

# SAINT MONICA PARISH

**MARCH 1, 2026**

## **SAINT EDMOND CHURCH**

**2130 South 21st Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19145**

## **SAINT MONICA CHURCH**

**2422 South 17th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19145**

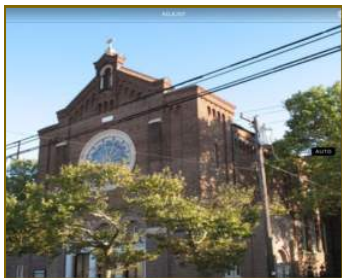


THIS IS MY  
BELOVED SON,  
WITH WHOM I AM  
WELL PLEASED;  
listen to him.

MATTHEW 17:5

© JPPC

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**



**REVEREND JOSEPH KELLEY,**  
**Pastor**

**Associates**  
Reverend Edward Town

**Retired**  
Reverend John Calabro  
Pastor Emeritus - Annunciation B.V.M.

**Director of Religious Education**  
Deacon Leonard D. De Masi

**Pastoral Services**  
Sister Kathleen White, I.H.M.

**Saint Monica School**  
Sister Servants of the I.H.M.  
Sister Melissa Mastrangelo, IHM  
**Principal**

Sister Therese Bauer, IHM  
**Vice Principal**

**Early Learning Center**  
Sister Rosemary Peterson, I.H.M.

**Director of Elder Care Services**  
Sister Ruth Hennessy, R.S.M.

**RECTORY HOURS**  
Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday  
9 AM to 8 PM  
Thursday  
9 AM to 3 PM  
Friday and Saturday  
9 AM to 1 PM  
Sunday - Closed

**PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Parish:** 215-334-4170  
**Schools:** (Senior) 215-467-5338  
(Junior) 215-334-3777  
**Early Learning Cent.:** 215-334-6001  
**Religious Education:** 215-334-1659  
**Elder Care Services:** 215-334-0285  
**Pastoral Services:** 215-334-0286  
**Convent:** 215-334-0745  
**St. Edmond Office:** 215-334-3755

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Weekends:**  
- St. Monica -  
**Sat: 8:30 AM | 5 PM** (*anticipated Sunday Mass*)  
**Sun: 8:30 AM | 10 AM | 11:30 AM**

- St. Edmond -  
**Sat: 4 PM** (*anticipated Sunday Mass*)  
**Sun: 10 AM**

**Weekdays:**  
- St. Monica -  
**6:30 AM** (*during school year*) | **8:30 AM**

**Holy Days:**  
- St. Monica -  
**6:30 AM | 8:30 AM | 10 AM | 7 PM**

- St. Edmond -  
**10 AM**

**CONFESSIONS**

**St. Monica**  
**Saturday, 9-9:45 AM**

**St. Edmond**  
**Saturday after First Friday**  
**3-3:45 PM**



[saintmonicaparish.net](http://saintmonicaparish.net)





SECOND  
SUNDAY  
OF LENT

Saturday, February 28

8:30 AM - Ernest Di Vincenzo

5:00 PM - Rose Maisano

**\*\*4:00 PM - Dupoldt and De Mayo Families**

Sunday, March 1

8:30 AM - Rosario Polito

10:00 AM - Living & Dec'd of IHM Sodality

11:30 AM - Joseph Palladino

**\*\*10:00 AM - Clara Cain**

Monday, March 2

6:30 AM - Anthony and Mary Celucci

8:30 AM - Mary Polito

Tuesday, March 3

6:30 AM - John and Elizabeth Hagan

8:30 AM - Maureen McAleer

Wednesday, March 4

6:30 AM - Joseph Marotta

8:30 AM - Edie Colyer

Thursday, March 5

6:30 AM - I.H.M. Sisters

8:30 AM - Marie Casanova

Friday, March 6

6:30 AM - Nicholas Di Febbo

8:30 AM - Michele Marcellino

Saturday, March 7

8:30 AM - Anthony and Carol Barel

5:00 PM - Salvatore Fortino

**\*\*4:00 PM - William Guarnere**

**\*\* Saint Edmond Masses**

**“NO ONE IS FAR FROM GOD”**

**- St. Monica**



**MASS SCHEDULE**

Barring any unforeseen changes, the Mass Schedule for Saturday, March 7 and Sunday, March 8 will be:

