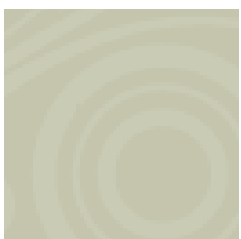


# discover st. monica



st. monica  
catholic community

# Welcome to St. Monica!

St. Monica is quite a happening place and we're so glad you decided to join us! *Discover St. Monica* contains information about our community including all of our ministries and ways in which you can become involved. Please note that what you will find here is brief information. If we included all of the details, you'd be carrying home a book the length of the Bible!

If there is a ministry or an opportunity about which you'd like to learn more, we invite you to visit our website or pick up our weekly bulletin. There is also contact information if you wish to speak to someone directly or send an email.

## Mass Schedule

Monday through Friday: 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m.  
Saturday: 8:00 a.m., 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m.

Please refer to our website or the weekly bulletin for special schedules during Advent and Lent as well as holidays.

## Confession Schedule

Monday through Friday: 5:30 - 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Please refer to our website or the weekly bulletin for special schedules during Advent and Lent. Please note: There is no confession on holidays.

## Church Hours

Monday through Friday: 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.  
Sunday: 7:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

## Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.



## Coffee Bar and Book/Gift Store

Monday through Saturday: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
*Gift and book sales only on Sundays, 8:30 a.m. to noon.*

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# About St. Monica

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## Mission and Goals

The mission of St. Monica is *to form loving disciples who will transform the world*. You are invited to embrace this mission and participate in our community and beyond with its inspiration. We also have five expectations of our parishioners summarized in these actions: worship, grow, service connect, give. See page 7 for details.

In 2015, the *St. Monica Strategic Vision 2020* was developed as a result of a comprehensive review of the needs of the parishioners, an analysis of our current activities, the impact of the changes in our surrounding community, and best practices from Christian communities across the nation. Our strategic plan has seven key goals for our parish over the next five years:



1. Be a welcoming place of worship
2. Serve as a catalyst for ministry and service
3. Create a place for spiritual formation
4. Provide opportunities to connect
5. Ensure prudent stewardship of resources
6. Promote leadership development
7. Encourage fidelity to Catholic doctrine

Review the entire document at [www.stmonica.net/strategicplan](http://www.stmonica.net/strategicplan)

## History

Our church was established as Saint Monica Parish in 1886 when Santa Monica was still an unincorporated part of L.A. County and of Ballona Township. Both the city and the church were named for Saint Monica.



The parish was originally located on what is now the Third Street Promenade between Santa Monica Boulevard and Arizona Ave. Fr. Patrick Hawe served as the first resident pastor until 1923. During his tenure, the church flourished, and he had planned to build a new and larger church, but died on August 30, 1923 before that goal could be realized. (Picture of Patrick Hawe and original parish in 1900.)

Monsignor Nicholas Conneally was Fr. Hawe's successor and served until 1949. Soon after becoming pastor, Msgr. Conneally moved the rectory to a house on Fourth Street near the original church and sold the original parish site, after which the original church was razed.

Until the present church was completed in 1925, services were held at a former Protestant church at the corner of Arizona and Lincoln, the site of the present Santa Monica Boys Club. The new Saint Monica was dedicated by Bishop John J. Cantwell on July 11, 1926. Its cost was reported to be \$340,000.

St. Monica Catholic Elementary School and St. Monica Catholic High School trace their origins respectively to 1899 and 1901 when the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary opened a small school in 1899 near the corner of Third and Arizona Streets in Santa Monica. In 1930, the elementary school became what is now St. Monica Catholic Elementary School and was transferred to its present site on 7th Street. In September 1938, the Sisters consented to sell the Academy and staff a high school, now St. Monica Catholic High School. Currently we have a combined total in all grade levels of approximately 800 students. See page 24 for more about our schools.



Mary opened a small school in 1899 near the corner of Third and Arizona Streets in Santa Monica. In 1930, the elementary school became what is now St. Monica Catholic Elementary School and was transferred to its present site on 7th Street. In September 1938, the Sisters consented to sell the

Additional land was acquired and several buildings were built throughout the ongoing years to accommodate the growing community until St. Monica encompassed the entire city block of Lincoln Boulevard, California Avenue, Washington Avenue, and 7th Street. Those buildings include the Gymnasium, the Trepp Center, and, the former Pastoral Center, and the Duval Center.

In January 1994, the Church suffered extensive damage in the Northridge earthquake forcing its closure until repairs could be made. During that time, Mass was held in the Gymnasium. The restored church was reopened on Holy Thursday, April 13, 1995.



In 2007 St. Monica embarked on an aggressive capital campaign for \$27 million to meet the needs of the growing community and aging buildings. The Pastoral Center was demolished in early 2012 to make room for the Caruso Community Center, Grand Pavilion, Simon Center, and two-and-a-half level subterranean parking garage. These buildings and the parking garage were completed in the fall of 2013.

### Leadership Structure

Under the leadership of Archbishop José Gomez, St. Monica is one of the largest parishes in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. It is one of 81 parishes in the Our Lady of the Angel Pastoral Region under the leadership of Auxiliary Bishop Edward Clarke. Go to [www.la-archdiocese.org](http://www.la-archdiocese.org) for more information.

Our parish community is governed by the pastor, staff, and various councils made up of parishioners including a finance council and a parish council. We engage as many parishioners and school families as possible.

The role of our finance council is to assist the pastor and parish staff in planning the budget and in overseeing and controlling the financial affairs of the parish including the schools. They are accountable to the pastor who has the responsibility for final decisions.

The role of the parish council is to make recommendations about pastoral matters, as well as propose solutions to pastoral problems. Their organization includes six ministry councils: 1) Administration, 2) Adult Education and Enrichment, 3) Community Life, 4) Pastoral Care and Social Justice, 5) Worship and Liturgy, and 6) Youth Education and Faith Formation. Two people from each of the ministry councils, along with the pastor, the parish administrator, the executive advisor (the immediate-past chairperson), the chairperson, the vice chairperson, and 4 at-large members appointed by the pastor, make up the parish council for a total of 21 members. The term of office for the parish and ministry councils is two years. A parish council chairperson is elected by the council, and that chairperson appoints a vice chairperson among council membership.



## The Catholic Parishes *of the City* of Santa Monica

St. Anne Church and Shrine + St. Clement Catholic Church + St. Monica Catholic Community

Changing demographics, limited funds, and fewer priests are challenging the Catholic Church worldwide, causing many dioceses to combine parishes services, functions, and schools. Those conditions are also true in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. To provide more efficient and effective methods to serve the Catholic parishioners in Santa Monica, St. Monica, St. Anne Catholic Church and Shrine, and St. Clement's Catholic Community have formed a collaboration to share resources, learn from each other, and become a unified voice and presence in Santa Monica. This collaboration is not intended to merge the three parishes into one. Instead, the goal is to provide excellent services to each community by identifying redundancies and sharing resources, while each parish retains its own character. Throughout the year, the three parishes also collaborate on various events and activities for outreach and faith formation. Watch the bulletin or listen for announcements at Mass for upcoming events. For more information, go to [www.smtriparish.org](http://www.smtriparish.org).

