

# St. Monica Catholic Church

ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF AUSTIN  
MOST. REV. DANIEL E. GARCIA

*Pro Christo et Ecclesia ~ For Christ and Church ~ Por Cristo y la Iglesia*

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

located in the St. Anthony School Building  
MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9AM-2PM (CLOSED- 12PM-1PM)

### OUR CLERGY

-Pastor-

Rev. Jim F. Chamberlain

Phone: 972-895-2622

Email: pastor@saintmonicatx.org

-Deacon-

Deacon Jack Murphy

Email: jwmurphy@saintmonicatx.org

### PARISH STAFF

Gilda Rios, Pastoral Associate for Administration

Parish Office Phone: (254) 697-2107

Email: office@saintmonicatx.org

Sonia Vega-Perez, Director of Religious Ed./YM

Phone: 254-295-6092

Email: soniavegaperez@saintmonicatx.org



“Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Mt 4:19

“Siganme y los haré pescadores de hombres”. Mt 4,19



## Mass Schedule Horario de misas

### Weekend Masses / Misas de fin de semana

#### Saturday/Sabado

6:00 p.m. English/en Inglés

#### Sunday/Domingo

9:00 a.m. Spanish/en Español

11:00 a.m. English/en Inglés

### Daily Masses/Misa diaria

#### Tuesday/ martes

12:10 p.m. - English/ Inglés

6:00 p.m. - Spanish/en Español

#### Wednesday/ Miércoles

8:00 a.m. - English/ Inglés

#### Thursday/ Jueves

12:10 p.m. - English/ Inglés

#### Friday/ Viernes

8:00 a.m. - Spanish/en Español

### Reconciliation / Reconciliación

Saturday/ Sábado, 5 PM - 5:45 PM

or by appointment / O por cita

~ This faith community of St. Monica was established in 1883 ~  
~ Esta comunidad de fe de Santa Mónica se estableció en 1883 ~

### St. Monica Mission Statement

We at St. Monica's are a multi-cultural parish from all walks of life rich in Catholic tradition, who recognize the need for greater unity within Our Catholic Community.

We will:

- Actively participate in our worship.
- Educate ourselves in Christ's teaching.
- Help our youth grow close to Jesus.
- Move beyond ourselves to minister to others by sharing our individual time, talent and treasures with all those in need.

### Declaración de la misión de la iglesia de Santa Mónica

Nosotros de Santa Monica Somos Una Parroquia multi-cultural de todos de la vida, ricos en tradicion Catholica que reconocemos la necesidad de una unidad mas fuerte dentro de nuestra comunidad Catholica.

Vamos a:

- Participar activamente en nuestra culto.
- Educarnos en las enseñanzas de Cristo.
- Ayudar a nuestros jovenes acercarse mas a Jesus.
- Hacer un esfuerzo y mobilizarnos ayudar a otros, compartiendo nuestro tiempo, talentos y tesoros con todos los necesitados, especialmente nuestros ancianos y entermos

**Mass Schedule**  
Horario de misas  
Mass Intentions - Intenciones de la misa

**Saturday, January 24, 2026**

6 p. m. † Jerry Kostroun, Jr.  
† Aniceto Silva Castillo  
† Jimmy Fino

**Sunday, January 25, 2026**

9 a.m. † Anthony & Timothy Woytek  
† Paul & Juaquin Garcia Sr.  
† Gregorio & Francisca Ortega

11 a. m. † Fernando Reyes  
† Aniceto Silva Castillo

**Tuesday, January 27, 2026**

12:10 p.m. † Travis Mueck  
6 p.m. (en español) † Aniceto Silva Castillo

**Wednesday, January 28, 2026**

8 a.m. † Aniceto Silva Castillo

**Thursday, January 29, 2026**

12:10 p.m. † Aniceto Silva Castillo

**Friday, January 30, 2026**

8 a.m. (en español) † Aniceto Silva Castillo

**Saturday, January 31, 2026**

6 p. m. † Paul & Rosalie Mueck  
† Sara Matamoros  
† Jimmy Fino

**Sunday, February 1, 2026**

9 a.m. † Anthony & Timothy Woytek  
† Mia R. Oviedo  
† Sally Cervantes & Juaquin Garcia Jr.

