



Church of St Monica

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

SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2015

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

OUR PRODIGAL GOD

We keep having to relearn how prodigal God is. It is as if God cannot quite manage to say no. We think it is surely fine when God is prodigal with us—rich in mercy and forgiveness, generous in grace. But what about the other—the enemy, the sinner, the heretic, the outsider? Well, we expect God to be as stingy with that person as we are.

Moses and Joshua wanted such a cozy world, too. They wondered how the spirit of God could be given to the two who did not show up at the meeting tent—today’s church. And the apostles in the Gospel complained because there were some miracle workers who were clearly not followers of Jesus. God’s great free-wheeling generosity confounded them all. Let this be, says Jesus. Just see to it that you who lead continue to be worthy of your calling.

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PASTOR:

Rev. Donald C. Baker

ASSOCIATES:

Rev. Joe A. Francis

Rev. Joseph (Vincent) Gnarackatt

IN SUNDAY SERVICE:

Rev. Richard Arold

ORGANIST & DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

Mr. David Schaefer

CANTOR & LEADER OF SONG:

Mr. Joseph Neal

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Blessing of The Animals
Sunday, October 3rd
2 PM

Fr Bakers' Installation Mass
Sunday, October 11th
2 PM

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

Divine Mercy

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is
prayed each weekday
afternoon at 3 PM

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)

TODAY'S READINGS

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First Reading — Moses said, "Would that all the people of the Lord were prophets!" (Numbers 11:25-29).

Psalm — The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart (Psalm 19).

Second Reading — Come now, you rich. The wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud (James 5:1-6).

Gospel — Whoever is not against us is for us (Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48).

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

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- Monday:** Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Lk 9:46-50
- Tuesday:** Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51
- Wednesday:** Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137:1-6; Lk 9:57-62
- Thursday:** Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8-11; Lk 10:1-12
- Friday:** Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Mt 18:1-5, 10
- Saturday:** Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-37; Lk 10:17-24
- Sunday:** Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128:1-6; Heb 2:9-11;

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Sukkot (Jewish harvest festival) begins at sunset
- Monday:** St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions; St. Wenceslaus
- Tuesday:** Ss. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael
- Wednesday:** St. Jerome
- Thursday:** St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus
- Friday:** The Holy Guardian Angels; First Friday
- Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

Banns of Marriage

- I** Raymond Gonzales
Marcy Lopez
- II** Jason Pastoriza
Rachel Shea



Mass Schedule

SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 26): VIGIL

5:30 PM Lordes A Yasana

SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 27): 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 7

7:30 AM Elizabeth Lebet
 9:00 AM Sharon Kavanaugh
 10:30 AM Dr Maria Litrenta (80th B'day) (Living)
 12 NOON Parishoners of St Monica, St Stephen of Hungary and St, Elizabeth of Hungary

MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 28): Weekday

7:30 A M Sharon Kavanaugh
 12 NOON Ellen Lydon

TUESDAY (SEPTEMBER 29): ST MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL

7:30 AM Charles Murphy
 12 NOON Thanksgiving to St Agata

WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 30): SAINT JEROME

7:30 AM Patricia Millard
 12 NOON Patricia Hogan (L)

THURSDAY (OCTOBER 1): St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

7:30 AM Emma Naughton Heavy
 12 NOON Susan Morroney

FRIDAY (OCTOBER 2): WEEKDAY

7:30 AM Adam Armetta
 12 NOON Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY (OCTOBER 3)WEEKDAY

12 NOON Mary & Walter Ferber

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please remember in your prayers:

Caroline Ferrier, Kathleen Reddington, Eileen McCarthy
 and
 those wounded in Military Action

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

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

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@stmonicanyc.org

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

TODAY'S HYMNS

26th 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 373

Here I Am, Lord

Penitential Rite *

Gloria *

Readings & Responsorial Psalm 654

*The precepts of the Lord give joy to the
heart.*

Offertory Hymn 359

Blest Are They

Sanctus *

Memorial Acclamation *

Great Amen *

The Lord's Prayer 120

Lamb of God *

Communion Hymn 435

Eat This Bread

Recessional Hymn 309

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

**from the Mass for a New Era
(at noon: from the Mass of Celebration)
for texts, see pew card*

Just a word

From Your Pastor

The year has begun. Schools are open, the Pope has come and gone, a parish council, a finance committee, ministry training have all begun or are beginning. We celebrate St. Monica's Feast Day with coffee and cake after the 12pm mass this weekend, and my installation is barely two weeks away. No wonder the past two months seem like a blur to me. So much is going on! Just to update you on a few things:

