

CHURCH OF ST. MONICA

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PASTOR:

REV. MSGR. THOMAS A. MODUGNO

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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: MAY 1, 2011

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**MAY 1, 2011**

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, we recall the words of Saint Thomas Aquinas: *“mercy consists in bringing a thing out of nonbeing into being.”* We see this transpire concretely in the life of the early Church. The believers *“devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of bread and to prayers.”* They were filled with awe; they were witnesses of wondrous signs; they lived for the good of the other; they were selfless and generous; they overflowed with *“exultation and sincerity of heart.”* God *“in his great mercy”* gave them – and us – *“a new birth to a living hope”* through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. That is what the apostle Thomas is looking for in the Lord’s open side.

TODAY’S READINGS ...

First Reading — All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

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

Second Reading — God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

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: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14
 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 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35


SATURDAY: VIGIL

5:30 Johanna Stephens

SUNDAY: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

7:30 In Thanksgiving to St. Monica
 9:00 Sal Russo
 10:30 Gay Canning (living)
 12:00 **St. Monica Parishioners**

MONDAY: SAINT ATHANASIUS

7:30
 9:00
 12:00 Reynaldo Alvarez

TUESDAY: STS. PHILIP AND JAMES

7:30 Luigi Napolitano
 9:00 Grech Family (living)
 12:00 Irene Salamone

WEDNESDAY: WEEKDAY

7:30 In Thanksgiving
 9:00 Priests of St. Monica
 12:00 Charles and Marjorie Barrett

THURSDAY: CINCO DE MAYO

7:30 Catherine Ward
 9:00 Joseph Freer (living)
 12:00 Edward Fredo

FRIDAY: WEEKDAY

7:30
 9:00 Mary Crowley and Bea O’Carroll
 12:00 Laretta Dowley

SATURDAY: WEEKDAY

9:00 Barbara Galligan

GET REAL! ...

Those of us who flatter ourselves that we have a “realistic” view of the world may listen to the first reading today and say, “Get real!” when we hear Luke’s account of the early, Elysian days of the Christian movement. All seems to be rosy, lots of wonders are performed, everyone shares selflessly, they eat together in “exultation,” and the Lord added to their numbers? Well, who wouldn’t be attracted to a group like this? From the wind that swept through the upper room at Pentecost as the Spirit of God blew over the face of the waters in Genesis, and the fire that appeared over each disciple as the light appeared at the dawn of creation, Luke’s intent in Acts is to show a new creation, a restoration of creation’s original goodness through the working of the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who continues to make us into the Body of Christ. We may occasionally, like Thomas in the Gospel, say, “Get real!” but our ultimate reality in the Spirit is to work continually to make our Christian community a new creation, one in which others will find God’s joy and beauty. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co

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

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

Entrance Hymn	257
<i>Christ, the Lord Is Risen Today</i>	
Penitential Rite	112
Gloria	160*
Responsorial Psalm	552
<i>Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His love is everlasting</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	168
Offertory Hymn	338
<i>How Can I Keep From Singing?</i>	
Sanctus	103*
Memorial Acclamation	104*
Great Amen	105*
The Lord's Prayer	120
Lamb Of God	188*
Communion Hymn	357
<i>You Are Mine</i>	
Recessional Hymn	264
<i>Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks</i>	

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

STEWARDSHIP ...

Living stewardship now – take time to serve someone with physical, emotional, or learning challenges. Teach an adult to read, take someone wheel-chair bound out for a ride, record books for the blind, give parents of a disabled child a “time out.” This is true stewardship at work.

OUTSIDE TH PARISH ...

On *May 9, 2011*, Archbishop Francis Chullikatt, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, will address **Theology on Tap** about the situation in the Middle East and how Christians are being persecuted there. We see some stories about this in the news. but we don't know everything that is going on over there. He will also talk about how we can help our brothers and sisters over there. TO TNYC is located at Klub 45 Room-Connolly's Bar, 121 West 45th Street, between 6th and 7th Avenues. Event begins at 7pm and ends around 9pm. For more info, visit www.totnyc.org.

COPING WITH CHRONIC PAIN ...

The Role of Spirituality and Religion will be presented by the Pastoral Care Committee on *Wednesday, May 18th* from 11:00am – 12:00pm at the Richard L. Menschel Education Center, at the Hospital for Special Surgery, 535 East 70th Street featuring Harold G. Koenig, MD Director of the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health, Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, Associate professor of Medicine Duke University. To register, visit www.hss.edu/pped.

BOOMERS & BEYOND ...

Please join Boomers & Beyond for an evening of education, enrichment and enlightenment on the basic beliefs of Islam both as a religion and a way of life.

Imam Shamsi Ali will meet at the Islamic Cultural Center on Thursday, May 12th at 6:15pm to discuss Islam and the history & architectural significance of the Mosque. Following Iman Ali's talk, there will be a questions and answer period and answer period and an opportunity to observe an evening prayer service. (It's suggested that women wear a head covering while in the Mosque.) (email preferred or call: (646) 241-1332.

Please RSVP by May 9th to:

boomersandbeyond.eastside@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL READING

You will not see anyone who is truly striving after spiritual advancement who is not given to spiritual reading.

