



# Saint Monica Church

Fifth Sunday of Lent  
March 18, 2018

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, 3:30-4:30 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...

We are now at the fifth Sunday in our Lenten preparation. The focus of the readings turns our attention from the rules we read about during the third week to a new covenant, a new relationship between God and all of us. Jeremiah tells us of God's intention to enter our very hearts, the center of our life. The psalm asks for a "*clean heart*" so that we are ready to receive the joy of salvation. Hebrews tells us that Jesus too prayed, was made perfect, and became the source of eternal salvation. In John, Jesus explains the contradiction that this new relationship involves: death becomes life. God gives everything to us, including forgiveness. God holds back nothing from us, giving us even the beloved Son, Jesus.

The rules written on the stone tablets given to Moses are easy to remember, if not so easy to follow. Today we learn that the rules are no longer outside ourselves but that God has written them on our hearts. God says, "*I will be their God and they shall be my people.*" We are now bound in a relationship with God and are not just following God's rules. The model for the relationship is Jesus. Jesus, Son though he was, was made perfect through his suffering and became the source of salvation for all of us, who are far less than perfect. Jesus describes this relationship as a grain of wheat, whole unto itself, that falls into the embrace of the earth and is broken in order to produce the life-sustaining wheat.

Because the people broke the old covenant, God promised a new covenant, not in the blood of oxen and other animals, but in the blood of the Son, Jesus Christ. This new covenant, foreseen from afar by Jeremiah and the prophets, was not to be engraved on stone, or written on paper, but carved on our hearts, so that we might know God intimately. Not by keeping many laws are we to be saved, but by the love of God, living and real in our hearts through the sacrifice of Christ. Our Eucharist is the pledge of that indwelling of Christ, and of our response of praise and thanksgiving to God for the mercy, love, and kindness shown to us in forgiving our sins and cleansing our hearts of everything evil. God issues this invitation to intimacy by offering us the chance to have our sufferings transformed into the perfect love of the Savior, who first loved us.

## Week at a Glance

**Sunday, March 18****Monday, March 19**

8:30am	C	Morning Prayer
9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
9:45 am	YC	Coffee & Fellowship
7:00 - 8:30 pm	C	Confirmation Class

**Tuesday, March 20**

8:30 am	C	Morning Prayer
9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
3:30 - 4:30 pm	CL	K-5 Faith Formation
7:00 pm	C	Lenten Reconciliation Service

**Wednesday, March 21**

8:30 am	C	Morning Prayer
9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
9:30 am - 1:00 pm	PR	Bridge
2:15 - 3:15 pm	CL	K-5 Faith Formation
6:30 - 8:00 pm	CL	Middle School Faith Formation

**Thursday, March 22**

8:30 am	C	Morning Prayer
9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
7:45 pm	PR	Choir rehearsal

**Friday, March 23**

8:30 am	C	Morning Prayer
9:00 am	C	Daily Mass
9:45 am	YC	Coffee & Fellowship
9:45 am	K	Soup to Serve
1:00 - 5:30 pm	C	Eucharistic Adoration
6:00 pm	PR	Soup & Stations

**Saturday, March 24**

6:00 - 9:00 am	PR	Men's Fellowship
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**C: Church, CH: Chapel; CL: Classroom,  
CR: Conference Room, K: Kitchen, PR: Peace Room,  
REC: Rectory, YC/FR : Youth Center/'Fireside Room'**

**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.*

Weekly Readings	
<b>SUN</b>	Jer31:31-34;Ps51:3-4,12-15;Heb 5:7-9; Jn12:20-33
<b>MON</b>	2 Sm 7:4-5a,12-14a,16; Ps 89:2-5,27,29; Rom 4:13, 16-18,22;Mt 1:16,18-21,24a
<b>TUES</b>	Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
<b>WED</b>	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
<b>THUR</b>	Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59
<b>FRI</b>	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
<b>SAT</b>	Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56
<b>SUN</b>	Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 15:1-39

