

January 3, 2010 - Solemnity of the Epiphany



The Rivera Family, St. Monica parishioners.

st. monica catholic community

725 California Ave. • Santa Monica, CA 90403
T: (310) 566-1500 • F: (310) 566-1510 • <http://www.stmonica.net>

LEADERSHIP:

CHURCH

Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson, Pastor, x586
Rev. Tim Klosterman, Assoc. Pastor, x504
Delis Alejandro, Pastoral Assoc., x531
Jason Farmer, Dir. of Com. and Tech., x548
Mike Mottola, Parish Admin., x519
Sr. Catherine Ryan, RSC, Pastoral Assoc., x536
Geoconda Ruiz-Hoffman, Parish Council, x133
Deacon Frank Vargas, x585

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dr. Neil Quinly, Ed.D., Principal
1039 Seventh St.
Santa Monica, CA 90403
(310) 451-9801

HIGH SCHOOL

Thom Gasper, Principal
1030 Lincoln Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90403
(310) 394-3701

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Willy Raymond, CSC
Rev. David Guffey, CSC
Rev. Venantius Yikore

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

Monday - Friday:
6:30 and 8 a.m.; 12:10 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 a.m.;
1:15 p.m. (Youth) and 5:30 p.m.
Holy Days:
6 p.m. (Vigil), 6:30, 8 and 10:30 a.m.;
12:15 and 6 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Monday - Friday: 5:30 - 6 p.m.
Saturday: 4:30 - 5 p.m.

COMMUNITY HOURS:

CHURCH

Sundays: 7 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Saturdays: 7:30 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.

PASTORAL CENTER

Sundays: 8:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

SPIRITUALITY CENTER LIBRARY

Sundays: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
1st and 3rd Fridays: 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

BOOKSTORE

Sundays: 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
3 p.m. – 5 p.m. (by appt. only)
5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturdays: 12 p.m. – 7 p.m.

 <http://www.stmonica.net/facebook>

 <http://www.stmonica.net/twitter>

OUR MISSION: TO FORM LOVING DISCIPLES WHO WILL TRANSFORM THE WORLD

Pastor's corner

May the blessings of our gracious God be upon you as we enter into this new year of 2010. Can you believe that we have now passed through the 1st decade of the new millennium? Time moves so quietly and quickly! 2009, with all of its challenges, is now receding into the past as we look forward with hope into this coming year. With this first week, the many things that make up our lives are building up to full steam once again. I hope that your holidays have been refreshing – they afford us some time to rest and renew, to be with our families and the ones we love, and hopefully to emerge with new courage to live our lives in wholeness and happiness. As we look to the days and weeks ahead, and the labors of life beckon us yet again, how can we translate this rest and renewal, and strengthen our life of faith? How can we take on the great gift of another year with courage and hope? These are the questions I ask myself, on the cusp of this new year.

I hope that our month of January here at St. Monica can provide you with some nourishment for your journey. On the 9th, we will have our annual Faith Odyssey – come and get a faith lift with a day of speakers on a variety of spiritual subjects. Also, our Cornerstone retreat experience returns on January 29th and 30th for men, and on our first women's Cornerstone retreat will take place on February 26th and 27th. More info is available outside on the Welcome Table.

I'd also like to mention that our Holy Cross Africa Ministry will be returning to Kenya this summer. Please contact us if you are interested in making this journey.

Thank you so much for your generous support over this holiday season.

God bless you,

Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson, Pastor
(310) 566-1500 | msg@stmonica.net
<http://twitter.com/msgrLloyd>



Administration

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

LOOKING FOR SOME FINANCIAL PEACE IN THE NEW YEAR?

Financial Peace University is Back by Popular Demand!

Begin your New Year by joining other St. Monica parishioners in a life-changing 13-week program starting Thursday, January 28, 2010, 7:00- 9:00pm, in the Pastoral Center- Living Room. Contact **Jim Carper** at jimcarper@stmonica.net and (310) 566-1523 or **Sr. Catherine Ryan** at srcatherine@stmonica.net or (310) 566-1536 for more information.

Financial Peace University (FPU) by Dave Ramsey teaches you the practical skills and confidence needed to achieve true financial peace. It's not "get rich quick," but it is an educational program that will focus your life towards becoming a better steward of God's gifts.

