

# CHURCH OF ST. MONICA

413 EAST 79TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10075

RECTORY: 212-288-6250

WEBSITE: [WWW.CHURCHOFSTMONICA.ORG](http://WWW.CHURCHOFSTMONICA.ORG)

## 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:

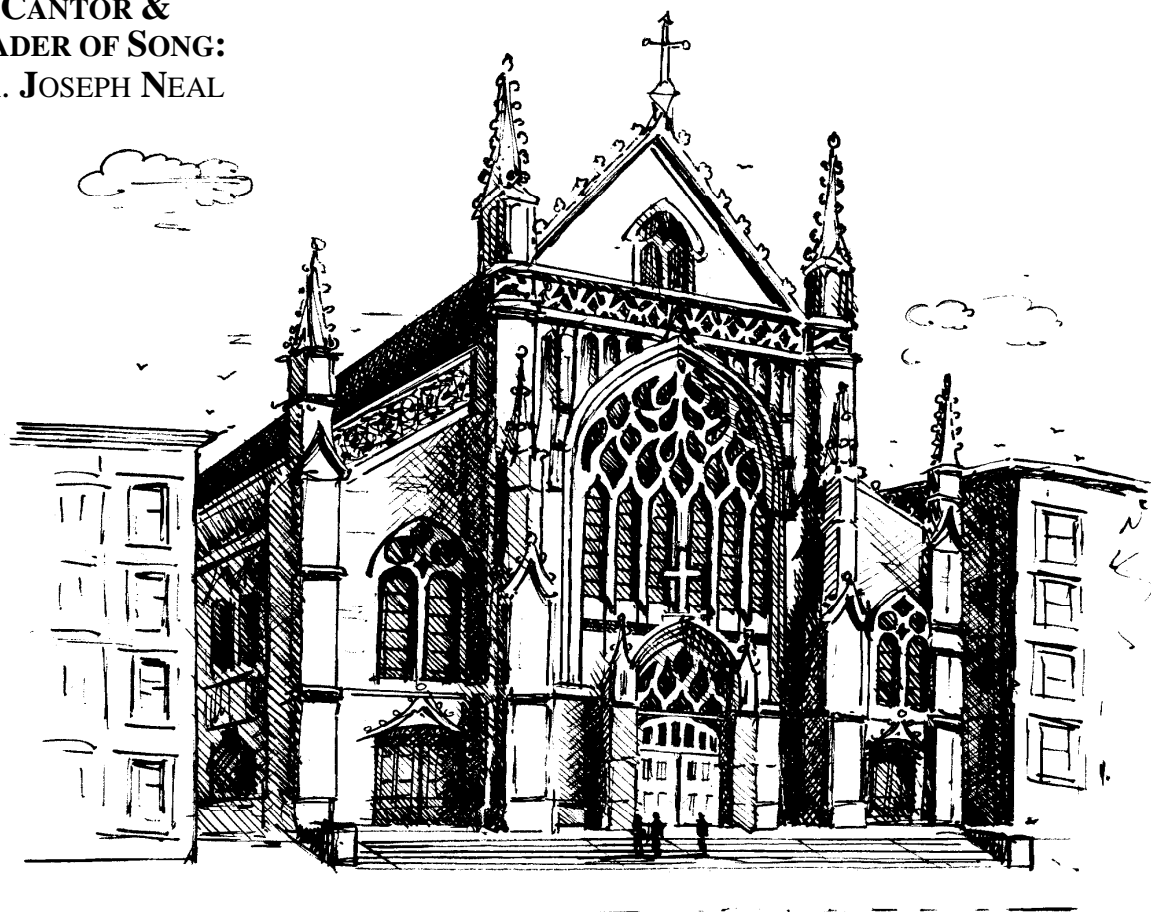
BY APPOINTMENT.

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.