Mass intentions
<b>SATURDAY, MARCH 17</b>
5:00 pm In Memory of Rosanna Franz, deceased
<b>SUNDAY, MARCH 18</b>
7:30 am For the Intentions of St. Monica Parishioners
9:00 am In Memory of Burch Thomsen, deceased
11:00 am In Memory of Roy Smith and Frank & Margaret Muster, deceased
<b>MONDAY, MARCH 19</b>
9:00 am In Memory of Janet Perry, deceased
<b>TUESDAY, MARCH 20</b>
9:00 am For the Intentions of Nancy Tierney
<b>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21</b>
9:00 am For the Intentions of Margaret Dean
<b>THURSDAY, MARCH 22</b>
9:00 am In Memory of Joseph Sandor, deceased
<b>FRIDAY, MARCH 23</b>
9:00 am In Memory of Nicholas Zenaty, deceased
<b>SATURDAY, MARCH 24</b>
5:00 pm In Memory of Mary Skowronek, deceased
<b>SUNDAY, MARCH 25</b>
7:30 am For the Intentions of St. Monica Parishioners
9:00 am In Memory of Claudia Bishop, deceased
11:00 am In Memory of Christopher Patti, deceased

**Stewardship Message**

*"I will be their God and they shall be my people."*  
*Jeremiah 31:33*

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our neighbors and the world, just as God cares for us.

Please pray for the sick...

Amparo Alverete	Jerry Moran
Ed Atwood	Joan Muer
Evelyn Ballment	Toni Newhoff
Nancy Donovan	Vanessa Orth
Roy Drury	Erline Paille
Sherman Farrell	Harry Prudhomme
Ken Gandre	Mary Resnick
Maureen Graf	Dean Schlobolm
Joan Haines	Edy Schwartz
Alan Holloway	James Sherman
Marjorie Hills	Marion Skrivanich
Jeff Lewis	Genevieve Smith
Darwin Marable	Ellen Stice
Maryann McCauley	Tom Spewak
Lorry Midura	Nancy Tierney
	Norma Wardle

Collections

Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 6,677.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	
- Catholic Relief Services	\$ 2,605.00

**Stewardship**


For the month of March,  
 our stewardship will go to  
 TBD

**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.*

**HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE: MAR 25<sup>th</sup>**

Jenny & Christopher Schnurr  
 and  
 John Campbell



# Notices and Events



## Soup and Stations with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament



We will have Soup and Stations every Friday evening from FEB 16<sup>th</sup> ~ MAR 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm in the Peace Room, followed by Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm. During this time, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will conclude at 5:30 pm.

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.



There will be morning prayer in the Church at 8:30 am Monday - Friday during Lent from FEB 14<sup>th</sup> - MAR 23<sup>rd</sup> and will continue during **Holy Week March 26 - 30**

## Lenten Reconciliation Service



**Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.**

*We gather as a community of faith to celebrate...  
A time for forgiving and forgiveness...  
A time for opening our hearts.  
Prepare for the celebration of Easter!*

**Priests have been invited to hear confessions**

## Volunteers Needed

**The parish office is in need of volunteers to help with shredding documents. If you are interested, please contact Christine in the office. Thank you!**

## Holy Week / Easter Schedule:

### Holy Thursday, March 29

7:00 pm Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 pm

### Good Friday, March 30

3:00 pm Passion of the Lord and Solemn Veneration of the Cross  
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

### Holy Saturday, March 31

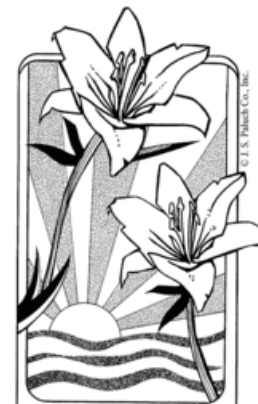
8:00 pm Easter Vigil

### Easter Sunday, April 1

Mass - 7:30 am, 9:00 am & 11:00 am



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## Notices and Events



### WOMEN'S GUILD BOOK REVIEW Tuesday, March 27, 2018

Jodi Picoult's, "Small Great Things: A Novel" is a very thought provoking depiction of racism in our country as told through Ruth, a black nurse, a white supremacist, and a white Public defender.

Karen Mendonca has chosen a well-written, and informative novel that you will find riveting. Based on a true story, this is an important book that deserves to be read, digested and shared with others.

The characters are believable and very relevant to our times. JOIN US IN THE PEACE ROOM at 12:30 for a light lunch. Book review begins at 1:00.

