



## Prayer for Catechists

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2019

### Prayer for Catechists

God, our Heavenly Father, you have given us the gift of these catechists to be heralds of the Gospel to our parish family.

We lift them up to you in thanksgiving and intercede for them concerning their hopes and needs.

May we be attentive to the presence of your Word in them, a Word that lifts up and affirms, calls forth and challenges, is compassionate and consoles.

We pray that our parish family will always be blessed with those who have responded to the call to share in Christ's prophetic mission as catechists. May we too be open to the universal call to service that Christ addresses to all of his disciples, contributing our gifts to the communion of faith, the Church.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

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**SEPTEMBER 15, 2019**

**ST. MONICA CHURCH**

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**PASTOR—FR. JOSEPH A. WEBER....JWEBER@STMONICASTL.ORG #336**

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR—FR. STEPHEN SCHUMACHER....SSCHUMACHER@STMONICASTL.ORG #338**

**REGULAR WEEKEND CELEBRANT—FR. GEORGE BRENNAN**

**PERMANENT DEACONS—JIM MARTIN...JIM@JPMLLC.COM....CARL SOMMER...SOMMER@KENRICK.EDU**

**TRANSITIONAL DEACON—REV. MR. DANE WESTHOFF....DWESTHOFF@STMONICASTL.ORG**

**RETIRED DEACON—DEACON ROBERT BIRKENMAIER**

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES—SATURDAY VIGIL 5:00 P.M., SUNDAY 7:30, 9:30 A.M. AND 5:00 P.M.**

**DAILY WEEKDAY MASS—6:30 AND 8:15 A.M. MONDAY—FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. SATURDAYS**

**CONFessions—3:30–4:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT**

**PARISH SECRETARIES—PATTY GReAVES...314.434.4211 #330.....PGREAVES@STMONICASTL.ORG**

**JOAN BECKER...314.434.4211 #331.....JBECKER18@STMONICASTL.ORG**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS—8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. MAINTENANCE—MAINTENANCE@STMONICASTL.ORG**

**LITURGICAL MUSIC DIRECTOR—HEATHER MARTIN COOPER...314.434.2173...HMCOOPER@STMONICASTL.ORG**

**PRINCIPAL—TAMMI ROHMAN...314.434.2173...TROHMAN@STMONICASTL.ORG FAX 314.434.7689**

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT—ANNE COERVER ...314.434.4211 EXT. 331...ACOERVER@STMONICASTL.ORG**

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**ATHLETIC DIRECTOR—JOE GIBSON...314.504.0775....SAINTMONICASPORTS@GMAIL.COM**

Dear Parishioners,

**This weekend we celebrate the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.** This weekend we are assured that God is eager to welcome us back, today, or any time. However, let's always be aware of the times we might have strayed from God's embrace. May we thank God for the assurance of peace and reconciliation.

**Next weekend we will celebrate the Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.** As we come close to the end of the Church Year many of the Gospel passages that are provided for us by Holy Mother Church concern themselves with the Last Judgment. Our worthiness for eternal life can be indicated by the way we treat each other and the way we handle our possessions. As we come together next weekend, may we reflect on whether we are using our wealth for the benefit of others or if our own pursuit of wealth is blinding us to the needs of our neighbor. "You cannot be the servant of God and the servant of money."

**ACTS Retreat:** From all reports, the Women's ACTS retreat went very well. Thanks to all for your prayers. Thanks to the team and the retreatants. Thanks to the priests who offered their services for Masses, talks, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The next MEN'S ACTS RETREAT will be the weekend of March 26 – 29, 2020. I cordially invite all the men of the parish, who have not yet experienced an ACTS retreat, to prayerfully consider making that retreat. Thank you.

**Farewell:** On Thursday of this week, our "summer Associate Pastor," Fr Stephen Schumacher will be leaving us and returning to Rome for his last year of formation, working on his "License" (an ecclesiastical Master's Degree), in Biblical Theology. He will be staying at the Casa Santa Maria in the middle of Rome and will be studying at the Pontifical Gregorian University. He has a little note elsewhere in this week's bulletin. Please continue your prayers for him. I want to thank him for all that he did here this summer, especially with Delmar Gardens Nursing Home, the many hours of confessions he heard, the time he spent with the students at school and with our youth group, and all of those other things that go along with being an Associate Pastor! May God bless you, Fr Schumacher, and please remember us at your Masses in Rome, especially at the tomb of Saint Monica, in the Basilica of Saint Augustine.

