

Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish

www.smstaparishsf.org

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ August 25, 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

Weekdays
8:30 AM (Monday-Saturday)

Rosary
8:00 AM (Monday-Saturday)

Confessions
4:00 PM - 4:40 PM Saturday

Administrator

Rev. Ben Rosado
pastor@smstaparishsf.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Jerome Murphy
Chaplain Kaiser Hospital

In Residence

St. Monica Rectory
Rev. Paulinus Iwujj, SMMM, Ph.D.
Catholic Chaplain VA Hospital

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

Rev. Andrew Spyrow
Vicar for Clergy

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Dana Perrigan
perrigan2000@yahoo.com
Mr. Kristopher Compagno
Permanent Deacon Candidate

Parish Staff

Administrative Assistant
Jessica Montgomery
parishoffice@smstaparishsf.org

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

Music Ministry
Alix Jerinic
alixjericin@gmail.com

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

3835 Balboa Street
San Francisco, CA 94121



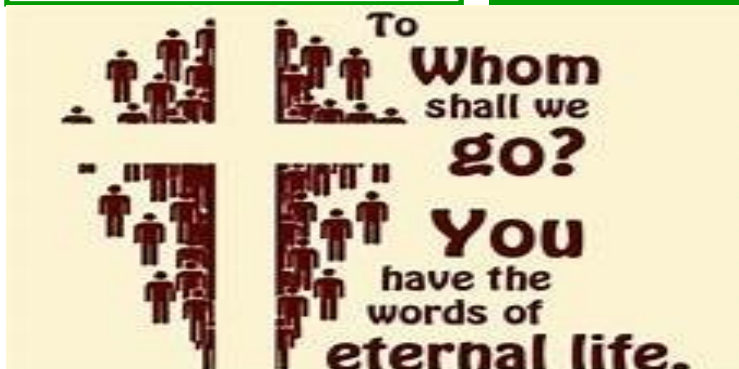
St. Thomas the Apostle Church MASS SCHEDULE

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



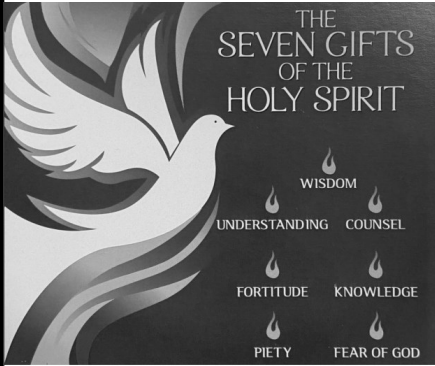


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Dear brothers and sisters,

Let us continue our reflections on the Sacraments of Initiation. Today we consider Confirmation, which completes our entry into the fullness of the Christian life. In Confirmation, we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to strengthen us. Although we already had the Holy Spirit given to us at our Baptism, when we were baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, immersed into God, Confirmation now grants us the Spirit in its fullness.



When the Holy Spirit is dwelling within us, we find new strength. We are empowered by his gifts, which have traditionally been numbered seven. The Seven Gift of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and the fear of the Lord. You can probably see the value of having the Holy Spirit working within us. We gain new strengths, new qualities, allowing us to grow into maturity. In fact, we are considered to be adults in the Christian life of grace after having been confirmed.

For those of us who have already received this gift, our job is to allow the Spirit to work in us. We should call upon him, praying to the Holy Spirit each day. We can ask him to guide us, to inspire us, to empower us. His gifts have been placed within our soul, to make us strong. May we stir those gifts into action, and become Spirit filled and Spirit led Christians.

Fr. Ben

“Know Him, Love Him, Serve Him” Program

Over the next few weeks, you will be hearing about the upcoming “Know Him, Love Him, Serve Him” Program at Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish. This effort is very important as we move forward with the mission and vision of Saint Monica-Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish. We, as a parish family, have changed so many lives in our community! In order to continue our mission and ministries, we encourage all parishioners to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on the work we do. Our special Commitment Weekend will be celebrated on September 21st & 22nd. If you have any questions regarding the “Know Him, Love Him, Serve Him” Program, please feel free to contact the parish office.



