

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Stewardship Report – Treasure
WEEKLY COLLECTION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 19, 2019

<u>Budgeted Amount:</u>	\$5,000.00
<u>Sunday Collection – 5/12/19</u>	\$2,876.00
<u>Peter’s Pence Collection – 5/12/19</u>	\$ 763.00
<u>Online Giving – 5/5/19</u>	\$ 466.00
<u>Online Giving Maintenance – 5/5/19</u>	\$ 101.00
<u>Online Giving – Campaign for Human Dev.</u>	\$ 50.00

It has been nearly a month since Easter Sunday, but there’s a reason that we celebrate this event for so long. The Resurrection changes everything. A whole new world has been opened up to us. No wonder God says, “Behold, I make all things new” in the vision from Revelation that we hear today. As we celebrate this liturgy today, let us thank and praise God for all the ways in which our lives have been made new.

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN
Pledges to date: \$31,870.01
Paid to date: \$29,708.49



The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:
In Memory of: Ronald Gerstmann, Sr.
Given by: Leona Gerstmann

WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS

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

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

ST. MONICA’S BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP will meet on **Monday, May 20** at 7:30 pm in the rectory meeting room. All are invited.

ST. MONICA’S LEISURE GROUP – meets on the first Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is **Wednesday, June 5th** at 12:00 noon in the Church Hall. Dues are \$10 a year. All are invited. For more information, contact Grace Casalino at 973-702-8569.

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, June 11th.**

ST. MONICA’S ROSARY SOCIETY – will meet on **Monday, June 3rd** at 7:00pm in the Church Hall.

TRICKY TRAY COMMITTEE will meet on **Sunday, June 2nd** at 11:30 am in the Rectory Meeting Room. All are invited.

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS AT ST. MONICA’S
Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal – every Tuesday after the 9:00 A.M. Mass.

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

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

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

5/20	MON:	9:00a	Nurse Graduates
5/21	TUES.	9:00a	Helen Sandford
5/22	WED:	9:00a	NO MASS TODAY
5/23	THU:	9:00a	Newly Ordained Priests
5/24	FRI:	9:00a	High School Graduates
5/25	SAT:	5:00p	Tommy Gawenus Daniel Brady
5/26	SUN:	8:30a	Florence Mitchell Charles Dykhouse
		10:30a	Elizabeth Granelli
		12:00p	Charlotte Raymond

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
Email: stmonica@ptd.net
Deadline for bulletin submissions: Tuesday of each week at 12 noon for information to be printed on the following Sunday.

MASS CARDS
SMALL: \$10.00 **LARGE: \$15.00**
SANCTUARY LAMP: \$10.00
Please stop by the Rectory during office hours to purchase a Mass card for a loved one.





Helping Hands will be sponsoring "A Night of Baseball" at Skylands Ball Park on Saturday, July 13th at 6pm.

Come out to watch the Sussex County Miners play and stay for fireworks after the game.

Tickets must be purchased in advance, and will be sold after all masses the weekends of May 18th, May 25th and June 1st. Ticket price is \$12.

The Knights of Columbus will have a free-will collection at the doors of the Church on the weekend of June 1st/2nd to help people with disabilities. "People with Disabilities" is part of Catholic Charities. Their buildings are located on Weldon Road in Oak Ridge. The Council includes St. Monica's, St. Francis de Sales and Our Lady of Fatima. The collection by the Knights of Columbus goes directly to the People with Disabilities. It is their main fundraiser for the year.

Time 11:45 am – Church

Secular Franciscans – Information Night

The Order of the Franciscans Secular are lay people who strive to follow the Gospel more intensely and develop a deeper relationship with Christ in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi. We are women and men of all ages and walks of life that engage in the same struggles as everyone else. We attempt to focus on daily conversion. We rely on the Holy Spirit to guide us and our local community of Franciscans to pray for us as we support each other. The Secular Franciscan vocation is a challenge, but the grace, love and joy that we experience and share is beyond awesome. We'd love to share that with you too, but most especially provide an opportunity for you to grow closer to Christ – even if you're not called to join in the Franciscan family. If you would like to learn more, please join us at an Information Night.

When: Wednesday, June 12 from 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Where: Sacred Heart Center, Newton, NJ

Contact: Hugo Bader 973-579-1430 or JoAnn Jenson – joejen@aol.com

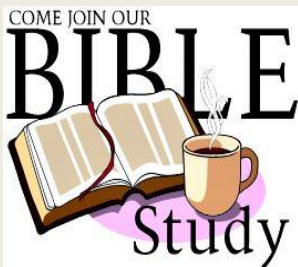
YOUNG ADULTS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

Thursday June 13
 YM Phase II
 Confirmation Rehearsal – 7:00 pm
 Church Hall
 Sunday June 16
 YM – Phase II – Candidates & Sponsors
 Sacrament of Confirmation

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday - Acts 14:21-27; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35
Monday - Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday - Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday - Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday - Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11
Friday - Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17
Saturday - Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21

Bible Study: Fulfilled



"Fulfilled" Bible study sessions explore the biblical roots of the Catholic Faith.

Sessions will:

- Help explain how Jesus fulfills the Old Testament.
- Share the Catholic faith concisely.
- Teach how to answer incomplete and non-Catholic interpretations of the Bible.
- Help examine your own faith to grow deeper in your relationship with Christ.

Sessions will be held on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 pm in the rectory meeting room. There are seven sessions beginning Tuesday, June 25, and running each Tuesday till August 6.

