

Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish

www.smstaparishsf.org

First Sunday of Lent ~ February 18, 2024

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

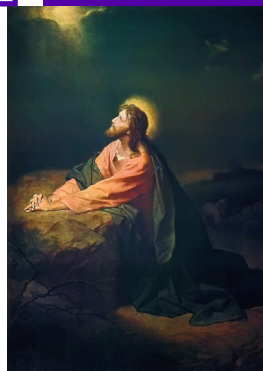
Weekdays
8:30 AM
(*Monday, Wednesday, and Friday*)

First Saturday
Mass
8:30 AM

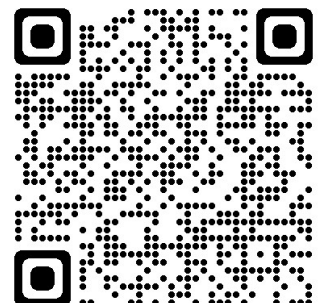
First Saturday Adoration
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

This is the time of fulfillment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel.

Mark 1:15



Donate online to St. Monica- St. Thomas the Apostle Parish





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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In the season of Lent, we traditionally take up the penitential practices of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving/Good Works. By with these practices, we look to strengthen ourselves and fight against the three categories of sin and temptation that exist in the lives of everyone: the Devil, the Flesh, and the World. For this week, I will briefly reflect on Prayer. When we pray, we turn our hearts and minds to God. After all, we speak to God when we pray. However, listening to the Lord is an integral part of prayer and just as important as telling him what is on our mind like our worries or gratitude. Because we are listening to God as we pray, we hopefully are focusing our attention on him which also means we are not listening to the Devil. So, during this season of Lent, I encourage all of us to take up a special practice of Prayer. This could be taking time on a regular basis to read the Scriptures, praying with the Lenten reflection booklets, praying the Rosary, or as simple as taking a moment at the end of each day to thank God for one blessing from the day.

With Monday being Presidents' Day, it is a cause to remember to pray for the President, and all leaders in government whether at the federal, state, or local level. As Catholics, we believe patriotism is a virtue (no matter your nationality or your country/*patria*) and so it is right that we ask God to guide our leaders in their governance of society. It is also important to recall we have a responsibility as citizens to participate in our common governance and the building up of our civil communities through participation in elections and civic debate.

I want to draw your attention to two special events that are approaching. First, our Vietnamese community will be celebrating next Sunday the Lunar New Year (Tết). There will be a special Mass at St. Monica's at 1:00 PM followed by a Vietnamese luncheon in the hall beginning around 2:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend both the Mass and the luncheon, but you may certainly just attend the luncheon if you go to one of the other Masses.

Then the following Sunday, as part of the Eucharistic Revival in the Archdiocese, Dr. Scott French will make a presentation on the Modern-Day Eucharistic Miracles which touch upon the intersection of faith and science. He has been making this presentation at a number of parishes this year and now we are privileged to host his presentation. It will begin around noon on Sunday, March 3, after the 11:00 AM Mass at St. Monica's. There will be a complimentary catered lunch included as part of the program to encourage attendance by the community. Like the celebration of Tết, you may just come to the luncheon and presentation if you attend a different Mass that weekend and a reminder that both events are *gratis*.

Father Schunk

In His Presence

The Eucharistic Revival at St. Monica – St. Thomas the Apostle

Focus for February – The Close/Intimate Relationships of Our Life

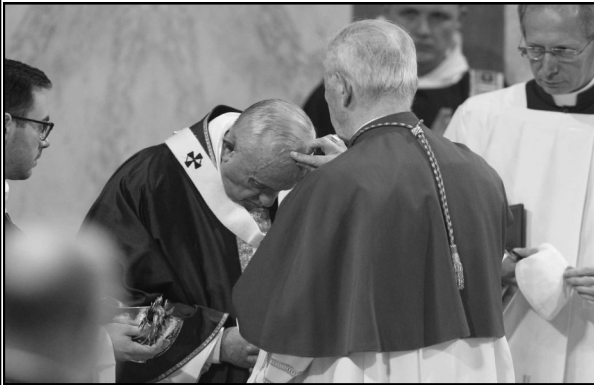
It is hard to be holy alone. By our very nature, Christians are a community-oriented people. Our Lord Jesus Christ said in the Gospel of Matthew, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Mt 18:20) We are able to see Christ in these gatherings and in the various relationships of our lives, like the poor, elderly, and our families. As we enter the month of February, a challenge for us will be to be In His Presence in the most intimate relationships of our lives. For some, this may be a spouse. For others, perhaps a very close friend or confidant. Those who are the closest to us in our lives often are able to speak to us in a way no one else can. It is because of this special bond that these people often are able to encourage and challenge us towards being holier men and women. In this way, those who love us the most may be the voice of Christ who calls us to holiness and discipleship. In this way, we may be *In His Presence* when with those closest to us.



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WHAT IS LENT?



Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

Many know of the tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also called to practice self-discipline and fast in other ways throughout the season. In addition, the giving of alms is one way to share God's gifts - not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2446).

In Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics.

~USCCB



SOUP SUPPER & STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday throughout Lent we will have Soup and Stations of the Cross at **St. Thomas the Apostle Church**. We will begin at **6:00 PM** with a soup supper followed by Stations of the Cross.

