


**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**

**Stewardship Report – Treasure  
WEEKLY COLLECTION**

<b>Budgeted Amount:</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>Sunday Collection – 3/10/19</b>	<b>\$2,571.00</b>
<b>Online Giving – 3/3/19</b>	<b>\$ 471.00</b>
<b>Online Giving - 3/3/19 – Maintenance</b>	<b>\$ 46.00</b>

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**MARCH 17, 2019** 

*In Luke’s account of the Transfiguration, which we hear in today’s Gospel, a voice from the heavens calls out, “This is my chosen Son; listen to him.” At that, Peter, John and James fall silent, enabling them to listen to the Lord. Let us take this opportunity during our Lenten journey to listen to Jesus and reflect on what he is saying to us.*

**ANNUAL CAMPAIGN**

Please support St. Monica’s Church by contributing to our Annual Campaign. Forms are located at the Church & Hall exits.

**We thank you for your generosity.**

**Pledges to date: \$31,620.01**

**Paid to date: \$29,308.49**

The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:

**In Memory of: Edward Losiewicz**

**Given by: Sr. Theresa Losiewicz**

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

3/18	MON:	9:00a	People of our Parish
3/19	TUES.	9:00a	People of our Parish
3/20	WED:	9:00a	NO MASS TODAY
3/21	THU:	9:00a	People of our Parish
3/22	FRI:	9:00a	People of our Parish
3/23	SAT:	5:00p	Kyle McCann Claire Lane
3/24	SUN:	8:30a	Isabel Antico
		10:30a	Douglas Kabbash Kryne Prol Mario Giacotto James Howard Fischer
		12:00p	Maureen McGaughran

**ST. MONICA’S CHURCH – Contact information**

**Phone: 973-875-4521 Fax: 973-875-7538**

**Parish Office Hours: 9:30am–1:30pm Mon. Tue. Thurs. and Fri.**

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS**

**Website: [www.stmonicasussex.org](http://www.stmonicasussex.org) Email: [stmonica@ptd.net](mailto:stmonica@ptd.net)**

**Deadline for bulletin submissions: Tuesday of each week for information to be printed on the following Sunday.**

**MASS CARDS**

**SMALL: \$10.00 LARGE: \$15.00**

Please stop by the Rectory during office hours to purchase a Mass card for a loved one.

**LENTEN SCHEDULE**

**Fridays of Lent – Stations of the Cross will be held after 9:00am Mass and at 7:30pm.**

**Mondays of Lent – Confessions will be heard from 7:00pm to 8:30pm.**

**WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS**

**COFFEE & DONUTS** – First Sunday of each month after the 8:30 am Mass. All are welcome!

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**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION** – **Thursdays at 6:00pm** in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading/reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow.

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**ST. MONICA’S BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** will meet on **Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30 pm in the rectory meeting room. All are invited.

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**ST. MONICA’S LEISURE GROUP** – There will be no meetings during the months of January, February and March. Meetings will resume on **Wednesday, April 3, 2019** in the Church Hall. See you in the Spring!

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**HELPING HANDS** meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Rectory Meeting Room at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome! **Next meeting is Tuesday, April 2nd.**

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**BIBLE STUDY** “Ephesians: Discover Your Inheritance” on **Tuesday, March 19, 1:30 pm** in the Rectory Meeting Room.

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**ST. MONICA’S ROSARY SOCIETY** There will be no meetings during the months of January, February and March. The next meeting will be **Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.**

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**SPECIAL DEVOTIONS AT ST. MONICA’S**

**Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal** – every Tuesday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

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**Chaplet of the Divine Mercy** – Every Friday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

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**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** – First Friday of the month after the 9:00 A.M. Mass until 10:00 A.M.

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**PARISH REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

Are you new to our parish? If so, welcome! Do you wish to register? If you are attending Mass and using our blue “blank” visitor envelopes and wish to receive our weekly envelopes in the mail, please register with us. If you wish to become a registered member and placed on our parish mailing list, there are blank registration forms on the table near the Church exits. Please fill it out and give it to Fr. Jan after Mass, or drop it in the collection basket.



## FISH AND CHIPS DINNER

Mark your calendars! Helping Hands is hosting a **FISH AND CHIPS DINNER** here at St. Monica's on **THURSDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>**, 5:30 – 7:30 PM.

**Tastefully British** will be catering the event. Tickets must be purchased in advance, and will be sold after all masses beginning the weekend of March 23/24 through April 6/7. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the rectory office. The meal includes fish, French Fries, cole slaw, drink and dessert. Chicken is also available upon request. Adults \$15; Children \$10. Takeout will also be available.

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### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

#### GRADES 1 & 2 (First Holy Communion Class)

Rectory Meeting Room

Classes run from 9 am to 10:25 am

Children will attend 10:30 am Mass after Class – Mass Attendance is part of the Religious Education requirement.

Saturday	FHC Class ONLY – March 23 Reconciliation Workshop
Sunday	First Grade only Class – March 24
Tuesday	FHC Class Only – March 28 (note date change) First Reconciliation
Saturday	Jesus Day – April 6 FHC Class only – Sacred Heart Ctr., Newton, NJ
Sunday	Class – April 14
Sunday	Class – April 28

#### GRADES 3, 4, 5 & 6

Classes run from 9am to 11am in Church Hall

Saturday April 6 LAST CLASS!

