



Saint Monica Church

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 24, 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

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.*

*will resume SEPT 10th

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 Fr. Paul at frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com or at x103.

CONFIRMATION: Preparation for teens begins in Grade 9 -11. Please contact Fr. Paul at 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 the parish office to arrange an appointment.

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 or at x103.

St. Monica Pastoral Team:

Fr. Paul Coleman, Parochial Administrator
x103, frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com

Sr. Mary Teresa, O.P., Children's Faith Formation
x203, children@stmonicamoraga.com

Christine Amerio, Office Manager
x101, office@stmonicamoraga.com

For Confirmation Inquiries, contact Fr. Paul
at frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com

Tricia Holloway, Bookkeeper
X104, bookkeeper@stmonicamoraga.com

Bulletin Editor
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...

Dear Parishioners,

Our Lady's apparition on August 13 scheduled to take place, as she had promised and fulfilled three times before, at 12 noon. At the midday hour, the children were in the custody of the evil Administrator Santos in Ourem. Six thousand people had assembled at the *Cova da Iria* to await the fourth apparition of Our Lady. As at the previous apparitions, at midday the external signs of her arrival appeared.

Warren Carroll paints the picture for us in his excellent little history of 1917, Red Banners, White Mantle: "A faint murmur, like very distant thunder, was heard; then something came like a white shadow, glimmering, gossamer, floating down upon the little tree where all the apparitions had occurred. But this time there was no one there to recognize or greet the Lady; a moment later the wraith-like cloud rose again from the tree and faded into the sky. As the bemused people looked about, they found themselves and all the surrounding earth and foliage bathed in brilliant rainbow colors." What a profound image of the wickedness of the age! The Mother of God had come to visit and no one was there to receive her!

Had the wicked Administrator defeated the Mother of God? He certainly had not defeated her three little shepherd children. Amidst the trials of their imprisonment, Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta maintained the truth of the apparitions of Our Lady. They had been thrown into the common room of the town jail, amidst the general population of the local criminals. There, in that very dangerous and unseemly environment, they knelt down on the floor and began to recite the Holy Rosary. Many of the prisoners (children, also, of the Lady, let us not forget!) knelt down to join them in prayer. After the Rosary, when the seven-year old Jacinta cried for her mother, the prisoners sang and danced for her to cheer her up. History records that at least one thief was permanently converted by his experience with the three children of Fatima. The three holy children had turned their hellish prison into a sanctuary of heavenly love. The Blessed Mother visited Portugal on August 13 not only in her own person at the Cova, but also in the holiness of her children in the prison of Ourem.

The three children had not yet suffered their greatest trial. Later in the afternoon, the Administrator called them before him for questioning, threatening them with the death penalty – to be burnt alive in a cauldron of boiling oil – if they did not tell him the secret. He interrogated each child separately, telling each that the others had already suffered an agonizingly painful death. It seems that the children believed him. They were seven, nine, and ten years old. They held firm.

The children were kept in prison for the vigil of the feast of the Assumption, and then, on the feast of Our Lady's great triumph in her glorious resurrection, they were released on August 15. Their parents had been deeply worried about them, since no one had been able to tell them where the children were being held.

The Administrator had them driven back to Fatima and left on the steps of the rectory. Here they were seen as the people, who had just come from Mass for the holy day of obligation, were trying to determine from Francisco and Jacinta's father where the children were. When the children arrived, the parishioners expressed their anger to the driver and then to the Administrator when he arrived later in the day. The parishioners were also angry with Father Ferreira for his complicity with the evil deeds of the Administrator.

Both Father Ferreira and the Administrator begged Manuel Marto, the holy father of Jacinta and Francisco, to help quell the anger of the crowd. No doubt they feared for their lives. Manuel Marto, filled with magnanimity, raised his voice of reason to the angry crowd: "Behave yourselves! Some of you are shouting against [Father Ferreira], some against the Administrator, some against the Regidor. Nobody is to blame here. The fault is one of unbelief, and all has been permitted by the power of One above!"

As Warren Carroll aptly observes, "The world was at war; but Manuel Pedro Marto – and the Blessed Virgin Mary – wanted no war in Fatima." Thus behave the children of the Queen of Peace, bearing her Message of Peace.