**Adult Faith Formation:** This new effort to help us all grow in the faith began last Sunday, after the 9:30 Mass, and ran until 11:15. The meetings will be in the Cry Room / Chapel until the Msgr. Schneider Hall renovation is completed (sometime next month). We will meet on the Second and Fourth Sundays. I hope that some of you will be able to attend and learn more about our faith. Brother Ben Keller, OP, will be the presenter next Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. In addition, over the coming months, Deacon Dane Westhoff, Deacon Carl Sommer, Seminarian Jacob Connealy, parishioner Dr. Jim McCullough (who teaches at Cardinal Glennon College and also teaches in the Permanent Deacon program of the Archdiocese) and I will be presenters. We might have some of the young adult group also make presentations as time goes on. All are welcome! It was a good beginning last weekend ... and we thank Father Schumacher for his great presentation on faith! We will try to add in more time for questions as we go along!

**Catechetical Sunday: Today is the National Observance of Catechetical Sunday.** The theme this year is "Stay with Us." Today all of our catechists (full time school faculty and PSR catechists will be formally commissioned for ministry to the community. Rather than just those people, today is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that **each baptized person plays in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel**. All of our catechists will be commissioned today at the 9:30 A.M. Mass.

**Missionary Plan of Cooperation:** Each year each parish in the Archdiocese (and most of the country) hosts a Missionary to speak about their missions and take up a collection to assist the work of the church in their particular area. This year we have been assigned the Dominican Province of Nigeria. We will have a Dominican Priest from Nigeria, Father John-Mark Igboalisi, OP, here the weekend of September 21 and 22. He will also be available for Confessions that Saturday afternoon. I'm sorry that I don't have any more information about the Dominicans in Nigeria, but Father will tell us all about their work next weekend.

**Confirmation** for our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Robert Hermann on Wednesday, October 9, with a special celebration of Holy Mass at 7:00 P.M. This weekend there are the names of the candidates for the Sacrament in baskets by the exits.

*Continue on next page.....*

I ask that you take a candidate's name and pray for him / her in a special way these next three-plus weeks. If you would like to drop him/her a note, that would be great! Please prayerfully consider doing that for these candidates! Thank you.

**Worship Committee:** Our next meeting will be on this coming Wednesday, September 18. We begin in the Rectory Meeting Room at 7:00 P.M. Also that evening the 6<sup>th</sup> grade of our PSR will be receiving their Bibles at a special Prayer Service in Church. That very brief service will begin at 7:30. So I'll leave the Committee Meeting for a few minutes and present the bibles to our students ... then I'll be back to the meeting! Troy Steffenson has agreed to be chairman of the Committee ... so he'll run the meeting for a few minutes!

**Construction Noise and Daily Masses:** Our morning Weekday Masses were moved from Church to the gym on August 5th, and will continue to be there for ONE MORE WEEK! We will be back in Church Monday, September 23. (The Saturday morning 8:00 A.M. Mass will be in Church as will, of course, all of the weekend Masses.) I have an agreement with the contractor that if there is a funeral they will suspend work during the Funeral.

**Regarding Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament:** Because of the construction, Adoration will be 3:30 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. on this coming Wednesday, September 18. However, beginning Wednesday, September 25, we will resume the "normal" times for Adoration, namely, following the 8:15 A.M. Mass until 9:00 P.M. I hope all of our "adorers" will be able to resume their former times. Thank you for your patience with the building of the new elevator and the renovation of the Msgr. Schneider Hall and serving kitchen. Confessions will still be available from 3:30 – 4:30 on Wednesdays.

**Changes coming:** Effective September 30, we will only have the 6:30 A.M. weekday Mass. On Wednesdays, effective October 2, we will have an all school Mass at 8:15 A.M. (Please note that in addition to the daily 6:30 A.M. Mass, I will also have a Nursing Home Mass each Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 P.M.) Effective October 5, there will no longer be an 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday mornings. (*There will be an 8:00 A.M. Mass on All Souls Day, November 2.*) As for the weekend Mass schedule, I'm still trying to do all I can to get some help for the weekends. Also most likely there will be only one priest hearing confessions on Saturday, beginning next weekend, although I do have a commitment from a Religious Order that they will provide a priest "as often as possible," so, when there is only one priest celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, on Saturdays, confessions will end promptly at 4:30, even if there are people in line. I'm sorry that this has to be done, but there are simply no more priests available. Pray for vocations and that people being called would say "yes."