### YOUNG ADULTS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

Saturday	March 23 YM/Rel Ed Activity Visit to Dept. of Persons with Disabilities in Jefferson Meeting Point: Church Hall Time: Leaving at 11:00 am and returning by 2:30 pm
Saturday	April 6 YM/Rel Ed Activity Ice Cream Social at Bristol Glen w/residents Meeting Point: Church Hall Time: Leaving at 1:30 pm and returning by 3:30 pm
Sunday	April 14 YM – Phase I and Phase II Palm Sunday

### LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

**This is celebrated every Sunday at the 10:30 AM Mass. We encourage all families with children, Grades 1 – 4, to have your son/daughter participate in this as part of their faith formation.**

### READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

**Sunday** - Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28b-36

**Monday** - Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

**Tuesday** - 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22;  
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

**Wednesday** - Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

**Thursday** - Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

**Friday** - Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

**Saturday** - Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

#### **First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18**

God told Abram that he would give him the land of Egypt and his descendants would become a great people. Abram then made sacrifices to God, cutting them in half. A torch passed between the pieces, as a visible sign to Abram of God's promise.

#### **Second Reading: Philippians 3:17—4:1**

Paul urges the Philippians to avoid becoming too interested in material possessions. He reminds them that their most important wealth is their faith in Jesus, which will lead them to eternal life.

#### **Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36**

Jesus took Peter, John and James to a mountain to pray. When his clothes grew incredibly white, Moses and Elijah appeared. They spoke of the scripture he was to fulfill. Then a cloud came down and a voice said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him." The disciples who had seen Jesus' glory did not disclose this experience to anyone until much later.

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#### **HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly**

#### **Second Sunday of Lent March 17, 2019**

**“Brothers and sisters, join with others in being witnesses of me, and observe those who conduct themselves according to the model you have in us... but our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”**

Saint Paul had no trouble in encouraging others to follow his example, clearly saying 'do as I do, and do as I say.' Many would hesitate to offer such a directive.

The mount of transfiguration and Paul's witness can assist us in our commitment to Christ and the church, especially in these moments of scandal and discouragement. Paul knew what he was about and invited others to be part of his mission.

His invitation is extended to us, as we join with Peter, James, and John, to experience the love of the Father and His affirmation of His Son. We descend from the mountain aware of God's love and our ongoing journey to Calvary and resurrection.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSINGS AND DELAYS NOTIFICATIONS**

**It's that time of year! St. Monica's is registered with WSUS 102.3 FM Radio for closings and/or delays due to inclement weather and other emergency situations. These announcements can be heard on the radio, but the quickest way is to visit the following website: [wsus1023.iheart.com](http://wsus1023.iheart.com), then simply click on "Closings and Delays".**

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**Easter Flower Memorial Envelopes** are available on the tables in the church and hall. Please print the name(s) of your deceased loved ones and enclose your monetary donation for an Easter Flower to be placed in the church. A printed list will be made available and a copy placed on the altar. Please return all envelopes to the box near the pulpit by no later than **Sunday, April 7**.

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**Directed Prayer Retreat at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

Would you like to deepen your life of prayer during Lent? Maybe you can't get away to a retreat house somewhere. But you can sign up for our "Directed Prayer Retreat" at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown.

This is a retreat you can do AT HOME. It begins with a group meeting on Sunday, April 7th, 1:30 – 2:30pm which will include a brief instruction on praying with Scripture and an explanation of Spiritual Direction.

During the week (Monday thru Friday) each person making the retreat will meet with a Spiritual Director for 30 minutes daily. The retreat will end with another group gathering at the Shrine on Sunday, April 14th.

Further details can be found on the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel website [www.ourladyofmtcarmelshrine.com](http://www.ourladyofmtcarmelshrine.com) or call Carol Bezak, Shrine Director at 845-343-1879. Fee is \$50 donation, or as you can.

Deadline to register with payment is Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> and registration limit is 15 people, so early registration is required.

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**Contemplative Prayer Retreat, April 26-28**

Marianist Family Retreat Center – [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org)

Cape May Point, NJ 08212

609-884-3829

This retreat is intended for those interested in a contemplative prayer experience. First-timers as well as those who are familiar with this type of retreat are all welcomed. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, quiet personal time, special liturgies and daily Eucharist.

Cost: \$140/pp

All questions for further information about the Marianist Family Retreat Center can be directed to Anthony Fucci, Center Director, at the above number.

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## SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT ST. PATRICK

St. Patrick's birth name was Maewyn Succat. This is according to Irish legend. He changed it to the Latin name, Patricius after becoming a priest.

Historians say that St. Patrick's color was actually blue, not green. The use of green on the holiday became common during the 1600s and 1700s when the shamrock became the symbol of Ireland and wearing green on lapels became the norm.

St. Patrick was not Irish. It is believed he was born in either Scotland or Wales. After being forced to slavery by Irish pirates, he turned to the Christian faith, became a Catholic priest, then later a bishop. He was the first to bring Christianity to Ireland during the fifth century.

St. Patrick reportedly used a shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity. Later interpretations also said the three leaves are meant to symbolize faith, hope and love. If there is a fourth leaf, it symbolizes luck, which is why we consider the four-leaf clover to be lucky.

There are more Irish people in America than in Ireland. According to recent census data, there are 39.6 million Americans who list their heritage as primarily or partially Irish, compared to 6.3 million people in Ireland.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

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**Gospel Today**  
Second Sunday of Lent | Luke 9:28b-36  
On the mountain, Simon-Peter, James and John saw Jesus transform to a dazzling bright light, like the rays of the sun!

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Upon seeing Jesus, Moses and Elijah, the apostles were filled with the light of faith.

Find and write here the missing letters not found in the sun...

Unscramble the letters and fill in the blanks to complete the sentence below.

Let our eyes be open to the light of God's power and love as we **FOLLOW OUR FAITH FOR 40 DAYS.**

**God is my \_\_\_\_\_ and salvation!**