

ST. MONICA CHURCH
APRIL 26, 2020

You have made known to me
the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy
in your presence.

— Acts 2:28

April 26, 2020

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.
Photo: Roxana_ro/Stock/Thinkstock

PARISH OFFICE 314.434.4211

FAX 314.434.5978

WWW.STMONICASTL.ORG

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

PASTOR: FR. JOSEPH A. WEBER....JWEBER@STMONICASTL.ORG EXT 336

**REGULAR WEEKEND CELEBRANTS: FR. GEORGE BRENNAN; FR. DONALD HENKE;
FR. SEAN SALAI, SJ; FR. KEVIN STEPHENS, OP, AND FR. KRIS TEATER**

PERMANENT DEACONS: JIM MARTIN....JIM@JPMLLC.COM AND 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, 11:30 A.M. AND 5:00 P.M.

DAILY WEEKDAY MASS: 6:30 A.M. MONDAY—FRIDAY; 8:15 A.M. WEDNESDAYS

CONFESSIONS: 3:30–4:30 P.M. WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT

**PARISH SECRETARIES: PATTY GREAVES....PGREAVES@STMONICASTL.ORG EXT 330 AND
JOAN BECKER....JBECKER18@STMONICASTL.ORG EXT 331**

MAINTENANCE: DON SMITHART....MAINTENANCE@STMONICASTL.ORG

LITURGICAL MUSIC DIRECTOR: HEATHER MARTIN COOPER 314.434.2173, OPTION 6...HMCOOPER@STMONICASTL.ORG

PRINCIPAL: TAMMI ROHMAN...314.434.2173, OPTION 3....TROHMAN@STMONICASTL.ORG

SCHOOL SECRETARY: MAGGIE HERMANN 314.434.2173, OPTION 1....MHERMANN@STMONICASTL.ORG

SAFE ENVIRONMENT: ANNE COERVER....ACOERVER@STMONICASTL.ORG EXT 330

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ASSISTANCE LINE: 314.289.6101....Mailbox #2210

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: JOE GIBSON 314.504.0775.....SAINTMONICASPORTS@GMAIL.COM

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend we celebrate the Third Sunday of Easter. We are an Easter people and so, despite the Coronavirus, and the lack of public Masses and Sacraments, we are called to be a joyful people. Jesus has conquered death, broken open our tombs of sin and despair, and redeemed us in our humanity. Animated by the Holy Spirit we live in the light and life of Christ, spreading that light and life on to those around us. May our hearts be glad and tongues exult as we lift our voices in praise to God.

This afternoon was supposed to have been the celebration of First Holy Communion for our children. Unfortunately, of course, we can't celebrate that this weekend. **HOWEVER**, and this is always subject to change, first communion families, **PLEASE** mark June 14, the Feast of Corpus Christi, as the now **TENTATIVE** date for First Holy Communion. **IF** we can celebrate a public Mass on the 14th, the First Communion Mass will be at **2:00 P.M.** More information will be passed on to the parents in the weeks ahead. **PRAY** that this will soon be over.

Next weekend we will celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Easter, known as Good Shepherd Sunday. Picture a lush meadow with a large flock of sheep enjoying the fresh air and sunshine. Despite the coronavirus around us perhaps this scene might be helpful to us today. We are part of that flock. We have a lovingly devoted shepherd, the One who calls us each by name and invites us to have life and to have it more abundantly. Next week let's join together in joy and with gratitude for all He has done for us.

We have had some very nice comments about the streamed Masses, including the special music that Heather Martin Cooper and Audrey Thomas are offering on Sundays before and after the Mass. Last weekend, when we streamed the Holy Hour for Divine Mercy Sunday, we had 106 views (that doesn't translate to the number of people, of course). I'm told that for the time slot, 3:00 – 4:00 P.M., that is very good. Our Easter Sunday Mass had 804 views! That is really something. The Divine Mercy Sunday Mass had 278 views, including friends of mine in Pennsylvania and Wyoming "tuning in" for our Sunday Mass. All in all I think that we are doing as well as we can, given the circumstances. Thank you.

