

Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish

www.smstaparishsf.org

Palm Sunday of The Lords Passion ~ March 24, 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 - 3:30 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
Mr. Xristopher Compagno
Permanent Deacon Candidate

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

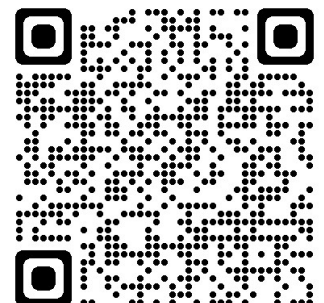
Weekdays
8:30 AM
(*Monday, Wednesday, and Friday*)

First Saturday
Mass
8:30 AM

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



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





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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This week, we enter into the most sacred time of the year. We call it Holy Week because it is a holy time. A time when we remember, celebrate, and participate in a real way in the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth who we believe was not only a human person with wise and prophetic words, but was also divine and the Son of God. It is a week of prayer. It is a week of mystery. It is a week of faith, hope, and love. After this weekend, our principal celebrations will be the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday evening, the Good Friday Liturgies, and the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses. The schedule is found in the bulletin. I invite you, as you are able, to come and pray with us during this sacred week.

Last Thursday, Archbishop Cordileone celebrated the Chrism Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral. This Mass has many facets, two being the attendance by many of the priests and deacons with the priests renewing their ordination promises with the Archbishop and the blessing of the Holy Oils which are used in the celebration of the sacraments in our parish. We will have a special rite of receiving the Holy Oils Thursday evening at the Mass of the Lord's Supper.

Also on Thursday, some of you may recall that at the conclusion of Mass, there is the opportunity for private prayer at the Altar of Repose which is a special location where the Blessed Sacrament is placed after the Mass. It is symbolic of Jesus entering the Garden of Gethsemane and our opportunity to stay awake and keep watch with Jesus. St. Monica Church will be open until 9:30 PM for those who wish to pray. During this time, the Church suggests reading from the Gospel of John, chapters 13-17.

Note that on Good Friday, we will have Confessions after the Good Friday Liturgy (starting around 3:00 PM until at least 4:00 PM). There will not be Confessions on Saturday afternoon before the Easter Vigil.

Last Friday evening, we concluded our Lenten devotion of the Stations of the Cross preceded by our soup supper fellowship. We thank our Parish Council member, Debi Curley, for being the primary organizer, and everyone who made soup, provided bread, and other treats for this time of fellowship and prayer. Our permanent deacon in formation, Xristopher Compagno, also did a fine job leading us in the devotional prayers. I was very encouraged by the participation of many of you and look forward to the devotion returning next Lent.

Finally, thank you to all who made offerings for our Easter flowers. You may continue to drop off the envelopes through Easter in either the regular collection or at the parish office. Please feel free to write the name(s) of a loved one as we remember them during Easter.

HELP OUR CHURCHES BLOOM FOR EASTER!



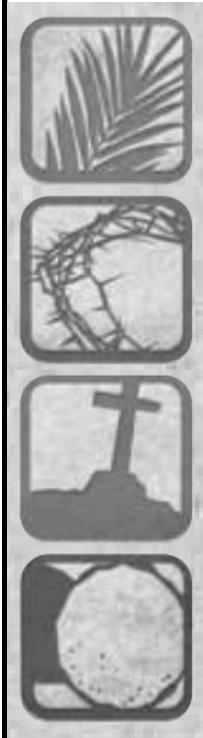
As we approach Easter, we are beginning to accept offerings for the purchase of flowers for Easter for our two churches. You may use the Easter Flower envelope in your envelope packet or pickup one on the tables in church. You may make an offering in honor/memory of a loved one and we will place the envelopes on the altars of our churches during Easter. Please drop off the completed envelopes in the regular collection or at the parish office.



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EASTER & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Holy Thursday Mass, March 28th
7:00 PM

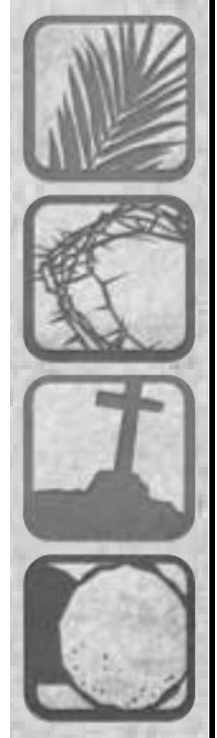
Good Friday, March 29th
1:00 PM - Seven Last Words
2:00 PM - Good Friday Liturgy
3:00 PM - Confessions

Holy Saturday Vigil, March 30th
8:00 PM

Easter Sunday, March 31st
8:00 AM (Vietnamese)
11:00 AM

Holy Thursday,
Good Friday, and
Holy Saturday
will be held at
St. Monica Church.

