

# CHURCH OF ST. MONICA

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## PASTOR:

REV. MSGR. THOMAS A. MODUGNO

## ASSOCIATES:

REV. JOE A. FRANCIS

REV. THOMAS MANKAMTHANATH

## IN RESIDENCE:

REV. APOLINARI J. NGIRWA

## IN SUNDAY SERVICE:

REV. RICHARD AROLD

## ORGANIST &

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

MR. DAVID SCHAEFER

## CANTOR &

LEADER OF SONG:

MR. JOSEPH NEAL

## MASSES

### SUNDAYS:

7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM,  
12:00 NOON PRINCIPAL LITURGY

### WEEKDAYS &

### FIRST FRIDAYS:

7:30AM, 9:00AM, 12:00 NOON

### SATURDAYS:

9:00AM, 5:30PM VIGIL

## BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES:

BY APPOINTMENT.

PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER  
OF THE PARISH STAFF  
WELL IN ADVANCE.

## SACRAMENT

### OF RECONCILIATION:

CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD  
AT 5:00PM ON SATURDAYS  
AND ANYTIME BY  
APPOINTMENT.



**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: APRIL 11, 2010**

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY****APRIL 11, 2010**

*"To know the richness of mercy is to share in the dispositions of the heart of our Redeemer by experiencing in ourselves something of the shuddering horror at the vision of the sins of the world which filled his heart". (Archbishop E.M. Guerry). At the same time, divine mercy transfigures us, filling us with the faith to cry out united with the risen Christ. "Once I was dead, but now I am alive for ever." Of all of divine mercy's "many signs and wonders" that "were done among the people," the greatest of them all was that "they were all together". Mercy made the disciples into a people by giving them a unity that transcends every dissension, division, and diversity. The Scriptures testify that those who saw the followers of Jesus in Solomon's portico "esteemed them." This is the miracle of divine mercy.*

**TODAY'S READINGS ...**

**First Reading** — The apostles perform many signs and wonders among the people. Many are added to their numbers (Acts 5:12-16).

**Psalm** — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

**Second Reading** — John, caught up in the spirit, envisions the glorified Lord, the first and the last, the one who lives (Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19).

**Gospel** — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK ...**

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8  
 Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15  
 Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21  
 Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36  
 Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15  
 Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21  
 Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 [1-14]


**SATURDAY: VIGIL**

5:30 Holy Souls

**SUNDAY: DIVINE MERCY**

7:30 William Riley  
 9:00 Gizella Rosich  
 10:30 Jeffrey Gettings  
 12:00 **St. Monica Parishioners**

**MONDAY: EASTER WEEKDAY**

7:30 Priests of St. Monica's  
 9:00 Joseph Uddo  
 12:00 Margaret and Patrick Briody

**TUESDAY: EASTER WEEKDAY**

7:30 Rev. Thomas M. Mulvanerty  
 9:00 Mary Foley  
 12:00 Claire Copeman

**WEDNESDAY: EASTER WEEKDAY**

7:30 Katie and Michael Joyce  
 9:00 David Yago  
 12:00 Dorothy Poplinsky (living)

**THURSDAY: EASTER WEEKDAY**

7:30 Helen Burgess  
 9:00 Elaine Rosti  
 12:00 St. Agata

**FRIDAY: EASTER WEEKDAY**

7:30 Madeline Pellegrino  
 9:00 Harriet Wenzel  
 12:00 Edward Fredo

**SATURDAY: EASTER WEEKDAY**

9:00 Jean Vale

**CALLED TO BE WITNESSES ...**

Thomas probably would be a good man to have in your corner in a modern-day courtroom. Even though he was willing to follow Jesus to death (John 11:16), he's not going to go out into the world now and attempt to give witness to the risen Christ when all he has at his disposal is hearsay evidence from the other apostles. No, he wants immediate evidence, a hands-on experience of Christ risen and present. The risen Christ ultimately provides Thomas with the experience and evidence he needs.

Many of us, when we struggle with our faith or our belief, can identify with Thomas. But even when our faith is in relatively solid shape, we encounter people who are a bit like Thomas, who won't believe unless they are given credible experience of the risen Christ. We, then, are called to be witnesses. Like Christ, we cannot be ashamed to show the woundedness of the Body of Christ, the Church. We must even allow others to probe and examine the wounds. But we must also greet them with "Peace" and know that, in the glorious everlasting life of Christ risen from the dead, our wounds are not our final destiny. Our final joy is life transformed for eternity. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

*Second Sunday of Easter (C)****Welcome to St. Monica's!***

*The music for today's Eucharist can be found  
in our hymnal on the following pages:*

