

Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish

www.smstaparishsf.org

Second Sunday of Advent ~ December 10, 2023

St. Monica Catholic Church

470 24th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121
Tel: 415-751-5275 Fax: 415-751-0440

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



St. Monica Catholic Church MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil
5:00 PM

Sunday
8:00 AM (Vietnamese)
11:00 AM

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy at
Our Lady of Fatima Byzantine

Weekdays
8:30 AM (Monday-Saturday)

Rosary
8:00 AM (Monday-Saturday)

Confession
4:00 PM - 4:40 PM Saturday

Administrator
Rev. David Schunk

In Residence
St. Monica Rectory
Rev. Paulinus Iwuji, SMMM
Catholic Chaplain VA Hospital

St. Thomas the Apostle Rectory
Rev. Te Van Nguyen
Vietnamese Ministry
Catholic Chaplain for UCSF

Fr. Andrew Spyrow
Vicar for Clergy

Deacons
Rev. Mr. Dana Perrigan
perrigan2000@yahoo.com
Rev. Mr. Peter Solan
petsol04@aol.com

Parish Staff
Office Manager
Jessica Montgomery
parishoffice@stmonicasf.org

Director of Religious Education
Sr. Noreen O'Connor, C.S.J.
noconnor@csjla.org

Music Ministry
Alix Jerinic

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

3835 Balboa Street
San Francisco, CA 94121



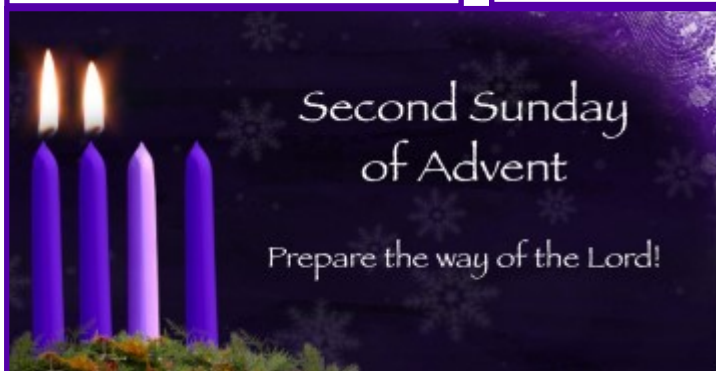
St. Thomas the Apostle Church MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday
9:00 AM

Weekdays
8:30 AM
(Monday, Wednesday, and Friday)

First Saturday
Mass
8:30 AM

First Saturday Adoration
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM



Advent Prayer

GOD OUR FATHER
HELP US KEEP WATCH
AND STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH
AS WE WAIT FOR THE COMING
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.
WAKE US UP
AND FIND US READY
TO SERVE AND PRAISE HIM.
AMEN.





Second Sunday of Advent ~ December 10, 2023



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I know it is only the second week of Advent, but with Christmas on a Monday this year, we will be singing Joy to the World before we know it. There is a lot in the bulletin so make sure you take note of the messages/updates for online giving, our charity projects, collecting poinsettias for our two churches, and the special thank you note from Matt Walsh.

In other news, St. Monica School will soon start construction the week of December 18 on a play structure for the younger children in a corner of their upper yard/assembly area. With many schools letting out for the Christmas break at the end of this week, we pray for all those traveling during the vacation period and for a time of rest and relaxation for all of our school & pre-school teachers and staff members.

Father Schunk

THANK YOU FROM MATT WALSH

I want to thank the St. Monica Parish community for all of the support, cooperation, and participation during my 16 years as music director. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with collaborative priests and talented singers to help elevate the liturgy through beauty and the embodiment of sacred texts. Through liturgy, concerts and personal contact I have stored many memories which I will cherish. Mary and I send our best to the entire community - again, thank you.

In His Presence: The Eucharistic Revival at St. Monica – St. Thomas the Apostle Focus for December – Our Poor

Yes, the poor are with us always and at times it is easy for us to say they represent Christ. But during the Advent and Christmas seasons, can we take time to look past the easy externals that label a person as poor and truly see the living Christ in front of our eyes. In this intentional way, we may be In His Presence as we encounter him in our brothers and sisters who are poor.

Online Parish Giving Update

As we have noted in the bulletin for the past couple of weeks, our parish is transitioning to a new vendor (Our Sunday Visitor-OSV) to process online donations for St. Monica-St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. There will be a single site for both St. Monica and St. Thomas to streamline the donation process. We are planning to continue the old donation sites running through January 2024 during the transition period. The new site is currently set-up for regular, Sunday offerings (one time, weekly, bi-monthly, monthly, quarterly) and for single, one-time general donations. In time, we will add options for donating for the Second Collections, etc.

- To find the donation page, please visit our Parish Homepage and click the DONATE menu at the top.
- If you already have donations reoccurring with the old site(s), we ask you to cancel those transactions on the old site and set-up your regular offerings with the new site.
- If you are interested in making your regular offering online, please check out the new site.
- For those who use offertory envelopes, that option for giving will continue as usual.

I want to thank longtime STA parishioner Gerry Jacinto for getting the parish started with online giving many years ago. We also thank those who already participate in online giving for their generosity to our parish, and for all those who give of their time, talent, and treasure, helping to make our parish of St. Monica-St. Thomas the Apostle a faith-filled Christian community.