—St. Athanasius

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 Bread and Wine for the
Celebration of the Eucharist**
In Loving Memory of
The Living and Deceased Members of the Armetta
Family
Requested by Adam Armetta

The Burning of the Sanctuary Light
In Memory of Sal Russo
Requested by Susan Russo

FEAST OF FAITH...The Homily

The ambo, or pulpit, is a special place – it is the place for god’s word. That is why it is not used for all the spoken words of the Mass, even important words like the collects and the blessing. The ambo is only used for the scripture readings, and for the homily and the prayer of the faithful. The homily is part of the Liturgy of the Word. It flows from the readings we have just heard, and helps us to understand the way in which God is speaking to us today. The homily is not a lecture, a catechism lesson, or a speech. It is more like an exhortation; it has an urgency about it, for it calls us to find ourselves in the scripture, to live the faith we profess, to see our world by the light of the Gospel. The homily, in itself a response to God’s word, demands a response from us. There are many styles of preaching and many ways to respond to the scriptures. But whether the homily is weak or strong, an open ear and an open heart can find in it an abundance of spiritual nourishment. —*Corinna Laughlin*, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

CATHOLIC GUARDIAN SOCIETY ...

If you know anyone who is experiencing concerns associated with an unintended pregnancy, and would like information regarding an adoption plan, please contact Catholic Guardian Society and Home Bureau’s Maternity Services Department. We are able to provide non-judgmental, non-directive counseling and clients will receive information on all their parenting options, including adoption. The agency is a New York authorized adoption agency and offer a full range of counseling, education, and placement services to the expectant mother and father. CGSHB’s professional social workers provide sensitive, compassionate and confidential counseling to any client regardless of age, legal status, religion, race or economic status. All services are free. For more information call (212) 371-1000 ext 2153.

LATEST NEWS ...

St. Monica is proud to present the first album release, “A Journey to Joy” by our beloved cantor Joseph Neal; a very gifted singer that has been with St. Monica for over 25 years. CD’s will be available in the back of the church on May 1st for purchase.

SPECIAL COLLECTION ...

On **May 8, 2011** we will have a parish collection for the victims of the earthquake and tsunami that happened in Japan on March 11, 2011. The monies collected will be directed to Catholic relief Services and they will distribute it to the Bishops in Japan. Thank you for all that you do!

BABY SHOWER...



This is our **eleventh year** and because of your generosity, we have become so successful that we now contribute to; **Pregnancy Help Inc., Catholic Home Bureau (Maternity Birth Care Program) and Yorkville Common Pantry.**

Please remember to drop off your **new** unwrapped gifts, and place them in front of the St. Joseph Altar. We will be collecting these items **through May 31st, 2011.** May God continue to bless you for all that you do!

MOTHER’S DAY REMEMBRANCE ...

Mother’s Day is Sunday, May 8th. This is a beautiful way to remember our mothers both living and deceased. Spiritual Bouquet Mass Cards are available with intention envelopes at the rear of the church. The envelopes can be placed in the offering box located at the Baptismal Font and then will be placed at the Blessed Mothers Altar for the month of May.

TO OUR LADY ...



Holy Mary, bring help to the miserable, strengthen those who are afraid, comfort those who mourn, pray for the world at large, plead the cause of the clergy, intercede for the devout.

May all who pay homage to your name experience your powerful help.
- *The Old Breviary*

MARY’S MONTH...

May is the month of *Our Blessed Mother.* Please remember to pray the rosary daily.



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

JUDAS ISCARIOT: MYSTERY OF DIVINE PLAN OF SALVATION

Benedict XVI has spoken in the past about Judas Iscariot, and to his successor in the group of the twelve Apostles, Matthias.

"The name of Judas Iscariot," said the Pope, "always appears last in the lists of the Twelve... [which also] recall the fact of his betrayal as having already been accomplished." However, he added, the evangelists do emphasize Judas' status as an Apostle "to all effects."

"We ask ourselves why Jesus chose this man and put His trust in him. ...Even more uncertain is the mystery concerning his eternal fate." However "It is not for us to judge his gesture, putting ourselves in the place of God, Who is infinitely merciful and just."

"Why did he betray Jesus?" the Holy Father asked. "Some people highlight the question of his greed for money. Others favor a messianic explanation: Judas was disappointed to see that Jesus' plans did not include the political-military liberation of his country."

Benedict XVI pointed out how the evangelists explain Judas' betrayal "going beyond the historical reasons," and attributing it to "the personal responsibility of Judas who miserably submitted to a temptation of the Evil One. ...Jesus treated him like a friend but, in His invitations to follow Him, ...did not force people's will or protect them from the temptations of Satan, respecting human freedom. Truly, there are many ways in which the human heart can be perverted. The only way to obviate them is... to be in full communion with Jesus."

Judas' repentance "degenerated into desperation and thus became self-destruction. For us, this is an invitation never to despair of divine mercy."

Even Judas "negative role" is part of God's mysterious plan of salvation, said the Pope, explaining how "God takes Judas' inexcusable gesture as an occasion for the total donation of the Son for the redemption of the world." Judas was replaced by Matthias "of whom we know nothing more, save that he was a witness to the entire earthly teaching of Jesus, remaining faithful to Him unto the end," his election "almost compensating the betrayal. Here," said Pope Benedict, "is a final lesson: If even in the Church there is no lack of unworthy and false Christians, it is up to each of us to counterbalance the evil they commit with our own clear witness of Jesus Christ."