11 a. m. † Emil Vaculin  
† Mary, Frank, Lee, Lawrence Klement

**St. Monica's Prayer Chain**  
Cadena de Oración de Sta. Mónica  
**Please Pray for: Por favor reza por:**  
Jessilyn Henderson, Marie Kortis, and Jose Gonzalez  
To be added to the prayer list please contact parish office. Names will be listed for 30 days and then transferred to the Book of Prayers.

**Stewardship Report**

**Week of January 18, 2026**

Sunday Collection: \$ 2,382.00

**Online Giving:**

\* Sunday Collection: \$ 645.00  
\* Building Fund: \$ 25.00

**Total Collection: \$ 3,052.00**

**Upcoming Second Collections**

Jan. 24 & 25:  
Parish Building & Maintenance

**Scan to Donate Online**  
One time Gift - Recurring Gift







**Calendar of Events/Meetings**

**St. Monica's Ladies Society**

\*\*\*UPDATE ON TIME\*\*\*

Ladies Society will be meeting in the St. Anthony School, Library on 1/26/26 at 2:00 p.m. to prepare mail outs for the Spring Festival. Many hands make light work. All ladies are invited to join.

**Parish Office Closure/Oficina Parroquial Cerrada**

The parish office will be closed on Wednesday, January 28, 2026.

**St. Monica's Ladies Society Meeting**

The February Ladies Society meeting on February 3, will be held at the Simon George Hall, instead of the library, at 2:00p.m. with those in attendance starting preparations for the lunch for the Priests' Deanery meeting to be held at St. Monica's on 02/04. All ladies are encouraged to attend. We will be making final plans and preparations for the upcoming Festival.

**Confirmation Mass**

Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 6PM.

**Ladies Society Deanery meeting Preparations**

In preparation for the Ladies Deanery meeting to be hosted by our parish on 02/18, the Ladies Society will meet at 10:00a.m. on 02/17, in the Simon George Hall, to decorate tables and begin preparing for the meeting and lunch the following day. All ladies are invited to join in helping on both days.

**Ladies Deanery meeting**

The Ladies Deanery meeting is 02/18. There will be Mass in the church at 8:30a.m., with registration for the Deanery meeting beginning immediately afterward, at 9:30a.m. in the Simon George Hall. The meeting begins at 10a.m. and will conclude after lunch. Again, all ladies are invited to join.

**Sanctuary Light will burn this Week**  
Lampara Del Santuario arderá esta semana  
**In Memory of Jimmy Fino**  
By/Departa de : Lisa Shelton



St. Monica's Ladies will be collecting items for Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter in Temple at Masses through the month of February, ending on our festival on March 1st. Boxes will be located in the back of the church for donations to be placed in. The shelter will also gratefully accept monetary donations (payable to Our Lady of the Angels Maternity Shelter). They are always in need of all baby items and personal toiletry items for the mothers. Contact the parish office for any questions



Ashes will be distributed at all Masses and Liturgy of the Word

**Ash Wednesday** + **Miércoles Ceniza**

February 18, 2026

8:30 a.m.: English Mass  
12:00 p.m.: English Liturgy of the Word  
5:30 p.m. (Marak): English Mass  
7:00 p.m.: Bilingual Mass

Diocesan Special Collection: 2 /18/2026  
World and Home Missions



**Featured Advertiser:**  
**Marek - Burns - Laywell Funeral Home**  
**(254)-697-3661**

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
In today's Gospel, Jesus asks Peter and Andrew to follow him. How can we lay down our own nets and other worldly possessions, and follow Christ? What do we need to set aside in order to focus on extending the love and mercy of Christ to others?  
**Tercer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario**  
En el Evangelio de Hoy, Jesús pide a Pedro y a Andrés que lo sigan ¿Cómo podemos tirar nuestras propias redes y otras posesiones terrenas y seguir a Cristo? ¿Qué necesitamos poner al lado para enfocarnos en extender el amor y la misericordia de Cristo hacia otros?