**5:00 PM - Father Edward**

**\*\* 4:00 PM - Father Calabro**

**8:30 AM - Father Friel**

**10:00 AM - Father Kelley**

**11:30 AM - Father Kelley**

**\*\* 10:00 AM - Father Edward**

**\*\* Saint Edmond**



NOVENA OF GRACE  
IN HONOR OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

CONCLUDING PRAYER OF THE INTERCESSIONS

Lord God, our Father, we honor the memory of the Apostle of the Indies and Japan, Saint Francis Xavier. The remembrance of the favors with which You blessed him during life and of his glory after death fills us with joy; and we unite with him in offering to You our sincere tribute of thanksgiving and of praise.

We ask You to grant us through his powerful intercession, the inestimable blessing of living and dying in the state of grace. We also ask You to grant us the favors we seek in this novena.....  
(PAUSE).....

But if what we ask is not for the glory of God and the good of our souls, grant us, we pray, what is more conducive to both, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (AFTER COMMUNION)

We give You thanks, O Lord, for all Your wondrous gifts. We thank You for the gift of life; You called us into being that we might be Your children and live with You forever. We thank You for the grace of our baptism; You sealed us with the Holy Spirit, gifted us with Your own life, grafted us into the mystical body of Your Son. We thank You for our vocation to join with the Risen Christ in working to save and sanctify the world in which we live. We thank You for this Eucharist; You have fed us on the bread of life, strengthened our faith, renewed our hope, deepened our love, and made us one with one another in the body of Christ, our Lord. We give You thanks, O Lord, for all Your wondrous gifts.

HYMN

O Father St. Francis, we kneel at your feet,  
While blessings and favors we beg and entreat,  
That you from your bright throne in heaven above  
Would look on your clients with pity and love.

St. Francis Xavier, O pray for us!  
St. Francis Xavier, O pray for us!

O Father St. Francis, you sailed the broad seas  
To preach the Good News of the Savior who frees,  
We pray that this freedom may grace all mankind,  
That all in Christ Jesus salvation will find.

St. Francis Xavier, O pray for us!  
St. Francis Xavier, O pray for us!

O Father St. Francis, we ask for your aid  
To heed the commitment to Jesus we made:  
That we will be faithful and loyal and true  
And show Christ to others in all that we do.

St. Francis Xavier, O pray for us!  
St. Francis Xavier, O pray for us!



**AT SAINT MONICA'S**



**SANCTUARY LAMP**

**(Upper Church)**

**For: Peter Uzzo  
From: The Toritto Family**

**There are many openings for Hosts and Wine and Sanctuary Lamps available for 2026. Please call the rectory with your requests.**

**Offering these devotions for our deceased loved ones is a time honored custom in our church. Our prayers will benefit us in return.**

**“Pray for the dead and they in turn will pray for you.”**



**AT SAINT EDMOND'S**

**VOTIVE CANDLES  
in Honor of  
OUR BLESSED MOTHER**

**For: Nicole Di Lolle  
From: The Di Lolle Family**

**In Thanksgiving  
From: Kathy and Bob**

**For: Ida Vellucci  
(3 Year Anniversary)  
From: Toni Vellucci**

**SANCTUARY FUND**

**For: William Kraus  
From: Paul Geraci and  
Bill Falcone and Family**



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED

*Joey Irene Aprile  
Mia Auddino  
Sophia Auddino  
Catline Cardella  
Arya Jo Herrin  
Benjamin Bruce Herrin  
Theodore Wayne Herrin  
Alex Joseph Mitchell  
Tyler James Mitchell*

## BAPTISM MEETING FOR MARCH

The Baptism Meeting for March will  
be on MARCH 2nd at 6:30 PM  
in the Junior School.

## BEREAVEMENT MEETING

There will not be a  
March Bereavement meeting.

Please know of St. Monica Parish  
community prayers for all who have  
lost a loved one.

## NOVENA OF GRACE

The Novena begins on  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4th.  
Prayers will be recited at the daily  
8:30 AM Mass.