St. Anne is located at 2011 Colorado Avenue. Go to [www.stanneshrine.org](http://www.stanneshrine.org) for directions and more information.

St. Clement's is located at 3102 3rd Street.

## Stewardship

Stewardship is one of those “churchy” words that may not be part of your regular vocabulary. Here at St. Monica we use the terms “time, talent, and treasure” when referring to stewardship. These terms can be more easily grasped if we think of the “ship” idea in stewardship. It is about keeping the boat, or perhaps the “ocean liner,” of St. Monica afloat. But we would rather sail than just float, and so far, the generosity of so many has helped us to move full steam ahead. Here are some ways you can help us to keep sailing:

- **Prayer:** This is the easiest and perhaps the most powerful thing you can do and it requires as little or as much time as you want, whether it be for a family member or a friend in need, or your church. We can also help you learn many different ways to pray and meditate. Look for opportunities in the following pages.
- **Volunteer:** God has blessed each of us with talents to make a unique contribution to the Church and His kingdom. Each of us has the privilege of getting involved and serving others. This is also a great way to meet your fellow parishioners and make new friends! See page 16 for the volunteer opportunities we have to offer.
- **Ways to Give:** Each of us is called to give. As you reflect upon what God is calling you to do with the material treasure entrusted to you, begin by asking yourself one key question: How are you making a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for you? The following are ways you can give to St. Monica:
  1. Make a one-time gift or set up a recurring gift at [www.stmonica.net/give](http://www.stmonica.net/give) using your credit or debit card.
  2. Write a check payable to St. Monica Church and place it in the offering plate or mail to: 725 California Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90403.
  3. Make a gift by texting the word “monica” to 37284 on your smart phone.
  4. Join the St. Monica Legacy Society by designating a gift through your estate.
  5. Many organizations having matching gift or volunteer incentive programs for their employees. We encourage you to check with your employer to see if your contributions to St. Monica are eligible for a matching gift.
  6. At certain times of the year, we conduct campaigns for specific ministries and request in-kind gifts such as food, clothing, toiletries, etc. Watch the bulletin or listen for announcements at Mass for opportunities.

For any questions regarding stewardship, contact Brian Russell at [brian@stmonica.net](mailto:brian@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1552.

# Meet our Priests

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## **Reverend Monsignor Lloyd Torgerson, Pastor**

A native of Los Angeles, Msgr. Torgerson was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1965. After his first assignment at Holy Trinity Parish in San Pedro, he moved in 1971 to New York and completed a Masters in Religious Education at Fordham University. He came back to serve the Archdiocese of Los Angeles as Director of Youth Ministry for 11 years and then as Director of Religious Education until 1987. Monsignor has been in residence at St.

Monica for over 30 years and has served as pastor for over 25. He is an avid golfer and you can often find him in the early hours of the morning riding his bike along the beach.



## **Fr. Mark Martinez, Associate Pastor**

Fr. Mark joined St. Monica as associate pastor in 2012. He was born and raised in Highland Park in the San Gabriel Valley, and attended college and graduate school in the San Francisco Bay Area. He was ordained in 1996. Before coming to St. Monica, he served as a chaplain at L.A. County/USC Medical Center and Keck Medical Center. Fr. Mark is often seen jogging throughout the streets of Santa Monica. One of his hidden talents is cooking delicious hot

dogs, a skill he learned from his summers working at Dodger Stadium while home from college.



## **Fr. Matt Murphy, Associate Pastor**

Fr. Matt was ordained into the priesthood in June 2016, and shortly thereafter, began his first assignment at St. Monica as associate pastor. Although raised in a Catholic home, it wasn't until after a 20-year absence from the Catholic Church and then serving 8+ years in youth ministry at St Kateri Tekakwitha in Santa Clarita, that he came to love Christ and His Church and decided to join the priesthood. He was raised in the northeastern part

of San Fernando Valley where he attended St. Didacus Elementary in Sylmar and Alemany HS in Mission Hills. He has 25+ years of experience in the grocery industry working for Safeway, Weber's Bread, Snapple, and various start-up beverage companies. He is a sports enthusiast and his favorite teams include the Chicago Cubs, Oakland Raiders, Los Angeles Kings, and UCLA Bruins. He's also known to appreciate a cold IPA beer from time to time, in moderation, of course!



## **Fr. David Guffey, CSC**

Fr. David grew up in Mt. Carroll, Illinois, where both his parents and sister (with her husband and six children) still live. He received a BA in American Studies in 1984 and a Master of Divinity in 1990 from the University of Notre Dame and an MFA in film and television production at Loyola Marymount University in 2008. He was ordained a priest of Holy Cross in 1991. Although he resides at St. Monica and regularly preaches and

presides at sacraments, his full-time job is National Director of Film, Television and Video for Family Theater Productions where he has worked since 2008. He is a Notre Dame football enthusiast, a Dodgers fan, and film buff.



# Expectations

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To fulfill our mission and build an engaged parish, we foster lasting, mutually-rewarding relationships with God, our parishioners, and the community. By building engagement, we foster a sense of belonging within the parish that starts with the principles of “what we receive,” “what we give,” “do we belong,” and “how can we grow.” While we welcome everyone regardless of where they are in the journey of life, we also want to provide well-defined expectations for their journey at St. Monica.

## WHAT IS EXPECTED OF EACH MEMBER OF ST. MONICA:

### WORSHIP

The central focus of our worship is the Eucharist and celebration of the Sacraments. Our community is expected to attend Mass regularly, spend time in daily prayer, and to be people of sacred Scripture.

### SERVE

The work of our parish depends on all of us and goes far beyond our pastor and parish staff alone. We convert spiritual energy into action through outreach and service, especially to those who have far less. We serve one another and our wider community in ministry following Catholic social teaching to care for and be present with others.

### GROW

We seek opportunities to learn and grow in relationship with Jesus Christ and build our spiritual life by participating in retreats, workshops, faith-sharing communities, and pastoral care to the sick and needy. We support the faith formation of our youth.

### CONNECT

We appreciate each other and take time to compassionately connect with our fellow parishioners and community. We invite others to enjoy our welcoming and diverse environment and offer hospitality and friendship. We pray for, comfort, and support members of the parish in times of need.

### GIVE

To support and grow our community, we give our time, talent, and treasure to the extent that we are able. God is generous with us, and we are called to be generous in return.

