



THE PARISH of SAINT MONICA

Called by Name; Gifted by God; Committed to Prayer; Driven to Serve... Abiding in Hope

THE CHURCH of SAINT MONICA

Founded January 11, 1897

Parish Offices

(Pastoral Administration; Religious Education; Business & Finance; Worship & Music; Facilities)

Saint Monica Rectory
635 First Avenue
Berwyn, Pennsylvania 19312
Phone: 610.644.0110
Facsimile: 610.695.0850

Office of Religious Education (Rectory)

610.647.4757

Parish Website

www.saintmonicachurch.org

Twitter & Instagram

@StMonicaBerwyn

Join Flocknote!

Text "Monica1897" to 84576

Parish Staff E-mail

FirstInitialLastName@
saintmonicachurch.org

Parish Leadership

financecouncil@
saintmonicachurch.org

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass 8:30 a.m.
(Monday thru Saturday with a Communion Service on Wednesday)

Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

Holy Days of Obligation 8:30 a.m.
12 noon

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

Saturday from 4 to 4:45 p.m.
Anytime by appointment.

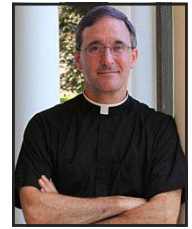


The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

FROM the PASTOR'S DESK...

I was watching the Philadelphia Flyers defeat the Toronto Maple Leafs the other day. I'm a big hockey fan, even more than a Flyers fan. I played the game for a number of years and love the game at any level. Therefore, when somebody came up to me back in 2000 and asked if I would be a chaperone at World Youth Day in Toronto, I answered, "Only if I have an afternoon off so I can go and visit the National Hockey League Hall of Fame." The World Youth Day in Toronto was Saint Pope John Paul II's last World Youth Day before the saint passed away. During the "Welcoming Ceremony," John Paul II spoke to the young people of the world and said the following:



*"We too are gathered here, this evening, to listen attentively to the Lord. He looks at you with affection: you come from the different regions of Canada, of the United States, of Central and South America, of Europe, of Africa, of Asia, of Oceania. I have heard your festive voices, your cries, your songs, and I have felt the deep longing that beats within your hearts: **you want to be happy!**"*

Christopher Stefanick is a Catholic evangelist who has a vibrant ministry and a significant presence on social media. He recently was featured in a video concerning the same topic of happiness. Chris asks, "Why do we do what we do? We probably do it to 'be happy.'"

So here's a question. Why did you come to Mass this weekend for Christmas? Was it something that you always do? Was it something that maybe a relative pressured you into doing? Did you come because it's "the right thing to do" or you did it simply out of habit? Did you come because you are a true believer and follower of Jesus Christ?

At the core, the reason probably was that some aspect of attending Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Mass would bring you, at least *some* shade of happiness.

Here's a second question: How long did it last?

How happy were you in 2017? What helped in achieving some *(Continued on Page 4)*

THE FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT



Almighty, eternal, just, and merciful God, give us miserable ones the grace to do for You alone what we know you want us to do, and always to desire what pleases You. Inwardly cleansed, interiorly enlightened and inflamed by the fire of the Holy Spirit, may we be able to follow in the footsteps of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and by Your grace alone, may we make our way to You, Most High, Who live and rule in perfect Trinity and simple Unity, and are glorified God almighty, forever and ever. Amen.

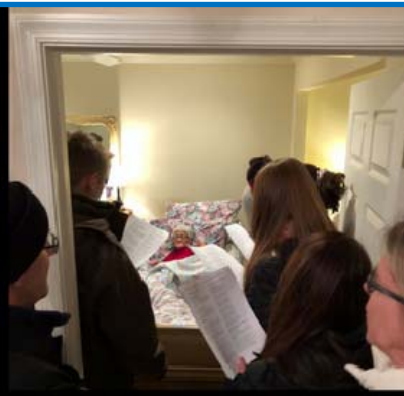
FROM *the* OFFICE of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



*O Come Let Us Adore
Him*

*Wishing you and yours
the Peace and Joy of
the new-born King!*

FAMILY *and* YOUTH MINISTRY



Life Teen and Edge students went Christmas Caroling to our homebound parishioners and parishioners who have lost a loved one.