Are you, or anyone you know, interested in becoming a Catholic? Are you already Baptized? Would you like to complete the Sacraments of initiation by receiving the Eucharist and being Confirmed in the Catholic Church? Adults (18+) are invited to join our upcoming Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (formerly known as RCIA) program here at St. Monica-St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

An introductory meeting will be held on
Tuesday, September 17th at 7:00 PM
at our Parish Office (470 24th Ave).

If you are interested in participating
or want more information contact:
Fr. Ben at 415-751-5275 ext. 222 or
pastor@smstaparishsf.org



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GOSPEL REFLECTION

Our readings offer us examples of how we should be living, and they present us with an opportunity to make a radical change in our lives.

In our first reading, Joshua tells the leaders of the Israelites to decide as to who they shall serve in this life. As he presents them with this choice, he boldly states, “As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Who or what does your household serve? Whether you are a household of one or twelve, now is the time to decide, ‘will we serve the Lord?’

We are constantly bombarded with endless distractions around us. It can be very easy to serve other ‘gods’ in our lives. For instance, putting technology (phone, internet, TV), kids’ extracurricular activities, our jobs, or our social lives before the Lord. We also might be putting these things above our loved ones, and if we are doing that, then we are putting them above our relationship with God.

With this in mind, we must strive each day to intentionally live as disciples of Christ. It starts with commitment - incorporating personal daily prayer and increasing that prayer week by week, incorporating prayer into our marriages and families, frequenting the sacraments, and serving others. Through this time with the Lord and service to those around us, He will reveal to us where to go next.

Reflect on how you may not be putting God first in your life and decide to respond like the Israelites, “Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods... Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

~ Catholic Stewardship Consultants

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (CCD) FOR
ST. MONICA-ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH**

**Religious Education
Registration**



Religion classes for students in grades K-8 in Catholic, private or public school, begin on **Sunday, September 8, 2024**. The class time is from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM. The class provides curriculum for each grade level and preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation. The 9:00 AM Mass is included as part of the class as a continuation of the instruction and practice of the Catholic faith. Classes are held at 720 40th Avenue. Registration papers and a class schedule are on the tables in both Churches.

Please put the registration form in the Sunday collection or mail it to:

Sr. Noreen O’Connor at 470 24th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94121

For additional information: Sister Noreen O’Connor at noconnor@csjla.org.

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.” - Romans 12:12

SAVE THE DATE
BAY AREA ROSARY RALLY
Saturday, October 12th
Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption
More details to come in the upcoming weeks.

* We pray for the repose of the soul of *
* **Laurata Asuncion** *
* and offer our sympathy to her family and friends. *



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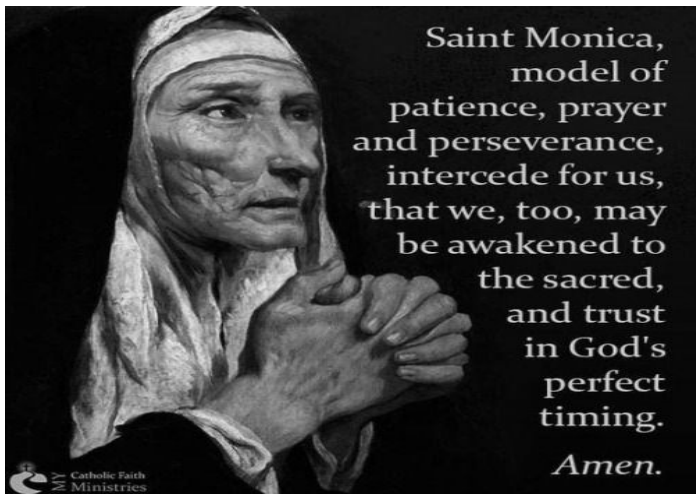
August 27: Feast of Saint Monica
 Years of dedicated prayers by St. Monica led to the conversion of her husband, mother-in-law, and son, St. Augustine

MASS AND BLESSING
 We invite you to join us on Tuesday, August 27th, at St. Monica Church, where we will have our regularly scheduled 8:30 AM Mass. Each person attending Mass will be blessed with a relic of St. Monica.