## **WHAT MEMBERS CAN EXPECT FROM US:**

### **A Welcoming Place of Worship**

All are welcome at St. Monica where people can worship and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ through active participation in liturgy, thought-provoking homilies, and inspirational music. We make every effort to permeate our parish life with hospitality and respect for the diversity of our community.

### **A Catalyst for Ministry and Service**

We offer a variety of opportunities to be involved in ministry, build relationships, and make a difference in the world.

### **An Environment for Spiritual Formation**

Our parish provides a safe environment to grow in faith through prayer, meditation, retreats, scripture reflection, faith sharing groups, and vibrant sacramental life.

### **Opportunities to Connect**

We offer many opportunities for adults, young adults, and youth to connect, make friends, and have a joyful experience through worship, service opportunities, and community life events.

### **Prudent Stewardship of Resources**

We strive to prudently manage our resources and give back responsibly to our community. Our financial condition is transparent.

### **Leadership Development**

We promote the vocation and formation of ordained ministers, religious life, and strong lay leadership. Collaborative decision making processes include consulting with parish councils, volunteers, and other subject matter experts.

### **Fidelity to Catholic Doctrine**

Our parish is faithful to the foundational teachings of the Church and the Gospel message.

# Adult Faith Formation & Enrichment

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## Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

[www.stmonica.net/rcia](http://www.stmonica.net/rcia)

RCIA is the process by which people can question, search, and inquire into the Catholic faith. It is a journey which leads many to seek full membership in the Catholic Church. There is no set timetable; on average the process takes between eight to twelve months. Those who enter the process are expected to attend Mass on Sunday, attend a weekly RCIA session, and become increasingly more involved in parish activities. Contact Sr. Catherine Ryan at [catherine@stmonica.net](mailto:catherine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1540. If you're interested in volunteering as a sponsor, see page 16.

## Cornerstone Retreats

[www.stmonica.net/cornerstone](http://www.stmonica.net/cornerstone)

Cornerstone is a 26-hour retreat that provides men and women with the opportunity to **reflect, renew, and strengthen their faith while meeting others in our Christian community.** The retreats are held separately for men and woman and are hosted on the St. Monica campus by parishioners who have participated in past Cornerstone retreats. While there is no required fee to attend, we appreciate donations to help defray the costs of the event. Retreats are usually scheduled within the months of January through March. Pick up a bulletin or listen for announcements after Mass starting in December or January. Contact Sr. Catherine Ryan at [catherine@stmonica.net](mailto:catherine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1540.

## Christian Meditation

This group meets every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the St. André Bessette Chapel for a night of meditation. Contact Sr. Catherine Ryan at [catherine@stmonica.net](mailto:catherine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1540.

## Parish Retreat (formerly called Parish Mission)

Each year, usually during Lent, a guest speaker is invited to present a particular theme or topic to the entire community for three consecutive days. Also called a parish revival or renewal, this is a great opportunity for parishioners to gather together to refresh and renew their faith. Contact Sr. Catherine Ryan at (310) 566-1540 or [catherine@stmonica.net](mailto:catherine@stmonica.net).

## Contemplative Prayer with James Finley [www.stmonica.net/contemplativeprayer](http://www.stmonica.net/contemplativeprayer)

Join Dr. Jim Finley for an evening of reflection and contemplative meditation on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 7:30 p.m. All who are drawn to silent meditation as a way of experiencing God's presence in their lives are encouraged to attend. Contact Sr. Catherine Ryan at [catherine@stmonica.net](mailto:catherine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1540.

## Faith Odyssey

Held annually in January, Faith Odyssey is an educational event during which several speakers present on a variety of topics in one full day. Watch the bulletin or listen for announcements at Mass beginning in December. Contact Sr. Catherine Ryan at

## **Adult Fellowship Groups**

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### **20s and 30s**

[www.stmonica.net/yma](http://www.stmonica.net/yma)

Young Ministering Adults (YMA) provides spiritual, educational, and social activities for singles and couples in their 20s and 30s as well as programs that support young adults as they discover new roles in family, work, society and the Catholic Church. Find them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/groups/YMA](http://www.facebook.com/groups/YMA). Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **35 through 40s**

[www.stmonica.net/ttf](http://www.stmonica.net/ttf)

The Thirty-Five Through Forties Ministry (TTF) offers social opportunities, spirituality nights and retreats, educational offerings, and outreach activities for singles and couples ages 35 to 49. Find them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/groups/ttf](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ttf). Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **50 and over**

[www.stmonica.net/primetime](http://www.stmonica.net/primetime)

The Primetime Ministry provides fellowship, educational and spiritual activities for adults 50 and over including retreats, special events and social outings. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **Senior Adults**

[www.stmonica.net/alwaysbeginning](http://www.stmonica.net/alwaysbeginning)

The Always Beginning Ministry provides opportunities for fellowship through social and spiritual activities for older adults. Activities include luncheons, retreats, and free tickets to performances sponsored by the Performing Arts Department at St. Monica Catholic High School. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Boutique Crafts Group**

[www.stmonica.net/boutique](http://www.stmonica.net/boutique)

The Boutique group meets weekly during the months of February through November to stitch, knit, crochet, quilt, and craft items while sharing refreshments and good conversation with one another. At various times of the year they sell their crafts after Mass with all proceeds donated to the parish. They meet on Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Duval Center. All skill levels welcome! Contact Nancy Sharpe at (310) 451-9598.

### **Gay and Lesbian Outreach**

[www.stmonica.net/glo](http://www.stmonica.net/glo)

Celebrating over 20 years at St. Monica, the Gay and Lesbian Outreach is a fellowship group where gay and lesbian people of faith are welcomed to explore their spirituality and share their experience, strength, and hope with one another through prayer and social opportunities. Find them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/groups/StMonicaGLO](http://www.facebook.com/groups/StMonicaGLO). Contact Delis Alejandro at

delis@stmonica.net or (310) 566-1530.