**FAITH FORMATION: ST. MONICA'S R.E. CCE PROGRAM CALENDAR**

**Upcoming Events & Class Schedule: Pre-K-9th:**  
**SUNDAY'S (Domingo) : 10 a.m. -10:50 a.m.**

- No Class/ No habra clases: Sunday, Feb. 1
- AUSTIN DCYC: MARVELOUS THINGS  
January 30, 2026 to February 1, 2026
- Class # 14: resumes: Sunday, February 8, 2026
- CONFIRMATION MASS  
Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 6 p.m.
- Class # 15: Sunday, February 15, 2026
- Class # 16: Sunday, February 22, 2026
- Class # 17: Sunday, March 1, 2026

**Deadline is January 26, 2026.**  
**St. Monica Ladies Society Spring Social Raffle**  
This year St Monica Ladies' Society Spring Social will be held on March 1st. We are looking for monetary donations to purchase gift cards, or the gift cards themselves for our raffle. We would appreciate anything you might want to give. Contact the church office or Linda Kamenicky 512-796-1904 to let us know.  
**Mark your calendars for this year's event and we hope to see you there.**



**Cedarbrake**  
CATHOLIC RETREAT CENTER

◆ Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Temple will host its annual **Ash Wednesday retreat** on Feb. 18 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Father Harry Dean and Brian Egan will share spiritual messages about what the season of Lent asks of us. The day will include lunch and Mass with the distribution of ashes. The cost is \$50. For more information, or to register visit [www.austindiocese.org/cedarbrake](http://www.austindiocese.org/cedarbrake) or call (254) 780-2436.

Called By Name  
**SUNDAY**  
**DOMINGO**  
Del Llamado

January  
25  
25 de  
enero  
2026

Do you know someone who may be called to priesthood or religious life?

You can still submit names!

¿Conoces a alguien quien podría ser llamado al sacerdocio o a la vida religiosa?

[www.austinvocations.com/called/](http://www.austinvocations.com/called/)



**MEN OF SAINT JOSEPH**  
Consecration to  
**ST. JOSEPH**

6-Week Tuesday Class

Begins Tuesday, February 10, 2026 • 6:00 PM

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Temple, Texas

All are welcome



For more information call St. Mary's at (254) 773-4541  
Or Deacon Barney at [bonifaciordrodriguez@yahoo.com](mailto:bonifaciordrodriguez@yahoo.com)  
Sign up sheet back of the church



Attention all KJZT member high school seniors and current college students! Applications for the 2026 KJZT Scholarships are now open. Requests must be made by the student in one of the following ways: Mail: PO Box 18896, Austin, Texas 78760, Email: [info@kjzt.org](mailto:info@kjzt.org). Submit your written request to the State Office before February 16th, 2026. For more information or have questions answered, please call the State Office at 1-888-253-2338.