DEDICATED TO MOTHERHOOD
 After her husband’s premature death, St. Monica dedicated her life to raising her children. As a single mother of three, she persevered in the face of many difficulties. Her greatest desire was for her children to follow Christ. Although, later in life, he was known as a fervent man of God, St. Augustine did not easily come to see God’s truth. As a child, he proved to be quite difficult, causing Monica much grief, and as a young adult he remained uninterested in Christianity. But St. Monica never stopped praying for his eternal soul, in spite of the circumstances. On one particular occasion, when she was discussing the matter with a priest, he urged her to remain steadfast in her prayers, stating that it was “not possible that the son of so many tears should perish.” Augustine himself was to say his mother gave birth to him twice; the second time required a lengthy spiritual travail of prayers and tears, but it was crowned at last with the joy of seeing him not only embrace the faith and receive Baptism, but also dedicate himself without reserve to the service of Christ.
 ~ *The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.*

**Pray as though everything depended on God.
 Work as though everything depended on you.
 ~ Saint Augustine (Feast Day - August 28th)**

“Nothing is far from God. ~ St. Monica



76th annual
POLICE- FIRE - SHERIFF MASS
 Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone, celebrant
 with Police and Fire Chaplains
 Reception to follow
SEPTEMBER 8, 2024, 9:30 AM
ST. CECILIA CATHOLIC CHURCH
 2555 17TH AVE, SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO POLICE
SAN FRANCISCO FIRE
SAN FRANCISCO SHERIFF

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

The Police-Fire Mass originated as an annual way to honor the firefighters who lost their lives during the 1946 Herbert Hotel Fire and continues to honor all of our first responders. The Mass is sponsored by the San Francisco Fire Department, San Francisco Police Department, the San Francisco Sheriff's Office, and the Archdiocese of San Francisco.




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Mass Intentions

St. Monica				St. Thomas the Apostle			
Mon.	08/26	8:30 AM	Ludwika Novak †	Mon.	08/26	8:30 AM	Avelina Aglubat †
Tue.	08/27	8:30 AM	Richard Atwood †	Tue.	08/27		No Mass
Wed.	08/28	8:30 AM	Maurice Duplain Revel †	Wed.	08/28	8:30 AM	Thomas Louie, Birthday
Thu.	08/29	8:30 AM	Nora Breiz & Norma Cunanan †	Thu.	08/29		No Mass
Fri.	08/30	8:30 AM	Nilda O. Thompson †	Fri.	08/30	8:30 AM	Rosa Dominguez, Good Health
Sat.	08/31	8:30 AM	Theresa †	Sat.	08/31		No Mass
		5:00 PM	Parishioners				
Sun.	09/01	11:00 AM	Alice Yu †	Sun.	09/01	9:00 AM	Ignatius Andy Dharmadi †

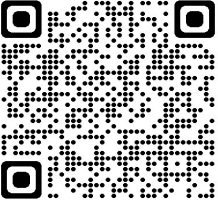
THANK YOU August 18, 2024	ST. MONICA	ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
IST COLLECTION	\$1,682.00	\$1,116.00
VIETNAMESE COLLECTION	\$376.00	



Thank You

Thank you for your continued support to our Parish.

To donate:
Use your personalized parish offertory envelopes
or scan the QR code to donate online!



ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

We are pleased to say that we have reached the monetary goal for the 2024 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal! Thank you, to our generous parishioners and the anonymous donors who have contributed or made pledges to the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal.

Construction Update: Our Construction is nearly completed, thanks be to God. At both St. Monica and St. Thomas we should now have full use of the parking lots. There may be a fence or two still around as the final landscaping work is completed. At St. Thomas, you will be able to use the parking lot and walk up the ramp into the Church as before. In the next couple of weeks, some new plants will be put in place on both sites to finalize the project!

ST. MONICA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRAY FOR US