<b>Entrance Hymn</b>	<b>257</b>
<i>Christ, the Lord Is Risen Today</i>	
<b>Penitential Rite</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>Gloria</b>	<b>160*</b>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>552</b>
<i>Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His love is everlasting</i>	
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>Offertory Hymn</b>	<b>378</b>
<i>Lord, When You Came to the Seashore/ Pescador de Hombres</i>	
<b>Sanctus</b>	<b>103*</b>
<b>Memorial Acclamation</b>	<b>104*</b>
<b>Great Amen</b>	<b>105*</b>
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Lamb Of God</b>	<b>188*</b>
<b>Communion Hymn</b>	<b>338</b>
<i>How Can I Keep From Singing?</i>	
<i>at noon: Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (J.S. Bach) sung by the choir</i>	
<b>Recessional Hymn</b>	<b>264</b>
<i>Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks</i>	

\* at noon: from the Mass for St. Monica

**STEWARDSHIP ...**

To adopt a practice of sacrificial giving, follow these steps: First, agree to return to the Lord in gratitude a portion of everything he has given you, whether through inheritance, paychecks, investments, unexpected windfalls, an allowance, or a Social Security check.

Second, your return to the Lord must have a certain bite to it. Sacrificial giving means making a sacrifice.

Third, get very specific about the size of your donation. Many consider the biblical norm called a "tithe" 10 percent of one's gross income, meaning the initial 10 pennies of very \$1 earned or received. Of that 10 percent, half will go to the parish Sunday collection and the other half to the people in need. The latter category includes Catholic school tuition, diocesan collections, the missions, local appeals for the needy and our own private pet charities. That second portion can be set aside and used as the situation dictates or as requests arise.

**Easter this Year: \$ 23,262.00**

**Easter last Year: \$ 15,931.00**

**MASS FOR COUPLES MARRIED 50 YEARS ...**

Couples celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary anytime during 2010 are invited to attend the annual **Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Archbishop Dolan at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday June 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm.** Pre-registration is required. Please call the rectory at (212) 288-6251 to register. Closing date is May 27<sup>th</sup>

This event is sponsored by the Family Life/Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of NY.

**ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL ...**

To date our parish has received a little over **\$38,000.00** in pledges/gifts toward our assessed goal of \$59,500.00 for the **2010 Stewardship Appeal**. This amount reflects the generosity of **82** families out of **850**. **For this Appeal to be truly successful, we need to have the support of all of our families.**

The Appeal is a vital source of funding for the programs and ministries that sustain the parishes across our Archdiocese. It is not too late to make your gift. Please give this your prayerful consideration and be as generous as you can. Thank you for all that you do for our parish.

**CENSUS ...**

Forms have already gone out to approximately 120 million households. The Census is critically important because its outcome directly affects our political representation in Congress as well as the allocation of billions of dollars of government funding for our local communities. As a church, we have credibility among groups, that in the past, have been difficult to reach and hard to count. Our goal is that everyone is counted.

To learn more, visit: [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

**PLEASE REMEMBER...**

Both in life and in death, we belong to the Lord.

- Romans 14

Please remember St. Monica's Church in your will.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS ...**

**NEW YORK YANKEE BASEBALL BONANZA ...**

We have raffle tickets for 3 New York Yankee Games at the New Yankee Stadium.

The drawing will be held on **Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010** at **St. Monica's Church, after the 12:00 Noon Mass**.

Tickets will be available in the rear of the church after all the Masses this weekend and at the rectory, Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 7:45pm.

Please remember to send in your tickets - *'take a chance.'*

**BLOOD DRIVE ...**



We will be hosting our *'Sixth Annual Blood Drive'* at the Church of Saint Monica on **Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010** from **9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Parish Hall**.

CLOSE to 2,000 men, women, and children in our community, including cancer transplant and surgery patients, trauma victims, newborn babies, and many others need blood transfusions each day. Remember, there is no substitute for human blood.

**SAVE THE DATE** and give us ONE hour of your time for such a worthy cause.

**Photo ID is required. Please call the parish office (212) 288-6251 to sign up for this worthy cause and help make this a successful community event!**

**BOOMERS & BEYOND ...**

**Jazz on Park!** Come mingle, sip wine with **Boomers & Beyond** to some cool jazz on Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> from 7:00pm to 9:00pm Wallace Hall, St. Ignatius Church, Park Avenue/84<sup>th</sup> Street. Tickets: \$20/\$30 at door. Purchase on line/more information: [www.boomersandbeyond.nyc.com](http://www.boomersandbeyond.nyc.com) Or send check payable to Boomers & Beyond (B&B, c/o St. Ignatius Church, 980 Park Avenue, NYC 10028). Questions: email [www.boomersandbeyond.eastside.com](mailto:www.boomersandbeyond.eastside.com) Or call (646) 241-1332.

**YOUNG ADULTS ...**

Cathedral of St. Patrick Young Adults (*a young adult apostolate for those in their 20's and 30's*) presents a Movie Night in Honor of the *'Year of the Priest'* on **April 22, 2010 at Cathedral Parish House**, 14 East 51<sup>st</sup> Street, between Madison and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, from 6:30pm-9:00pm.

