



Church of St Monica

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*INCORPORATING THE PARISHES OF ST MONICA, ST STEPHEN OF HUNGARY AND
ST ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY*

SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2015

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

SERVANT

Sometimes the hour and the person meet. Sometimes, when a task or mission is set upon our shoulders, we know we must meet our responsibilities and we are ready. These are heady and invigorating times. The first reading and the Gospel proclamation today are intimate glimpses of a commencement, an inauguration of a challenging future. In both readings, a sense of gravity prevails.

The first reading is from the mysterious Servant Songs from the book of Isaiah. The person is steadfast and brave. His courage and bravery are not located in his stout heart, but in God. We are reminded, "The Lord GOD opens my ear that I may hear" (Isaiah 50:4), so the servant understands the mission. And twice, "The Lord GOD is my help" (50:7, 9), so that the servant can endure the coming struggle.

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PASTOR:

Rev. Donald C. Baker

ASSOCIATES:

Rev. Joe A. Francis

Rev. Joseph (Vincent) Gnarakatt

IN SUNDAY SERVICE:

Rev. Richard Arold

ORGANIST & DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

Mr. David Schaefer

CANTOR & LEADER OF SONG:

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES:

By Appointment only.

Please contact a member of the parish staff well in advance.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

5:00 PM on Saturdays

Anytime by appointment

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

Anyone who cannot attend church because of illness or age, please contact the parish office, so that arrangements can be made to bring communion to you.

MASSES

Sundays: 7:30 AM; 9:00 AM; 10:30 AM &
12 NOON (Principal Liturgy & Choir) **Saturday Vigil:** 5:30 PM
Weekdays: 7:30 AM & 12 NOON **Saturdays:** 12 NOON
St Stephen of Hungary: Sundays 11:30 AM (until further notice)

UPCOMING EVENTS

This weekend's second collection is for the support of St Joseph's Seminary. Please be generous.

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9 AM to 5 PM
Tuesday 9 AM to 7 PM
Wednesday 9 AM to 7 PM
Thursday 9 AM to 7 PM
Friday 9 AM to 2 PM
Saturday: 10 AM to 2 PM

The Rectory Office is closed on Sundays

Rectory Office will be closed for lunch daily from 1 PM to 2 PM

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

Rosary

Weekdays after the 7:30 AM and Noon Masses and on Saturday after the 12:00 Noon mass

Holy Hour

First Friday of each month after the Noon Mass

Devotions

Miraculous Medal on Mondays after each Mass

TODAY'S READINGS

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong? (Isaiah 50:5-9a).

Psalm — I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading — Faith, if it does not have works, is dead (James 2:14-18).

Gospel — Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:27-35).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
- Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13; Ps 101:1b-3ab, 5-6; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
- Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-6; Lk 7:31-35
- Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16; Ps 111:7-10; Lk 7:36-50
- Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-10, 17-20; Lk 8:1-3
- Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 8:4-15
- Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-8; Jas 3:16 — 4:3; Mk 9:30-37

Remember your loved ones by dedicating, in their honor, the weekly Bread & Wine, or Sanctuary Light



Banns of Marriage

II. William Lawlor & Lindsay Nicolai

III. Paul Anthony Simpson & Genevieve de los

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY (SEPETMBER 12: VIGIL
5:30 PM The Canning Family

SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 13): 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
7:30 AM Helen & James Quinn
9:00 AM William Keating
10:30 AM Justine Goray
12 NOON Parishoners of St Monica, St Stephen of Hungary and St, Elizabeth of Hungary

MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 14): The Exaltation of The Holy Cross

7:30 A M Mary Scott
12 NOON George and Mary Morris

TUESDAY (SEPTEMBER 15): Our Lady of Sorrows

7:30 AM Sharon Kavanaugh
12 NOON Justine Goray

WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 16): WEEKDAY

7:30 AM Marie O'Donnell
12 NOON Sharon Kavanaugh

THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 17): WEEKDAY

7:30 AM Anna & Peter Disbrey (Living)
12 NOON Anna Hrivnak

FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 18): WEEKDAY

7:30 AM Msgr. Fernando Beradi (Living)
12 NOON Nicholas and Nora Fredo

SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 19)WEEKDAY

12 NOON Adele Sereno

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please remember in your prayers:
Leon Ferrier, Caroline Ferrier, Kathleen Reddington, Chris Pappas
and
those wounded in Military Action

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

"I've gone to prepare a place for you."