Cost is \$20.00 for six reviews or \$5.00 for a single review, payable at the door.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

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

The newest donor to the Muffin People is *Town Bakery and Café* in Moraga, across from the Rheem Theater. Town Bakery and Café is owned and operated by John and Rose Reyna, Saint Monica parishioners. John bakes the old world type bread daily and donates the unsold bread the following morning, six days a week.



### SOUP TO SERVE

**Next meeting  
Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Please note:**

This week will be the last week we will be making soup. We will switch to making sandwiches every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of month. The first day of sandwich making will be April 19<sup>th</sup>.

### MEN'S CLUB MEETING

**Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**In the PEACE ROOM**

Guest Speaker Chris Ford

Outstanding past presentation of Pixar Studios movie  
Making of Block Busters  
SURPRISE SUBJECT this time!

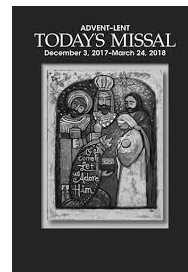
Our May guest speaker will be Ralph Samuel, one of the Holocaust Survivors of the Kindertransport rescue of thousands of Jewish children out of Nazi Germany and taken to Great Britain from 1938-1940.

Social Hour - 6:00 pm

Dinner @ 7:00 pm

Guest speaker approximately 7:45 pm

**All Men Welcome - BRING A GUEST!**



**The new Today's Missal  
for Holy Week - Pentecost  
is available for sale**

**in the office.**

**\$2.00 per copy**



### Eucharistic Adoration

**(1:00 - 5:30 pm during Lent)**

**\*\*Please Note: There will be no Adoration on Good Friday, March 30\*\***

**Adoration will be in the Church because of electrical problems with the Chapel heaters.**

**We urge you to bring extra wraps and/or blankets to keep yourselves warm during your stay with the Lord.**

In Matthew, Jesus selects some of his disciples by inviting them to "Come, follow Me." Adoration is a great place to personally be with the Lord. It is a time where one can willingly set some minutes (or hours!) to be with our Lord, and talk with Him as if he was sitting right across from you, in skin and bones, about cares and concerns, and times for when one is grateful. It is also a time to ponder through a crisis or misunderstanding, and receive His Perspective.

### WOMEN'S FAITH SHARING

**Reminder:** Mark your calendars!

There will be NO MEETING on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

# Notices and Events



## HELP SAVE LIVES IN WALNUT CREEK!

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization! Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 750,00 volunteers! We can use your presence and help an hour a day, OR an hour a week, or even an hour in total during these 40 days. Any time you give helps a life!

### Here's how to take part:

**Vigil location:** Outside Walnut Creek Planned Parenthood: 1357 Oakland Blvd. off of Mt. Diablo Bl.

**Vigil hours:** 7am - 7pm daily, except Sundays

**Local contact:** Friendsforlifetrivalley@gmail.com

Learn more and get involved by visiting our campaign at the address below!

[40daysforlife.com/walnutcreek](http://40daysforlife.com/walnutcreek)

**Birthright** of Concord Pregnancy Support Center would like to invite you to our

## "Spring into Action" Luncheon

on Thursday, April 19 at 11:30 am  
The Clubhouse Ballroom Boundary Oak Golf Course  
3800 Valley Vista Rd., Walnut Creek

The guest speaker will be **Clare Caputi**, an inspiring young leader and formerly President of Students for Life at UNLV. She is currently a Co-Coordinator for Gabriel Project.

Cost is \$40 per person  
Menu choices available when making reservations.

Please contact Pat or Libby at the Office at **925-789-7227** or on-line at [birthrightlunch2018.eventbrite.com](http://birthrightlunch2018.eventbrite.com)

Please respond by April 1<sup>st</sup>

# Children's Corner

Jesus said that when a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it produces fruit. In the same way, we need to surrender our lives to Jesus. Then he can help us do wonderful things for God! Find out which seed will be planted into the soil and grow to become wheat.



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## Fifth Sunday of Lent

Let's find out what happens when we serve Jesus. Use a different color to trace each of the three sets of arrows that point in the same direction. Read each set in order. Which set tells us something Jesus said about serving him? You can read John 12:26 in your Bible for help. Put a star on each of these arrows!

