

CHURCH OF ST. MONICA

413 EAST 79TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10075

RECTORY: 212-288-6250

WEBSITE: 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.



BAPTISM OF THE LORD: JANUARY 9, 2011

BAPTISM OF THE LORD**JANUARY 9, 2011**

Jesus joins the people going out to John the Baptist in the gesture of repentance, not because there is sin in him, but in order to model for us the only authentic way to approach the Father. He goes to the Baptist as a beggar because the Mystery is mercy. Through the mystery of the Baptism of the Lord, whenever we regard our sins we see something more: Jesus Christ who comes to be present to us, even identifying with us sinners. Whenever we look at our sins we see Someone looking at us with love. We can face our sins because of the gaze of that face. Thanks to the Baptism of the Lord, never again must we confront the horror of our sins alone.

TODAY'S READINGS ...

First Reading – Isaiah speaks of the servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7).

Psalm – The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29).

Second Reading – Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38).

Gospel – A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Matthew 3:13-17).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK ...

Monday: Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20
 Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28
 Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39
 Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45
 Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12
 Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17
 Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34


SATURDAY: VIGIL

5:30 Steven Calnan

SUNDAY: BAPTISM OF THE LORD

7:30 Josephine Stellino
 9:00 Paul Montella
 10:30 Helen, John Flack, and Family
 12:00 **St. Monica Parishioners**

MONDAY: WEEKDAY

7:30 Mathilde and Louise (living)
 9:00 Edie DeGaetano
 12:00 Cecilia Dennett (living)

TUESDAY: WEEKDAY

7:30 Joan Anderson Spilker
 9:00 Edward Noyes and Family (living)
 12:00 Christos Ernest Duval

WEDNESDAY: WEEKDAY

7:30 Susan Anderson
 9:00 Mary Weiser and Family (living)
 12:00 Brigid Brown

THURSDAY: SAINT HILARY

7:30 Maria Encarnacion Litrenta
 9:00 Rita Hogan and Family (living)
 12:00 Susan Pollio

FRIDAY: WEEKDAY

7:30 David and Yepsi Lopez
 9:00 Maureen Lent and Family (living)
 12:00 Dennis Rogers

SATURDAY: BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9:00 Hugh O'Boyle and Family (living)

THIS IS MY BELOVED SON...

This Sunday's celebration of the Baptism of the Lord closes the Christmas season. In the scriptures we see one more epiphany, or manifestation, of the Spirit of God in Jesus – but this time it is as an adult, rather than as a child. Jesus' baptism also serves as the inauguration of his prophetic mission and the messianic age.

Today's reading from Isaiah describes God's chosen Messiah, upon whom God's spirit rests. In the Acts of the Apostles Peter says that "*God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power*" (Acts 10:38). Finally, in the proclamation from Matthew's Gospel Jesus' baptism in water goes almost unnoticed. The crucial moment comes when the Spirit of God comes upon Jesus and a voice from heaven echoes the words of Isaiah: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD***Welcome to St. Monica's!***

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

Entrance Hymn	426
<i>Baptized In Water</i>	
Sprinkling Rite	111
<i>Cleanse Us, O Lord</i>	
Gloria	160*
Responsorial Psalm	498
<i>The Lord will bless his people with peace.</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	168
Offertory Hymn	378
<i>Lord, When You Came to the Seashore/ Pescador de Hombres</i>	
Sanctus	103*
Memorial Acclamation	104*
Great Amen	105*
The Lord's Prayer	120
Lamb Of God	188*
Communion Hymn	449
<i>I Am the Bread of Life</i>	
Recessional Hymn	382
<i>I Danced in the Morning</i>	

*At the noon mass, from the Mass for St. Monica

STEWARDSHIP ...

We can define stewardship quite simply: Stewardship is an inner attitude which with faith and gratitude recognizes that everything is a gift from God; and with openness of heart willingly give a portion of those gifts to others, especially the poor, for building up the Church and making this a better world.

Stewardship, and sacrificial giving which is one form of stewardship, thus has more to do with a spiritual approach than with a practical program. It touches one's interior self and inner attitude. It should deeply affect the manner in which we live and ideally become a way of life for us.

Disciples who practice stewardship recognize God as the origin of life, the giver of freedom, the source of all they have and are and will be ...

They know themselves to be recipients and caretakers of God's many gifts. They are grateful for what they have received and eager to cultivate their gifts out of love for God and one another.

Last Week's Collection: \$ 5,952.00

Last Year's Collection: \$ 5,675.00

NOTIFY US WITH RECENT CHANGES ...

We are constantly trying to maintain our parish records. If you have moved, recently gotten a new phone number, or your family status has changed, please contact the rectory with the corrected information.

Also and most importantly, the post office requires apartment numbers on all mailings. Please help us to update your information. This will keep our membership records accurate as well as eliminate return postage fees.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION ...

Interested in Becoming Catholic?



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process for anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church, or who seeks to come into full communion with the faith community.

On **Wednesdays @ 7:30 pm** a group will meet here to inquire into the Catholic faith, to come to know Jesus through the Gospels, to pray and to prepare for the Easter Sacraments. For more information about this process, please call the rectory (212) 288-6251.