## **Peace and Justice**

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### **El Hogar Orphanage Ministry**

[www.stmonica.net/elhogar](http://www.stmonica.net/elhogar)

El Hogar is an orphanage in Tijuana, Mexico, that houses children and teens, ranging in age from infant to college students, who have been neglected, abused or abandoned. El Hogar Orphanage Ministry is one of St. Monica's oldest outreach ministries and for over twenty years has helped provide scholarships, school supplies, extracurricular activities, and when the need arises, basic food and staples. Several times a year we send a team of volunteers to Mexico to visit with the children. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **Habitat for Humanity**

[www.stmonica.net/habitat](http://www.stmonica.net/habitat)

This ministry sponsors local volunteer builds for Habitat for Humanity and outreach opportunities between October and May. In the past this ministry has also traveled outside of California to areas such as New Orleans and Northern Ireland. To help support these efforts, community events are held throughout the year at St. Monica to help raise funds. For information about volunteering, see page 20. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Holiday Outreach**

[www.stmonica.net/holidayoutreach](http://www.stmonica.net/holidayoutreach)

We have three annual outreach opportunities that serve individuals and families in need during the season of Advent. 1) We collaborate with the St. Joseph Center Family Program in Venice for our Adopt-a-Family program to ensure that St. Joseph families have a holiday dinner, a family gift, and toys for their children. 2) We conduct our annual Angel Toy Drive to provide toys and gifts for local children and teenagers in need. 3) We host a holiday party at St. Monica for the families from the St. Joseph Center. Go to page 19 to learn more about the volunteer opportunities available for these special outreach activities. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Holy Cross Africa Ministry**

[www.stmonica.net/hcam](http://www.stmonica.net/hcam)

Our Africa ministry seeks your help in various activities and events in support of our sister parish, Holy Cross Church, just outside of Nairobi in Dandora, Kenya. Each year, usually during the summer, we send a team to Africa to spend time with the parishioners at Holy Cross as well as bring needed supplies such as sporting equipment for the children and medical supplies. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **JustFaith Ministries**

[www.stmonica.net/justfaith](http://www.stmonica.net/justfaith)

JustFaith Ministries is a series of programs used in over 1,000 churches to help bring awareness of Catholic Social teaching, our faith's call to justice, and prepare individuals and parishes for the work of social ministry. In the JustFaith course, participants attend weekly sessions, two retreats, and four immersion experiences over a 27-week period

from September through April. You must register to participate. In addition to the JustFaith course, there are programs, outings, service opportunities, speakers, and worship experiences scheduled throughout the year for the entire community. Registration fee. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **Faithful Citizenship**

Throughout the year, this ministry provides information and resources that help our parishioners to engage responsibly as faithful citizens and respond as faith-filled Catholics to the public and civic challenges that we encounter, either through voting, our legislative advocacy of key issues, or direct services to others to address the challenge. Listen for announcements at Mass or watch the bulletin for critical issues we should all be aware of. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **Serving the Hungry and Homeless**

Throughout the year, we serve the poor and the homeless in our local community in the following ways: 1) Preparing and serving hot meals at three transitional shelters (P.A.T.H., Samoshel, Turning Point) each month. 2) Preparing lunches and distributing clothes & toiletries every six weeks at the St. Robert's Center Weekend Food Pantry. 3) Collecting food through our monthly Loaves and Fishes food drive for three local food banks (Westside Food Bank, St. Joseph Center Food Bank, and St. Robert's Center Weekend). Food donation bags are distributed on the first Sunday of the month and food is collected on the second Sunday. See page 20 for information on how you can participate in these ministries! Contact Christine at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Speaker Events**

Throughout the year, St. Monica sponsors events with well-known speakers such as Fr. Greg Boyle, founder of Homeboy Industries, Sr. Helen Prejean, the nun whose story is documented in the book and movie, *Dead Man Walking*, and Jack Jezreel, founder of JustFaith. Listen for announcements during Mass and watch our weekly bulletin for upcoming events.

### **Thanksgiving Dinner and Clothing Boutique**      [www.stmonica.net/thanksgiving](http://www.stmonica.net/thanksgiving)

For over thirty years, one of our largest outreach efforts to the poor is our annual Thanksgiving Dinner & Clothing Boutique, which is held at St. Monica on the day before Thanksgiving. Hundreds of volunteers come together each year including every grade level from our two schools and all parish ministries to provide a hot meal for close to 1000 individuals in a family atmosphere, and cold weather clothing and supplies for those suffering financial hardship, all for free. Announcements begin in October. See page 20 for volunteer opportunities. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

# Music and Liturgy

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## Mass Schedule

Our regular weekly Mass schedule is listed below. You can find the schedule of celebrants on the back page of our weekly bulletin. For special schedules during Lent and Advent, as well as various holidays and Holy Days of Obligation, check the bulletin or the home page of our website. Ordinarily on holidays such as Fourth of July, Labor Day, Memorial Day, and Thanksgiving, we celebrate only one Mass at 9:00 a.m. unless the holiday falls on a Sunday or on New Year's Day when we celebrate Mass at 10:00 a.m. (to let folks sleep in!)

**Sunday:** 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. 1:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

**Monday through Friday:** 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 12:10 p.m.

**Saturday:** 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

**Please note:** We provide low-gluten hosts for those who make a request. Please see the sacristan at least 15 minutes before Mass begins.

## Liturgical Ministries

[www.stmonica.net/liturgicalministries](http://www.stmonica.net/liturgicalministries)

In addition to our priests, it takes a great number of lay people to do the work of our liturgical life. We have over 500 individuals who serve as lectors, eucharistic ministers, hospitality ministers, altar servers, sacristans, and musicians.

Our renowned music ministry is an integral part of every liturgical celebration at St. Monica. Each of our liturgies has a unique character and speaks to people with varying tastes in music, from very traditional to contemporary Christian.

### Sunday

7:30 a.m. Contemplative/Traditional Music

9:30 a.m. Family/Contemporary Music

11:30 a.m. Family/Traditional Music

1:15 p.m. Youth/Contemporary Music

5:30 p.m. Young Adults/Contemporary-Modern Music

### Saturday

5:30 p.m. Contemplative/Traditional Music

For information on how to volunteer in one of our liturgical ministries, go to page 16. Contact Dale Sieverding at [dale@stmonica.net](mailto:dale@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1520.

# Prayer and Devotions

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## First Friday Adoration

On the first Friday of every month, we have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for quiet meditation and prayer in the St. André Bessette Chapel from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Contact Dale Sieverding at [dale@stmonica.net](mailto:dale@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1520.

## St. Michael's Prayer Group

The St. Michael Prayer Group reflects on Scripture and prays together in honor of St. Michael the Archangel on the first Friday of every month at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to join this group for prayer, reflection, and faith sharing. Contact Michael Faber at [mjfabus@gmail.com](mailto:mjfabus@gmail.com).

## Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Elementary School Staff Lounge. We invite you to come and join in prayer and discussions and to find out how you can become involved with a special devotion to the Blessed Mother and service to the community. Contact Blanca Villalobos at [bv53@me.com](mailto:bv53@me.com).

## Rosary

Parishioners gather to pray this devotional prayer to honor Mary, the Mother of God, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Monday through Friday, with the exception of holidays. Contact Dale Sieverding at [dale@stmonica.net](mailto:dale@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1520.

## Taizé Prayer

All are welcome for peaceful, meditative prayer, and sing in the tradition of Taizé on Saturdays during the season of Lent before the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Prayer in the Taizé style of worship is quiet and reflective, deeply peaceful, and joyful, including simple songs and chants, readings, silences and prayers. Songs are sung many times over as a prayer of the heart. The focus of Taizé is on Christ and the cross, reconciliation, and prayers for the suffering throughout the world. Check the bulletin or listen to announcements at Mass for specific dates and times. Contact Cesar Marquez at [themusicministry@aol.com](mailto:themusicministry@aol.com).

