



Saint Monica Church

The Third Sunday of Lent
March 19, 2017

1001 Camino Pablo
Moraga, CA 94556

Office Hours :

Mon - Thurs: 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Fri: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Sat - Sun: Closed

Phone: 925.376.6900

Fax: 925.376.9796

Office Email:

office@stmonicamoraga.com

Bulletin Email:

communications@stmonicamoraga.com

Website:

www.stmonicamoraga.com

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00
and 11:00 a.m.

**Children's Liturgy of the
Word:** Sundays, 9:00 a.m.

Daily Mass:

Monday - Friday at 9:00 a.m.

Adoration:

Friday 1:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Confessions:

Saturdays, 4:00-4:30 p.m. or
by appointment: 925.376.6900

Faith Formation:

Grades K-5 x 203

Grades 9-12 - e-mail:

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 Sr. Mary Teresa at children@stmonicamoraga.com or (925) 376-6900 x203.

CONFIRMATION: Preparation for teens begins in Grade 9. Please contact Michele Berrios at saintmonicamoraga@gmail.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. Wayne.

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 Sister Mary LaSalette to arrange an appointment at (925) 376-6900 x112.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) : Anyone who is not Baptized, or is Baptized in another faith, and is interested in inquiring into the Catholic Faith, please contact Father Wayne at x103.

St. Monica Pastoral Team:

Rev. Wayne Campbell, x103, Pastor
frwaynecampbell@comcast.net

Sr. Mary Teresa, O.P., X203, Children's Faith
Formation, children@stmonicamoraga.com

Sr. Mary La Salette, O.P. x112, Pastoral Care
smarylasalette@comcast.net

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Bulletin Editor
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Tricia Holloway, x104, Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@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...

The Price We Pay When We Complain

By Joseph Stowell

Talking with a Christian doctor about his family, I learned that all of his children were grown, happily committed to Christ and serving in their local churches. The doctor was obviously grateful and relieved that his children had grown in the faith. As a father of three, I was intensely interested in knowing what he thought was the secret to the spiritual maturity of his children. He told me, "My wife and I covenanted that our children would never hear us complain or criticize the church, church leaders, or another brother or sister in Christ." In essence, he had made a commitment not to murmur. Murmuring is a form of complaining that harbors a negative attitude toward a situation or the people involved. It runs the continuum from griping about the slow driver in front of you to murmuring against the Lord for things He has permitted to come into your life. The common factor in all murmuring is a critical spirit. This kind of grumbling carries the potential for great damage and is a direct violation of God's will.

My doctor friend wisely realized that complaining about God's work or God's people was a direct reflection on the value of God and His plan. What children would want to commit their lives to a church that is the constant object of their parents' complaints? Wise parents teach and model principles of love and prayerful intercession in regard to imperfections around them. Hearing murmuring about the family of God only gives a young child excuses for future rebellion.

Nowhere in Scripture is murmuring more graphically depicted than in the case of the Israelites on their way to the Promised Land. When they arrive on the outskirts, twelve spies were sent to "case out" the territory. Ten spies returned with a negative report about what they had seen: "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are too strong for us. . . The land through which we have gone, in spying it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great size. . . We became like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight" (*Numbers 13:31-33*). Joshua and Caleb, the other two spies, had seen the same things. However, they advised moving forward because they had faith that God was able to deliver them. Several aspects of this story are instructive:

1. *Murmuring ignores God's potential.* The report of the ten spies reflected a godless perspective. God had opened the sea to save them, the heavens to feed them, and the rocks to provide water for them. He had defeated mighty armies throughout their wilderness trek. He had freed them from perhaps the most powerful nation on the planet. Certainly He could deal with any problems the new land might present.
2. *Murmuring is born in the context of bad report.* Sins of the tongue that spread negative reports (gossip, beguilement, slander, false witness) create an environment in which murmuring can thrive. Some people are always eager to hear negative things so they can have something to complain about.
3. *A murmuring spirit is quick to jump to the wrong conclusion.* The grumbling Israelites blamed God for their situation and even started planning to return to Egypt (*14:3*)! Actually, God was as much in control as He had ever been. But once godless grumbling begins to spread, wrong conclusions are easily reached. Murmuring and beguilement go hand in hand.
4. *Bad judgments are spawned in the atmosphere of murmuring.* The murmuring Israelites decided it would have been better to have died in Egypt. In their haste to return, they even attempted to stone the ones urging them to stop grumbling and trust in the Lord (*14:10*). Murmuring distorts good judgment.
5. *Murmuring leads to self-pity.* "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness!" (v. 2). Murmurers often feel sorry for themselves and focus on how they have been mistreated, misused, and let down.

