

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**  
**Stewardship Report – Treasure**

**BAPTISM OF THE LORD**  
**JANUARY 12, 2020**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

<b><u>Budgeted Amount:</u></b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b><u>Christmas – 12/25/19</u></b>	<b>\$ 290.00</b>
<b><u>Solemnity of Mary – 1/1/20</u></b>	<b>\$1,273.00</b>
<b><u>Weekly Collection – 1/5/20</u></b>	<b>\$3,020.00</b>
<b><u>Maintenance Collection – 1/5/20</u></b>	<b>\$1,508.00</b>

**Online Giving – Regular Collection -12/29/19 will be reported in next week's bulletin.**

*Before Jesus began preaching, teaching, and healing throughout Galilee and Judea, he came to John to be baptized. The Spirit of God descended upon him and God's voice called out, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." As Christians, baptized with the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to carry on Jesus' mission. Let us consider how God calls us to put our faith into action. May God be well pleased.*

**WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS**

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

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**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION** – **Thursdays at 1:30 pm** in the Rectory Meeting Room. Weekly reading/reflection of the Sunday Scriptures – fellowship time & refreshments follow.

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**ST. MONICA'S LEISURE GROUP** There will be no meetings for the months of January, February and March. Meetings will resume on **Wednesday, April 1, 2020.**

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**HELPING HANDS** meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Rectory Meeting Room at 7:30 p.m. **Next meeting is Tuesday, January 14, 2020.**

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**ST. MONICA'S ROSARY SOCIETY** There will be no meetings for the months of January, February and March. Meetings will resume on **Monday, April 6, 2020.**

**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 am Mass until 10:00 am.

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**ANNUAL CAMPAIGN AS OF 12/30/19**

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:** \$34,930.00

**Paid to date:** \$31,638.34



The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:  
**In Memory of: The People of our Parish**

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK**

1/13	MON:	9:00a	Herman Brandt
1/14	TUES:	9:00a	People of our Parish
1/15	WED:	9:00a	NO MASS TODAY
1/16	THU:	9:00a	People of our Parish
1/17	FRI:	9:00a	People of our Parish
1/18	SAT:	5:00p	Anna Dalena Tommy Gawenus
1/19	SUN:	8:30a	William Moran
		10:30a	Geri Vaskas
		12:00p	Kenneth Vance Edward Losiewicz

**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 at 12 noon for articles to be printed on the following Sunday.

**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 be 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.



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR**

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

Rectory Meeting Room

Classes start promptly @ 9:30 am to 10:25 am

Children will attend 10:30 am Mass after Class-Mass

attendance is part of the Religious Education

requirement.

Sunday January 26<sup>th</sup> CLASS

Sunday February 9<sup>th</sup> CLASS

Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup> CLASS

**(Second Grade Students –time**

**change 9:00 to 11:50 – Lenten Workshop.** Children may attend 8:30 Mass before class or noon Mass after class)

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**GRADES 3, 4, 5 & 6**

Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup> CLASS

Saturday February 8<sup>th</sup> CLASS

Saturday February 22<sup>nd</sup> CLASS

**YOUNG ADULTS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR**

Saturday, January 18th CLASS – all grades

**Saturday & Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> – SOUPER BOWL Collection – After ALL MASSES**

Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> – **MAKE UP CLASS** (if needed)  
6:30-8:30 – NO DINNER SERVED

Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> – CLASS (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades Only)

**Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> – RETREAT – 9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup> GRADES CONFIRMATION RETREAT– 10 am – 5 pm at Sacred Heart Center, 20 Old Swartswood Road, Newton, NJ 07860**  
**Cost - \$35 per person**

Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup> CLASS – 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grades only



**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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**RALLY FOR LIFE BUS TRIP**

**St. Rose of Lima Parish in East Hanover is sponsoring a bus to Trenton on January 22, 2020 for a "RALLY FOR LIFE" at the Trenton State House. Adults pay \$10.00 each. For more specific information, please call Anne Marie Gillespie at (973) 884-2011.**

**NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL**

**TRIP TO PORTUGAL AND SPAIN**

**JULY 19-28, 2020**

Join the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel for a trip to Fatima, Portugal; Lourdes, France and Barcelona, Spain July 19-28, 2020. Other highlights also include the Cathedral of Burgos, a UNESCO World Heritage site; Carcassonne and medieval city in France and Gaudi's masterpiece LaSagrada Familia in Barcelona. An information meeting will be held on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 9:30 am at the National Shrine of our Lady of Mount Carmel, 70 Carmelite Drive, Middletown, NY 10940. Call Carol Bezak, MA, Shrine Director at (845) 343-1879 for information or to obtain a trip brochure.