Please pray for our deceased parishioners and friends.

If you wish to add the names of your loved one to the prayer list, please notify the rectory: (212) 288-6250. or e-mail us at contac@stmonicany.org

TODAY'S HYMNS

22ND Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Welcome to St. Monica's!

*The music for today's Eucharist can
be found
in our hymnal on the following pages:*

Entrance Hymn	374
<i>Go Make of All Disciples</i>	
Penitential Rite	*
Gloria	*
Responsorial Psalm	648
<i>I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	168
Offertory Hymn	378
<i>Lord, When You Came to the Seashore/ Pescador de Hombres</i>	
Sanctus	*
Memorial Acclamation	*
Great Amen	*
The Lord's Prayer	120
Lamb of God	*
Communion Hymn	460
<i>Wherever You Go</i>	
Recessional Hymn	343
<i>O God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>	

*from the Mass For A New Era;
for texts, see pew card*

**Today's Readings can be found
on Page 648 of the Hymnal**

THE DIVINE MERCY



*An image of the Divine Mercy
can now be found in the
westside wall of our beautiful
church.*

*Please take the opportunity to
join our growing prayer group
at 3:00 PM every weekday.*

Envelope Reconciliation and Parish Pay:

Our office staff is currently working on reconciling the offertory envelopes list. The parish pays for every package sent out, so we want our list to be current. If you are receiving envelopes and are not using them we encourage you to do so. Using the envelope allows us to better track offertory income. Use of an envelope also allows us to track your annual donation to the parish if you would like record of such at the end of the year for tax purposes.

If you are receiving envelopes but would rather not use an envelope we ask if you could please call the office and let us know that we should remove you from the mailing list. Also, if you are not using envelopes and want to start please contact us.

We are also beginning an electronic giving option, called ParishPay. ParishPay is a form of electronic giving and a company that provides excellent service to both parishes as well as parishioners. We will provide more information as we approach the sign up weekend in early October. For those interested in getting some information ahead of time, you can visit parishpay.com to learn more about the service.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents Day; Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year 5776) begins at sunset
Monday:	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Tuesday:	Our Lady of Sorrows
Wednesday:	Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian
Thursday:	St. Robert Bellarmine
Saturday:	St. Januarius; Blessed Virgin Mary

Invitations, News, Thoughts and Prayers

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

It seems obvious to us that Jesus Christ is the Lord of second chances. We need look no further than Peter's denial and rehabilitation for proof. Yet early Christians were more tentative with the gift of forgiveness. For them, every Sunday was an experience of the Lord's power to heal and forgive, yet there were three sins that placed persons at the margins of the community's life. In some places, the rift caused by these sins was permanent. The sins were apostasy (denial of the faith), adultery, and murder. They were particularly detested because of their power to divide and even scatter the community gathered around the Lord's table. Fragile and persecuted communities could crumble and disappear under the weight of a harm done by a public sinner. Sinners were excluded from the community in the hope that "tough love" would help them come to their senses and experience deeper conversion. Inevitably, lists of grave sins grew longer as various bishops added their personal pet peeves to the roster, and more people were required to do public penance. For them, reconciliation was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Many sinners accepted their condition and hoped for a chance at a deathbed reconciliation by anointing. With more and more people permanently on the outs, the church began to struggle toward the light of the Lord's unfailing gift of reconciliation.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR CHURCH?

We are looking for volunteers to help us with various ministries in our parish. Right now we need volunteers to the following categories:

Acolytes: They prepare the altar and sacred vessels, and serve at the altar (Weekdays and Sundays)

Eucharistic Minister: They assist the parish and the priest at Mass distributing communion and sharing cups (Weekdays and Sundays).

Ushers & Greeters: These are our parish ambassadors who welcome all who enter our parish. They assist at Masses on Sundays, Holy Days of Obligation, and on special Feast Days.

If you wish to participate in any of the above ministries, details to one of the fathers or call church office (212-288-6250).

THE CROSS TO BEAR
If you bear the cross gladly, it will
bear you.