# Sacraments

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## Anointing the Sick

[www.stmonica.net/anointing](http://www.stmonica.net/anointing)

Anointing of the Sick is a sacrament that is offered to those who may be suffering mental or physical illness or may need last rites. If you wish to be anointed, please call the Parish Office



at (310) 566-1500 and one of the priests on duty will arrange a convenient time to visit you whether in your home, nursing home, or hospital. Additionally, we annually schedule the Sacrament of Anointing during Mass.

### **Baptism**

[www.stmonica.net/baptism](http://www.stmonica.net/baptism)

Baptisms for infants are scheduled throughout the year on Sunday afternoons with the exception of Lent, when no baptisms are held. We ask that all parents and godparents attend a baptism preparation class either at St. Monica or another parish. The schedule for both baptisms and the preparation class as well as the registration form can be found on our website. Please register your child online at least two months in advance. If your child is age 7 or older, see page 21, or you are an adult and have never been baptized, see page 7. Contact our sacrament coordinator at [sacraments@stmonica.net](mailto:sacraments@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1523.

### **Confirmation**

[www.stmonica.net/confirmation](http://www.stmonica.net/confirmation)

The Sacrament of Confirmation, along with Baptism and Eucharist, is one of the three sacraments of initiation. At Confirmation the Holy Spirit strengthens the baptized Christian and endows her or him with gifts to carry out our mission to be Christ in the world and to continue building God's kingdom. To be fully initiated into the Catholic Church, one needs to be baptized, confirmed and receive first Eucharist. At St. Monica we have programs for both teens and adults. See page 21 for information for our program for teens. Adults would participate in our RCIA program (see page 7).

### **First Holy Communion (Eucharist)**

[www.stmonica.net/firstcommunion](http://www.stmonica.net/firstcommunion)

Children receive two years of instruction before receiving Communion in 2nd grade. We also have classes available for children and youth who are above 2nd grade. Classes for adults are included in our R.C.I.A. program (see page 7). Contact Suzette Sornborger at [suzette@stmonica.net](mailto:suzette@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1541.

### **Marriage**

[www.stmonica.net/marriage](http://www.stmonica.net/marriage)

Weddings are celebrated on Fridays at 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. and on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Weddings are not celebrated on Sundays at St. Monica. The first step in marriage preparation at St. Monica is to attend one of our Marriage Information Nights that are generally held on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Couples who wish to be prepared here for a wedding elsewhere are also welcome.

After attending the Marriage Information Night, wedding arrangements begin with an interview of the couple by a priest of the parish. At least one of the parties should be a baptized Catholic who either lives within our parish boundaries or is an active, registered parishioner of St. Monica for at least one year. Please understand that we allow weddings at St. Monica if you do not live within the parish boundaries and are not a registered member, however preference is given regarding reserving dates to active and registered parishioners. Contact our sacrament coordinator at [sacraments@stmonica.net](mailto:sacraments@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1523.

## **Reconciliation (Confession)**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, also called Confession, must be received before First Communion (Eucharist). Children and youth receive two years of instruction before receiving Reconciliation in 2nd grade. Classes are also available for children and youth who are above 2nd grade. Adults would participate in our RCIA program (see page 7)

Schedule during Ordinary Time: Monday through Friday: 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 4:30 to 5:00 p.m.

Please note that there is no confession scheduled on holidays. During Lent and Advent, please check the website or the weekly bulletin for additional times and dates including communal celebrations.

## **Religious Life and Vocations**

[www.LAVocations.org](http://www.LAVocations.org)

Discerning a priestly or religious vocation can be a challenge. If you would like to speak to someone about a priestly or religious vocation, please call the Office for Vocations at the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at (213) 637-7515.

# **Support and Pastoral Care**

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## **Active Duty Prayer Board**

[www.stmonica.net/prayerboard](http://www.stmonica.net/prayerboard)

We have a prayer board on our website where we remember and pray for parish family members and friends who are on active duty in the armed forces. If you wish to add someone to the prayer board, contact Marcus Johnson at [marcus@stmonica.net](mailto:marcus@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1532.

## **Bereavement and Grief**

[www.stmonica.net/bereavement](http://www.stmonica.net/bereavement)

St. Monica offers a peer support group for those who are suffering the loss of a loved one. The group is facilitated by bereavement ministers who have also experienced a loss and have received training to effectively and sensitively facilitate the group. Members in the group join together to pray, reflect, and share their experiences. There is a small registration fee. If you would like to volunteer as a bereavement minister, see page 16. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

## **Eucharistic Ministry to the Sick**

[www.stmonica.net/eucharisticministry](http://www.stmonica.net/eucharisticministry)

In this ministry, Eucharistic Ministers (EM) bring Communion to Catholics in area nursing homes and convalescent centers, individual homes, and the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center. If you or a loved one would like to have an EM visit you, contact Christine Gerety at

christine@stmonica.net or (310) 566-1531. If you wish to volunteer, see page 19.

### **Funeral Ministry**

[www.stmonica.net/funerals](http://www.stmonica.net/funerals)

If a loved one has been called home by God and you would like to schedule a funeral or memorial service, contact Gary Denk at [funerals@stmonica.net](mailto:funerals@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1558.

### **Hope at the Door**

[www.stmonica.net/hope](http://www.stmonica.net/hope)

Hope at the Door is a ministry that provides referral support to people dealing with housing, food, and employment challenges. Hope at the Door can connect people in need with local agencies or organizations that can help them stabilize their lives, and can occasionally provide some limited financial assistance. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **Pastoral Guidance**

If you would like to meet with a priest, contact our parish office at (310) 566-1500.

### **Phoenix Ministry (For separated and divorced)**

[www.stmonica.net/phoenixministry](http://www.stmonica.net/phoenixministry)

Phoenix Ministry is a peer support group for those struggling with separation, divorce or annulment. In a confidential, small group format with a facilitator, participants are free to share about the many challenges faced at the time of the dissolution of a marital relationship. Our facilitators are men and women who have had the experience themselves of working through a separation or divorce. Meetings are scheduled from October through April. Registration fee. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **Stephen Ministry (Peer Support)**

[www.stmonica.net/stephenministry](http://www.stmonica.net/stephenministry)

Stephen Ministry provides one-to-one pastoral care for individuals experiencing a wide range of life's stressors at no cost. Go to [www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org) for more on the history and programs of Stephen Ministries. If you need a Stephen Minister, please call (310) 566-1575 and leave a message. A Stephen leader will return your call within 24 hours to set up an appointment. For information on volunteering as a Stephen Minister, see page 19.

