

Then will  
the eyes  
of the blind  
be opened,  
the ears of  
the deaf  
be cleared;  
then will the  
lame leap  
like a stag,  
then the  
tongue of  
the mute  
will sing.

Isaiah 35:5-6



## **ST. MONICA CHURCH**

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FR. MICHAEL DONALD...  
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### **REGULAR WEEKEND CELEBRANT**

FR. GEORGE BRENNAN

### **PERMANENT DEACONS**

JIM MARTIN...JIM@JPMMLL.COM  
CARL SOMMER  
CARLSOMMER@EARTHLINK.NET

### **RETIRED DEACONS**

DEACON ROBERT BIRKENMAIER  
DEACON RAY MILLER

### **SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

SATURDAY VIGIL 5:00 P.M.,  
SUNDAY 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 A.M. & 5:00 P.M.

### **DAILY WEEKDAY MASS**

6:30 & 8:15 A.M.  
8:00 A.M. SATURDAYS

### **CONFESSIONS**

3:30 –4:30 P.M. SATURDAYS  
OR BY APPOINTMENT

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Dear Parishioners,

**This weekend we celebrate the Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time.** We gather this weekend as the blind person who does not see the suffering in our world. We are the deaf person who does not hear the cries of the poor and the mute who fails to speak up against injustice. We come to Jesus for healing so we may speak out against people and systems that oppress and silence the voices of the least among us.

**Next weekend we will celebrate the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.** Within our Scripture readings next weekend are deep, and at times, controversial questions. Jesus asks his disciples: “Who do people say that I am?” Then he asks Peter, “But who do you say that I am?” Like Peter, all Christian faiths today proclaim that Jesus is the Christ, the anointed one. Despite our common proclamation, the second reading often serves as a proof text that separates Catholics from our Protestant brothers and sisters. Does faith alone save or does faith combined with corporal and spiritual works save us? These questions invite us to delve more deeply into the mysteries of God. May we listen attentively to His Holy Word!

**MonicaFest:** This is being written early in the week, so I don’t know what the remnants of Hurricane Gordon might have done to our celebration! I hope that we were able to have it and it was a good celebration of our parish. Thanks to all who planned and participated in it!

**The Abuse Scandal.** If you have a computer and Youtube, please take the time to watch and listen to Bishop Robert Barron, Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, as he addresses the scandals in the church today. It is about 25 minutes but very, very good. Here is the URL: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?ncMEXr60AeI&feature=youtu.be&utm\\_campaign=Consumer\\_50%25OFF\\_HITC\\_SEP\\_18&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Eloqua](https://www.youtube.com/watch?ncMEXr60AeI&feature=youtu.be&utm_campaign=Consumer_50%25OFF_HITC_SEP_18&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua)

**A report on my workshop with Rabbis, Imams, and Fundamentalist Pastors.** As I mentioned last week on August 29 and 30 I was at Todd Hall Retreat and Conference Center just north of Columbia, Illinois.

There were six Jewish Rabbis or Cantors, six Muslim Imams, six Fundamentalist Ministers, and one priest! Also the “original convener” of this program, Pastor Bob Roberts, of the North Wood Church in Keller, Texas, dropped by and gave a presentation. This opportunity came through the good offices of Rabbi Jim Bennett, of Congregation Shaare Emeth, at the corner of Ballas and Ladue. It follows upon the prayer breakfast that I mentioned in last week’s article.

The website for this particular Multi Faith Ministry and discussion is Glocal.net. I encourage you to go look at it.

We spoke of our families, our neighborhoods, our congregations, and the fact that for most of us we had no real dealings with the other people in the room. There were two Imams from the United States (one who went to Parkway North!), but the other four were from Bosnia, Libya, Egypt, and Guinea. All are here in the Saint Louis Area. Of the six Jews, five have congregations in this part of town, while the sixth, from Central Reform Congregation, on Kingshighway in the City, lives in Creve Coeur, and he, too, went to Parkway North!

*Continued on the next page.....*

We had a facilitator from Colorado, who is part of the Glocal.net “team,” but the other five ministers are all from Saint Louis, and most of them are in this part of town too, although one is in Affton (very near the Bosnian Mosque) and the other is in Saint Charles.