The Pope's WorldWide Prayer Network: This Friday is May 1, the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker, the First Friday of the Month of May, and the beginning of a new intention to be prayed for along with Pope Francis and all the members of the "Apostleship of Prayer." The intention this month (set several years ago) is **"For Deacons: We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church."**

We are blessed with a Transitional Deacon, Dane Westhoff who, God willing, will be ordained a priest on Saturday, May 23. We are also blessed with two active Permanent Deacons, Jim Martin and Carl Sommer, and one Acolyte who, again, God willing, will be ordained a Deacon this coming summer, Bill Smith. Also, over the years, we have been blessed to have Brother Ben Keller, OP, another Acolyte, who is so instrumental in our young adult group, helping out here liturgically on Sundays, but through the week in many ways too. He too, we hope and pray, will be ordained a Deacon sometime this summer. Bob Radley, of our parish, is in the initial stages (just finishing up his first year) of prayer and study to be a deacon. We also are blessed to have a retired Deacon, Bob Birkenmaier, who has been a great servant to the people of God in his many years since his Ordination.

Continue on next page.....

Over the years there have been other deacons who have served us here and in the Church. PLEASE pray for all deacons during this coming month of May.

Pope Francis reminds us about Deacons: (from a talk in Milan, Italy, March 25, 2017)

[...] The diaconate is a specific vocation, a family vocation that requires service. I like it very much when [in the Acts of the Apostles] the first Hellenistic Christians went to the apostles to complain because their widows and orphans were not well cared for, and they had a meeting, that “synod” between apostles and disciples, and they “invented” the deacons to serve. And this is very interesting for us bishops too, because they were all bishops, those who “made” the deacons. And what does this tell us? That deacons were servants. Then they understood that, in that case, it was not to assist widows and orphans: but to serve. And to us as bishops: prayer and the proclamation of the Word; and this shows us what the most important charism of a bishop is: to pray. What is the task of a bishop, the first task? Prayer. Second task: proclaiming the Word. But you can see the difference clearly. And for you [deacons]: service. This word is the key to understanding your charism. Service as one of the characteristic gifts of the people of God. The deacon is, so to say, the custodian of service in the Church. Every word must be carefully measured. You are the guardians of service in the Church: service to the Word, service to the Altar, service to the poor. And your mission, the mission of the deacon, and your contribution consist in this: in reminding us all that faith, in its various expressions – community liturgy, personal prayer, the various forms of charity – and in its various states of life – lay, clerical, family – possesses an essential dimension of service. Service to God and to brothers. And how far we have to go in this sense! You are the guardians of service in the Church. Therein lies the value of the charisms in the Church, which are a memory and a gift for helping all the people of God not to lose the perspective and wealth of God’s action. You are not half priests, half laypeople – this would be to “functionalize” the diaconate – you are the sacrament of service to God and to others. And from this word “service” there derives all the development of your work, of your vocation, of your being within the Church. A vocation that, like all vocations is not only individual, but lived within the family and with the family; within the People of God and with the People of God. [...]

May is also the Month of the Holy Rosary. I will have something about the Rosary in next week’s column.

Hopefully this coming week members of our parish will be calling other members of our parish just as a “check in” to see how you are doing. I want to thank the people who have agreed to make these calls. It will also help us to see how many of the phone numbers that we have in our files are “good numbers.” Over the past two weeks, for example, I tried to call a few people from the parish using the phone numbers we have in our files. Twice I got numbers that had been changed “ages ago,” as one person put it! So, this will be a good exercise for us too!

Meanwhile, PLEASE keep on praying. Keep on asking the Lord for an end to this scourge. We know that God is listening to our prayers! Let’s keep on asking!

I put this in last week’s bulletin, but I’m putting it in again: **I don’t know how many will actually see this, especially non-parishioners, but assuming that we are back to having Public Masses by Mothers’ Day, (which seems unlikely) this year on Sunday, May 10th, on Mother’s Day, THERE WILL NOT BE A 5:00 P.M. SUNDAY MASS.**

Continue on next page.....

If you know someone who normally is a visitor here for the 5:00 P.M. Sunday Mass, and if we are back having public Masses by then (which is doubtful), please get the word out. Thank you.