The Lift at St. Monica's

We have entered into a contract with Triboro Elevator Consultants to plan the installation of the lift outside St. Monica's. They will oversee the work, and file all the necessary paperwork with the city. I will keep you posted on this project, important both for St. Monica's and for St. Stephen's and St. Elizabeth's parishioners.

My Installation

A priest becomes the pastor of a parish by receiving an appointment letter from the bishop, stating the date the appointment becomes effective. I became the pastor of St. Monica's – St. Stephen's – St. Elizabeth's parish on August 1st. However within a few months of the appointment I am supposed to be "installed" as pastor at a worship service. My installation mass will take place here at St. Monica's on Sunday, October 11th at 2pm. The celebrant will be our episcopal vicar, bishop John O'Hara. At this mass I will be asked to recite the Creed, and promise you all to exercise faithfully my duties as a pastor. Afterwards there will be a reception in the School Auditorium at St. Stephen's. All are welcome.

The Tabernacle

Thank you to all who offered their opinions about the movement of the tabernacle. The response was unanimous that the tabernacle be moved back to the center of the old altar. We will begin with that process as soon as possible.

The Divine Mercy

Many Catholics by now are familiar with the chaplet devotion to Jesus as the Divine Mercy encouraged by Blessed Faustina Kowalska. A group of almost a dozen people meet to pray this devotion every day at 3pm.

On first Fridays, it has been our custom to expose the Blessed Sacrament for silent adoration for a short period after the 12pm mass.

Starting on the First Friday of October, we will begin to expose the Blessed Sacrament EVERY Friday, from after the 12pm mass until 3pm. After the recitation of the Chaplet we will end with Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament.

-Fr Baker

Invitations, News, Thoughts and Prayers

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.

THE PRESENCE OF GOD

In all our thoughts and actions we ought to remember the presence of God, and account all lost in which we think not of God.

—St. Bernard of Clairvaux

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

At first glance, the situation of the penitents in the early church is shocking: isolated and labeled, their journey back to fellowship at the Lord's table seems arduous and even cruel. However, at no time in the process were the penitents lacking the support of the community. Penances were performed for all to see, and we can tell from the homilies of the day that people earnestly desired to see the sinner benefit from the remedy. Tertullian reminded the penitents that they were living among their brothers and sisters, fellow servants of the same Lord, still in the embrace of the Spirit. He tells them that when they extend their hands in blessing to the faithful, it is Christ they touch. He tells them that when they see tears in the eyes of believers, it is Christ who is interceding for them with the Father.

There is a treasure of our tradition woven into this history: these people knew profoundly that the prayer of Christ's body, the church, was the prayer of Christ himself. Prayer was not merely support for a person down on his or her luck; it was effective and necessary. The treasure we can see even through the tangles of history is this: the Spirit of God is poured out on the church, and brings grace, forgives sin, makes us holy, and always calls us to fullness of life.
—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR CHURCH?

As we go forward with implementing the mergers of the parishes of St Monica, St Stephen of Hungary, and St Elizabeth of Hungary, we are continuing to look 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.

We will be having a Ministry Day at St. Monica's on October 3rd from 10am to 3pm.

If you wish to participate in any of the above ministries please call the church office (212-288-6250) for more

Ss. Michael



MASS BOOK
FOR 2016 IS NOW OPEN

The Blessing of the Animals



**The Church of St Monica
will be honoring**

**the Feast of St Francis of Assisi
on Sunday, October 4th at 2:00 PM
with a Blessing of the Animals celebration.**

**We invite all parishioners, friends, and
neighbors, along with your favorite pets to join
us as we gather outside on the Church steps,
and offer special blessings for some very
special creatures of God.**

**This custom is conducted in remembrance of
St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures.**

**All animals are
welcome**