The end result of a murmuring spirit is a general atmosphere of dissatisfaction. Criticism and complaining lead to discontent. By the end of this episode, Israel was dissatisfied with their God-given lot in life. "Majority reports" are not always trustworthy. Just because a lot of people are murmuring doesn't necessarily mean they are right. But we tend to wear fear and insecurity close to the surface, so murmuring has no trouble attracting a crowd.

Reflections, Notices, Events

The presence of God and His power in us is a sufficient resource to help us cope with problems without murmuring. Murmuring is always a godless pastime. It's a habit that thwarts our potential in God. It refuses to believe that God can conquer any problem or condition. And it refuses to recognize that God may use negative circumstances to accomplish His best in our lives and demonstrate His glory. Is it ever right to express dissatisfaction? Certainly, as long as our attitudes remain grounded in the belief that God is in control and can intervene or not as He so desires. Three steps help to keep our complaints constructive:

1. *Pray.* The psalmist often complained to God about his problems. However, he never lost confidence in God's faithfulness, power, and love. In praying we should commit our problems to God's care and willingly wait for Him to direct us to His solution.
2. *Take your complaints to someone with the authority to rectify the situation.* Sharing problems with those who are not a part of the solution only stimulates murmuring and makes resolution more difficult. Assure the person in authority of your loyalty and desire to help. Open your mind to his or her perspective.
3. *Direct others to sources of help.* When people come to you with problems, encourage them to go to someone in authority before discussing their situations with you any further. While it never hurts to be a good listener, many times others are looking for allies in their murmuring. Don't get caught in the middle of a conflict if you have no opportunity to bring the disagreement to an end.

Adapted from The Weight of Your Words by Joseph Stowell. Copyright (c) 1998 by Joseph M. Stowell. Used by permission of Moody Press, Chicago.

MASS INTENTIONS

*If you have a special anniversary
or other special date during
the month of **March and April**
for Mass Intentions,
please contact the office.*

2017 Offertory Envelopes



You should have received your
MARCH/APRIL offertory envelopes
in the mail by now.

Please let the office know if you have not yet
received them.

Thank you for your cooperation!



SOUP AND STATIONS

Lenten soup in the PEACE Center
Tuesdays during lent.



Come any time from 6:00 – 6:45 and share a simple, yet tasty, soup dinner.
You are invited to place a donation into the basket as you enter the Peace Center for the hungry.
After sharing a meal with each other, proceed to the Church for the Stations of the Cross.
This meaningful remembrance has been well-received here in the parish.

Tuesday Mar 21st, Mar 28th

6:00 – 7:00 pm Lenten Soup dinner

7:00 Stations of the Cross

Notices and Events

Catholics, ages 14 and over, are to **abstain from meat** on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays of Lent.

Individuals between 18 and 59 are also asked to **fast** on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The discipline of fasting is to eliminate excess food from your diet on that day.

Snacks, desserts, extra portions could be eliminated to fulfill the spirit of fasting. Also eating more simply and perhaps, giving the extra money to the poor, would be another way to honor the sacredness of the day.

These obligations do not apply to those whose health or ability to work would be seriously affected.



PLEASE NOTE:

There was a correction made to last week's bulletin.

In the **St. Monica 2016 Operating Statement**, the **Charitable/Stewardship/Other** line for 2016 should have read **\$ 25,019** not \$ 5,019.



ST. MONICA'S WOMEN'S GUILD BOOK REVIEW

Karen Mendonca will review "The Light Between Oceans" by M. L. Stedman. This N.Y. Times bestseller and Goodreads Best Historical novel takes place on Janus Island a half days journey from the Australian coast just after WW1. This heart-wrenching... beautifully drawn debut novel of a young couple, Tom and Isabel, living in an isolated lighthouse are given a "gift from God"--a fatherless child that they claim as their own. In time, they are faced with a devastating choice. This is a beautifully wrought story that you will find riveting.

**Join us in the Peace Room on Tuesday,
March 28, 2017 @ 12:30 for a light lunch.**

Review begins at 1:00
Cost is \$15.00 for the series or \$5.00 for a single review, payable at the door.

For further information call:
Rae Atwood (376-7527) or Jan Catalano
(376-3653) or JoAnn Mayo (376-7040)

Our final review of this series will be
Tuesday, April 25, 2017----SAVE THE DATE !!!!