FROM *the* OFFICE of WORSHIP *and* MUSIC

WHAT WE'RE SINGING

One of the most beloved and well known tunes for the Season of Advent, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, is a translation of a Latin hymn, *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*, itself a metrical paraphrase of the O Antiphons, a series of plainchant antiphons attached to the Magnificat at Vespers over the final days before Christmas. The 1861 translation from *Hymns Ancient and Modern* is the most prominent by far in the English-speaking world, but other English translations also exist. Translations into other modern languages (particularly German) are also in widespread use. The words and the music of “O come, O come,

Emmanuel” developed separately. The Latin text is first documented in Germany in 1710, whereas the tune most familiar in the English-speaking world has its origins in 15th-century France.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVE CHORAL PRELUDE AND CAROL SING

Join us on Christmas Eve, beginning at 7:25 pm as the Parish Choir and Brass Quartet presents a prelude concert of Christmas Music and Christmas Carols before the 8 pm Mass.

Registration continues for the Second Annual



**DOMINIC L. COYLE
MEMORIAL 3 V 3
BASKETBALL
TOURNAMENT**

Friday, December 29, 2017

Saint Monica Parish Center Gym

First Tip Off at 9 AM – Games run throughout the day!

**All Proceeds Will Benefit the
Archbishop Carroll Dominic L. Coyle Memorial Fund**

Get your team together!

**Registration is open at
www.saintmonicachurch.org**



SUNDAY COLLECTIONS for NOVEMBER 2017

November 2017	\$72,225	54% Electronic	November YTD 2017	\$349,842	48% Electronic
November 2016	\$65,213	43% Electronic	November YTD 2016	\$327,246	45% Electronic
November Budget	2017-18	\$72,619	November YTD Budget	2017-18	\$349,985

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Sunday, December 17, 2017
 Sunday Collection \$8,712
 Electronic \$3,619
Total \$12,331

**We have 184 families
contributing electronically.*

POOR BOXES

The money collected from the Poor Boxes during the Month of December will be for the benefit of AIDS Ministry — Calcutta House. May God bless you for your continued generosity.

The Fiscal Year 2018 budget for Saint Monica Parish is available on line at www.saintmonicachurch.org under the Parish Information tab in the Parish Leadership section.

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM the PASTOR'S DESK...

(Continued from Page 1)

happiness this past year? What took away from your happiness? “Many and enticing are the voices that call out to you from all sides: many of these voices speak to you of a joy that can be had with money, with success, with power. Mostly they propose a joy that comes with the superficial and fleeting pleasure of the senses.” (John Paul II, 17th *World Youth Day, Papal Welcoming Ceremony*). They won't bring a happiness that lasts. They're temporary. The hole in your heart is eternal and can only be “filled” with someONE who is timeless. Jesus said that He came so that we would be happiness and not just in a superficial, temporary way, but in a way that would be longer lasting and deeper (See John 15:11).

Saint Monica recently began to embark on a new “fork in the road” intended to help people “encounter happiness”... a happiness that lasts longer than the wrapping that covers the presents on Christmas Day. We're striving to help people “encounter” Christ in the Scriptures, in the liturgy and in outreach and service to others. Do you think that will help bring a new or deeper or longer lasting happiness to you in 2018? If not, I suspect that we won't see you again for a while.

But if you think Christ can bring more and deeper happiness to a broken person...see you next week.

Charles Flock Jr

MARCH for LIFE TRIP

PAYMENTS ACCEPTED NEXT WEEKEND



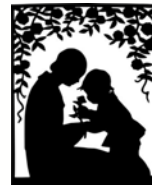
Please join us on **Friday, January 19th** for the Saint Monica Bus Trip to Washington, DC for the 45th Annual **March for Life**. To **register** or get **more information**, see the March for Life registration webpage accessible from the [parish website](#) or contact Rosemary Friedrich at rfriedrich@verizon.net. *If possible, please register on-line so that we have your contact information for the trip and an accurate headcount.* Cost for the trip is only \$25 per adult. Payments are accepted on-line or after all of the Masses (cash or check only) **next weekend**, January 6-7.

Can't attend the March yourself? Please consider making a donation to help defray the cost of the trip for others, especially students and children who are invited to participate at no charge. In this way, you can be involved and demonstrate your support for this peaceful witness for life. Donations can be made on the March for Life

registration webpage or by contacting Maurita Buhsmer at jbuhsmer1@verizon.net.

CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION

Save the Date!



Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the **First Catholic Grandparents Association** meeting at Saint Monica Parish on **Tuesday, January 23 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Hagenbach Room.

More Details to Follow!

SPIRITUAL BOOKS GIVE AWAY



Mary, “**Did you know? How much heaven and how much earth were in this baby at His birth? Did you know...or did you wonder?**” *Todd Agnew, singer/song writer*

Additional devotional books are available for Saint Monica Parishioners this weekend. In the book rack you will also find a listing of all the devotional books offered during the December 16-17 and December 23-24 giveaways. You can expand your hunt for a devotional to take you through 2018 by performing an **AMAZON.COM** search with the phrase **Christian Devotional Books**. Your search will return thousands of e-books, paperback and hardcover books for you to choose from. Be blessed by Him everyday and find comfort, challenge and experience an intimate connection with the Savior all of 2018. **May your Christmas be filled with Joy & Gratitude because of all that Christ has given you.**

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL



Christmas is not simply the feast of the birth of Christ; it is the feast of His becoming human, the reality called the Incarnation.

Jesus was an embryo, a fetus, an unborn child. Life in the womb, which was already sacred because it comes from God, is now made even more holy, and worthy of our every sacrifice.



COME PRAY THE ROSARY EVERY MONDAY EVENING at 7:00 P.M.

SAINT MONICA CHURCH

Remember Fatima.

Live out its messages.

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY NAME SOCIETY AND MEN'S CLUB



Annual HNS Retreat at Malvern

Our date is set for our **Annual Retreat at Malvern**. Mark your calendars for **February 2, 3, 4, 2018**. More details to come; reserve that weekend. You will be home in plenty of time for Super Bowl kick-off.

THANK YOU



Thank you to the Parishioners of Saint Monica Church for their tremendous generosity towards the women and children served by Legacy of Life Foundation during 2017.

- The playground and fence purchased and built by the Holy Name Society/Men's Club
- The Celebration Luncheon by the Merry Widows
- Diaper and Baby Supply Drive during Lent
- The Saint Monica Baby Bottle Drive (274 Bottles Collected; \$11,425.24 Donated)

May God bless everyone at Saint Monica's with the Peace and Love of the Christmas Season!

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father,
 Help us remember the birth of Jesus,
 that we may share in the song of the angels,
 the gladness of the shepherds,
 and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate
 and open the door of love all over the world.
 Let kindness come with every gift
 and good desires with every greeting.
 Deliver us from evil by the blessing
 which Christ brings,
 and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning
 make us happy to be thy children,
 and Christmas evening bring us to our beds
 with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven,
 for Jesus' sake. Amen.



CUPS FOR CARITAS

Students from **Malvern Preparatory School** and **Villa Maria Academy** are hosting the **Cups for Caritas**, our 2017-2018 iteration on the ten-year tradition of Empty Bowls events at Malvern. This year's event, which raises funds for **Bethesda Project** will be held on Sunday, January 14, on Malvern Prep's campus. The event will begin with 9:00 Mass in Our Mother of Good Counsel Chapel. The doors of Stewart Hall will open at 10:30 where guests will have the opportunity to choose a handmade ceramic cup to use and keep as a reminder that there are always people in our world in need of caritas. The morning features a simple buffet-style brunch, a silent auction, guest speakers, and a "leftovers" cup sale. Tickets are \$25/adult and \$15/children 10 + under. Advance ticket sales are available online at www.mpemptybowls.org. For more info, contact mpemptybowls@gmail.com or 484-595-5203.

Save the Date!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28 — 2:00 to 5:00 PM



CHILI COOK-OFF
 SPONSORED BY THE
 SAINT MONICA HOLY NAME
 SOCIETY & SAINT MONICA
 WOMEN'S SOCIETY

Do YOU think you have the BEST Chili Recipe in town? Are YOU up for some friendly competition? Pre-Game on, Local judges, Prizes to be awarded! Registrations limited to 20 contestants — claim your crockpot early! Come to compete... or just to Eat... Details coming soon. All inquiries should be directed to Nancy Lafferty at: thelaffs@comcast.net.