**Ministry Schedule**

**Saturday, January 31, 2026 6 PM**

**Lector:** Becky Ferrara and Keith Copeland

**Euch. M.:** Cynthia & Agnes Kostroun

**Altar Servers:** Volunteers

**Sunday, February 1, 2026, 9 AM**

**Lector:** Mariana Reyes

**Euch. M.:** Rosa Banda and Joe Mancha

**Altar Servers:** Guadalupe Acosta, Valentina & Julisa Quintero

**Sunday, February 1, 2026, 11 AM**

**Lector:** Sonia Vega Perez and Marilyn Murphy

**Euch. M.:** Carmen Rios and Anna Reyes Hill

**Altar Servers:** Kenly Reese, Sebastian Layburn, and Aubrey Rios

**Saturday, February 7, 2026 6 PM**

**Lector:** Lisa Shelton & Patsy Vrazel

**Euch. M.:** Denise Pineda and Janice Klecka

**Altar Servers:** Volunteers

**Sunday, February 8, 2026, 9 AM**

**Lector:** Blanca Cazares and Samantha Reyes

**Euch. M.:** Rosa Banda and Ramona Banda

**Altar Servers:** Ariana, Margarita and Efrain Cruz

**Sunday, February 8, 2026, 11 AM**

**Lector:** Renee Christenson and Chris Wilson

**Euch. M.:** Marilyn Gaas and Pam Oliver

**Altar Servers:** Vicente Sanchez, Danny Reyes and Raphael Martinez Jr.

**Seeing life after death**

What can science teach us about life after death? In 1982, a Gallup survey revealed that about 8 million adults in the United States had had a near-death experience (NDE). After a heart attack, or drowning, or significant trauma, the body is deprived of oxygen and all brain activity ceases for a time. Modern medical technology can often bring these patients back. But while their physical components have ceased functioning, some patients report having extraordinary experiences. Some are able to look down upon the operating table and to hear the voices of the surgeons. This is all without the benefit of eyes or ears which are controlled by the brain. There are even cases where blind people have had a NDE in which they can see! What does this prove? It is our consciousness, our reflective awareness, that separates human beings from other animals. Scientists have often attributed these unique capabilities to the functioning of our complicated brain. But now it seems like consciousness can exist apart from the brain, and sight and hearing can exist apart from eyes and ears. Memory, too, is present in an NDE, as patients often see people they remember from their past. The length of time varies, but one patient reported that he was aware for more than three minutes after cardiac arrest. Of course, this doesn't prove that the life after death experience is eternal. Nevertheless, there are clues that it is eternal. The white light is always experienced as loving and welcoming. One woman said that "I floated right out through the screen door onto the porch into a clear, illuminating white light. ... I felt as though I



were surrounded by an overwhelming love and compassion." Is not this what the disciples felt in the post-resurrection appearances of Jesus? - - - Fr. Jim

**Ver la vida después de la muerte**

¿Qué nos puede enseñar la ciencia sobre la vida después de la muerte? En 1982, una encuesta de Gallup reveló que aproximadamente 8 millones de adultos en Estados Unidos habían tenido una experiencia cercana a la muerte (ECM). Después de un ataque cardíaco, un ahogamiento o un traumatismo grave, el cuerpo se ve privado de

oxígeno y toda la actividad cerebral cesa temporalmente. La tecnología médica moderna a menudo permite reanimar a estos pacientes. Pero, aunque sus funciones físicas han cesado, algunos pacientes informan haber tenido experiencias extraordinarias. Algunos son capaces de verse a sí mismos desde arriba, sobre la mesa de operaciones, y de escuchar las voces de los cirujanos. Todo esto sin la intervención de los ojos ni los oídos, que están controlados por el cerebro. ¡Incluso hay casos de personas ciegas que han tenido una ECM en la que podían ver! ¿Qué demuestra esto? Es nuestra conciencia, nuestra capacidad de reflexión, lo que distingue a los seres humanos de los demás animales. Los científicos a menudo han atribuido estas capacidades únicas al funcionamiento de nuestro complejo cerebro. Pero ahora parece que la conciencia puede existir independientemente del cerebro, y la vista y el oído pueden existir independientemente de los ojos y los oídos. La memoria también está presente en las ECMs, ya que los pacientes a menudo ven a personas que recuerdan de su pasado. La duración varía, pero un paciente informó haber estado consciente durante más de tres minutos después de un paro cardíaco. Por supuesto, esto no prueba que la experiencia de la vida después de la muerte sea eterna. Sin embargo, hay indicios de que sí lo es. La luz blanca siempre se percibe como amorosa y acogedora. Una mujer dijo: «Floté a través de la puerta mosquitera hacia el porche, hacia una luz blanca clara e iluminadora... Sentí como si estuviera rodeada de un amor y una compasión abrumadores». ¿No es esto lo que sintieron los discípulos en las apariciones de Jesús después de la resurrección? – P. Jim

Please, patronize and thank the businesses/individuals that, through their generosity, have made the printing of this bulletin possible. Por favor, patrocine y agradezca a las empresas / individuos que, a través de su generosidad, han hecho posible la impresión de este boletín.