Compiled by Fr. Joseph Previtali, Archdiocese of San Francisco

Sunday Scriptures

September 24, 2017 Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3,8-9,17-18;
Phil 1:20C-24,27A; Mt 20:1-16A

October 1, 2017 Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25:4-9; Phil 2:1-5;
Mt 21:28-32

Stewardship

“So the last will be first and the first last”

MATTHEW 20:16

You’ve heard the saying “it’s not where you start, but how you finish.” This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our gratitude and generosity helps us live “God-centered” lives and not “self-centered” lives.

Weekly Readings

MON	Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1B-2AB,2CD-6; Lk 8:16-18
TUES	Ezr6:7-8,121B,14-20;Ps122:1-4AB,4CD-5;Lk8:19-21
WED	Ezr9:5-9; Tobit 13:2-4A,4BEFGHN,7-8; Lk 9:1-6
THUR	Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1B-6A,9B; Lk 9:7-9
FRI	Dn7:9-10,13-14;Ps138:1-2AB,2CDE-5; Jn1:47-51
SAT	Zec2:5-9,14-15A;Jer131:10-12AB,13;Lk9:43B-45

Please pray for the sick...

Ed Ahearn	Lorry Midura
Evelyn Ballment	Jerry Moran
Nancy Donovan	Joan Muer
Sherman Farrell	Toni Newhoff
Ken Gandre	Erline Paille
Martha Grisier	Joan Raftery
Joan Haines	Mary Resnick
Marjorie Hills	James Sherman
Jeff Lewis	Marion Skrivanich
Darwin Marable	Genevieve Smith
Joan Marable	Ellen Stice
Maryann McCauley	Tom Spewak
	Norma Wardle

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.

Mass intentions

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

5:00 pm InMemoryof Gilbert & Lillian Canton, deceased

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

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

9:00 am For the living and deceased members of St. Vincent de Paul Society

11:00 pm In Memory of Charlie Gard, deceased

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

9:00 am In Memory of Claudia Bishop, deceased

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

9:00 am For the Intentions of AJ Johnson

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

9:00 am In Memory of Rudolph Silva, deceased

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

9:00 am In Memory of Margo Metzger, deceased

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

9:00 am In Memory of the departed members of the Men’s Club

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

5:00 pm In Memory of Josie & Steve Escobedo, deceased

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

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

9:00 am In Memory of Hiejung Kwon, deceased

11:00 pm For the Intentions of William Remick

Collections

Sunday, September 17 th	\$ 7,547.25
2 nd Collection - Hurricane Relief	\$ 13,871.00

Stewardship*

Last weekend our stewardship of **\$ 377.36** went to **Next Step.**

This weekend our stewardship will go to **Mercy Brown Bag.**

Next weekend our stewardship will go to **Contra Costa Interfaith Housing.**

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

Notices and Events

ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?

Was baptized Catholic, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. These classes are also open to anyone interested in knowing more and deepening their understanding of the Catholic faith.

For information please contact Fr. Paul Coleman at frcoleman@stmonicamoraga.com.

First Session begins October 3, 2017 in the Conference Room.



SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING FOR ALL ST. MONICA MINISTERS

IS DUE NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1ST

This includes every ministry in the parish.

Please visit: www.virtusonline.org. Instructions for registration, and a link to the training are also available on the home page of the Diocesan website:

www.oakdiocese.org

Thank you for your cooperation!

Please contact Christine at the Parish Office at 925-376-6900 if you have any questions.



WOMEN'S GUILD BOOK REVIEW Tuesday, SEPT. 26, 2017 In the Peace Room

Our first review of this series showcases a unique and heroic episode in the closing days of World War II. Dee Humm's choice, "The Perfect Horse", by Elizabeth Betts is the true story of the rescue of the famous Lippizzaner horses from the Nazi's and the Russians. General George Patton was instrumental in tasking Allied troops to a special mission that saved these magnificent horses. This is a well written and engaging account full of action, heartbreak and the exploits of brave soldiers.