Attend a FREE Preview/Orientation Session:

Thursday, January 7th at 6:30-7:30pm Pastoral Center- Living Room

Sunday, January 10th at 11 am-12noon Pastoral Center- Living Room

Thursday, January 21st at 6:30-7:30pm Pastoral Center- Living Room

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION LETTER FOR 2009

We would like to thank you for your generous contributions throughout the year. Your generosity allows us to provide special programs and aid to the community. If you would like a letter regarding your 2009 contribution to the Church for tax purposes, please call the finance office at (310) 566-1520 and leave your name, address, city, zip, and daytime phone number. Once our data entry is complete, January 31st, the requested information will be mailed the following Friday. Please allow time for our letter to arrive before your tax appointment. Again, thank you sincerely and may God grant you abundant blessing in the New Year.


A WORD OF GRATITUDE

Dear parishioners of St. Monica, permit me to borrow this extraordinary poem to express my gratitude to you for your incredible generosity that you have shown me. The phrase Thank You seems so short that one is tempted to think it that it does not say much of what is coming from one's heart. Yet there is not a better phrase than this. Therefore, *"Thank you for your goodness, for your kindly thought of me, but poor is human gratitude, and so we'll let it be. But here's my heart's acknowledgement, in simple speech expressed. May the good God bless and thank you, in a way that He knows best."*

- Rev. Venantius Y. Yikore

"BUILDING our future" update

imagine As we celebrate the Holy Family, imagine the beginning of something wonderful and new at St. Monica in 2010 -- better facilities for ministries and students. Better parking. Renewed buildings. Better space for all! You're the key; it's not too late to make that pledge. Contact the Campaign office at (310) 566-1537. Be a part of the Campaign.

**The Campaign
for St. Monica** 
Catholic Community

PLEGGED: \$15.6 million **GOAL:** \$27 million
BLDG. START: 2010
INFORMATION: www.stmonica.net/campaign

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Today is the solemnity that celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the nations, the showing forth of the glory of God, a past event, a present reality, and an object of hope.

The story of the Magi coming from the East is only reported in Matthew. Matthew's account of the Gospel says nothing of their home country, their status, their religion, their number, or their names. So where did the tradition and folklore originate? Three Magi have prevailed because of the three gifts mentioned, and the names of Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar persist because they appeared in a ninth-century Italian manuscript. The representation of the Magi as Kings comes from the references in both the First Reading from Isaiah and today's psalm, Psalm 72.

This solemnity, which dates to the third century, was the original feast of Jesus in the East, and one of the two dates for the initiation of catechumens in the early Church.

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm in the Spirituality Center. We invite you to come and join in their prayer and discussions and to find out how you can become involved with a special devotion to the Blessed Mother and service to the community. Please stop by and check it out.

HEARING ASSISTANCE IN THE CHURCH

We have installed a new hearing assistance system in the church building. We have receivers that can be checked out at our liturgies for people who need assistance hearing the sound system. To check out one of these receivers, please ask one of the hospitality ministers.

THE BABYSITTING AT THE 5:30 NEEDS YOUR HELP

The babysitting service that operates each Sunday from 5pm – 7pm in the Upper Duval is in need of gently-used children's books and games, music videos, and cds. If you have any of these items you would like to donate to the babysitting service, please contact **Nina Madok** at email ninamadok@earthlink.net or **Susan Scarafia** at altwater@gmail.com. You are also invited to make use of the service each Sunday evening.

FAITH-SHARING QUESTIONS

THEME: The mystery of the incarnation- Jesus is a gift to all humanity.

ADULTS: How this past week did you demonstrate God's love at home and work?

CHILDREN: In your life, who helps you to see Jesus in other people such as a classmate or a friend?

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

Sunday, January 3, 2010

7:30 am	St. Monica Parishioners	Fr. David
9:30 am	Christine Lilly-Hicks	Msgr. Lloyd
11:30 am	Mario Chetcuti†	Fr. Willy
1:15 pm	Ronnie Dooley†	Fr. Tim
5:30 pm	Dale Frye Sr†	Fr. Willy

Monday, January 4, 2010

| 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday, January 5, 2010 | 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

6:30 am	Vanda Rees†
8:00 am	Eleonore Sistare†
12:10 pm	Horacio Larocca†

Wednesday, January 6, 2010 | 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

6:30 am	Emma Surette
8:00 am	Fernanda Santa†
12:10 pm	Leonard Heckenberger†

Thursday, January 7, 2010 | 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