**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: JANUARY 30, 2011**

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME      JANUARY 30, 2011

Pope Benedict XVI says that the individual beatitudes are the fruit of Christ looking upon his disciples. *“The Beatitudes express the meaning of discipleship... What the Beatitudes mean cannot be expressed in purely theoretical terms; it is proclaimed in the life and suffering, and in the mysterious joy, of the disciple who gives himself over completely to following the Lord.”* The beatitudes demonstrate conclusively how God, in choosing the weak of the world, “shames the strong.” Therefore, with great certainty and conviction we, “the humble of the earth,” from the stance of our utter nothingness “seek the Lord.” For it is due to him that we are in Christ Jesus — through his gaze on the mountain we become like him.

### TODAY’S READINGS ...

**First Reading** — You humble of the land, seek justice and humility, and the Lord will be your protection (Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13).

**Psalm** — Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! (Psalm 146).

**Second Reading** — God chose the weak of the world, those who count for nothing, so that whoever boasts should boast in the Lord (1 Corinthians 1:26-31).

**Gospel** — Jesus taught from the mountain: Blessed are the poor in spirit (Matthew 5:1-12a).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK ...

Monday: Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5:1-20  
 Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43  
 Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]  
 Thursday: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Mk 6:7-13  
 Friday: Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29  
 Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Mk 6:30-34  
 Sunday: Is 58:7-10; Ps 112; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

## Mass/Schedule

### SATURDAY: VIGIL

5:30 Nora Farrell Fredo (46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

### SUNDAY: ORDINARY TIME

7:30 Alfred J. Latuso  
 9:00 Arline Redmond  
 10:30 Steven Wall  
 12:00 **St. Monica Parishioners**

### MONDAY: SAINT JOHN BOSCO

7:30 Noreen Val (living)  
 9:00 Maureen Teahan  
 12:00 Annmarie Sterbini

### TUESDAY: WEEKDAY

7:30 In Thanksgiving  
 9:00 Noreen McCarthy (living)  
 12:00 Leslie O’Carroll (28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

### WEDNESDAY: PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

7:30 Priests of St. Monica  
 9:00 Mary Serrada  
 12:00 Janice Stephen

### THURSDAY: STS ANSGAR AND BLAISE AND BLESSING OF THROATS

7:30 Janice Stephen  
 9:00 Andre Laramee (living)  
 12:00 Patrick and Katie Galvin

### FRIDAY: WEEKDAY

7:30 Armando Modugno  
 9:00 Joseph Zimits  
 12:00 Susan Pollio

### SATURDAY: SAINT AGATHA

9:00 St. Agata

### GOD’S WAYS...

If we itemized the top eight things that bring us happiness, what items might show up on the list? A hefty bank account? A Caribbean cruise or African safari? A shopping mall marathon? Season tickets for the hometown team? A new car? If we already have some of these things, most likely we know they don’t bring us true happiness. Fact is, they probably bring us more aggravation—items to return or repair, one more object for people to argue over. Today’s scriptures point us toward the things that bring us true joy. The words of all three passages conflict with our society’s conviction that fortune, fame, and power are the sought-after treasures of life. God’s ways are not the ways of our popular culture, after all, and today’s readings help point us in the right direction. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)****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>295</b>
<i>We Are the Light of the World</i>	
<b>Penitential Rite</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>Gloria</b>	<b>113*</b>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>587</b>
<i>Blessed the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!</i>	
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>Offertory Hymn</b>	<b>359</b>
<i>Blest Are They</i>	
<b>Sanctus</b>	<b>172*</b>
<b>Memorial Acclamation</b>	<b>173*</b>
<b>Great Amen</b>	<b>177*</b>
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Lamb Of God</b>	<b>178*</b>
<b>Communion Hymn</b>	<b>282</b>
<i>Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All</i>	
<b>Recessional Hymn</b>	<b>375</b>
<i>The Summons</i>	

\*at the noon mass, from the *Mass for St. Monica*

**STEWARDSHIP ...**

Stewardship is based on the spiritual principles of the Old Testament and the teachings of Jesus: where it has been implemented, both givers' and receivers' lives have been changed. Stewardship is a way of life, a way of thanking God for all the blessings we have received by returning a portion of the time, talent, and treasure allotted to us. Stewardship engenders a spirituality that deepens our relationship with the Lord. Stewardship involves intentional, planned, and proportionate giving of our time, talent, and treasure. Stewardship addresses both individual parishioners as well as parishes themselves.