Faithfully yours,  
Fr Joe Weber

Dear people of Saint Monica Parish,

It is too soon that I must say "Good bye!" I head back to Rome this week (on Thursday, so you still have a couple days to come say goodbye in person if you'd like), to continue my studies in Biblical Theology. I should finish my degree in late June—pray for my diligence!—and then I will return to Saint Louis to take up whatever work the Archbishop has for me. Although my time among you good people has been too short, please let me say a heartfelt "thank you" to this whole parish. You have made my time here a very pleasant beginning of parish life and priestly ministry. You have been kind and welcoming, and indulgent toward the mistakes that a rookie is bound to make! I have learned a lot already—"Theology 5", as your dear pastor calls his gentle instructional moments—and I am grateful for the opportunity to have begun my life as a priest in this place. It may have been a brief stay, but Saint Monica will forever be my *first assignment*, which cannot but be formative for the rest of my priesthood. Thank you for your friendship, encouragement, and prayers: know of my prayers for you. I bear you in my heart as I return to Rome to pray among the saints of that great city. And I leave you with one request: please pray for me and for all priests. This is not an easy time to be a priest—not an easy time to be a Christian. It has ever been so, ever since my great namesake suffered stoning for his fidelity to Christ and His Gospel. Cling to God and His Church, and we will meet again "on the other side". God bless you all. And I remain

your devoted brother, in Christ,  
Father Stephen Schumacher

**MASS INTENTIONS—SEPTEMBER 16-21**

<b>MONDAY</b>	STS. CORNELIUS AND CYPRIAN
6:30 A.M.	ERNIE JIMENEZ
8:15 A.M.	RYAN MOORE
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<i>ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE</i>
6:30 A.M.	ELIZABETH WAVRINEVICH
8:15 A.M.	JOHN AND JANE McCARTHY
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	WEEKDAY
6:30 A.M.	BEN AND WANDA BURETTA
8:15 A.M.	VELVA BIRKENMAIER
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<i>ST. JANUARIUS</i>
6:30 A.M.	JOHN GEEKIE
8:15 A.M.	DR SLY FLOTTE AND HIS DAUGHTER, MARY
<b>FRIDAY</b>	STS. ANDREW KIM TAEGON AND
	PAUL CHONG HA-SANG
6:30 A.M.	JANET HILD
8:15 A.M.	BRYAN BRENNAN
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>ST. MATTHEW</b>
8:00 A.M.	TOM SR. AND TOM JR MYERS
5:00 P.M.	RICHARD SANDER

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING. PLEASE REMEMBER:**

Steven Baak, Ruth Begnaud, Carolyn Burke, Janet Collins, Shirley Dunker, Estelle Flanakin, Geralyn Giuffrida, Charlotte Griffaw, Bill Guiot, Christina Hartley, Bob Huseman, Sylvia Indelicato, Ronald Kalupa, Nina Kelly, Gloria Luca, Patricia Mohan, Lourdes Manalo, Mary K. Mc Carthy, Eileen McDonough, Joan Middendorf, Rose Miller, Ann Miller, Fred Mueller, Jack Powers, Mary Renner, Joseph Ritacco, Helen Sander, Dennis Sarris, Jeannett Sarris, Joe Schmitz, Rose Slee, Joe Sonderman, Brent Spaeth, John Staszkiewicz, Stan Thomas, and Fr. Timothy Vowels.

Persons will remain on the public Prayers for Healing list for six weeks unless otherwise requested.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO**

James Dominic Vechiarella, son of James and Melanie Vechiarella; to Andrea Natalyn Jenkinson, daughter of Marshall and Eileen Jenkinson; and to Alexander Jacob and Teah Jade Hickey, children of James and Tara Hickey who were baptized into our Parish Community.

**25TH/50TH WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Invitations have been mailed. If you have been married over 25 years and would like to join us in celebrating these couples October 19, RSVP to Lynn Barnes at 314.878.0969 or email [lynnbarnescpa@gmail.com](mailto:lynnbarnescpa@gmail.com) by October 1.