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Advent & Christmas Schedule

Simbang Gabi

Thursday, December 21

6 PM - Mass and Reception - St. Monica

4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23rd

5:00 PM - St. Monica

Sunday, December 24th

8:00 AM - St. Monica in Vietnamese

9:00 AM - STA

11:00 AM – St. Monica

Christmas Eve Masses

5:00 PM – St. Monica

8:00 PM – St. Monica in Vietnamese

8:00 PM - STA Christmas Caroling

8:30 PM – STA Mass

Christmas Day

9:00 AM - STA

11:00 AM – St. Monica

New Year's Day

10:00 AM - St. Monica

2023 SIMBANG GABI MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 15th	St. Mary's Cathedral	7:30 PM
Saturday, December 16th	St. Ignatius	5:00 PM
Sunday, December 17th	St. Benedict	10:30 AM
Monday, December 18th	St. Vincent de Paul	8:15 AM
Tuesday, December 19th	St. Agnes	12:00 PM
Wednesday, December 20th	Star of the Sea	6:00 PM
Thursday, December 21st	St. Monica	6:00 PM *
Friday, December 22nd	Most Holy Redeemer	5:30PM
Thursday, December 23rd	St. Dominic's	5:30PM

*** Following the Mass at St. Monica we will have a reception in our Small Hall. All are welcome to join.**





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Parish Advent Charity Projects


In looking for a charitable parish project for the season of Advent, our parish council decided to offer support to the Opiate Treatment Outpatient Program Methadone Clinic at SF General which provides detoxification assistance to clients in conjunction with medical and psychiatric services. Since many of their clients are the homeless and poor, our projects will help to provide the clinic staff with items they will be able to distribute to clients as they come in for medical treatment. We will have three opportunities to do this:

#1 Sandwiches – Thank you to all who made PB&J sandwiches last weekend!

#2 Giving Trees – We will once again be establishing our Advent Giving Trees at both parishes. We will collect new adult gloves, beanies, and blankets (e.g. fleece) which the staff at the clinic will be able to distribute to their clients as they come in for treatment during the colder months of the year. Please take an ornament from the tree that lists the needed item and return the item to either church (unwrapped) by Sunday, December 31.

#3 Cookies for Christmas – We invite bakers of the parish to bake Holiday cookies for the staff of San Francisco General to distribute to patients on Christmas Day. If you would like to make cookies, please put them in small bags of 2-3 cookies (depending on size) and bring them to Mass the weekend of December 17/18 for collection.

If you are able to participate in the projects, your generosity will provide warmth, nourishment, and the sweetness of the season to those in our community who need it most. Let's make this Advent season a time of giving and compassion. **Thank you for your support!**



**POINSETTIA DONATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR
ST. MONICA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCHES**

We would appreciate a donation of potted poinsettia plants to add to our Christmas decorations in our Churches. Poinsettia plants are due by **Wednesday, December 20th**.

Please place your donated poinsettia in the Church.

Thank you for your generosity.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS SECOND COLLECTION

Today's Second Collection will be for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Support a lifetime of service. Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need—usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously.

WE INVITE ALL OUR PARISHIONERS TO SPEND TIME IN FELLOWSHIP.

ST. MONICA CHURCH - FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY will be held on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month in the Small Hall following the 11:00 AM Mass. To volunteer please email Deacon Dana Perrigan at perrigan2000@yahoo.com.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH - SOCIAL SUNDAY will be held on the 2nd Sunday of every month in the vestibule of the Church after the 9:00 AM Mass. To volunteer (clean up and refreshment donations) please email Christine Aguerre at chriscrk6@gmail.com.



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THANK YOU	ST. MONICA	ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
November 26, 2023		
1ST COLLECTION	\$1,328.00	\$917.00
2ND COLLECTION	\$567.00	\$298.00
Parish Upgrades & Improvements		
VIETNAMESE COLLECTION	\$589.00	

THANK YOU	ST. MONICA	ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
December 3, 2023		
1ST COLLECTION	\$1,905.00	\$1,053.00
2ND COLLECTION	\$546.00	\$416.00
Parish Religious Education Fund		
VIETNAMESE COLLECTION	\$534.00	



UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS	
12/10/2023	Retirement Fund for Religious
12/17/2023	Parish Upgrades & Improvements
12/24/2023	Parish Upgrades & Improvements

“Faith is like the feet wherewith the soul journeys to God,
and love is the guide that directs it.”

St. John of the Cross (Feast Day - December 14th)

Mass Intentions

St. Monica			
Mon.	12/11	8:30 AM	Bernard J.C. Smith †
Tue.	12/12	8:30 AM	Virginia Dellepiane †
Wed.	12/13	8:30 AM	Sheila Kiernan Doyle, Living
Thu.	12/14	8:30 AM	Milt Reiterman †
Fri.	12/15	8:30 AM	Fiona Mitsouka †
Sat.	12/16	8:30 AM	Jim Mandarano †
		5:00 PM	Jacob Teerasak †
Sun.	12/17	11:00 AM	Parishioners

St. Thomas the Apostle			
Mon.	12/11	8:30 AM	Kathleen Hayes †
Tue.	12/12		No Mass
Wed.	12/13	8:30 AM	Nora O'Connor †
Thu.	12/14		No Mass
Fri.	12/15	8:30 AM	Angelina Panes †
Sat.	12/16		No Mass
Sun.	12/17	9:00 AM	Ode Touye †