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**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT**

**February 7-9, 2020**

**Marianist Family Retreat Center**  
**Cape May Point, NJ 08212**

*Come join other young adults (ages 22-35), married or single, to take a step back from our busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members and yourself. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun!*

*Cost: \$135 per person, double occupancy*

*Register at: [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org) or call (609) 884-3829. Some financial aid is available.*

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**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP**



Please join St. Monica's Scripture Reflection Group, which will now meet at 1:30 pm every Thursday in the Rectory Meeting Room.

The meeting will start with prayer and an introductory reflection on the upcoming Sunday's readings; then the First Reading, the Responsorial Psalm, Second Reading and the Gospel are read. After each reading, members of the group share their answers to the reflection questions and participate in a short discussion pertaining to the readings. We then conclude with closing prayer. The entire session should take no more than 90 minutes. By attending these weekly sessions, we hope that God's Word will become more meaningful to you within the small group environment, and also during Mass on Sunday as you hear Scripture read and taught to you.

You will not only be fed spiritually, but as an extra bonus, soup and bread will also be served for those attending. We hope you are able to join us.

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### ATTENTION PARISHIONERS!

If you had your picture taken for our Parish Directory and have not received a copy of the Directory, please stop by the Rectory to pick it up or call the Rectory Office at (973) 875-4521 to make other arrangements. Thank you!

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### **SHRINES OF ITALY** **14 DAY TOUR FROM MILAN TO ROME** Catholic Cruises and Tours

Take your Faith on a Journey with our Shrines of Italy Journey. You will enjoy this 14 day experience – April 23, 2020 – May 6, 2020. Your included destinations while on this Journey: Milan, Italy-Turin-Pavia-Sirmione-Padua-Pomposa-Revenna-Rome Papal Audience-Pietrelcina-San Giovanni Rotondo-Excursion to Monte Sant’Angelo-Lanciano-Loreto-Assisi-Cascia and end in Rome, Italy. Land prices begin at \$2,379 per person, based on double occupancy. Deposit of only \$400 per person will reserve your space. Limited space available. Deadline date is March 1, 2020. For further info or to register, contact Michael or Eileen at (860) 399-1785 or email [Eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com](mailto:Eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com).

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#### **Credit Card Scam Reminder!**

*Please do not respond to any email or text appeal you receive which asks you to purchase gift cards to help the poor and uses the name of the parish or Diocese. THIS IS A SCAM!! Notify the Rectory Office if you receive this. Thank you!*

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#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17
<b>Monday:</b>	1 Sm 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mk 2:1-12
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Mk 2:13-17

#### **First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7**

This reading is a brief passage from the Songs of the Suffering Servant. The Servant will establish justice on the earth and open the eyes of those who live in darkness.

#### **Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38**

In this reading, Peter gives his first sermon to pagans. Asked by a Roman centurian to preach the Gospel to his household, Peter is initially astounded by the request, but after a dream, Peter preaches and baptizes the entire household.

#### **Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17**

After initially protesting his unworthiness, John baptizes Jesus. After the baptism, the Spirit of God descended upon Jesus and a voice said, “This is my beloved Son. My favor rests on him.”

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

#### **The Baptism of the Lord** **January 12, 2020**

**“You know the word that he sent to the Israelites, as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is the Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.”**

The sights and sounds at the Jordan river are so familiar. The conversation of Jesus with His cousin, His desire to show full unity with humankind, the dripping water, the peace dove, the voice from the cloud. But the baptism did not end there. Jesus climbed up the bank and began His ministry.

One day when we were baptized, we began our missionary journey. Baptism for us is not an event, but our own first encounter with Jesus Christ. We were anointed with holy chrism, Christened, with power became dwelling places of the Holy Spirit and we move from the baptismal font to do the same work as Jesus ‘to go about doing good.’ Unfortunately, like a battery that is not used, it loses its power if not used, but like Jesus, God is with us to restore and enable that latent power.

May we renew our lives and our baptismal call.