Our discussions were very friendly and hopeful. We started by looking at the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, penned by Thomas Jefferson in 1786. That law basically allowed all people in that State to worship as they wished ... and to be sure that “no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship place, or ministry whatsoever.” Before that the Anglican/Episcopalian Church had been receiving support from the government. All were free to worship as they wished!

Then we studied the Marrakesh Declaration, adopted in January 2016, by more than 250 Muslim religious leaders, heads of state, and scholars, which championed “defending the rights of religious minorities in predominately Muslim countries.” This was done in light of the 1400th Anniversary of the Charter (or Constitution) of Medina, which sought to protect non-Muslims in a very Muslim area. There were also Christians, especially both Catholic and Orthodox Chaldeans from Iraq, as part of the discussion in Marrakesh, since ISIS was so “set” on killing Christians, despite what the Quran says! While not signatories to the Marrakesh Declaration, it was adopted and signed only by the Muslims there, the Christians had input as to what it says.

Looking at each other, sharing meals with each other, and discussing with each other we (the people from Saint Louis!) came to the conclusion that not only did we have to be “nice” to each other, but we also had to learn about each other. We were all challenged into visiting each other’s homes, visiting each other’s congregations, and actually spending time together ... along with other members of our own congregations.

Please be patient ... “Rome wasn’t built in a day,” as the saying goes. I will be getting together with my small group in the next couple of weeks and then, as time goes on, we will be visiting homes of the Rabbis and Imams in our group, and eventually their congregations. “Stay tuned.” We need to be sure that we are working together in this multi faith nation ... and area.

May the Lord grant us His peace and Peace in the world.

Faithfully yours,

Fr Joe Weber

PS

I mentioned his last week, but it bears repeating: PLEASE put in your calendar **Sunday, January 13, 2019**, when the Archbishop will be here for a special Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service, beginning at **7:00 P.M.** Our own choir will be involved with this service, the theme of which will be following the “official” Week of Prayer for Christian Unity theme for January 18-25, 2019, namely, ***Justice, Only Justice, You Shall Pursue (Deuteronomy 16:20).***

**SUNDAY COLLECTION SEPTEMBER 2:** Envelopes \$19, 208.00; Loose \$1,200.93; Online Giving \$8,937.12; Assumption \$5.00; Cardinal Glennon Hospital \$200.00; Catholic University \$2,055.01; Pro-Life \$250.00; School \$60.00; St. Vincent De Paul \$25.00; and Tithing for the Poor \$42.00

**MASS INTENTIONS SEPTEMBER 10-15**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>WEEKDAY</b>
6:30 A.M.	Tom and Dolores Schulte
8:15 A.M.	Maria San Filippo
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEEKDAY</b>
6:30 A.M.	Deanna Krekeler
8:15 A.M.	Tom and Dolores Schulte
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>WEEKDAY</b>
6:30 A.M.	Patricia Barolak
8:15 A.M.	Jack O'Malley
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<i>ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM</i>
6:30 A.M.	Marie Altnether
8:15 A.M.	Dan Croghan
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>WEEKDAY</b>
6:30 A.M.	John Lang
8:15 A.M.	Tom and Dolores Schulte
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<i>OUR LADY OF SORROWS</i>
8:00 A.M.	Tom Myers Sr and Jr
5:00 P.M.	Eileen Cooke

**PRAY FOR OUR HOSPITALIZED, HOMEBOUND AND SICK**

John Barolak, Ruth Begnaud, Janet Collins, Shirley Dunker, Estelle Flanakin, Dilla Gordon, Billie Grief, Charlotte Griffaw, Mary Ann Honti, Bob Huseman, Sylvia Indelicato, Ronald Kalupa, Benjamin Kimzey, John Krause, Gloria Luca, Lourdes Manalo, Mary K. Mc Carthy, Eileen McDonough, Ann Miller, Fred Mueller, Mary O'Brien, Jack Powers, Mary Renner, Bob Reuther, Joseph Ritacco, Jim Sallwasser, Joe Schmitz, Rose Slee, Joe Sonderman, Brent Spaeth, Stan Thomas, and Fr. Timothy Vowels.

**OUR SYMPATHY TO** Ann Bennett and her family on the death of her husband, Jerry Bennett. May he be living with God and may all be consoled.