**ST. MONICA SCHOOL  
PRESCHOOL-EIGHTH GRADE:**

**PRINCIPAL**—Tammi Rohman..314.434.2173  
[trohman@stmonicastl.org](mailto:trohman@stmonicastl.org)

**SECRETARY**—Maggie Hermann..314.434.2173  
[Mhermann@stmonicastl.org](mailto:Mhermann@stmonicastl.org)

**SCHOOL SCOOP**

Happy (almost) Fall! I can't wait for cooler weather and fall colors. St. Monica school is off to a great start. Even with the challenges of Church Hall construction we have all pretty much settled into our routines. I attribute the smooth start to our fabulous faculty. I love working with these ladies, and gentlemen. This Sunday is Catechetical Sunday. Principals and teachers, and other individuals who provide faith formation to diverse age groups and settings will recommit themselves to Catholic education. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. It is an opportunity for us all to rededicate ourselves to this mission as a community of faith. Have a great week.

**Mrs. Rohman**

St. Monica Catholic School Principal

**ANNOUNCING THE LAUNCH OF THE ST. MONICA  
MARKETING COMMITTEE:**

The St. Monica School Board is proud to announce the formation of a dedicated Marketing Committee, focused on increasing the community's awareness of the Good News happening at St. Monica. The purpose of the new committee will be to coordinate a professional marketing campaign. To aid in this critical mission, the School Board is seeking volunteers with marketing and/or project management experience, who are committed to seeing St. Monica reach its full potential. Specific positions to be filled include, Committee Chair, Social Media Coordinator, Recruiter, Data Analyst, and Public Relations

Specialist. Our Parish is fortunate to have some many devoted volunteers. All those interested in helping shape the future success of St. Monica can contact

Joe Wientge [joewientge@gmail.com](mailto:joewientge@gmail.com) or  
314.323.2754.

**ST. MONICA PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION GRADES 1-8**  
**DIRECTOR—Mr. Jim Combs....314.434.2173**

Sept. 18 Class # 5  
 Sept. 25 Class # 6

**SUPPORT THE CUB SCOUTS!**

The St. Monica Cub Scouts are selling popcorn after all Masses **next** weekend. Help support our Scouts by purchasing some delicious flavors! To buy online, **PRpopcornStore.com**. Use seller ID, HYF2KW and our Pack receives the credit. Free shipping! Contact Dave DeJean at **Scoutdave@sbcglobal.net.**

**CYC Boys and Girls Parent LACROSSE MEETING** 7:30 in the cafeteria. Contact Felix Ferrise 14.792.9296 or **stmonicalaz@gmail.com**

Sign up for St. Monica's **40 DAYS FOR LIFE** to pray and witness at Planned Parenthood 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. September 26 in the church vestibule. Contact Diann Bomkamp **dbomkamp@sbcglobal.net** or Julio Lagos **juliolagos@sbcglobal.net.**

**PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION SEPTEMBER 8:**

Envelopes \$13,011.00; Loose \$1,697.50; Online Giving \$7,706.17; Catholic University \$273.00; Hurricane Relief \$30.00; Latin American Apostolate \$50.00 and School \$100.00.

**FORMED**

Kimberly Hahn, wife of Dr. Scott Hahn, shares how she came to know and love Mary as an example of drawing closer to Christ through suffering.

*Drawing Strength from Our Lady of Sorrows.*

Visit **formed.org/signup**

Select our parish. Register your name and email address. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED.

**SVDP PANTRY AT ST. MONICA**

We are extremely grateful for all the recent support of the pantry. Our current need is for canned ravioli/spaghetti, chili, beef stew and laundry detergent.

**50+CLUB NEWS**

September 19 is our picnic at Case Tuarez, a new location at 12710 Dorsett Road, Maryland Heights, We meet at 4:00 P.M. For reservations and information, call Kathleen at 314.469.7942. Hope to see there!