Beneficiary Stories from the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA)

Your generosity supports **Teacher Incentive Grants**. One teacher noted, "The Incentive grant has helped me become a more responsive educator. It's helped me assess my students' needs and respond to them more effectively by providing a nurturing environment where they can continue to learn and grow as a whole person. It has made a tremendous impact on my life and the life of my students."

Your generosity supports **Ongoing Education for our Priests**. In the words of one Pastor, "Our world is a challenging place to live in and to minister in. As priests we are called to be ministers of God's Word in the world that we find ourselves...and that world is very different from what it was when we went to the seminary, whether it was five years ago or 50 years ago. Continuing education for priests is important to understand the world and how to best minister in it. And we wouldn't be able to engage in this continuing education if not for the support of the annual appeal."



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VIETNAMESE NEW YEAR'S MASS & CELEBRATION

Sunday, February 25 at 1:00 PM

St. Monica Church

Following the Mass there will be a celebration in the Hall.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION!

Tết, short for Tết Nguyên Đán (Lunar New Year), is the most important celebration in Vietnamese culture. Tết celebrates the arrival of spring based on the Vietnamese calendar, which is mostly based on the lunisolar Chinese calendar and usually has the date in January or February in the Gregorian calendar.

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES PRESENTION & LUNCHEON will be on **Sunday, March 3rd** following our 11:00 AM in the St. Monica Parish Hall. Our presenter will be Dr. Scott French. To learn more about Dr. French, visit: <https://sfarchdiocese.org/dr-scott-french/>.

All our welcome to attend!

SAVE THE DATES

Vietnamese New Year Mass & Celebration

Sunday, February 25th at 1:00 PM at St. Monica

Eucharistic Miracles Presentation & Lunch

Sunday, March 3rd at Noon at St. Monica

School Auction Gala

Saturday, March 16th at 6:00 PM at St. Monica
(Reservations will be required)

Sister Noreen's Platinum Jubilee

Sunday, April 21st - St. Monica Church & Hall

More details on these events will appear in an upcoming bulletin.

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.

"God loves us beyond comprehension, and we cannot diminish God's love for us."

~ Saint Peter (Feast Day - February 22nd)



A NIGHT AT THE TROPICANA

2024 ANNUAL AUCTION GALA

SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH, 2024
6:00-11:00 PM

SAINT MONICA CHURCH HALL
5950 GEARY BLVD.
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94121



<https://stmonica.schoolauction.net/auction2024>



ST. MONICA SCHOOL



First Sunday of Lent ~ February 18, 2024



Mass Intentions

St. Monica				St. Thomas the Apostle			
Mon.	02/19	8:30 AM	Bernard & Julia Smith †	Mon.	02/19	8:30 AM	Keoki Garner, Good Health
Tue.	02/20	8:30 AM	John Marriott †	Tue.	02/20		No Mass
Wed.	02/21	8:30 AM	Moyra Moy †	Wed.	02/21	8:30 AM	Intentions of Francis Kong Family
Thu.	02/22	8:30 AM	Brian & Jo MacMahon †	Thu.	02/22		No Mass
Fri.	02/23	8:30 AM	Chibuzo Iwuji, Good Health	Fri.	02/23	8:30 AM	Church in Hong Kong
Sat.	02/24	8:30 PM	Fr. Johnathan Bakkelund †	Sat.	02/24		No Mass
		5:00 PM	Katherine "Kitty" Sullivan †				
Sun.	02/25	11:00 AM	Robert Anderson †	Sun.	02/25	9:00 AM	Parishioners

THANK YOU	ST. MONICA	ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
February 11, 2024		
1ST COLLECTION	\$1,891.00	\$1,224.00
VIETNAMESE COLLECTION	\$482.00	

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT
OF CALIFORNIA – SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

In re: The Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco, Case No. 23-30564

Notice of Deadline for Filing Claims: February 20, 2024

YOU MAY HAVE A SEXUAL ABUSE CLAIM OR OTHER CLAIM AGAINST THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

On August 21, 2023, The Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Francisco, a California corporation sole, aka Archdiocese of San Francisco (the "Debtor"), filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code").

If you were sexually abused by any person connected with the Debtor, you must file a claim so as to be received by February 20, 2024, or otherwise you will be forever barred, estopped, and enjoined from asserting such claim against the Debtor.

Claims based on acts or omissions of the Debtor that occurred before August 21, 2023, must be filed on or before February 20, 2024, even if such claims are not now fixed, liquidated, or certain or did not mature or become fixed, liquidated, or certain before August 21, 2023.

For more information on how to obtain and file a proof of claim form and associated documents, please visit <https://omniagentsolutions.com/RCASF>, or contact Omni Agent Solutions, Inc., the Debtor's claims agent via email at RCASFInquiries@omniagnt.com or by phone at 888-480-6507 (U.S. and Canada toll free) or 747-293-0084 (International), between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Pacific Time), Monday through Friday.

****If you have questions about the bankruptcy case filed by the Archdiocese of San Francisco, please also visit the website at <https://sfarch.org> and follow the links for Chapter 11 Filing****

LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINECE

As in the past, the following regulations are in place for abstaining and fasting during Lent:

- **ABSTINENCE:** Everyone 14 years of age and older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.

- **FAST:** Everyone 18 years of age and older but under the age of 60 is also bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

On these two days the law of fast allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food during the day, so long as this does not constitute another full meal. Drinking liquids during the day is permitted. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. In the spirit of penance, the faithful should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.

