

# Saint Monica Church

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
November 26, 2017

1001 Camino Pablo  
Moraga, CA 94556

**Office Hours :**

Mon - Thurs: 9:30 am-4:00 pm  
Fri: 9:30 am-1:00 pm  
Sat - Sun: Closed

**Phone:** 925.376.6900

**Office Email:**

[office@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:office@stmonicamoraga.com)

**Bulletin Email:**

[communications@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:communications@stmonicamoraga.com)

**Website:**

[www.stmonicamoraga.com](http://www.stmonicamoraga.com)

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:00 pm

**Sunday Masses:** 7:30, 9:00  
and 11:00 am

**Children's Liturgy of the  
Word:** Sundays, 9:00 am

**Daily Mass:**

Monday - Friday at 9:00 am

**Adoration:**

Friday 1:00 - 8:00 pm

**Confessions:**

Saturdays, 4:00-4:30 pm or  
by appointment: 925.376.6900

**Faith Formation:**

**Grades K-5 x 203**

**Grades 9-12 - e-mail:**

[saintmonicamoraga@gmail.com](mailto:saintmonicamoraga@gmail.com)

## Our Vision/Mission Statement

**VISION:** We, the community of St. Monica Parish, are Jesus Christ embodied.

**MISSION:** St. Monica Church fosters spiritual growth and vibrant participation through a welcoming Christ-centered community where everyone is valued.

**BAPTISM:** Please contact Fr. Paul at [frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com) or at x103.

**CONFIRMATION:** Preparation for teens begins in Grade 9 -11. Please contact Fr. Paul at [frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com)

**MARRIAGE:** The couple should contact the parish office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date to arrange a meeting with Fr. Paul.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK / COMMUNION TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND:**

For anyone experiencing chronic illness or preparing for medical treatment, surgery, etc. or if you would like to receive communion at home, please contact [housebound@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:housebound@stmonicamoraga.com) or call x112.

**FUNERAL:** Please contact the parish office.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** RCIA, is the process by which adults are initiated into the Catholic faith. Whether you have already been baptized Catholic, but have yet to receive First Communion or Confirmation, or you've never been baptized, this is the place for you! Please contact Fr. Paul at [frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com) or at x103.

### St. Monica Pastoral Team:

**Fr. Paul Coleman**, Parochial Administrator  
x103, [frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com)

**Sr. Mary Teresa, O.P.**, Children's Faith Formation  
x203, [children@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:children@stmonicamoraga.com)

**Christine Amerio**, Office Manager  
x101, [office@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:office@stmonicamoraga.com)

For Confirmation Inquiries, contact Fr. Paul  
at [frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com)

**Tricia Holloway**, Bookkeeper  
X104, [bookkeeper@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:bookkeeper@stmonicamoraga.com)

Bulletin Editor  
[communications@stmonicamoraga.com](mailto:communications@stmonicamoraga.com)

## WELCOME TO VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS

(If you would like to register in the parish, please fill out this form and put it in the collection basket and we will mail you a registration form or you may fill one out—they are located at the church entrances.)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

## Reflections...

Wednesday Catechesis of the Holy Father, General Audience, 15.11.2017z

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Let us continue our catechesis on the Holy Mass. To understand the beauty of the Eucharistic celebration I wish to begin with a very simple aspect: the Mass is prayer, or rather, it is the quintessential prayer, the highest, the most sublime, and at the same time the most “concrete”. Indeed, it is the encounter of love with God through His Word and the Body and Blood of Jesus. It is an encounter with the Lord.

But first we must answer a question. What truly is prayer? It is foremost dialogue, a personal relationship with God. And man was created as a being in a personal relationship with God, who finds his full realization only in the encounter with His creator. The road of life is towards the definitive encounter with the Lord.

The Book of Genesis affirms that man was created in the image and semblance of God, Who is the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, a perfect relation of love that is unity. From this we can understand that we were all created to enter into a perfect relationship of love, in a continuous giving and receiving so as thus to find the fullness of our being.

When Moses, before the burning bush, received God’s calling, he asked what His name was. And how did God answer? “I am Who I am” (Ex 3: 14). This expression, in its original sense, expresses presence and favor, and indeed immediately after God adds, “The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob”(v. 15). In this way Christ too, when He calls to His disciples, calls them to stay with Him. This, therefore, is the greatest grace: to be able to experience that the Mass, the Eucharist is the privileged moment for staying with Jesus and, through Him, with God and our brothers.