6:30 am	Yolanda Brown†
8:00 am	Vicente and Frances Ortega†
12:10 pm	Ann Voris†

Friday, January 8, 2010 | Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

6:30 am	Todd Devereaux†
8:00 am	Joseph Fayant†
12:10 pm	Gladys Quitadamo

Saturday, January 9, 2010 | 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

8:00 am	John Christopher Kabey†	
	<i>Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12</i>	
5:30 pm	Phyllis Smith†	Fr. Tim

Sunday, January 10, 2010

7:30 am	Mary Ann Wielock†	Fr. Willy
9:30 am	St. Monica Parishioners	Msgr. Lloyd
11:30 am	Reymundo Gonzalez, Jr.†	Fr. Willy
1:15 pm	Eva Abarca-Hernandez†	Msgr. Lloyd
5:30 pm	Anna Topia	Fr. Tim

To have a special intention said for someone during a Mass, please speak with a Receptionist in the Pastoral Center.

CONFESSIONS

Monday	Msgr. Lloyd	Thursday	Fr. Willy
Tuesday	Fr. Willy	Friday	Msgr. Lloyd
Wednesday	Fr. David	Saturday	Fr. Tim

INTERCESSIONS

Pray for the Sick

John Anderson, Owen Cummings, Bret Douglas, Marietta Lennon, Maria Rodriguez, Jonathan Thays

Pray for the Dead

Bill Clarke

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

ST. MONICA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM SMCES

While school is out on Christmas vacation, it is a good time to remember that Christmas is not just a day; it is an entire season in the Church's liturgical year. And what are we called to do, all these days of Christmas?

I attended a meeting before Christmas that asked the question: "What good is it that Christ was born thousands of years ago, if Christ is not born now in our hearts?"

During our school's Christmas vacation, we can:

Have guests over and be guests to others who invite you.

Share the gift of good conversation without the TV, Nintendo, Wii, or other distractions.

Remember our family members who are not with us. Christmas is a Christian festival that reminds us we are all waiting for the day when we will be brought together in our Lord.

Sing a new song.

Visit neighbors, door to door.

Find out who needs visiting, and then visit them, with joy.

We should keep all the Christmas traditions in our homes:

Hang a wreath like a crown for the Prince of Peace.

Place mistletoe around the house to proclaim love and peace around us.

Heal relationships and speak our affection to our loved ones.

Share our gifts with those in need.

Light up the house with colors, transforming our homes for these days into a celebration of God's bright love for us.

Hang up a star somewhere to remind us of the long, dark nights of winter (somewhere else!).

As Epiphany grows near, we can ritualize our walking and talk about our heart's desire.



ST. MONICA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

APPLICATION DEADLINE AND ENTRANCE EXAM QUICKLY APPROACHING

The application deadline and entrance exam are quickly approaching. The application deadline for incoming 9th graders for the 2010-2011 school year is Friday, January 15th. The high school placement test (HSPT), a prerequisite for admission, is scheduled for Saturday, January 30th, at 8am. All students who opt to take the HSPT at St. Monica are eligible for financial aid consideration. A complete admissions timeline and online application are available at www.stmonicahs.org/admissions.

SHADOW DAY 2010

SMCHS is proud to host Shadow Day on Friday, January 8th. Prospective students will have an opportunity to visit the school, attend classes with current students, and participate in the winter pep rally. Experience the St. Monica difference! For Shadow Day information, please contact **Ms. Therese Charkut** at (310) 394-3701, x448 or via email at tcharkut@stmonicahs.net



HELP OUR PARISH SCHOOLS AND HAVE A S.M.A.S.H.ING GOOD TIME!

St. Monica's annual S.M.A.S.H. (St. Monica Academic & Spiritual Heritage) Dinner & Auction is just around the corner and the planning has already begun. S.M.A.S.H. will be held this year on Saturday, April 17th, at the Jonathan Club in Santa Monica. This event helps raise much-needed scholarship funding for students at both of our schools. If you are an energetic and passionate person and interested in serving on this year's committee, please contact Alex Chacon, Assistant Principal: Director of Advancement, at 310-394-3701 ext. 449 or at achacon@stmonicahs.net. Special areas that we need help with this year include procurement, community outreach, marketing, ministry coordination, and creative event planning. With your inspirational help we can make S.M.A.S.H. 2010 the best yet!

Alex Chacon, Assistant Principal: Director of Advancement
(310) 394-3701, x450 | achacon@stmonicahs.net

Kim Tuversson, Marketing & Outreach Coordinator SMES
(310) 451-9801 | kim.tuversson@stmonicaelem.com

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FORMATION

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NEW YEARS GREETINGS

My favorite quote that I have been reflecting on this Christmas season comes from Hamilton Wright Mabie who wrote, "Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love." I think that I can easily say there is a conspiracy of love among those who come to the religious Education program.