During the last few months of the *Year of the Priest*, the priesthood and the Holy Father are being attacked due to the recent sexual abuse findings. On this night, we will show and discuss the film, *"I Confess"* which is about a priest falsely accused of murder, even though he heard the confession of the murderer himself. The film portrays the courage of this priest and we hope to show you all that the priesthood is still the most heroic vocation today. Please RSVP to [info@cspya.org](mailto:info@cspya.org)

**The Burning of the Sanctuary Light**  
during the month of **APRIL**  
**for the intentions of Elden Butzbaugh (living)**  
has been donated by Tara Butzbaugh

**The Bread and Wine for the**  
**Celebration of the Eucharist**  
during the month of **APRIL**  
has been donated by  
the generosity of a parishioner



The monthly Sanctuary Light and the monthly Bread and Wine used for the Celebration of the Eucharist may be reserved for your special intentions in memory of a deceased loved one, in thanksgiving for a favor received, or for any other special need. The memorials will be noted in the bulletin each month. The monthly offering:

\$35.00 for the Sanctuary Light  
\$35.00 for the Bread and Wine

Please call the rectory at (212) 288-6251 to make your reservation.

**PASCHAL CANDLE ...**

The Paschal candle has been removed from its usual place at the Baptismal Font. The candle now stands in the sanctuary area after it was lighted at the Easter Vigil, as the celebrant said: *"May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds."* It is a symbol of the presence of the Risen Christ among the people of God and remains in the sanctuary for the fifty days, until Pentecost Sunday.

At other times, it stands in the center of the church next to the Baptismal Font, which serves as our main holy water font. We are reminded that all holy water is Easter water. Holy water, the water of Baptism and Easter become one.

This year the Paschal candle has been donated by the Pastor in honor of the *"Year of the Priests"*.

**TRUE TEACHERS ...**

Believe one who has tried, you shall find a fuller satisfaction in the woods than in books. The trees and the rocks will teach you that which you cannot hear from the masters. —*St. Bernard of Clairvaux*

**HELPING YOUR NEIGHBOR ...**

If you truly want to help the soul of your neighbor, you should approach God first with all your heart. Ask God simply to fill you with charity . . . with it you can accomplish what you desire. —*St. Vincent Ferrer*

**SPECIAL DEVOTIONS**

**Rosary:** Weekdays after the Noon Mass and after the 9:00am Mass

**Holy Hour:** First Friday of each month after the Noon Mass  
**Devotions:** Miraculous Medal on Mondays after each Mass

## Divine Mercy Sunday

The title was first approved by the Holy See in 1995 for the use of the Church in Poland. Subsequently, upon request, the Church in Russia and the Church in the Philippines received a similar provision. Then, acceding to the wishes of the Christian faithful from all over the world, on April 30, 2000, Pope John Paul II, declared that “this Second Sunday of Easter ... from now on throughout the Church will also be called ‘Divine Mercy Sunday.’”

The Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments in its decree issued on May 5, 2000 formalized this declaration. The decree simply states: “The Supreme Pontiff John Paul II has graciously determined that in the Roman Missal, after the title ‘Second Sunday of Easter,’ there shall henceforth be added the appellation ‘or Divine Mercy Sunday’ and has prescribed that the texts assigned for that day in the same Missal and the Liturgy of the Hours of the Roman Rite are always to be used for the liturgical celebration of this Sunday.”

By giving this additional designation to the last day of the Octave of Easter, the Holy Father and the Congregation for the Divine Worship fulfilled the wishes of the Christian faithful, while at the same time safeguarding the true meaning and import of Easter.

The original designation, **Second Sunday of Easter**, continues to proclaim, with all its splendor, the Paschal Mystery of Christ’s dying and rising, His victory over sin and death, and His gift of new and everlasting life. The added designation, **Divine Mercy Sunday**, points to the inscrutable mystery of God, the mystery of Divine Mercy. It unveils the truth that “the Paschal Mystery is the culmination of this revealing and effecting of [Divine] Mercy, and that the paschal Christ is the definitive incarnation of Mercy, its living sign ... [and] its inexhaustible source” (John Paul II, *Dives in Misericordia*, 8,7).

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, in his celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday on April 23, 2006, attested, not only to the key significance of this Sunday’s celebration, but also to the unity of the Second Sunday of Easter and Divine Mercy Sunday when he said:

**“On this the Second Sunday of Easter and Divine Mercy Sunday,  
may God’s blessing of reconciliation and peace be with you all.”**

Summarizing John Paul II’s understanding of “the mystery of God’s merciful love,” which was at “the center of his Pontificate” and, in some way “summed up his Magisterium,” Pope Benedict XVI underscored the importance of this message with unmistakable clarity: “the cult of Divine Mercy is not a secondary devotion but an integral dimension of a Christian’s faith and prayer.”\*

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\*The meaning of Pope Benedict XVI’s summary is even clearer in the original German: “The cult [“Verehrung” – meaning worship, devotion] of Divine Mercy is not a secondary devotion [“zweitrangige Frömmigkeitspraxis” that is, “secondary, or second rate devotion or a pious practice] but an integral dimension of the faith and the prayer of a Christian.”