Praying, like any true dialogue, also means knowing how to stay in silence in dialogues there are moments of silence – in silence together with Jesus. And when we go to Mass, perhaps we arrive five minutes before hand and begin to chat with the person next to us. But it is not the moment for chatter: it is the moment for silence, to prepare ourselves for the dialogue. It is the moment to collect ourselves in our heart to prepare for the dialogue with Jesus. Silence is so important. We are not going to a show, we are going to an encounter with the Lord, and silence prepares us and accompanies us. Staying in silence together with Jesus. From the mysterious silence of God springs His Word, which resonates in our heart. Jesus Himself teaches us that it is truly possible to “stay” with the Father and He demonstrates this with His prayer. The Gospels show us Jesus Who withdraws to secluded places to pray; the disciples, seeing this intimate relation of His with the Father, feel the desire to be able to participate, and they ask Him, “Lord, teach us to pray” (Lk 11: 1). We heard this in the first reading, at the beginning of the audience. Jesus answers that the first thing necessary to pray is to be able to say “Father”. Beware: if I am not able to say “Father” to God, I am not capable of praying. We must learn to say, “Father”, that is, to place oneself in His presence with filial confidence. But to be able to learn, it is necessary to recognize humbly that we need to be instructed, and to say with simplicity: Lord, teach me to pray.

This is the first point: to be humble, to recognize ourselves as children, to repose in the Father, to trust in Him. To enter into the Kingdom of Heaven we must make ourselves small like children. In the sense that children know how to trust, they know that someone will take care of them, of what they will eat, of what they will wear and so on (cf Mt 6: 25-32). This is the first attitude: trust and confidence, like children towards their parents; knowing that God remembers you and takes care of you, you, me, everyone. The second predisposition, again typical of children, is to allow oneself to be surprised. The child always ask a thousand questions because he wants to discover the world; and he wonders even at little things, because everything is new to him. To enter into the Kingdom of Heaven we must allow ourselves to be astonished. In our relationship with the Lord, in prayer – I ask – do we allow ourselves to be astonished, or do we think that prayer is talking to God like parrots? No, it is trusting and opening the heart to wonder. Do we let ourselves be surprised by God, Who is always the God of surprises? Because the encounter with the Lord is always a living encounter, not a museum visit. It is a living encounter, and we go to Mass, not to a museum. Let us go to a living encounter with the Lord.

The Gospel speaks of a Nicodemus (Jn 3: 1-21), an elderly man, an authority in Israel, who goes to Jesus to meet Him; and the Lord speaks to him about the need to be “born again” (cf. v. 3). But what does this mean? Can one be “reborn”? To return to having the taste, the joy, the wonder of life, is it possible, even when faced

(continued on page 4)

## Sunday Scriptures

**November 26, 2017** Ez 34:11-12,15-17; Ps 23:1-3,5-6;  
1 Cor 15:20-26,28; Mt 25:31-46

**December 3, 2017** Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80:  
2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

### Stewardship

*"...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me" - MATTHEW 25:40*

Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient; when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's schedule.

## Weekly Readings

<b>MON</b>	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52-56; Lk 21:1-4
<b>TUES</b>	Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57-61; Lk 21:5-11
<b>WED</b>	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62-67; Lk 21:12-19
<b>THUR</b>	Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
<b>FRI</b>	Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75-81; Lk 21:29-33
<b>SAT</b>	Dn 7:15-27; Dn 3:82-87; Lk 21:34-36

## Please pray for the sick...

Ed Ahearn  
Amparo Alverete  
Evelyn Ballment  
Nancy Donovan  
Sherman Farrell  
Ken Gandre  
Joan Haines  
Marjorie Hills  
Jeff Lewis  
Darwin Marable  
Maryann McCauley  
Lorry Midura  
Jerry Moran  
Joan Muer

Toni Newhoff  
Erline Paille  
Harry Prudhomme  
Joan Raftery  
Mary Resnick  
Dean Schlobolm  
Edy Schwartz  
James Sherman  
Marion Skrivanich  
Genevieve Smith  
Ellen Stice  
Tom Spewak  
Norma Wardle

### MASS INTENTIONS

*If you have a special intention for living or deceased family members or friends, or for any other intentions (sick, anniversaries or birthdays) please contact the parish office.*