**WELCOME TO** Paul Joseph Lorhan (Sarah Ln); and Greg and Theresa Mines, their daughter Alison (Glenpeak Dr) who recently joined our Parish Community.

**MEET THE ST. MONICA MINISTRIES**

Join your fellow parishioners September 16 before and after the 9:30 A.M. and 11:30 A.M. Masses. We are going to showcase our St. Monica Ministries. A representative from each ministry will be on hand to answer questions and speak with you. What a great way for parishioners and guests to find out more about our wonderful programs. We hope to bring awareness and new volunteers to all of our organizations and ministries.

**ANNUAL ST. MONICA 8TH GRADERS FALL MUM SALE**

The weekend of September 15/16. Order forms are in the back of church. Orders are \$8/ pre-paid mum or \$9/ mum bought and paid on the day of the sale. Thank you for the support of our class and school!

**6<sup>TH</sup> AND 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TJS PIZZA FUNDRAISER**

**TO ATTEND YMCA CAMP LAKEWOOD**—Original St. Louis Thin Crust and Thick Crust 12" pizzas ranging \$8.50-\$11. We also have 9" pizza multi-packs for \$18-\$20. Orders taken by any sixth or seventh grader or Flyers at church entrances or contact Michelle Burkot 314.703.8801 or [shellburkot@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shellburkot@sbcglobal.net); Lisa Kuntz 314.409.9025 or [lisakuntz1@gmail.com](mailto:lisakuntz1@gmail.com)

**THE CUB SCOUTS** will be selling popcorn after Masses this week. Proceeds from the sale help fund Scouting activities for the year. We appreciate your support!

First **MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)** meeting is Wednesday, September 12! We will be meeting from 9:30-11:00 A.M. in St. Monica's Church Hall.

**September 12**—Women's Self-defense class by Laura Schaefer, owner of ATA Martial Arts and mom of 4. Laura will be leading us in self-defense training, focusing on protecting our children. (Children are in MOPPETS next door)

**September 26**—Creve Coeur Delmar Gardens Nursing Home. We will be joining the seniors in their music class! (Meet in the Delmar Gardens lobby at 9:45 A.M.) Contact Steph Hampton [stmonicamops@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicamops@gmail.com).

**25<sup>TH</sup>/50<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Saturday, October 13. Mass at 5:00 P.M. Dinner after in the Church Hall. All couples celebrating their 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary during 2018 are honored. Invitations will be forthcoming. Other couples in the parish celebrating 25 years or more are also invited.

**THIS WEEKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS:****DONUT SUNDAY TODAY HOSTED BY SCHOOL BOARD**

SUN 9/9	CHILDREN'S LITURGY
MON 9/10	SMALL FAITH MON@MONICA
TUES 9/11	CORNERSTONE BIBLE ROOM AT THE INN
WED 9/12	PSR BIBLE STUDY PM
THURS 9/13	FINANCIAL PEACE
FRI 9/14	8TH GRADE PARENT MTG
SUN 9/15	CHILDREN'S LITURGY



**PSR CALENDAR:**

9/12 Class #4: Regular session. Fire Drill, weather permitting. Bible presentation Grade 6 at 7:30 P.M. in Church.

**LADIES GUILD**—Tomorrow is our kick-off event for the Ladies Guild fall season. Mon@Monica begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall with a delicious chili dinner and book exchange. If you have not turned in your bus trip sign up sheet please bring it with you.

**BIRTHRIGHT NEWS**—St. Monica will participate in **40 Days for Life** Thursday, October 4, 7:00 A.M.–7:00 P.M. to witness and pray at Planned Parenthood. Sign-up in the vestibule. Questions call Diann 314.432.7719 or Julio 314.576.7494.

**50+ CLUB NEWS:**

Join us for 8:15 A.M. Mass Thursday, September 13 at St. Monica. Breakfast will follow at First Watch on Ballas. Save the date, September 20 for our picnic at Millennium Park.