# Volunteer Opportunities

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## In Our Church

### Administrative Support

This is an area where there is something for everyone. It is a great way to get to know the staff and other parishioners. We can always use help in preparing mailings, counting the offertory collection, placing envelopes in the pews, answering phones, filing, purchasing and organizing office or food service supplies, archives, etc. Contact Mike Mottola at [mike@stmonica.net](mailto:mike@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1502.

### Always Beginning Luncheon Volunteers

Several times throughout the year, St. Monica hosts First Friday luncheons and retreats for our older adult ministry. Volunteers are needed to help set up the event, prepare the meal, greet our guests, and clean up. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### Art and Environment (Church Decorating)

Volunteers are needed to decorate the church and other liturgical venues for special seasons--primarily Easter and Christmas--under the guidance of special events and interior design professionals. Listen for announcements at Mass or check the bulletin in the months leading up to Lent and Advent for sign-ups. Contact Dale Sieverding at [dale@stmonica.net](mailto:dale@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1520.

### Altar Servers

The server assists the priest during the Mass and other liturgical ceremonies. You must be in the 5th grade or older and have been baptized and received First Holy Communion. Training is provided. Contact Lynda Auer at [lynda.auer@stmonicaelem.com](mailto:lynda.auer@stmonicaelem.com) or (310) 451-9801.

### Audio Visual Assistant

Learns all of our audio visual operations and assists ministry volunteers in the set-up and operation of audio visual equipment. Helps to trouble shoot large events with A/V. Assists with inventory and care of equipment. Contact Michael Pantoja at [po@stmonica.net](mailto:po@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1527

### Bereavement Ministers

Bereavement Ministers are individuals who use their excellent listening skills and compassionate hearts to support those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. They

are involved with facilitating support groups, reaching out to the bereaved, and hosting the annual Mass of Remembrance. Because of the sensitive nature of the ministry, they must also complete a training program that includes content knowledge about the grieving process, active listening skills, and small group facilitation techniques. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Buildings & Grounds**

Join our team of professionals in any of the construction trades, facilities and property management, real estate, interior design, and risk management to help us develop and monitor our master site plan and our long range deferred maintenance plan, security, and disaster preparedness plans. Contact Mike Mottola at [mike@stmonica.net](mailto:mike@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1502.

### **Choirs and Music**

[www.stmonica.net/music](http://www.stmonica.net/music)

We have opportunities available for both musicians and vocalists for music that ranges from traditional to contemporary Christian. People of all ages, both youth and adults, are welcome to serve in this ministry. An audition may be required. Contact Jeffrey Bonilla at [jeffrey@stmonica.net](mailto:jeffrey@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1521.

### **Disaster Preparedness**

If you live nearby, you may consider joining our disaster preparedness team. This team of volunteers will assist us in a variety of roles and tasks during a natural or civil disaster. Contact Mike Mottola at [mike@stmonica.net](mailto:mike@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1502.

### **Eucharistic Ministers at the Altar**

[www.stmonica.net/eucharistic-ministers](http://www.stmonica.net/eucharistic-ministers)

Eucharistic Ministers, along with the priest and deacon, minister the Body and Blood of Christ during Communion. To qualify, you must: 1) be a practicing Catholic and fully initiated (Baptized, Confirmed, and Eucharist); 2) be a registered member of St. Monica; 3) have a mature demeanor with a willingness to serve others; and 4) attend scheduled training and ongoing formation opportunities. Contact Dale Sieverding at (310) 566-1520 or [dale@stmonica.net](mailto:dale@stmonica.net). If you wish to volunteer as a Eucharistic Minister for Catholics who are in area hospitals, convalescent centers, or are homebound, see page 19.

### **Graphic Design/Desktop Publishing**

If you have experience with Adobe Creative Suite and in particular, InDesign, Photoshop, and/or Illustrator, we have several opportunities throughout the year for which we could use your assistance. We have both one-time tasks as well as others that could become a regular weekly commitment. Web development skills welcome also! Contact Dawna Houston at [dawna@stmonica.net](mailto:dawna@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1514.

### **Hospitality Ministers**

[www.stmonica.net/hospitality](http://www.stmonica.net/hospitality)

Hospitality Ministers welcome parishioners and visitors at the entrance to our church and assist with collection, direction, and safety during Mass. Contact Kevin Cochran at

### **Lectors**

[www.stmonica.net/lectors](http://www.stmonica.net/lectors)

Lectors proclaim the Word of God during Mass. Must be comfortable with public speaking and proficient with diction, enunciation, pronunciation, and projection. Training is offered several times during the year as well as ongoing formation opportunities. Contact Dale Sieverding at [dale@stmonica.net](mailto:dale@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1520.

### **Offertory Counting**

If you have a strong record of participation in the parish, we invite you to join our faithful team of collection counters every Monday for two hours. Contact Mike Mottola at [mike@stmonica.net](mailto:mike@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1502.

### **Parking Ministry**

This ministry is the first line of hospitality ministry in our parish. We need patient, assertive, and friendly people to help guide parishioners with their parking on Sundays and for special events and holidays. A great way to meet people! Contact Mike Mottola at [mike@stmonica.net](mailto:mike@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1502.

### **Photography Ministry**

We are always in need of photos from various events and activities throughout the year to be used in parish communications including our weekly bulletin and website. You do not need to be a professional photographer. Just have a camera that takes high resolution images and have an eye for good quality photos! Contact Dawna Houston at [dawna@stmonica.net](mailto:dawna@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1514.

### **RCIA Sponsor**

[www.stmonica.net/rcia](http://www.stmonica.net/rcia)

We need sponsors throughout the year who are willing to walk the journey of faith with participants in our RCIA program. You don't need to be a super Catholic--being an ordinary Catholic who loves his/her faith is sufficient. We provide training and support. Contact Geoconda Ruiz-Hoffman at [rciasponsors@yahoo.com](mailto:rciasponsors@yahoo.com).

### **Religious Education**

Volunteers are needed to either teach or be an assistant in various classes for ages 3 through grade 8. All are required to be fingerprinted through Live Scan and VIRTUS trained in compliance with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Archdiocesan Formation Certification is also available. Contact Suzette Sornborger at [suzette@stmonica.net](mailto:suzette@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1541.

### **Sacristans**

[www.stmonica.net/sacristans](http://www.stmonica.net/sacristans)

Sacristans work together to take care of the details of preparing behind the scenes for each Mass which includes putting out the sacred vessels, organizing the liturgical books,

and seeing to the proper amount of bread and wine. After Mass, they make sure the sacristy is cleaned up and in good order. Contact Dale Sieverding at [dale@stmonica.net](mailto:dale@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1520.