## Mass intentions

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

5:00 pm In Memory of Holy Souls

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

7:30 am In Memory of Holy Souls

9:00 am In Memory of Teresita Minoza, deceased

11:00 pm For the Intentions of St. Monica Parishioners

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

9:00 am For the Intentions of Charlie Roe

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

9:00 am In Memory of the deceased members of St. Monica's Men's Club

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

9:00 am In Memory of Holy Souls

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

9:00 am In Memory of Holy Souls

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

9:00 am In Memory of Holy Souls

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

5:00 pm In Memory of Holy Souls

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

7:30 am For the Intentions of St. Monica Parishioners

9:00 am In Memory of Irene O'Donnell, deceased

11:00 pm In Memory of John Wood, deceased

## Collections

Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

\$ TBD

### **Stewardship\***

Last weekend our stewardship of \$ TBD went to ***Loaves and Fishes.***

This weekend our stewardship will go to ***See the Lord.***

Next weekend our stewardship will go to ***Birthright.***

\*normally equals 5% of plate collection + average of month's EFT/wk

## Notices and Events

with so many tragedies? This is a fundamental question of our faith, and this is the desire of every true believer: the desire to be reborn, the joy of starting over. Do we have this desire? Does each one of us have the wish to be reborn always, to encounter the Lord? Do you have this desire? Indeed, it can easily be lost because, as a result of many activities, of many projects to be put into practice, little time is left over and we lose sight of what is fundamental: our life of the heart, our spiritual life, our life that is the encounter with the Lord in prayer.

In truth, the Lord surprises us by showing us that He loves us even in our weaknesses. "Jesus Christ ... is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 Jn 2: 2). This gift, a source of true consolation – but the Lord forgives us always – this is a true consolation, it is a gift that is given to us through the Eucharist, that nuptial banquet in which the Spouse encounters our fragility. Can I say that when I take communion in the Mass, the Lord encounters my fragility? Yes! We can say this because it is true! The Lord encounters our fragility to restore us to our first calling: that of being the image and semblance of God. This is the environment of the Eucharist, this is prayer.

Source: [press.vatican.va](http://press.vatican.va)

### SOUP TO SERVE



**Next meeting: This Friday,  
December 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Please note: We will begin preparing soup every Friday until Easter week. (Except for DEC 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>)**

You are invited to gather at the 9:00 Mass, first to be nourished with the Body and Blood of Jesus. THEN - and only then - are we truly able to give to the Body of Christ - the poor - what we have just received at Mass. This makes it one of the most unique ministries in the parish.

All are welcome to attend! No prior experience necessary, just show up and be ready to help, share stories and laugh. If you have any questions contact Sonja Crumbaugh at 247-0155 or [scrumbaugh@comcast.net](mailto:scrumbaugh@comcast.net) or Maura Clogher at 376-9328 or [mclogher@comcast.net](mailto:mclogher@comcast.net)

### *This Week's Stewardship:*

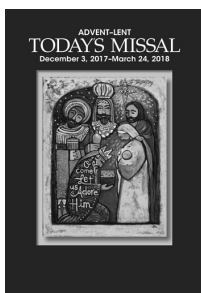
**See the Lord (STL)** is a non-profit organization based on Catholic principles that seeks to serve the underprivileged around the world by providing healthcare, Catholic ministry, and education. The organization provides eye, health care and education in rural Taiwan, the Philippines and for the Diocese of Fresno.

### **The Muffin People Ministry Help Wanted**

The Muffin People need new members to join them in collecting food that is about to reach their "Sell By Date" at such stores as Lunardi's, Trader Joe's, Whole Foods, Diablo Foods, Susie Cakes, Safeway in Orinda, Moraga and Lafayette and three Starbuck's in Lamorinda. They go in teams of three or four vehicles, Monday thru Saturday and deliver the food to four shelters in Oakland who serve the elderly poor, abused or homeless women, poor families with young children in need and a day care center for poor working adults who need help. You determine the days and frequency you would be available. You can learn more about this Ministry by taking a ride with one of the members to see if it fills your desire to be of service to those in need. When you see the wonderful food and urgent need the Muffin People serve, you cannot help but feel motivated.

For information or to join, contact:

**Jack Dice at 376-7189**



The new Advent - Lent  
**TODAY'S MISSAL**  
(December 3 – March 24)

Now available for sale  
in the office.