**JOIN US at 12:30 FOR A LIGHT LUNCH.
THE BOOK REVIEW BEGINS AT 1:00**

Cost is \$20 for six reviews or \$5 for a single review.
Pay at the door. ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

For further information, call:

Rae Atwood 376-7527 or Jan Catalano 376-3652
or JoAnn Mayo 376-7040

TEMPO DE FIESTA

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
**SAINT MONICA WOMEN'S GUILD
ANNUAL "TACO FALL LUNCHEON"**

St. Monica Peace Room

October 10th, 11:30 AM, Cost \$25.00

Checks Payable to St. Monica Women's Guild

Mail to: Donna Jollymour

387 Calle La Montana, Moraga 94556

Reservations must be received by October 3rd



ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

There will be mandatory training on

**Sunday, SEPT 24th & OCT 1st
1:00 - 3:00 p.m**

Please meet in the church.

This is open for all students 4th grade and up. Please contact Sister Teresa if your child will attend at

925-376-6900, ext. 203

or children@stmonicamoraga.com

WOMEN'S FAITH SHARING

We kick off our 17th year on **Tuesday, October 3rd in the Peace Room** at 9:30-11:30 am, right after the 9:00 Mass.

We are excited that our first speaker is our own **Fr. Paul Coleman!** We look forward to hearing from him, learning more about him and his personal journey to priesthood, eventually leading him from Ireland to us at St. Monica.

Please join us for coffee, refreshments and fellowship. Together we pray and call upon God to strengthen us, our faith, and our relationship with Him. We welcome all women. Bring your family and friends! We love getting new members, so drop in and see what has kept us meeting for 17 years! **Flyers with meeting dates and registration forms** are at both entrances of the church.

For questions, call Anmarie Claymore, 376-8146
or Pam Plant, 376-9479.

Notices and Events



“The right pair of shoes . . . can change your life!” Cinderella

Welcome back, St. Monica parishioners! Today marks the beginning of our parish’s 19th year for the *Shoes That Fit* program! It’s a convenient, gratifying way for providing seriously poor children with the new shoes, socks, and other clothing they so desperately need . . . and as Cinderella experienced, maybe changing their lives in the process.

Time and again we’ve received moving feedback from St. Anthony Elementary teachers, staff and parents themselves—about the surprise, delight and positive emotional impact among these deeply underserved children upon receiving a new pair of shoes or other new item of clothing *from a complete stranger!* When asked where she got her new pair of shoes, socks and a brand new school uniform, a little second grade girl replied, “The God-ladies gave them to me!” To this child the shoes were from the “God-ladies”, whom we know, of course, as generous St. Monica *Shoes That Fit* supporters.

Sometimes the littlest things can make an enormous difference in a vulnerable child’s life. Eighty-five percent of these families—mostly immigrant—are living below the minimum poverty level in one of the most expensive cost-of-living areas in the country. They are struggling and St. Monica parishioners are one of their important lifelines.

The *Shoes That Fit* program works the same way this year as it has in the past. In both vestibules of Church you’ll find bulletin boards pinned with yellow index cards. Each card has the first name and clothing needs of girls and boys at St. Anthony School. (Their Principal and teachers tell us which children need something, and specifically what item and size.) Simply select a card and follow the easy steps on the board. Most items can be purchased by phone with a credit card and shipped directly to your home.

Once you’ve received the item, simply drop it in one of the *Shoes That Fit* bins **now relocated back in the vestibules of Church**. Feel free to drop your items off on Sunday or during the week. *Shoes That Fit* volunteers make deliveries to the school every week. *Shoes That Fit* is a uniquely personal way to engage the whole family in a meaningful act of kindness. And there’s an item on the bulletin board for every budget—guaranteed!

Shoes That Fit always welcomes new volunteers—please inquire if you’re even mildly interested. It’s a great way for parishioners to meet new people, and I think our Committee of 15 would agree that this program offers a rare, emotionally rich opportunity to play a hands-on role doing the work Christ has asked us to do.

Most of all, *Thank you* St. Monica parishioners, for your unwavering support over nearly two decades now. May God bless you for your extraordinary generosity!

Kathi Balousek (376-8934), *Shoes That Fit* Coordinator

OKTOBERFEST

The Saint Martin DePorres Unit, an auxiliary of Catholic Charities of the East Bay, has held an Oktoberfest dinner and auction at St. Monica Church each fall since 1991.

This year our “aging” members **have decided to take a year off so there will be no dinner in 2017**. We are dedicated to serving Catholic Charities and hope each of you will continue to give financial support.