**Last Week's Collection: \$ 5,732.00**

**Last Year's Collection: \$ 5,088.00**

**"MAKING ALL THINGS NEW"**

God our father, through the Gospel and the Eucharist, You bring us together as Your Church in the Archdiocese of New York.

Send us Your Holy Spirit, to enlighten our minds and guide our actions as we plan for the future of parish life in this Archdiocese.

Help us learn new ways to strengthen and revitalize our parish communities, and to be good stewards of the spiritual and material gifts that sustain them.

Bless our work, so that our parishes may continue to witness to the truth of the Gospel, and be a sign of Your love for all people.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN

**FEAST OF FAITH... I Confess**

One form of the penitential rite at the beginning of Mass is the traditional *Confiteor*, or "I confess," a prayer that was formerly prayed by the priest alone at the foot of the altar, but which is now prayed by the entire assembly. The *Confiteor* is at once personal—"I confess"—and communal, prayed aloud, together. We recognize that sin does not just separate us from God; sin comes between us and others, isolating us. We acknowledge that sin has many dimensions, individual and communal: sins of thought, sins of speech, sins of action, sins of omission. Sin is not something that happens to us; sin is something we do. In the *Confiteor*, we take responsibility for our own actions. The repeated insistence on our "fault," with the ritual gesture of striking the breast, an ancient sign of penitence, is not meant to lower our self-esteem. Rather, it acknowledges our human instinct to transfer the blame whenever we can ("The devil made me do it!"). This prayer stops us short. We take responsibility for ourselves, our actions, our failure to act. Then we cry out to God in those ancient words, *Kyrie, eleison*—Lord, have mercy. For the sinner who repents, there is mercy. This truth is at the heart of our faith, and it is where the Mass, our feast of faith, begins. —Corinna Laughlin, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

**PLEASE REMEMBER...**

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

- Romans 14

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

**IN MEMORY OF ...**

The weekly Sanctuary Light and the 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 Burning of the Sanctuary Light**  
In Loving Memory of Victoria Ward  
Requested by Florence Spina

**MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES ...**

Because of the popularity of this privilege, we will offer these memorials on a **weekly** basis. The offering will remain the same at \$35.00 per dedication. Please stop by or call the rectory.

**RETRouvaille...**

Retrouvaille is a peer ministry, couples who have had problems in their own marriages and have recovered from those problems, share their experiences with couples in troubled marriages with the hope that they too will see that their marriage can be saved. Thousands of couples all over the globe have found hope, help and healing by participating in the Retrouvaille program. A Retrouvaille weekend is a deeply personal and private experience shared between a husband and wife that can help a couple to reconnect and go on to lead a happy and fulfilling life together.

**YOU CAN SAVE YOUR MARRIAGE NOW!** For more information about the upcoming Retrouvaille weekend that begins on **Friday, Feb. 25, 2011** at the retreat house in Douglaston, Queens — please call 1-800-470-2230 and you will be connected (confidentially) to an experienced couple from Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille who can help.

**SAINT AGATHA (died 251) ... February 5**

“Of noble birth and great beauty,” so the ancient accounts describe Saint Agatha, martyred during an early persecution for refusing a powerful Roman’s offer of marriage, since she had consecrated her virginity to Christ. An early preacher, Saint Methodius, reflects instead on her name, noting that, in Greek, Agatha means “good,” goodness being something we can all strive for, nobly born or common, blessed with beauty—or not! So brutal the tortures that violated her youthful innocence, Agatha, like Agnes and several other women martyrs, was honored from time immemorial by having her name inscribed in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I). Long invoked as protector against earthquakes—Mount Etna erupted as she was being tortured—recent attention has focused on the particularly cruel torture decreed for Agatha, the cutting off of her breasts. This has inspired cancer survivors to promote Saint Agatha as patron and intercessor for women courageously facing breast cancer, for their families and the multitude of supporters who participate in fund-raising marches and races, and, of course, for the dedicated researchers who seek a cure.—*Peter Scagnelli, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.*

**CELEBRATIONS DURING FEBRUARY ...**

**On Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at all Masses**, we will have the blessing of throats; and again on **Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>** the Feast of St. Blaise.