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### LECTORS

MARCH 7: 5:00 PM - P. Jackson

MARCH 8: 8:30 AM - P. Tolomeo

10:00 AM - E. Tierney

11:30 AM - M. Starr

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

MARCH 7: 5:00 PM - T. Landy

MARCH 8: 8:30 AM - N. Toritto

10:00 AM - L. Mancuso

11:30 AM – L. Baldi

### ALTAR SERVERS

MARCH 7: 5:00 PM - E. Birmingham,  
A. DeLuca, L. Jung

MARCH 8: 8:30 AM - H. Farez,  
S. Pasquarella, A. Cappello

10:00 AM - D. Juliano,  
S. Juliano, N. Zungolo

11:30 AM - S. Bonfiglio,  
H. Curran, J. Eckert

## PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

Come join us in the lower church  
MONDAY, MARCH 9th at 1:00 PM  
to pray the Holy Rosary during adoration of  
the Blessed Sacrament. Learn about this  
beloved saint and pray with friends and  
fellow parishioners.  
*ALL ARE WELCOME!*



Gerri Abbott  
Joseph Campanella  
Rebecca Carpino  
Matthew Cella  
Dom. Chiancone  
Joseph Cirella  
Rita Cirella  
Agnes Dougherty  
Rita Fortino  
Sean Fox  
Stephanie Fox  
Sam Germana  
Barbara Guarnera  
Virginia Hayes  
Yuliana Chris Herlan  
Maureen Kelly  
Tina Locchetto

Marlea M.  
Roseann Marino  
Diane McDowell  
George McKain  
Edwina Mendicino  
Simon Moshe  
Donato Musci  
MaryAnn Riccobono  
Pasquale Riccobono  
Marie Rosatti  
Carmela Rotolo  
Jim Santangelo  
Rosemary Sanvitale  
Donna Sarne  
Teri Scogna  
Pat Simone  
Phyllis Wadsworth

## FATHERS AND SONS “TEXAS HOLD-EM TOURNAMENT”

SUNDAY, MARCH 22nd

Senior School Gym  
2538 S. 16th Street  
(Parking in lot on Porter Street  
between Bancroft and 16th Street)

Registration is at Noon -  
Start Time 12:45 - 1:00 PM

\$100.00 Buy In

Call Joe Guaglione to reserve a seat -  
267-688-0196

## BANNS OF MARRIAGE

*Alexa Provenzano*  
*and*  
*Joseph Baldino*  
*March 8, 2026*

*Myana Mabry*  
*and*  
*Dominic Santoro*  
*March 13, 2026*

## ELDERCARE POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Monica Eldercare Program provides non-medical/non-personal care services to older adults in our parish community. There is a part-time substitute position available for a person who would assist our seniors to remain safe in their homes by providing help with activities such as laundry, vacuuming, local errands, etc.

If you are interested in applying for this paid part-time sub position, please contact Sister Ruth at 267-253-4766.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Wednesdays in Lent at 1:15 PM and 6:30 PM in  
St. Monica Upper Church.

## **FROM THE MIND OF FATHER KELLEY**

### **BACK TO SCIACCA**

One part of a February Pilgrimage to Sciacca involves the dressing of the Blessed Virgin. Over the past 400 years, many people have donated rich clothing and jewelry for La Madonna del Soccorso. Four hundred years is a long time so you can imagine that her wardrobe is pretty extensive AND expensive. The clothing and jewelry are kept in a bank and taken out on February 2nd which is the day of the procession. The dressing of the Madonna is a solemn ritual. Distinguished people (for example the Mayor) are chosen to bring up the different articles of clothing and jewelry and the fisherman of the town then vest her.