SPECIAL THANKS

Special Thanks to our Children's Choir. They spent one Sunday Christmas caroling at Marycrest Manor and participating in Las Posadas for the residents there. Participants in this special event were Thecla Rose Jordan, Gianna Ferrarin, Samantha Grand, Maxwell Grand, Nicholas Hammer, Fiona Taylor, Sarah Taylor, Daniel Ramirez, Oliver Mathias, Jessica Coffin, and Boyle Buchanan. They were accompanied by Mariann Hammer, Fred Ferrarin, and Stephanie Grand. The entire event was superbly organized by Francesca Taylor. Francesca also organized the games and follow-up party at Mark and Mariann Hammers house. Special thanks to all for reaching out to others in this special way.

CONSPIRACY OF LOVE

There are many volunteers who come together because of their care and concern for those in the RE program. **Estee Mason** volunteers as the Office Manager on Sundays. **Helen McNamee** organizes the copy Machine materials. **Candi Lira** supervises the parking lot and the dismissal after Mass. **Greg Amato** supervises the auditorium and assists parents there. **Mark Hammer** serves as the sacristan for the 10:30 RE Mass.

Mariann Hammer directs the Children's Choir and assists where needed at the celebration of the Eucharist. A very special thanks to these wonderful folks for caring and sharing their talents in this conspiracy of love.

BIBLE CAMP

Registration is now open for our Summer Bible Camp. Students will come daily for the week of June 22 through June 26. The actual sessions are 9:00 to 3:00. Students learn by active participation in games, relay races, plays, and various activities that make their faith come alive. Students need to wear comfortable clothing as this is an activity-oriented camp and they will be participating in fun activities. If you would like to register for this event, please e-mail **Marie@stmonica.net** as the enrollment is limited and students are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Classes resume on Sunday, January 10.

Marie Slaton (Sunday through Thursday)
Family Religious Education Coordinator
(310) 395-8903 | **marie@stmonica.net**
www.stmonica.net

YOUTH MINISTRY

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Youth Ministry wishes all of St. Monica's the most blessed and prosperous New Year!

We thank each and every one of you for your support and prayers for our youth throughout 2009! We are amazed at how God continues to bless us with the most committed and enthusiastic volunteers and leaders.

Please continue to support our Youth Ministry in prayer as we venture into 2010!!

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Happy New Year to all from the Teen Confirmation Team!

Year 2 Confirmation Class will resume on January 10.

Year 1 Confirmation Class will resume on January 24.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY- FISH PROGRAM

SAVE THE DATE: Our next gathering will be on January 24th, 2010, at 5:00pm.

Fr. Tim Klosterman | *Youth Ministry Coordinator*
(310) 310-566-1508 | **timothy@stmonica.net**

Natalie Hoskins | *Faith Formation Assistant*
(310) 566-1508 | **nataliehoskins@stmonica.net**

community life and groups

THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME RECEPTIONS!

If you are new to the parish community please consider attending a New Parishioner Welcome Reception this winter season. Meet fellow parishioners. Meet Msgr. Torgerson, clergy, and staff, and enjoy light refreshments and drinks. Learn about your community. Here are the dates of our upcoming receptions. Please pick one that works best for you!

Friday, Jan. 22nd, 7pm (RSVP By Jan. 18th)

Sunday, January 31st, after the 5:30pm Mass (RSVP By Jan. 25th)

Sunday, Feb. 14th, after 9:30am Mass (RSVP By Feb. 8th)

RSVP to: **Marcus** at **310-566-1540** or **marcus@stmonica.net** Free!

YMA VESPERS RETURNS!

Watch for the weekly Vespers returning Tuesdays in January beginning January 5th with Monsignor Torgerson and the ever popular Church Tour. Meet us in the Church at 7:30pm. Vespers is a weekly Tuesday night opportunity for young adults in the parish to share and reflect on topics of faith and spirituality and communal prayer. We regularly gather at the Spirituality Center. Contact **Mike** at **Michael.Steinberger@pomona.edu** or **Chris** at **chrisrob5@yahoo.com** for more information on Vespers and upcoming topics.