\$2.00 per copy

# Notices and Events

## Feast of the Immaculate Conception



*A Holy Day of Obligation*

*Friday, December 8*

*Masses times: TBA*



## Advent Reconciliation Service Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

Prepare yourself for the coming of Jesus by participating in the Parish Advent Reconciliation Service. All parishioners are invited for a time of confession and forgiveness. Parents are encouraged to bring their children who have already received the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### SAINT MONICA WOMEN'S GUILD

INVITES WOMEN OF THE PARISH TO ATTEND THEIR

### ANNUAL "HOLIDAY LUNCHEON"



The Orinda Country Club on Tuesday, DEC 12<sup>th</sup>

Social - No Host: 11:30 am; Lunch: 12:00

Cost: \$40.00

**Menu:** Choice of Tri Salad (chicken, bay shrimp, fruit/rolls) or Quiche Lorraine and Pumpkin Soup.

Mini dessert tray/coffee or tea.

RSVP deadline December 4th. Space is limited.

For further information call:

Charlene Christo - 376 1591

Whatever you did

for these

least ones,

you did

for me



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## Eucharistic Adoration



Adoration will be in the main Church on **Fridays from 1:00- 8:00 pm** and will continue there until the Fall and cold weather!

Do come during the Advent Season to find peace and serenity! Take a well earned break from the hectic and busyness of the holiday season to prepare your heart for the celebration of our Lord born in a stable.

# Notices and Events




Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe  
November 26, 2017

"I was hungry and you gave me food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me drink."  
— Matthew 25:35

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**SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE GUILD**  
Will present its annual festive  
*Christmas luncheon*



**December 6, 2017 at St. Mary's College**  
1928 St. Mary's Road, Moraga, CA

It will be held at Dryden Hall, just off the arcade,  
a few steps beyond the Chapel.

All are invited to attend. Proceeds benefit students  
seeking financial aid scholarships. The festive affair  
will include music, provided by the SMC Award  
Winning Choir, a Bake Sale and raffle baskets galore,  
including the infamous Christmas Money Tree!

Social Hour begins @ 11:00 am  
followed by a delicious Luncheon @ Noon

The cost is: \$45 per person  
Make checks payable to: SMC Guild  
Send to: Susan Hooks  
120 Ardith Drive, Orinda, CA 94563  
For further information call:  
Pat Mc Enaney @ 925.376.3306

**WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS**

*We are happy to have you with us!  
If you are new to the parish, or have never  
registered, please fill in the New Member  
form on the front page of the bulletin.  
You can also find registration forms on our  
website, at both entrances to the Church,  
or in the parish office.*

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**



*"I myself will pasture my sheep;  
I myself will give them rest,  
says the Lord GOD."*

As we celebrate Christ the King,  
let us also learn to serve our spouses  
by participating in a Worldwide  
Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend. The next  
weekends are held at **San Damiano Retreat Center**,  
Danville on January 12-14<sup>th</sup> or May 18-20<sup>th</sup>.  
Space is VERY limited! Early registration is highly  
recommended. For more information contact  
Mike & Jeanne @ 925.672.2016  
or Joe & Sue @ 925.680.7767.  
Or go to [oaklandwwme.org](http://oaklandwwme.org)

Week At A Glance	
<b>Sunday, November 26</b>	
3:00 - 5:00 pm	CL Advent Fair
<b>Monday, November 27</b>	
9:00 am	C Daily Mass
7:30 - 9:00 pm	CR Cancer Support Group
<b>Tuesday, November 28</b>	
9:00 am	C Daily Mass
7:00 - 9:00 pm	CR RCIA
<b>Wednesday, November 29</b>	
9:00 am	C Daily Mass
<b>Thursday, November 30</b>	
9:00 am	C Daily Mass
7:45 pm	PR Choir rehearsal
<b>Friday, December 1</b>	
9:00 am	C Daily Mass
9:45 am	K Soup to Serve
1:00 - 8:00 pm	C Eucharistic Adoration
<b>Saturday, December 2</b>	
6:00 - 9:00 am	PR Men's Fellowship
<b>C: Church, CH: Chapel; CL: Classroom, CR: Conference Room, K: Kitchen, PR: Peace Room, REC: Rectory, YC/FR : Youth Center/'Fireside Room'</b>	



**HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE: DEC. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

TBD