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## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ST. MONICA'S COUNCIL #12601

MEETINGS 3<sup>RD</sup> TUESDAY OF THE  
MONTH AT THE  
SIMON & GEORGE HALL

*In Service to One. In Service to All!*



### Prayer to St. Monica

Great St. Monica,  
patroness of all  
mothers and fathers,  
please take our children  
under your protection even those  
who have strayed from God and His  
Church. Let them always remain  
faithful to their baptismal vows. Give  
us the strength to walk always in the  
footsteps of the Lord. Amen.

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## Schiller

*In Loving Memory of  
Edward O. Schiller, Jr.  
and son Richard Schiller*

*May all the faithful departed  
Rest in Peace*

## Mikula

*In Loving Memory of  
PETE & FRANCES  
MIKULA*

*May all the faithful departed  
Rest in Peace*

## St. Monica's Ladies' Society

Meet 1st Tues., 2 p.m.  
Sept-May

All Ladies Invited!

## Glass, the Florist

409 N. Travis Ave.  
Cameron, TX

254-697-6615

## ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH CEMETERY

- Burial Plots Gary Vrazel - Chairman 254-721-4322
- Mausoleum Spaces
- Perpetual Care Linda Kamenicky-Secretary 512-796-1904
- Cremation

Call the parish office for more info!



600 W 4<sup>th</sup> St.,  
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## SIMON & GEORGE MEMORIAL HALL

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Karla Feggstad:  
(254)780-7502



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## INFORMATION: ORGANIZATIONS

### Pastoral Council Members

Patsy Vrazel, Chairwoman - Email: [pavrazel@yahoo.com](mailto:pavrazel@yahoo.com)

Juan Carlos Perez, Denise Pineda, Araceli & John Vargas, Ramona Bolivar,  
Juan Gonzalez, Becky Ferrara, Patsy Vrazel, Gregorio Ortega, Rosa Cardona,  
Celeste Cardona, Rick & Sherri Rhoades, and Louis "JR" Vrazel Jr.

### Finance and Maintenance Council Members

Nonito Martinez, Frank Klecka, Joe Ferrara, Keith Copeland,  
and Thomas Michalka

### Cemetery Council Members

Juan Casillas, Cynthia Kostroun, Richard Kostroun, Renee Mueck,  
Carlos & Francisca Rodriguez, Delores Manili, and Sherry Mueck

### St. Monica's Ladies' Society

Becky Ferrara, President

### Knights of Columbus, St. Monica's Council #12601

Thomas Michalka, Grand Knight

### Bereavement Meal Committee

Carol Moore and Mary Frances Shipp

### EIM Site Admin. & Homebound Listing

Linda Kamenicky - email: [eim@saintmonicatx.org](mailto:eim@saintmonicatx.org)

Call or text: (512) 796-1904

### K.J.Z.T. Society #48

Bettie Pagach, President

## INFORMATION

### Sacraments

Contact the parish office to prepare for sacraments such as baptisms,  
weddings, first communion and confirmation.

### Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

Deacon Jack Murphy leads our OCIA program. Classes usually start in the  
Fall, contact the Parish office for information or to register.

### St. Monica's Religious Education CCE Program

Classes start in the fall. Contact our Director of Religious Education Sonia  
Vega Perez to register or for more information.

### Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office or after office hours call or text Fr. Jim Chamberlain at  
972-895-2622 .

### Orden de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos

Llame a la oficina para más información.

### Sacramentos

Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial para prepararse para sacramentos.  
(bautizos, bodas, primera comunión y confirmación.)

### El Sacramento de la Unción de los enfermos.

Llame a la oficina parroquial o después del horario de oficina llama o envía  
un mensaje de texto con el Padre. Jim Chamberlain al 972-895-2622

### Quinceañera

Come by the parish office and fill out a registration form.

Arrangements must be made at least six months prior to the desired date. /  
Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial para un registro. Los arreglos deben  
hacerse al menos seis meses antes de la fecha deseada.