Registration is required and will be accepted no later than June 10. The cost is \$25 which includes *Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism* book and one workbook. Checks payable to St. Monica's Church. Call Terry Westdyke at 845-258-8051 or the rectory to register. If there is enough interest, Tuesday evening classes will be considered.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 19, 2019

First Reading: Acts 14:21-27

Paul and Barnabas traveled to many towns and found many disciples willing to help them preach. They warned their disciples of the trials they would face. Paul and Barnabas then returned to Antioch, where their journey had begun, and told the congregation there of the progress they had made.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-5a

John had a vision of a new earth, and a new Jerusalem coming down from heaven. Then a voice described Jerusalem as a place where God would live among his people and comfort them. The former world had vanished, and pain, death and suffering had left the world as well.

Gospel: John 13:31-33a, 34-35

After Judas left the last supper, Jesus warned the other disciples that he would not be with them much longer. Jesus gave them a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them. He stated that their love for each other would distinguish them as his disciples.

“After Paul and Barnabas had proclaimed the good news in that city, and made a considerable number of disciples, they returned to Lystra and Iconium and to Antioch. They strengthened the spirits of the disciples and exhorted them to persevere in the faith, saying, ‘It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God.’ They appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had put their faith.”

When they reached their home base, Antioch, they called the church together and celebrated how God had worked through them, and brought others to the Lord. How God had ‘opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.’

How exciting as the life of the first Christian communities developed and grew. The Spirit of God was at work, using these two apostles, and with the power of the Spirit present, growth took place. But we do not stifle the Spirit. Today, as church, we open doors of welcome. We cannot be complacent, but excited, that the same Lord who called them, calls us to do the same thing. Why not ask someone to join you at church or bible study. Why not invite someone to return to the practice of the faith. It might be the only thing they are waiting for. Let God use you. God works through us.

What is Eucharistic Adoration?



Eucharistic Adoration is adoring or honoring the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus Christ. In a deeper sense, it involves "the contemplation of the Mystery of Christ truly present before us." During Eucharistic Adoration, we remain in the real presence of Jesus Christ and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the heart of God.

At the moment of Consecration, during the holy Mass, the "gifts" of bread and wine are transformed (transubstantiated) into the actual Body and Blood of Christ, at the Altar. This means that they are not only spiritually transformed, but rather are actually (substantially) transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. The elements retain the appearance of bread and wine, but are indeed the actual Body and Blood of Christ. This is what is meant by Real Presence: the actual, physical presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Christ instituted this Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist in order to remain with mankind until the end of time.

At the beginning of the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a priest or deacon removes the sacred host from the tabernacle and places it in the Monstrance on the Altar for adoration by the faithful. "Monstrance" is the vessel used in the Church to

display the consecrated Eucharistic Host, during Eucharistic adoration or benediction. The word monstrance comes from the Latin word *monstrare*, meaning "to expose". When a consecrated host is placed in the monstrance, it is said to be a solemn exposition. Adoration ceremonies traditionally include Scripture readings, hymns, prayers and time for silent adoration.

In the Blessed Sacrament Jesus waits for us. He waits for our little acts of faith, adoration, love, thanksgiving, repentance, reparation and charity that we can offer Him as we contemplate - His Divine Majesty - in the Blessed Sacrament. In response Jesus brings us consolation and strengthens our human weaknesses. He says: "Come to Me, all who labor and are laden, and I will give you rest." The more time we spend with Jesus, the more we will come away feeling renewed and healed. Miracles of conversion, peace, discovery of vocations, answers to prayers, and even physical healings, and many other wonderful things happen where and when the Lord Jesus is adored in the Blessed Sacrament. There we can speak with Him about everything. We can offer Him our petitions, our concerns, our troubles, our joys, our gratitude, our disappointments, our needs and our aspiration. During this intimate time with our Saviour we grow spiritually with each moment we spend with Jesus! Through our Adoration, Jesus strengthens us to a better personal relationship (to become more His friends and disciples), to "remain in Him" (Divine Intimacy), to "remain in His love" (Keep His commandments). He promises that all those who remain tightly bonded to Him, will bear much fruit and "their joy will be complete". For without Him, we can do nothing. Through this "friendship", we are inspired and strengthened to take on life's challenges, to carry our daily cross with a new attitude, to become a "new creation" (more and more like Jesus).

The Eucharist adoration is the act of unity in which Jesus unifies Himself with His people. Through prayers to God, especially intercessory prayers in which we pray for the needs of local community and the whole World - we help to build a "civilization of love" - to "transform the World". The prayers that we say can draw all people closer to Christ and the Father for His blessing.

Eucharistic adoration is a taste of heaven. Indeed, Earth is joined to Heaven each time we are united with the Saints and Angels in extolling God, Who, in worship we see, if not with the sight of eyes, then with the eyes of faith. We are called to abide in the Eucharistic Presence of our Lord, like the Saints and Angels do in Heaven, as they behold the glory of God and sing His praise! The Saints and Angels wait upon the Lord and do His Will in all things. They also intercede (for us) before the Lord.

"This - The Eucharist - the whole Christ" is His gift to all. Whether we are young or old, sick or healthy, poor or rich, only by regularly partaking in the sacrifice of the Holy Mass and Eucharistic Adoration, can we reap immense spiritual and temporal blessings in our lives! The Blessed Sacrament is the LIVING FOUNTAIN OF LIFE where we drink in the love of Christ Who alone quenches our thirst.

Thus, our time spent with our Beloved Savior in Adoration, can become the most profound, meaningful, joyful, peaceful and healing experience we could ever encounter!

....Fr. Jan