



Saint Monica Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish

St. Monica Catholic Church

470 24th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121

Telephone: (415)751-5275

smstaparishsf.org

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5:30pm

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

3835 Balboa St., San Francisco, CA 94121

Clergy	Staff
Rev. Javier O. Ravasi, Parochial Administrator pastor@smstaparishsf.org In Residence: Rev. Paulinus Iwuji, SMMM, Ph.D. VA Hospital Chaplain St. Thomas Apostle Rectory Rev. Te Van Nguyen Vietnamese Ministry UCSF Chaplain St. Thomas Apostle Rectory Deacons: Rev. Mr. Xristopher Compagno DcnXristopher@gmail.com	Santiago Ron Parish Manager santiago@smstaparishsf.org Jessica Montgomery Administrative Assistant parishoffice@smstaparishsf.org Ray Moreno Maintenance Joe Goebel Custodian Andres Montufar Office Volunteer

Mass Times

St. Monica	St. Thomas the Apostle
Sunday 11:00am Saturday 5:00pm (Vigil) Weekdays Mon-Fri 8:00am Confessions Mon-Fri before and after Mass Saturday 4:20pm	Sunday 7:30am (Vietnamese) 9:00am Weekdays Mon, Wed, Fri 8:30am First Saturday 8:30am First Saturday Adoration 9:00am - 10:00am

PASTOR'S LETTER



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with great joy that I share with you that this week we will celebrate a Triduum in honor of St.

Monica, our parish patroness, on August 25, 26, and 27. Each day will begin with Holy Mass at 8:00 a.m.

During these days, we will reflect on the life of St. Monica, the mother of St. Augustine, who prayed faithfully and perseveringly for many years for the conversion of her son. At each Mass, we will pray in a



special way for all mothers and for those sons and daughters who have grown distant from God and from the practice of our Catholic faith. We entrust them all to St. Monica's loving intercession.

I am also happy to share that our parish has begun at St. Monica, Eucharistic Adoration every Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Everyone is warmly invited to spend some quiet time with Our Lord—to pray, reflect, and draw closer to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the source and center of our Christian life.

Finally, I humbly remind you that we still need your generous support to fulfill our parish's Annual Appeal obligation to the Archdiocese. Any contribution you are able to make, large or small, will be deeply appreciated and will help our parish meet this important commitment.

Thank you for your continued generosity, prayers, and support of our parish community.

St. Monica (A.D. 331–387) is one of the Church's great examples of perseverance in prayer and trust in God. Born in North Africa, she was the mother of St. Augustine, who as a young man abandoned the Catholic faith and lived for many years far from the life his mother desired for him.

Monica never gave up hope. She prayed, sacrificed, and patiently entrusted her son to God, eventually following him to Italy. In Milan, Augustine encountered St. Ambrose and underwent the profound conversion for which Monica had prayed for so long. In 387, she had the joy of seeing her son baptized into the Catholic Church.

Shortly afterward, Monica and Augustine shared their famous spiritual conversation at Ostia, contemplating the joy of eternal life. She died there soon afterward. Augustine later wrote movingly about his mother in his Confessions.

St. Monica remains a powerful reminder that we should never lose hope in God's grace or cease praying for those we love. She is especially honored as a patroness of mothers and of those who pray for the conversion of family members. Her feast is celebrated on August 27.

May God bless you and your families abundantly,
 Fr. Javier Olivera Ravasi
 Parish Administrator

CALLING ALL SINGERS

The Parish is forming a new choir and we are looking for volunteers who would like to sing for the 11AM Mass. Prior choral experience is not required, but greatly appreciated. Most important, however, is a desire to learn and to foster a spirit of reverence and love to Almighty God and among our fellow brothers.