As the dressing ceremony was going on I heard someone say: "Boy, our Protestant brothers and sisters would take offense at this." Well, perhaps, but I don't think Our Lord would. Honoring our Blessed Lady in thanks for her intercession goes way back to the life of Christ. We read of the beautiful intercession of Our Lady at the Wedding Feast at Cana. We know as St. John reports in Chapter 2 of his Gospel, that Jesus and Mary were at a wedding and the hosts ran out of wine. Our Lady is aware of this dilemma. As a guest, I am sure she was not working in the kitchen, so someone had to tell her so that she would intercede for them to her Son. Let's look at what Jesus says and what He does not say. Jesus did not say: You should have come to Me first and because you did not, but went to My mother you can forget the miracle. No, even though He was reluctant at first to do it - "My hour has not yet come" (2:4) but at her intercession He changes water into the best wine people have ever tasted.

Intercessory prayer is a part of many religions. As a priest, many people ask me to pray for them, their relatives or their intentions. If a poor sinner like me can pray for someone, how much more can the virgin who is full of grace (Luke 1:28), i.e. without sin, pray effectively for our intentions. Four hundred years ago, the deadly plague was bearing down upon the town of Sciacca. The townspeople asked Mary to intercede on their behalf as did the family at the wedding feast of Cana, and the plague was averted.

Mary, given to us, the beloved disciples of Jesus, as our mother (John 19:26) can and does intercede for us with her Son as she did 400 years ago. I am so moved and edified that the good people of Sicily have never forgotten this.

## **SAINT MONICA HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS**

### **The 27th Annual RAFFLE NIGHT!**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026**

**Doors Open 6:00 PM - Calling begins at 7:30 PM**

**Saint Monica School Gym, 16th & Shunk Streets**

**\$30 PER PERSON**

**Includes 1 Sheet of Raffle Tickets**

**Dessert, Coffee & Water Included, BYOB & BYOfood**

**(ADULT ONLY EVENT)**

**Over 100 Raffle Items - 50/50 Drawing - Grand Prizes - Door Prizes**

**Prepayment must be made by MARCH 18th.**

**Tickets may be purchased through students or at the rectory.**

**Due to the popularity of this event, tickets WILL NOT be sold at the door!**

**Questions? Donations! Email [St.MonicaHASA@gmail.com](mailto:St.MonicaHASA@gmail.com)**

# Seafood FRIDAY

St. Monica Senior School Cafeteria

\$20.00



FEBRUARY 27  
MARCH 13  
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

## MENU

**ALL DINNERS COME WITH A ROLL , BUTTER AND DESSERT**

\*\*DRINKS INCLUDED: WATER, ICE TEA, LEMONADE, COFFEE, TEA

**OPTION 1**  
FISH AND CHIPS  
INCLUDES:  
FISH, FF,  
AND COLESLAW

**OPTION 2**  
SHRIMP BASKET  
INCLUDES:  
FRIED SHRIMP, FF  
AND COLESLAW

**OPTION 3**  
SHRIMP SCAMPI  
INCLUDES:  
PENNE, SHRIMP,  
AND SALAD

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ HOMEROOM: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK WHICH DATE AND OPTION FOR DINNER

\_\_\_\_\_ FEBRUARY 27

\_\_\_\_\_ MARCH 13

\_\_\_\_\_ OPTION 1 FISH AND CHIPS

\_\_\_\_\_ OPTION 2 SHRIMP BASKET

\_\_\_\_\_ OPTION 3 SHRIMP SCAMPI

\_\_\_\_\_ TAKE OUT

\_\_\_\_\_ DINE IN

WE ACCEPT CASH, AND VENMO

### SIPPIN' FOR THE SISTERS

The Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary invite you to join them for a High Tea and raffle to benefit Camilla Hall, the Nursing Facility and Convent Home of retired and aged IHM Sisters. All funds will be raised for purchasing beds and recliners for our aging and infirmed sisters.

**WHEN: Sunday, March 15, 2026 - 1:00 to 3:30 PM**

**WHERE: Villa Maria House of Studies-IHM Motherhouse  
1 Our Lady Circle, Malvern, PA**

For more information call the Office of Mission Advancement at 610-647-2160, X 1926. Tickets are \$40 per person and \$20 for children ages 4-12.

### MONTHLY ASPIRATION FOR MARCH

Saint Joseph, Friend of the Sacred Heart,  
Pray for us!



## Application and Financial Aid information

Application QR Code



Parent Portal Sign Up



Financial Aid QR Code



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### Interest Form:

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Entering: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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