—Thomas à Kempis



The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Monday September 14th

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy

Cross celebrates three historical events: the finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine; the dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclius II. But in a deeper sense, the feast also celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of our salvation.

This instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, became the life-giving tree that reversed Adam's Original Sin when he ate from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden.

Why Do We Celebrate the Feast of the Holy Cross?

It's easy to understand that the Cross is special because Christ used it as the instrument of our salvation. But after His Resurrection, why would Christians continue to look to the Cross?

Christ Himself offered us the answer: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23). The point of taking up our own cross is not simply self-sacrifice; in doing so, we unite ourselves to the sacrifice of Christ on His Cross.

When we participate in the Mass, the Cross is there, too. The "unbloody sacrifice" offered on the altar is the re-presentation of Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross. When we receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we do not simply unite ourselves to Christ; we nail ourselves to the Cross, dying with Christ so that we might rise with Him.

"For the Jews require signs, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews indeed a stumbling block, and unto the Gentiles foolishness . . ." (1 Corinthians 1:22-23). Today, more than ever, non-Christians see the Cross as foolishness. What kind of Savior triumphs through death?

For Christians, however, the Cross is the crossroads of history and the Tree of Life. Christianity without the Cross is meaningless: Only by uniting ourselves to Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross can we enter into eternal life.

Once again we'd like to remind you to visit
our new and improved website at
www.stmonicany.org for the latest
pictures, information and updates about
our parish community.
Also, like our Facebook page at

Just a word

From Your Pastor



A week ago Sunday one of the more painful moments in the *Making All Things New* process happened: The Hungarians had their final mass at St. Stephen's. Since the full name of the parish is St. Stephen of HUNGARY, we can all understand, I think how dear this church, built by their parents and grandparents, is to them. Many tears were shed. This past week Guillermo Vanegas, our plant manager, and I helped them to move their statues to their new home at St. Joseph's on E 87th St., where the pastor, Fr. Boniface Ramsey, welcomed them for their first mass this past Sunday. *Sok szerencsét és sok áldást* to members of our Hungarian community. You will always be a part of us.

Railings and Tabernacles

Due to Fr. Peter's relatively short time here, he had begun several projects that still need to be completed. One of them was the railing you see leading up the old high altar . . . to what? It was Father Peter's intention to move the tabernacle, currently residing on the left hand (Mary) side altar back to its original position on the old high altar.

The placement of the tabernacle was one of the most contentious aspects of the reforms of the Second Vatican Council. Before the 16th century, the tabernacle was almost always either in a separate chapel (for example, St. Peter's in the Vatican), in a separate structure called a Sacrament House off to the side of the altar, or in a repository in the side wall of the back part of the church. We only began to place the reserved sacrament on the high altar in the 16th century to emphasize our belief in the REAL Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, and to counter the some of the reformers that denied this teaching.

The Second Vatican Council sought to return to the more ancient practice – which caused the tabernacle to be moved, sometimes to a separate chapel, but far more often off to a side altar. This was in complete accord with current regulations:

314. In accordance with the structure of each church and legitimate local customs, the Most Blessed Sacrament should be reserved in a tabernacle in a part of the church that is truly noble, prominent, conspicuous, worthily decorated, and suitable for prayer. (General Instruction of the Roman Missal - GIRM)

The tabernacle can be placed

- a) either in the sanctuary, apart from the altar of celebration, in a appropriate form and place, not excluding its being positioned on an old altar no longer used for celebration*
- b) or even in some chapel suitable for the private adoration and prayer of the faithful and organically connected to the church and readily noticeable by the Christian faithful.(GIRM 314).*

So our tabernacle is appropriately placed according to the new legislation.

. . .But still: if we were building a new church, a separate chapel for the reserved sacrament would be completely possible. However, we worship in a neo-gothic style church built at the end of the 19th century. The old high altar, no longer used for celebration, is still present, and where the tabernacle used to be, is covered by a simple marble slab. The tabernacle is conspicuous there by its absence.

Father Peter intended to move the tabernacle back to its traditional place; hence the railings leading up to the old high altar. Given the logic of the building, I lean towards this arrangement as well.

What do you think? I'd like to hear from you. We'll be moving on this soon.

- Fr Baker