If you are interested in joining, auditions will be held on Sunday, September 6th after the 11AM Mass or by appointment. To schedule an audition or to learn more information, please send an email to **pastor@smstaparishsf.org**

Sunday Gospel reading: Matthew 16:13-20

"Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

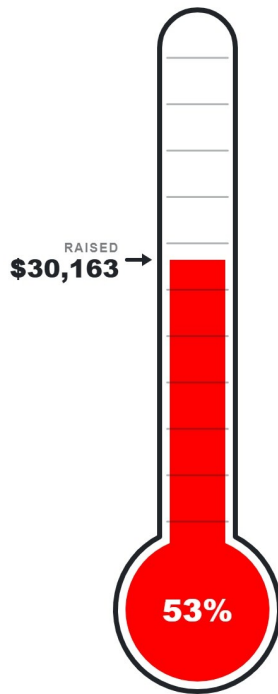
Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ."





Archdiocese Annual Appeal

Parish Goal: \$57,058



Clergy Support — 35%

Funds priest formation, retreats, sabbaticals, and retirement needs, plus the Office of Vocations, which supports discernment for the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life.

Parish Ministry & Schools — 25%

Supports Catholic schools, Faith Formation and Youth Ministry (catechesis, sacramental prep, OCIA), the Office of Worship, and Marriage & Family Life programs.

Social Ministry — 23%

Funds hospital and prison chaplains, the Office of Human Life and Dignity, Restorative Justice, Ethnic Ministries, and the Tribunal.

Universal Church & Communications — 17%

Supports the Holy See, USCCB, California Catholic Conference, and the Archdiocese's communications, including *Catholic San Francisco* magazine.

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2026 Goal: \$6,450,000

To learn more about the Archdiocese Annual Appeal, and to donate, please visit <https://sfarch.org/aaa/>

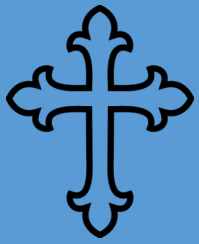
Triduum in Honor of St. Monica August 25th - 27th

In order to celebrate the patroness of our parish, we will be holding three days of prayer leading up to her feast day, which falls on August 27th.

Born in northern Africa in A.D. 331, St. Monica is remembered for her supernatural faith and incessant prayer. It was through her life of virtue that she witnessed the conversion of her first son: St. Augustine of Hippo, one of the greatest theologians to ever live and a Doctor of the Church.

Saint Monica, pray for us!





Children's Catechism Classes
Registration is open for classes preparing children for **First Holy Communion and Confirmation**. Classes begin **Sunday, September 20, 2026**. We encourage all parents of catechism-age children to register soon. To register or for more information, contact Terry at (415) 465-2133.



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

Interested in becoming Catholic, or completing the sacraments of initiation? The OCIA program prepares adults for entry into the Church. Email pastor@smstaparishsf.org for more information.

Sunday Collection

Collection	Sunday Collection
St. Monica	
English	\$1,012
Assumption Collection	\$350
St. Thomas the Apostle	
English	\$1,037
Vietnamese	\$503
Assumption Collection	\$245

Adorers Needed

For Friday Adoration

Every Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm



Our Lord is waiting for you!

What is Adoration? What is a Holy Hour?

It is spending an hour adoring the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. A plenary indulgence is granted when you go to Adoration for at least a half hour (and you are detached from sin, go to Confession, receive the Eucharist and pray for the Holy Father's intentions).

Liturgical Calendar

Sun 09/23	21st Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 09/24	St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Tues 09/25	St. Joseph of Calasanz
Wed 09/26	Wednesday Ordinary Time
Thurs 09/27	St. Monica
Fri 09/28	St. Augustine of Hippo
Sat 09/29	Beheading of St John the Baptist

New to the Parish?

Sign up to be an official parishioner and for Friday Adoration



Mass Intentions

	St. Monica		St. Thomas the Apostle	
Sunday 08/23	11:00am	† Ursula Alegre	9:00am	Parishioners
Monday 08/24	8:00am	† Ryszard Sowa	8:30am	† Anni Joseph
Tuesday 08/25	8:00am	† Ludwika Novak		No Mass
Wednesday 08/26	8:00am	† Bonnie Gallegos	8:30am	Sr. Noreen O'Connor
Thursday 08/27	8:00am	† Raymond Reyes		No Mass
Friday 08/28	8:00am	† Jose Gallegos	8:30am	† Angelina + Guillermo Panes
Saturday 08/29	5:00pm	† Rose + Albert Capurro		No Mass