TRUE HAPPINESS ...

Abandon yourself utterly for the love of God, and in this way you will become truly happy.

—Blessed Henry Suso

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.

<p>The Burning of the Sanctuary Light In Loving Memory of Christian and Helen Van Leuwen Requested by Chris Van Leuwen</p> <p>The Bread and Wine for the Celebration of the Eucharist Dr. Pedro Antonio Litrenta, Jr Requested by Dr. Maria M. Litrenta</p>

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 (212) 288-6251 to make your reservation.

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS ...

Will be celebrated in our country **January 9-15, 2011**, please pray for all those who are being called to the priesthood and consecrated life. May they be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of a vocation.

We pray: Father, in the power of the Spirit, You send us forth build up your kingdom. I pray especially for those whom You are calling to serve the church as priests, deacons, sisters and brother. Help them to hear and answer Your call to discipleship.

WORLD-MARRIAGE DAY ...

The search begins for the longest married couple in the Archdiocese of New York. To enter, the couple must be Sacramentally married for a minimum of 65 years and reside in the Archdiocese of New York. The longest married couple will be honored on **Sunday, February 13th** in St. Patrick's Cathedral at the end of 10:15 am Mass with reception to follow. For further information or reservations contact Nancy Rizzi at (646) 794-3190 or nancy.rizzi@archny.org

MASS OPENINGS ...

Mass Intentions



© J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.

We have available dates for announced Masses for the 2011 year. What better way for us to show our loved ones both living and deceased just how much they mean to us. Please stop by the rectory to reserve a Mass.

FEAST OF FAITH...The Sign of the Cross

At the beginning of our prayer, we make the sign of the cross together. This sign, simple and powerful, operates on many levels. We trace the sign of the cross over our bodies, reminding ourselves that the cross of Christ has become our source of resurrection, life, and grace. With this sign, we also profess our faith in the Trinity: the presider does not say "in the *names*," but "in the *name* of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" – three persons, one God. The sign of the cross is also a baptismal reminder, for every sign of the cross echoes the words spoken over us at our baptism, which marked our entry into the saving mystery of Christ. This many-layered sign is also our primary sign of blessing: the cross is traced over people, places, and things upon which we ask God to impart divine benediction.

In blessing ourselves with the sign of the cross at the beginning of Mass, we acknowledge the mystery that has gathered us together: that Christ, the crucified and risen One, is living, and that we are members of his Body. Our response, our Amen, is our *yes* to all this, our first profession of faith. —Corinna Laughlin, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS ...

Catholic relief Services (CRS) and the Sudanese Catholic Bishops are collectively calling on Catholics in the United States to support peace in Sudan, where a tenuous accord between the north and south hangs in the balance. A nation with a long history of war, Sudan is again at a crossroads bracing for a January 9 referendum on whether the south will secede from the north. If the referendum comes peacefully, with an outcome that is respected by all, it could lead Sudan into a new era of peace. If it does not, the result could be catastrophic violent conflict. To learn more about the situation – and what you can do to help – visit the website <http://peaceinsudan.crs.org>

PRAYERFUL REMEMBRANCES ...

A Morning of Prayerful remembrance and Intercession: **Saturday, January 15th 2011** from 9-12pm St. Patrick's Cathedral (Our Lady's Chapel) 460 Madison Avenue, (at 5th Avenue) NYC. EWTN will be televising the event. The hidden wounds of abortion affect each of us. Whether it be one's neighbor, co-worker, friend, relative, maybe oneself as a community we have all been touched. Join us as we observe the 38th Anniversary of Roe vs Rose, the Supreme Court Decision legalizing abortion. We will gather to pray and intercede on behalf of our entire nation, seeking forgiveness and healing in God's merciful love.

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



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP
1011 FIRST AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022

January 2011

Dear friends in the Lord:

The combined collection for the *Catholic Communications Campaign* and *The Catholic University of America* will be taken up in our parishes on the weekend of January 8 and 9, 2011.

The *Catholic Communications Campaign* supports the official Catholic presence in the media. In partnership with the communications offices of the (arch)dioceses throughout the nation, this effort is our voice to educate, entertain, inspire, and inform Catholics and non-Catholics alike about Gospel values. You might find its website, www.CatholicCommunicationsCampaign.org, helpful as it contains television and radio programming, movie and television reviews, videos of news worthy events, and such.

The Catholic University of America, founded in 1887, is unique among the Catholic institutions of higher education in the United States. As a pontifical university – the only university approved by the Holy See in the nation – it provides a faith-centered education, with faculties in canon law, theology, and philosophy in addition to the usual university curriculum – and is in large part the educated voice of Catholicism in the United States.

Please be as generous as you can in making a sacrificial offering to support this combined collection for the *Catholic Communications Campaign* and *The Catholic University of America*. Your gift will make the difference in these two crucially important works of the Church.

With prayerful best wishes for a blessed Christmas season and a happy, healthy, and holy new year, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Timothy M. Dolan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of New York