**BIBLE STUDY PM** will include a series of twenty-four videos presented by Jeff Cavins and preceded by a group discussion. Everyone will receive a color-coded *Bible Timeline* Chart, and “*The Bible Timeline Study Kit*”. Cost is \$40.00, which covers incidental costs plus the Study Kit. Make your checks payable to St Monica Parish. We begin September 12, 7:00 P.M. For information or to register for the study contact Deacon Jim Martin 314.576.4876 or [jamesmartin@archstl.org](mailto:jamesmartin@archstl.org).

**OUR LADY’S INN MATERNITY HOMES LUNCHEON FOR LIFE** September 20 at Defiance Ridge Vineyards, 2711 S. Hwy 94, Defiance, MO 63341 at 11:00 A.M. Cost is \$50 per person and \$400 for a table of eight. For information visit [www.ourladyinn.org](http://www.ourladyinn.org) or call Katrina 314.736.1544.

**FALL SAUSAGE DINNER AT IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, NEW MELLE** 11:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. October 14 featuring homemade bread and desserts. Adults \$12, Children (6–12) \$6, ages 5 and under eat free. Craft Bazaar and Country Store, Wine and Beer Garden, Live Music, Raffles. For information: 636.398.5270.

**ST. JOHN BOSCO QUILT BINGO** Sunday, October 14. Doors open at noon. For information call Doris 314.434.3627.

**SVDP PANTRY AT ST. MONICA**

The pantry can use canned fruit, chili, hand soap and canned ravioli/spaghetti.

Thanks for your help!

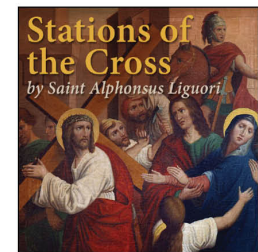
**MEN’S ACTS RETREAT** April 11-14, 2019

To all Men of the Parish: We will form the Team soon.

If interested in joining us, contact Allen Holtmeyer

[ah429@charter.net](mailto:ah429@charter.net).

**ROAR (RETAILERS OFFERING ADDED REWARDS)**—Our ongoing fundraiser for the parish. Consider stopping by as we have gift cards available every Sunday after Masses. Questions, call MJ 314.434.3312.

**FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK****Stations of the Cross****Walk with Christ in His Last Hours**

The Augustine Institute presents a beautiful meditation on the Stations of the Cross. Ponder the greatest act of love this world has seen with this audio devotion at home or on the go.



[Listen on formed.org](http://formed.org)

“I am so thankful for this recording. It brought me close to Jesus in my heart as I prayed along with it. Thank you!”

—Karla C., CO



**FORMED** THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

**FORMED**—As Catholics, we are called to regularly meditate on the hour of our Lord’s passion and death. This practice helps us to call to mind Christ’s great love for each of us, as well as unite our own sufferings and intentions to the redemptive suffering of Christ. This week’s **FORMED** Pick of the Week is a beautiful audio *Stations of the Cross*, which will lead you through your meditation with beautiful music and prayer. This week, go to [formed.org](http://formed.org) and listen to *Stations of the Cross* by Saint Alphonsus Liguori.

# An Evening in the EMERALD CITY



## ISO (in search of)

### **Volunteers for the auction:**

we need volunteers:

- to help make follow up calls for auction donations
- to pick auction items up
- to help with setup for the auction
- volunteers to host sign up parties-we would love for members of our parish and/or school to partner and host a party. These parties can be for kids or adults and are a great way to build community and raise money. We have some ideas for parties, but if you have an idea please let us know-we'd love to hear it.

### **Donations for the auction:**

**gift cards:** restaurants, movies, activities, clothes, wine, coffee, think about some of your favorite places to frequent

**event tickets/experiences:** sports, Muni, Fox, symphony, concerts, college football, spa days, golf outings, wine/beer tastings, painting/pottery classes, bowling, Top Golf,

**high end items:** jewelry, designer purses, artwork

**trips:** Mizzou games, Bed and Breakfast weekends, hotel stays, airline tickets, train tickets, tours

**Be creative,** we would love to have a variety of items to offer in both the silent auction and live auction. Partner with a friend or two and come up with a fun donation.

All donations, of items or your time, are very much appreciated.

PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO:

[stmonicaauction1872@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicaauction1872@gmail.com)

or contact Karen Bourneuf @314.601.2585

or Jessica Faltus @314.435.7807

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