Next Weekend Second Collection:

Catholic Relief Services carries out the commitment of the Bishops of the United States to assist the poor and vulnerable overseas. They are motivated by the Gospel of Jesus Christ to cherish, preserve and uphold the sacredness and dignity of all human life, foster charity and justice, and embody Catholic social and moral teaching. As part of the universal mission of the Catholic Church, they work with local, national and international Catholic institutions and structures, as well as other organizations, to assist people on the basis of need, not creed, race or nationality.

Eucharistic Adoration

Come and have a silent audience with our Lord every Friday in the Church from **1 to 8 p.m.**

We can always use more people during the early hours of the afternoon, but you are always welcome whenever your schedule allows.

We look forward to having you visit our Lord in Adoration especially in view of our country and all the commotion. Enjoy the serenity and quiet peacefulness as you place your Challenges before Him.



Notices and Events

SOUP TO SERVE



Next meeting: Friday, March 24th

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 or Maura Clogher at 376-9328 or mclogher@comcast.net



Calling All Women!

Magnificat Prayer Breakfast

April 1, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Crowne Plaza, 45 John Glenn Dr., Concord

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic Women, invites all Catholic women to join them at their April prayer breakfast with Sonja Corbitt. Corbitt is a Catholic Scripture teacher with a storyteller's gift—a Southern belle with a warrior's heart and a poet's pen. Bring your bibles and join Sonja as she shares her message to "love and lift all you've been given." Reservations are \$33 per person and \$40 after March 25. For more information, visit Magnificatsoti.org/Index.html or call Jennifer Rogers 503-709-8449

Worldwide Marriage Encounter



"Is the LORD in our midst or not?"

Let God enhance your marriage by participating a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend at

San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville on July 14-16 or September 29- October 1st.

Space is 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

Week At A Glance

Sunday, March 19

Monday, March 20

9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
7:30 pm	CR	Cancer Support Group

Tuesday, March 21

9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
10:00 am	CR	Small Christian Community
6:00 - 7:00 pm	PR	Lenten Soup Dinner
7:00 pm	C	Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, March 22

9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
9:30 am - 1:00 pm	PR	Bridge

Thursday, March 23

9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
7:30 - 10:00 pm	PR	Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 24

9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
9:45 am	K	Soup to Serve
1:00 - 8:00 pm	C	Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, March 25

6:00 - 9:30 am	PR	Men's Fellowship
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Sunday, March 26

C: Church, CH: Chapel; CL: Classroom, CR: Conference Room, K: Kitchen, PR: Peace Room, REC: Rectory, YC/FR : Youth Center/'Fireside Room'

Mass intentions

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

5:00 pm In Memory of Clara Bogaskie

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

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

9:00 am In Memory of Thomas McCormack

11:00 pm In Memory of Burch Thomsen

MONDAY, MARCH 20

9:00 am For the Intentions of Janet Perry

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

9:00 am In Memory of Anna Ferrari

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

9:00 am In Memory of Corinne Roy

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

9:00 am For the Intentions of Marie Thor

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

9:00 am In Memory of Claudia Bishop

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

5:00 pm For the Intentions of Joan Marable

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

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

9:00 am In Memory of Pete Brickner

11:00 pm In Memory of John Miller Sr.

Collections

March 7 th - Soup & Stations	\$ 235.00
Sunday, March 12 th	\$ 8,310.00

Next week's 2nd Collection - Catholic Relief Services

Stewardship*

Last weekend our stewardship of **\$415.50** went to **Mercy Brown Bag**.

This weekend our stewardship will go to **Missionaries of Charity - Richmond**.

Next weekend our stewardship will go to **St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room - Oakland**.

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

Together we pray ...

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ed Ahearn
Harriet Anderson
Evelyn Ballment
Roy Drury
Sherman Farrell
Monica Foley
Ken Gandre
Martha Grisier
Joan Haines
Marjorie Hills
Jeff Lewis
Darwin Marable
Joan Marable
Maryann McCauley

Lorry Midura
Jerry Moran
Joan Muer
Toni Newhoff
Evelyn Nosenzo
Erline Paille
Joan Raftery
Mary Resnick
James Sherman
Marion Skrivanich
Genevieve Smith
Ellen Stice
Tom Spewak
Norma Wardle



Praying for the sick is a Spiritual Work of Mercy.

Sunday Scriptures

March 19, 2017 Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2,6-7,8-9; Rom 5:1-2,5-8; Jn 4:5-42

March 26, 2017 1 Sm 16:1B,6-7,10-13A; Ps 23:1-3A, 3B-4,5,6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:6-9,13-17, 34-38

Stewardship

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again."
John 4:13

Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us for long. When we build our lives around material possessions we always want more. True Joy and Peace only comes when we follow Jesus; when we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered".



HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE: Mar. 26th

Janice Pluth
and
Michael & Edita Romano