### **Stephen Ministers**

[www.stmonica.net/stephenministry](http://www.stmonica.net/stephenministry)

Stephen Ministers are individuals who have received 50 hours of intense training to provide one-to-one confidential pastoral care for individuals at no cost. After training, a Stephen Minister is assigned to someone of the same sex with whom they will meet once a week. They also attend group supervision meetings every two weeks. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **Teen Ministry (Grades 9-12)**

[www.stmonica.net/teen](http://www.stmonica.net/teen)

We need help in several areas including leading small groups, organizing special events, retreats, and service projects along with our special events coordinator, and working with our Youth Mass coordinator to help make the 1:15 p.m. Mass a liturgy that inspires and connects for our teens. All are required to be fingerprinted through Live Scan and VIRTUS trained in compliance with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Contact [youth@stmonica.net](mailto:youth@stmonica.net)

## **In the Local Community**

### **Adopt-a-Family**

[www.stmonica.net/adopt-a-family](http://www.stmonica.net/adopt-a-family)

During the Advent season, volunteers are needed to help with sign-ups, answer questions, and collect and organize the gifts for delivery. Requests for volunteers begin in November. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Angel Toy Drive**

[www.stmonica.net/toydrive](http://www.stmonica.net/toydrive)

During the Advent season, volunteers are needed to help promote the drive, collect toys after Mass, sort the toys, and package them for delivery. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick**

[www.stmonica.net/eucharisticministry](http://www.stmonica.net/eucharisticministry)

Eucharistic Ministers bring communion to Catholics in area nursing homes and convalescent centers, individual homes, and the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center. Training is provided. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Habitat for Humanity**

[www.stmonica.net/habitat](http://www.stmonica.net/habitat)

Volunteer opportunities for this ministry include participating in local builds, volunteering at the Habitat Restores, and planning and organizing community events to promote and support this ministry's outreach. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Helping the Homeless**

[www.stmonica.net/shelters](http://www.stmonica.net/shelters)

Help prepare and serve a meal to residents of the following transitional shelters: P.A.T.H.

(People Assisting the Homeless) on the first Sunday of each month, Samoshel on the second Sunday of the month, and Turning Point on the third Sunday of the month. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Loaves and Fishes Food Drive**

[www.stmonica.net/loavesandfishes](http://www.stmonica.net/loavesandfishes)

You can participate in our monthly food drive in several ways: 1) Buy groceries, 2) Sort the food and load into trucks for transport, 3) Distribute food bags after Mass, and 4) Help promote the drive. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **Ministry to the Incarcerated**

[www.stmonica.net/campmiller](http://www.stmonica.net/campmiller)

Volunteers must be adults and undergo VIRTUS training, Live Scan fingerprinting, and training conducted by the Office of Restorative Justice in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. This is a weekly commitment that includes attending Mass and working with the youth at Camp Miller, a juvenile detention facility in Malibu. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **Thanksgiving Dinner & Clothing Boutique**

[www.stmonica.net/thanksgiving](http://www.stmonica.net/thanksgiving)

This large outreach event requires hundreds of volunteers for various jobs, during weeks and months in advance and on the day before and after Thanksgiving. Volunteer opportunities include carving turkeys, cooking, serving, sorting clothing and cold weather supplies, directing foot traffic, meeting and greeting, setting up, cleaning up, promoting the event, and many other duties. Announcements begin in October for sign-ups. Contact Delis at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **St. Joseph Center Holiday Party**

Several volunteer opportunities are available at this annual Christmas party at St. Monica including hospitality, parking, running games, arts & crafts projects, serving food, and taking photos. Announcements begin for sign-ups in November. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

### **St. Robert's Weekend Food Pantry**

Our parish supports the St. Robert's Center, a weekend food pantry in Venice, by sending volunteers every six weeks to make sandwiches, sort clothes, and organize hygiene supplies. Watch the bulletin for announcements each month. Contact Christine Gerety at [christine@stmonica.net](mailto:christine@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1531.

## **Globally**

### **El Hogar Ministry**

[www.stmonica.net/elhogar](http://www.stmonica.net/elhogar)

In addition to helping to raise funds and collect needed items for this ministry, there are opportunities available several times a year to travel to the El Hogar Orphanage in Tijuana, Mexico, to play with the children who live there. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

### **Holy Cross Africa Ministry**

[www.stmonica.net/hcam](http://www.stmonica.net/hcam)

In addition to organizing various fundraising activities and collection drives for items such



as medical supplies and sporting equipment for children, there is also an annual mission trip to visit with our sister parish, Holy Cross Church, in Dandora, Kenya, usually during the summer. Contact Delis Alejandro at [delis@stmonica.net](mailto:delis@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1530.

## **Youth & Family Faith Formation**

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### **Religious Education**

[www.stmonica.net/religiouseducation](http://www.stmonica.net/religiouseducation)

We offer a comprehensive program of religious education classes for children ages 3 through Grade 8 including sacramental preparation for Reconciliation and Eucharist during the school year. We also offer special sessions, resources, and faith formation programs throughout the year, designed to include parent participation to help strengthen the faith life of the whole family. There is a registration fee. Financial assistance is available. Check the website for the full schedule. Contact Suzette Sornborger at [suzette@stmonica.net](mailto:suzette@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1541.

### **Teen Ministry: Always Confirming (Grades 9-12)**

[www.stmonica.net/teen](http://www.stmonica.net/teen)

We've named it "Always Confirming" as we firmly believe that faith formation is a life-long process and doesn't end when we receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Throughout the school year, they meet twice a month as well as participate in an overnight weekend retreat and various other special activities that include sports, service projects, and gatherings that include parents. An additional component of this program is preparation for Confirmation, a two-year process. All teens must register to participate. Teens who have already been confirmed are especially welcome as participants or peer leaders. There is a registration fee. Financial assistance is available. Contact Jenna Clingingsmith or Michael Gasparro at [youth@stmonica.net](mailto:youth@stmonica.net).

### **Parent Faith at Home Series**

[www.stmonica.net/faithathome](http://www.stmonica.net/faithathome)

Join other parents throughout the year in conversation to share ideas, explore how to further connect with your children, and to discuss everyday challenges and resolutions as we support our domestic church, our Christian "village." Meets after the 9:30 Mass while the Religious Education classes for Early Childhood and Grades 1-8 are in session. Contact Suzette Sornborger at [suzette@stmonica.net](mailto:suzette@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1541.

### **Family Mini Retreats**

We gather throughout the school year with families who have children in a particular grade level to share story, faith, fellowship and to have fun. During the summer our

retreats are designed for intergenerational families. Contact Suzette Sornborger at [suzette@stmonica.net](mailto:suzette@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1541.