The practice of blessing throats originated with St. Blasé. As legend has it, a mother came to St. Blasé because her young son had a fish bone lodged in is throat. At St. Blasé command the child was able to cough up the bone. We pray through the intercession of St. Blasé that God delivers us from throat ailments and from every other evil.

On **Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>** the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (or Candlemas) candles are blessed and can be taken home. They will be on the tables by the Baptismal Font.

**Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>** we celebrate “*World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life*” as a way of honoring the lives of women and men who live their baptismal promises according to the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience.

At the **12 Noon Mass** we will celebrate and remember in grateful prayer the Sisters, Brothers and Religious Priests for their many years of service and fidelity to Christ and the Church. All religious who serve and have served in our Vicariate and or representatives from their congregations have been invited to this celebration. All are welcome to attend. Your attendance will show your love and support.

**GOOD NEWS FROM OUR PARISH ...**

Many thanks to our wonderful parishioners who are fulfilling their pledges to our parish’s Bicentennial Campaign. Last week, we received a semi-annual distribution of \$25, 210.40 for a total parish benefit thus far of **\$663,805.76**.

This is a great tribute to your generosity and loyalty to our parish. We hope that all of our parishioners will make every effort to complete their pledges on time so that we are able to accomplish our parish projects. Thank you very much.

The financial history of the Bicentennial Parish Campaign for our parish to date is:

Total pledged as of 12/30/10	\$1,070,353.19
Total received as of 12/30/10	842,112.20
Cardinal’s Appeal commitment subtracted	49,855.00
Printing and postage cost subtracted	675.00
20% subtracted “Fund for Needy Parishes”	158,451.44
Amounts previously paid	607,920.34
The amount our parish has just received	25,210.40

**SPECIAL DEVOTIONS**

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

**Holy Hour:** First Friday of each month after the Noon Mass

**Devotions:** Miraculous Medal on Mondays after each Mass

# IRAQI CHRISTIANS UNDER SEIGE

A special report from CNEWA

You don't read about it in the newspaper or see it on TV. But right now in Iraq, Christians are being persecuted and an entire faith community is being destroyed.



Extremists are bombing Christian churches. Criminals are robbing Christian homes. Because of the chaos, Christian families are fleeing their homes.

Women and children go to Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. Men aren't welcome, so families are breaking apart. Other Christians migrate to northern Iraq.

## "We intend to stay!"

Outside of Iraq, Christians are safe but not secure. They're refugees. Adults can only find work in the under-the-table economy.

Children miss months of school while families search for shelter.

Iraqi Christians are struggling, but they aren't dead. They're a living part of the body of Christ. Catholic parishes inside and outside Iraq are helping Christian families and giving them hope. And caring people like you are channeling your concern and solidarity through CNEWA.

Is it working? Yes, says CNEWA president Archbishop Timothy Dolan. When he visited the Middle East in April 2010, he heard it clearly: "We are still in the land of the Bible! We have been here since Jesus, Peter and Paul! And we intend to stay!"

## WHO ARE IRAQ'S CHRISTIANS?

- 66 percent belong to the Chaldean Catholic Church
- The rest are members of the Armenian, Assyrian and Syriac Catholic and Orthodox churches

## A SHRINKING COMMUNITY

- Since 2003, up to 500,000 Christians have either fled Iraq or are internally displaced
- 1 in 5 Iraqis was a Christian in 1932; today it is 1 in 33