As he has done at each Oktoberfest auction, Gene Elam will match every \$100 donation up to \$3,000.

Make a check payable to

Catholic Charities of the East Bay and mail to Pat Elam, 34 Sherwood Ct., Moraga, CA 94556 by October 30.



**Saturday
September 30, 2017**
Mass: 10:00am

Celebrant: Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

The Cathedral of Christ the Light

Reception: After Mass

We encourage all who provide healthcare services, direct and administrative, to attend this multicultural Mass, as we celebrate your energy, dedication & generosity.

Details, updates & invitations at

oakdiocese.org/BlessingHealers



Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration will be in the main Church **from 1:00- 8:00 pm** and will continue there until the Fall and cold weather! Scripture tells of Elijah seeking the Presence of God and the sound of His Voice.

Father has urged us to take time to do the same. Spending time during Adoration is an excellent place to relax and enjoy the quiet and serenity while seeking God’s Presence and Voice.

Do come and take Elijah’s example of listening for God.

Notices and Events

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.

CELEBRATE LIFE Dinner & Fundraiser 2017

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #14156 and the Respect Life Team to Benefit:

Birthright of Concord Pregnancy Support Center

When: Saturday, October 14, 2017, 5:30 pm

St. Mary School Gym (1158 Bont Lane, Walnut Creek)

Join us for BBQ chicken dinner with live music, silent auction, and raffle! **Guest Speaker:** Josh Burger, an inspiring & humorous pro life speaker, will share his life story which has included many physical and medical challenges. He speaks frequently to hundreds of teens and adults on the incredible gift of life. Purchase tickets online at www.birthright-dinner.eventbrite.com

Adults/Teens: \$40 (\$50 after 9/29)

Youth Ages 5-12: \$20, Under 5 free

Tables for 8 discounted to \$300.

Tickets not available at the door. Deadline is October 6

Questions: Call Dot at 925.287.0246 or Libby at Birthright 925.798.7227

Pontifex University

is a Roman Catholic university, loyal to the Magisterium and grounded in the Catholic intellectual tradition. It offers high quality online educational programs for credit or for personal enrichment. Courses can be take separately or together as degree programs. Their first program is a Masters in Sacred Arts which offers a Catholic inculturation to creative people or anyone interested in the arts and Catholic culture. It combines the study of scripture, theology, philosophy, art history and the fine arts so as to create a formation in beauty that directs the person to the evangelization of modern culture. For more information contact David Clayton, Provost of Pontifex University at dclayton@pontifex.university; or visit www.Pontifex.University.com

Week At A Glance

Sunday, September 24

1:00 - 3:00 pm C Altar Server Training

Monday, September 25

9:00 am C Daily Mass

7:30 - 9:00 pm CR Cancer Support Group

Tuesday, September 26

9:00 am C Daily Mass

12:30 pm PR Women's Guild Book Review

Wednesday, September 27

9:00 am C Daily Mass

9:30 am - 1:00 pm PR Bridge

Thursday, September 28

9:00 am C Daily Mass

7:45 pm PR Choir rehearsal

Friday, September 29

9:00 am C Daily Mass

1:00 - 8:00 pm C Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, September 30

6:00 - 9:00 am PR Men's Fellowship

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

Dear Rev. Paul,

On behalf of the entire De Marillac family- students, graduates, faculty, staff and our Board of Trustees- we thank you for your generous donation.



De Marillac Academy
Learning for Life • Transforming Lives

We are delighted that you chose to join us in our mission at DeMarillac Academy. Your support directly impacts our work; focusing on social change via education. Providing quality, tuition-free learning requires the continuous help of partners just like you. This August, we began our 17th yr of educating youth and serving the families of the Tenderloin. Our theme, "Together is Better", represents the community partners that share our work in the mission of changing lives by liberating students and graduates to lead lives of choice, meaning and purpose. This academic year, we offer our supporters the chance to share in our mission by visiting DeMarillac and meeting our extraordinary students, faculty and staff. If you would like a tour, please call Alex Goldberg at 415-552-5220 ex400. Together, I look forward to promoting the spirit of community in the lives of our students, our graduates, and their families.

In gratitude, *Theresa Flynn Houghton*, President & CEO



HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE: OCT. 1st

Jean Schommer
and
Pat Bonnin