The Mass intentions to be prayed at our daily “private Masses” this week (celebrated “in private” in our church, and streamed on our website and Facebook page at 9:30 each morning are): Monday: Bernadine Gimenez; Tuesday: Martin and Rita Degenhardt; Wednesday: Gene Grieco; Thursday: Jennifer Janson; Friday: John Lang; Saturday: Marty Doerr Family. AND, of course, Sunday, the Mass is for the People of the Parish.

Faithfully yours, in the Risen Christ, our Bread of Life,

Fr Joe Weber

PRAYERS FOR HEALING, REMEMBER...

Ruth Begnaud, Carolyn Burke, Al Callier, Mildred Dickherber, Shirley Dunker, Estelle Flanakin, Bill Guiot, Christina Hartley, Bob Huseman, Ronald Kalupa, Nina Kelly, Gavin Lain, Gloria Luca, Patricia Mohan, Lourdes Manalo, Joan Middendorf, Ann Miller, Fred Mueller, Jack Powers, Michael Reinhardt, Mary Renner, Joseph Ritacco, Helen Sander, Dennis Sarris, Jeannett Sarris, Joe Schmitz, Msgr. Nicholas Schneider, Myles Schoem, Beth Schobel, Rose Slee, Ellen Strickland, Joe Sonderman, and Fr Timothy Vowels.



ST. PATRICK'S CASSEROLES

Pans are available in the vestibule of church; please be sure to sign for any pans you use. Casseroles are needed for Friday, May 1 and Wednesday, May 6.

Your response last month was wonderful and we hope you are able to help again in May. If you have difficulty obtaining ingredients, be sure to respond to the email you received about the May casseroles. If you are able to make a casserole, help can be found to round up your ingredients.

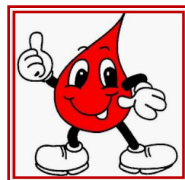
Thank you.

BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, May 7, 1:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M. in the gym. Online appointments only to properly keep social distancing.

Make an appointment: https://login.bloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/95963. Contact Diann Bomkamp for information 314.432.7719 home or cell 314.484.6121. You may also email Diann at dbomkamp@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you for giving the gift of life!



NEWS FROM OUR MUSICIAN...

Each Sunday from Easter through June 14, the prelude and postlude music for the 9:30 A.M. Mass will be played in memory of Dr. Marie Kremer. Each piece is drawn from the treasure of masterworks composed for the organ, and most of our selections are the music of J. S. Bach. Audrey Thomas and myself will play to the honor and glory of God, remembering Dr. Kremer with thanksgiving for her 21 years of service to St Monica, and more than 50 years of service to the church and the organ world alike. We hope you will listen and join our prayer of thanksgiving as we play.

For April 26th, Audrey will play Bach's Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 541. On May 3rd I will play three (or perhaps all four) movements of Bach's Pastorale BWV 590. On Easter Sunday, Audrey played the Prelude in E-flat Major, BWV 552, and the Toccata in C Major, BWV 564.

On April 19th, I played the Prelude in D Major, and Audrey played the Fugue, BWV 532.

The remaining selections will be included in future bulletins.

DIAPER DRIVE

Sponsored by the Permanent Deacons of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, in conjunction with The Respect Life Office has been extended to May 1.

PARISH OFFICE is closed.

We will be making every effort to return your phone calls in a timely manner.

ELECTRONIC ST. MONICA BULLETINS available at <https://ebulletin.jspaluch.com>. Search for St Monica by zip code. Fill in your email address and click subscribe. Questions email, pgreaves@stmonicastl.org.

INFORMATION SHEET

Church Name & Address:

St. Monica # 957061
12136 Olive Blvd
Creve Coeur, Mo 63141

Contact Person:

Patty Greaves 314.434.4211 #330

Software:

Win 7—MSPub 2007—AA-X

Date of Publication: April 26, 2020

Number of Pages Transmitted: Cover + 4 text pages + this page = 7 (2 ad pages)

Special Instructions: We would only like 100 bulletins printed. Thank you.

FedEx Shipping Address:

St. Monica Church
12136 Olive Blvd
Creve Coeur, MO 63141

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

FedEx Tracking e-mail: pgreaves@stmonicastl.org