Easter Sunday
9:00 AM



GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND

Pope Francis has asked parishes to support the Good Friday collection which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps church ministry, religious education, preservation of sacred shrines, and provides humanitarian aid for refugees in the Holy Land. Become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy land. Thank you for your support.

In His Presence

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

Focus for March - Suffering and Pain

At one time or another, all of us are hurt. We may fall down, get sick, have a medical procedure, be afflicted by a chronic illness that affects the body and/or mind, or someone we know is sick and our pain comes from watching him or her suffer. Suffering is a difficult part of being human to. It is also a perennial question that we often ask of our world, “Why is there suffering? Why does God allow suffering? How can there be suffering and a loving God?” Questions like these are particularly appropriate in Lent as suffering and pain is a theme that appears in various ways. Just think about how Lent began with Jesus in the desert fasting for 40 days. He was hungry during his fast and that meant he experienced pain. Then of course as we close in on Easter, there will be Holy Week when we read about his Passion and Death. He experienced the mental anguish of his suffering as well as the physical reality of being tortured, and of course death. This season of Lent may help us to see that when you and I suffer or are in pain, we do not do so alone. Jesus suffers along with us as we face our own trials. That makes the individual experiences and lives of Jesus and us close to one another, and as such, we may say we are *In His Presence* when we find ourselves suffering.



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LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

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.

St. Monica School Gala Thank You

Last Saturday evening, our parish primary school held their annual Gala fundraiser. A huge thanks to the many parents who helped to make the event such an elegant affair, especially the two co-chairs Courtney Joglekar and Carlin Walker.

This annual event raises funds that support the general operations of St. Monica School, as well as a special fund-a-need project that is designated each year. Last year, they raised funds to build the new children's play structure in the upper yard. This year, the fund-a-need project is to remake the basketball courts in the lower yard that are next to the Rectory and 24th Ave. This will be in conjunction with a drainage project that has been in the works for some time. We continue to be blessed by the generosity of many benefactors who build on a legacy of over 100 years when people first came together to raise funds for our church and school and who continue to make our parish ministries possible.

MASS INTENTIONS may be offered in honor of loved ones, living or deceased, for Masses at either St. Monica or St. Thomas the Apostle. For scheduling and additional information, please stop by the parish office or call Jessica at 415-751-5275 during office hours.

ST. MONICA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE MEMORIAL WALLS

St. Monica-St. Thomas the Apostle Parish offers parishioners an opportunity to remember your friends and loved ones in a memorial space in the vestibule of each Church. For a donation of \$250.00, a brass nameplate will be engraved with the name(s) of your choice with a maximum of 50 letters. If you wish to order a plaque, forms are available in each Church or by calling the parish office at 415-751-5275.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the parish hall to prepare food for the St. Vincent de Paul shelter. Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, April 17th**. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Maria McDevitt at: megmared@comcast.net or call 415-515-6945.

A special thanks to all those who have volunteered in the past and to all those who regularly donate to the St. Vincent de Paul 5th Sunday collection.

MAY GOD SHOWER YOU WITH
BLESSINGS AND LOVE ON

Palm Sunday
and always

Have a blessed day!



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Mass Intentions

St. Monica			
Mon.	03/25	8:30 AM	Eva Romano †
Tue.	03/26	8:30 AM	Francis Tam †
Wed.	03/27	8:30 AM	George Lau †
Thu.	03/28 Holy Thursday	7:00 PM	Parishioners
Fri.	03/29 Good Friday	1:00 PM	Seven Last Words
		2:00 PM	Good Friday Liturgy
Sat.	03/30 Holy Saturday	8:00 PM	Parishioners
Sun.	03/31 Easter	11:00 AM	Parishioners

St. Thomas the Apostle			
Mon.	03/18	8:30 AM	Priest's Intention
Tue.	03/19		No Mass
Wed.	03/20	8:30 AM	Priest's Intention
Thu.	03/21		No Mass
Fri.	03/22		No Mass
Sat.	03/23		No Mass
Sun.	03/24 Easter	9:00 AM	Parishioners

Thank You *for your* Generosity

*"Jesus did not come to explain
away suffering or remove it.
He came to fill it with
His Presence."*

—Paul Claudel

THANK YOU	ST. MONICA	ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
March 17, 2024		
IST COLLECTION	\$2,103.00	\$1,037.00
VIETNAMESE COLLECTION	\$413.00	

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA) Update

Dear Friends, Thank you to all the households who have contributed to the AAA. With our most recent update from the Archdiocese, we are at approximately 48% of our monetary goal. As I stated when we kicked off the Appeal, our goal is to have 100% **participation** from all the households of our parish. We have been including in our bulletin the past several weeks stories of some of the ministries that are benefited by the Appeal so you may get a sense of the ways your contributions support various ministries in the Archdiocese. If you have not yet made a contribution, you may pick up a brochure or one of the white envelopes which includes my letter about the AAA at the doors to our churches. Thank you all for your continued support.

Love your neighbor as yourself.