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE for December 24

DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday		Merry Christmas!	
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Thursday			
Friday	9:15-10:45 am 9:00 am	Legion of Mary Dominic Coyle	Rectory Parish Center
Saturday	4:00-4:45 pm	Confession	Church

THE CHURCH of SAINT MONICA

WWW.SAINTMONICACHURCH.ORG

SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook
The Church of Saint Monica, Berwyn



Twitter
@StMonicaBerwyn



Instagram
@StMonicaBerwyn

FATHER ZLOCK



Website
Frzlock.com



Facebook
Fr. Charlie Zlock



Twitter
@FrZlock

FAMILY & YOUTH MINISTRY

Edge: Middle School Youth Group
Lifteen: High School Youth Group



Facebook
CSMEdge
CSMLifteen



Twitter
@CSMEdge
@CSMLifteen



Instagram
@CSMEdge
@CSMLifteen

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

The Saint Monica Parish Bulletin is published weekly and is available both on the parish website and distributed to the assembly.

Submissions are due each Monday by noon and should be e-mailed to parishbulletin@saintmonicachurch.org with formatting left to a minimum.

Please include a contact name and phone number with your submission. In the case where announcements must be submitted handwritten, please make sure the text is legible.

BULLETIN INSERTS

All inserts must be submitted to the Rectory Office for approval a minimum of **two weeks** before you would like it to appear.

MASS INTENTIONS for December 24 - December 31

MASS TIME	INTENTION	PRESIDER	MUSIC MINISTRY	NOTES
5:00 pm	+ Peg McGee	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
9:30 am	People of the Parish	Fr. Fitzgerald	Cantor	
4:00 pm	People of the Parish	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
6:00 pm	People of the Parish	Fr. Fitzgerald	Cantor	
8:00 pm	People of the Parish	Fr. Zlock	Parish Choir	
Monday, 25th	7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am +Dominic Tenaglio and Dominic Coyle 11:30 am People of the Parish	Fr. Serano Fr. Zlock Fr. Fitzgerald		
Tuesday, 26th	Rocks Family	Fr. Zlock		
Wednesday, 27th	Communion Service			
Thursday, 28th	+Richard Dressler	Fr. Avicoli		
Friday, 29th	+ Fernando E. Enriquez	Fr. Zlock		
Saturday, 30th	+ Richard Dressler	Fr. Zlock		<i>Second Collection: St. Monica St. Vincent DePaul Fund</i>
5:00 pm	People of the Parish	Fr. Zlock	Cantor	
7:30 am	Rocks Family	Fr. Zlock	Quiet	
9:30 am	+ Dominic L. Coyle	Fr. Fitzgerald	Parish Choir	
11:30 am	+ Larry Norton	Fr. Antry	Cantor	

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYER

Sonia Altirman, Drew Brazer, Michael Byrne, Phyllis Campbell, Lina Cappelli, Terri Carson, Lilly Ciocca, James DiAntonio, Gavin Duffy, Rita Dunn, Margarita Elloso, Joseph Erwin, Ria Filippelli, Kelly Glacken, Mary Hartley, Karen Hastings, Natalie Innella, Jenna, Maya and Eva Izzi, Faith Johnson, Libby Judge, Jackson MacTaggart, Mark Maholick, Eugene Matta, Susan McDonnell, Heather Moore, Dr. Mark Nardone, John Neff, Rita Reilly, Joel Rivera, John Robinson, Mary Rose, Cathy Russell, Gary Smith, Tallon Family, Mildred Walsh

THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

Melanie Mizenko, Niece of Sandie Concannon

H.O.P.E. — HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCIES

Leader for this week: Sandie Concannon at 610-647-1068

PARISH LEADERSHIP

FINANCE COUNCIL

Robert Carden
Dennis Connell
Richard Deak
Kathleen Keough
Michael McCabe
Peter Lynch
Gerald O'Brien
Michael Vadner
Lawrence Wieser

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

Reverend Charles Zlock, M.Div., M.A., M.B.I.S., *Pastor*
Reverend Allan Fitzgerald, O.S.A., Ph.D., *Pastoral Assistance*
The Norbertines of Daylesford Abbey, *Pastoral Assistance*
Frank K.J. Orman, *Director of Worship & Music*
Jason Carter, *Director of Family & Youth Ministry*
Theresa Carey, *Business Manager*
Catherine H. Levine, *Parish Administrative Assistant*
Diane Kirsch Pealer, *Religious Education Assistant*
Elizabeth P. Tenaglio, *Cemetery Administration*
Frank Pantano, *Facilities Manager*
Vincent Gutierrez, *Facilities Manager*