"**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**" is between 9:30 and 11:30 Mass at St. Monica's. It is a 30-minute talk/discussion on a topic in our faith. So many saints have highlighted the integral aspect that our mind and understanding play in our love of God. The more we know God, the more we can love God. Fr. Weber wrote in last week's bulletin:

**Adult Faith Formation** began September 8, after 9:30 Mass, and runs until 11:15. We meet in the Cry Room/Chapel until the Msgr. Schneider Hall renovation is completed on the Second and Fourth Sundays. I hope some of you will attend and learn more about our faith. Fr Stephen Schumacher, Deacon Dane Westhoff, Deacon Carl Sommer, Seminarian Jacob Connealy, and I will be presenters. Some of the young adult group may also be presenters. All are welcome!

Brunch September 15 at the Hamptons, 474 Meadow Green Place, Creve Coeur.

Brother Ben O.P.

**BLOOD DRIVE SEPTEMBER 29**

Visit any Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center, <https://www.bloodcenterimpact.org/donor/schedules/centers> to donate blood the week of our drive. To give St. Monica credit use code 9241.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

- 9/15 CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mum Sale
- 9/16 Knights of Columbus Mtg
- 9/17 School Board  
PSR
- 9/18 Adult Choir  
Pro-Life 7:00 P.M. in the cafeteria.
- 9/20 Protecting God's Children Class 6:00 P.M.  
in Spanish and English.
- 9/22 Adult Co-ed volleyball 6:30 P.M. in Gym.

## MORNING PRAYER

We celebrate before morning Mass during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent at St Monica, at 7:30 A.M. and will continue as the Mass schedule changes. The group is a part of the universal church in saying the very same prayer, and in that way becomes like incense, as in Psalm 141; "Let my prayer be incense\* before you; my uplifted hands<sup>\*</sup> an evening offering", rising to the presence of God from His faithful people, as a Holy sacrifice and a fitting offering.

I offer this article as a form of encouragement to all to join us this advent in the morning for 10-15 minutes of liturgical prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, as a way to begin your day.

## How-To: A BRIEF GUIDE TO THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

According to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the Liturgy of the Hours — which also goes by the name Divine Office and the Work of God — is the daily prayer of the Church, organized into five “canonical” hours dedicated to encountering God through prayer. “The hours are a meditative dialogue on the mystery of Christ, using Scripture and prayer,” states the USCCB webpage on the Liturgy of the Hours.

Two hours in particular anchor each day’s prayers — Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer — both include intercessory prayers and a canticle from the Gospels: The Canticle of Zechariah (Luke 1:68-79) for Morning Prayer and the Canticle of Mary (Luke 1:46-55) for Evening Prayer.

The five hours of the Divine Office are as follows:

- **Office of Readings:** According to Universalis, a website devoted to facilitating the Liturgy of the Hours, the Office of Readings was created after the 1970 reform of the Liturgy of the Hours. This hour is ideally prayed along with Morning Prayer but may be prayed at any time during the day, whenever most convenient, as a way to further enrich one’s faith life through meditation on passages from Scripture and the works of Catholic spiritual writers (General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours [GILH], 55).
- **Morning Prayer:** This hour is designed to sanctify the morning or first part of a Christian’s day, and, as the USCCB website notes, it recalls for Christians the resurrection of Jesus. The USCCB website quotes St. Basil in summing up the importance of these first fruits of our day: “It is said in the morning in order that the first stirrings of our mind and will may be consecrated to God and that we may take nothing in hand until we have been gladdened by the thought of God ...”
- **Daytime Prayer:** This hour, which can be prayed at midmorning, midday or midafternoon, helps Christians sanctify the passage of time throughout the day. The three times during which this hour can be prayed commemorate “the events of the Lord’s passion and of the first preaching of the Gospel” (GILH, 74-75).
- **Evening Prayer** provides Christians an opportunity to sanctify a specific moment — in this case, the day’s end. By reflecting on and giving thanks to God for what we have received during the day, Christians who pray Evening Prayer offer their final daily sacrifice of praise while also commemorating, as the USCCB website notes, “the true evening sacrifice that our Savior the Lord entrusted to the apostles” at the Last Supper.
- **Night Prayer** is said in the moments before laying one’s head down to sleep. The prayer is characterized by a spirit of confidence in and dependence upon God that every Christian should possess. Indeed, Night Prayer includes as a responsory the final words of Christ: “Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit” (Luke 23:46).

## INFORMATION SHEET

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Special Shipping Instructions: Be sure to deliver to the rectory.

FedEx Tracking e-mail: [pgreaves@stmonicastl.org](mailto:pgreaves@stmonicastl.org)