLifeteen

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

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

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 February 10 – February 17

MASS TIME	INTENTION	PRESIDER	MUSIC MINISTRY	NOTES
5:00 pm	+ Edward Gallagher	Fr. Fitzgerald	Cantor	
7:30 am	People of the Parish	Fr. Zagarella	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ Joseph Santoleri, Sr.	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
11:30 am	+ Catherine LaCorte	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
Monday, 11th	+ Robert R. Rafferty	Fr. Zlock		
Tuesday, 12th	+ Joseph Corcoran	Fr. Zlock		
Wednesday, 13th	Communion Service			
Thursday, 14th	+ Raymond Canfield	Fr. Avicoli		
Friday, 15th	+ Mary Rutecki	Fr. Zlock		
Saturday, 16th	+ Mark Maholick	Fr. Zlock		
5:00 pm	+ Thomas Glynn	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
7:30 am	People of the Parish	Fr. Zlock	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ Leo and Catharine McGurk	Fr. Fitzgerald	Cantor	
11:30 am	+ Joseph Santoleri, Sr.	Fr. Fitzgerald	Cantor	

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Sonia Altirman, Drew Brazer, Michael Byrne, Lina Cappelli, Terri Carson, Lilly Giocca, Ann Curvan, James DiAntonio, Gavin Duffy, Rita Dunn, Joseph Erwin, Ria Filippelli, Judy Fittipoldi, Elaine Flynn, Hugh Gannon, Kelly Glacken, Mary Hartley, Karen Hastings, Natalie Innella, Jenna, Maya and Eva Izzzi, Faith Johnson, Clare Johnston, Libby Judge, Debbie Kern, Charlie Litzelman, Jackson MacTaggart, Dan McMonigle, Heather Moore, Dr. Mark Nardone, John Neff, Rob Niederer, Steve Pannella, Apolonia Pepperling, Rita Reilly, Joel Rivera, John Robinson, Mary Rose, Cathy Russell, Gary Smith, Mildred Walsh, Joe Zielinski

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: Ame Austin at 484-919-0029

PARISH LEADERSHIP

FINANCE COUNCIL

Robert Carden
Kevin Concannon
Richard Deak
Kathryn Leib
Jack Martin
Michael Vadner
Alex Weaver
Kolbe Wolfe

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*
Jason Carter, *Director of Discipleship & Formation*
Meghan Nulty, *Associate Director of Discipleship & Formation*
Diane Kirsch Pealer, *Program Coordinator for Discipleship & Formation*
Theresa Carey, *Business Manager*
Catherine H. Levine, *Parish Administrative Assistant*
Elizabeth P. Tenaglio, *Cemetery Administration*
Vincent Gutierrez, *Director of Facilities Management*