## Our Schools

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**St. Monica Catholic Elementary School**  
[www.stmonicaces.org](http://www.stmonicaces.org)

St. Monica Catholic Elementary School is a vibrant coeducational community rooted in the Roman Catholic tradition that offers an academically rigorous and spiritually nurturing curriculum. Serving families on the Westside since 1930, the elementary school provides its students with challenging core academic coursework in addition to Spanish, music, art and physical education instruction. Students may also benefit from participation in after-school sports, enrichment classes, and affordable childcare. Contact [admissions@stmonicaelem.com](mailto:admissions@stmonicaelem.com) to schedule a tour.



**St. Monica Catholic High School**  
[www.stmonicachs.org](http://www.stmonicachs.org)

St. Monica Catholic High School is a coeducational parish school that provides a challenging college preparatory curriculum that includes over 20 AP/Honors courses. Established in 1937, the high school offers a safe, close-knit campus where students of diverse interests, cultures, and faiths thrive as a community. As part of a nearly 600-member student body, St. Monica students are able to find their individual voice and build upon their strengths

through involvement in over 50 co-curricular clubs, teams and organizations. Graduates of St. Monica Catholic High School matriculate to competitive colleges and universities across the country and ultimately carry out the parish mission, "to form loving disciples who will transform the world." Contact the Admissions Office at (310) 394-3701, x1305 to schedule a tour.

### School Leadership

Thom Gasper

Neil Quinly

Michelle Rice

Kevin McCardle

President

Principal, St. Monica Catholic Elementary School

Principal, St. Monica Catholic High School

Schools Advisory Board Chair

# Parish Directory

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Parish Office (310) 566-1500  
Fax: (310) 566-1510  
Email: info@stmonica.net  
Web: www.stmonica.net

Mailing Address:  
St. Monica Catholic Community  
725 California Avenue  
Santa Monica, CA 90403

You can reach most of our staff members by email by typing "firstname@stmonica.net," with the exception of those marked with an asterisk\*.

## Leadership Team

Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson	Pastor	(310) 566-1503
Rev. Mark Martinez	Associate Pastor	(310) 566-1571
Rev. Matt Murphy	Associate Pastor	(310) 566-1505
Delis Alejandro	Pastoral Associate	(310) 566-1530
Mike Mottola	Parish Administrator	(310) 566-1502
Sr. Catherine Ryan, RSC	Pastoral Associate	(310) 566-1540
Dale Sieverding, SLD	Director of Music & Liturgy	(310) 566-1520

## Staff

Hilda Banuelos	Receptionist	(310) 566-1500
Jeffrey Bonilla	Assoc. Director, Music & Liturgy	(310) 566-1521
Dorothy Butcher	Sacraments	(310) 566-1523
*Daniel Clarke	Maintenance	(310) 566-1511
Donna Damian	Finance Coordinator	(310) 566-1506
Anne Davidson	Campaign Assistant	(310) 566-1553
Gary Denk	Funerals	(310) 566-1558
Erany Farmer	Holy Grounds Books & Gifts	(310) 566-1508
*Gary Gallati	Receptionist	(310) 566-1500
Patricia Garcia	Assistant to Msgr. Torgerson	(310) 566-1503
Christine Gerety	Assoc. Director, Outreach & Pastoral Care	(310) 566-1531
Daniela Girbal	Assistant Facilities Director	(310) 566-1555
Chrystal Hagerty	Data Manager	(310) 566-1513
Dawna Houston	Director of Communications	(310) 566-1514
Marcus Johnson	Ministry Assistant	(310) 566-1532
Gail Lyons	Receptionist	(310) 566 1500
*Michael "Po" Pantoja	Audio/Visual Coordinator	(310) 566-1527
Brian Russell	Director, Development & Stewardship	(310) 566-1552
Lydia Saenz	Receptionist	(310) 566 1500
Audrey Shaw	Business Office	(310) 566-1507
Suzette Sornborger	Director of Youth Faith Formation	(310) 566-1541
Scott Spatola	Technology Coordinator	(310) 566-1515

# Holy Grounds at St. Monica

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Now serving certified organic Heirloom coffee from Urth Caffe at Holy Grounds, our coffee shop and book/gift store. And if you're not a coffee drinker, we also serve organic tea, smoothies, and soft drinks, as well as Ghirardelli hot cocoa. We also have a diverse selection of Catholic and Christian music, sacred books, and gifts for all occasions and liturgical seasons. Whether you're celebrating a baptism, graduation, birthday or other milestone, this is the place to find a book or gift that's just right! The entrance to Holy Grounds is on California Avenue in the Caruso Community Center.



Contact Erany Farmer at [erany@stmonica.net](mailto:erany@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1508.

## Regular Hours

Monday - Friday: 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Phone: (310) 566-1565

[www.stmonica.net/holygrounds](http://www.stmonica.net/holygrounds)

## Stay Connected with Us!

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There are several ways to stay connected with us when you are away from St. Monica beyond our website at [www.stmonica.net](http://www.stmonica.net)!



Like us on Facebook! Go to [www.facebook.com/StMonicaCC725](http://www.facebook.com/StMonicaCC725).



Follow us on Twitter!

Msgr. Torgerson at [@MsgrrLloyd](https://twitter.com/MsgrrLloyd)

St. Monica Catholic Community at [@StMonica90403](https://twitter.com/StMonica90403)



Subscribe to our podcast on iTunes and listen to a weekly homily while on the go at [www.stmonica.net/audio](http://www.stmonica.net/audio)



Watch us online at [www.stmonica.net/live](http://www.stmonica.net/live). We livestream the Sunday 5:30 p.m. Mass each week as well as special events.



## Facility Rentals

Consider St. Monica for your next special event! We can provide the perfect setting for your wedding rehearsal dinner, reception, or any other special event! We have a venue for every occasion and can accommodate groups as intimate as 10 and celebrations of over 300. Our facilities include the Caruso Community Center, perfect for smaller events, and the Grand Pavilion, best for larger groups, which includes the full use of a stainless steel industrial-sized kitchen and state-of-the-art audio visual equipment.

### Rental Features

ROOM	MAX. CAPACITY*	AV	KITCHEN
Grand Pavilion and Grand Patio	450	•	•
Grand Pavilion Section	130	•	
Grand Patio Only	varies	•	
Caruso Community Center A and B	68	•	
St. Andre Bessette Chapel	71	•	
Caruso Community Center C	16	•	
Duval Center	75	•	

\* For theater style seating. Capacity is reduced for banquet or reception style.

*If you're interested in taking a tour of the facilities, please contact our assistant operations director, Daniela Girbal, at [daniela@stmonica.net](mailto:daniela@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1555. You can also submit a facility reservation request at [www.stmonica.net/rentals](http://www.stmonica.net/rentals)*

# Notes

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WASHINGTON AVENUE



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**Our Mission: To form loving disciples  
who will transform the world**

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