50 AND OVER MINISTRY

Get ready for the Oscars and catch up with some films. Join us for an evening of movies and drinks afterward on Saturday, January 16th. Meet us on the Promenade in front of the AMC Theater on Arizona at 6:45pm. Look for Connie in the red sweater and black scarf. Contact **Connie** at **oneillvilla@verizon.net** if you have any questions.

BAKE SALE

Sponsored today by:

Faith Odyssey

Please join them in the patio after Mass for coffee and donuts.

The Community Life and Groups Ministries of St. Monica provide numerous opportunities for participation through a variety of groups and activities that enrich the faith of our community through fellowship.

GAY AND LESBIAN OUTREACH (GLO)

St. Monica Gay and Lesbian Outreach is a fellowship where gay and lesbian people of faith are welcomed to explore their spirituality and share their experience, strength, and hope with one another. GLO hosts Bowling Night! Gather for an evening of fun, food, fellowship, and fabulous shoes! It's all happening at the AMF Bowling Center in Santa Monica on Sunday, January 31, after the 5:30 Mass. Grab some fabulous food from the fabulous diner for dinner at the bowling alley and bowl the night away. For more information, please contact **Brian** at **bgregro29@gmail.com** For more info go to our website at http://www.stmonica.net/community_life/glo/index.html

YOUNG MINISTERING ADULTS

Young Ministering Adults is the response of the St. Monica Catholic Community to the spiritual and social needs of singles and couples in their 20s and 30s. Check out our new Facebook page -St. Monica Catholic Community YMA, this is the official page of the YMA at St. Monica. You can also check our website at www.stmonica.net/community_life/yma/index.html or pick up hardcopies of all our flyers at YMA events, at the Pastoral Center, or at the Welcome Table.

Come along with YMA Peace and Justice for a Beach Clean Up! We'll join Heal the Bay of Santa Monica for a couple of hours on Saturday, January 16th, to clean up one of our lovely local beaches! Meet at St. Monica's parking lot at 9:30 a.m., and we'll carpool and clean the beach together from 10-12 noon. This is a fantastic way to show your community spirit and love for our natural environment! Contact us to sign up or get info: **Elsa** at **ecce1921@hotmail.co** / **310.409.9435** or **Niamh** at **niamh_doherty@yahoo.com** / **408.483.8307**.

Don't lament the end of caroling season - join us at the Gas Lite bar and restaurant on Saturday, January 23rd, for a whole new reason! YMA invites you to an evening of Karaoke. It may not be pretty, but it will definitely be entertaining! We'll be there starting at 8 PM. Gas Lite- 2030 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90403. Contact **Kristin** (310) 430-5567

(**knjacobson@gmail.com**) or **Chris** (310) 749-8583 (**aquarin73@hotmail.com**) with questions. No RSVP required.

Jot down the date of our next Get Acquainted Dinner on Sunday, January 24th, at 7pm in the Pastoral Center for all young adults new to the parish and YMA. Contact our Welcome Committee, **Lisa Marie** at **lisamariewynne@hotmail.com** or **Chris** **chrismeehanbrothers@gmail.com** Check our website at www.stmonica.net/community_life/yma/index.html for more information.

TTF - THIRTY-FIVE THRU FORTIES MINISTRY

The Holidays may be over but join us for some winter fun!

Howl at the Moon- Saturday, January 16th

Join us at the infamous Dueling Piano Bar in Universal City Walk for a raucous evening. Billed as the most fun you can have without breaking any of the 10 commandments. We will carpool from St. Monica's leaving at 7pm (meet at 6:40pm). Cover charge is \$5 (\$10 after 8pm).

Dollar Mania is back!! Wednesday, January 27th, at 8:30pm at AMF Bayshore Lane (Pico Blvd and 3rd St). Join us for some bowling and brew, or just kick back and socialize with TTF. Bowling is \$10 cover, \$1 shoe rental and \$1 a game, the best bowling deal in L.A. Check out the Flyer for details.

For more information about these events or TTF, please contact TTF at **st.monicatff@yahoo.com** or **Gerard** at **310-430-0101** or **Karen** at **310-464-7337**.

50 AND OVER MINISTRY

Formerly called ZMA, the 50 and Over Ministry is simply fellowship for adults over 50. Contact any of our team leaders for more information: **Pat Bruce** at **paddybruce@aol.com** or (310) 591-7939, **Connie O'Neill** at **oneillvilla@verizon.net** or **Barbara Harrison** at **rabakkah@earthlink.net** or at **310-453-2086**. Contact Barbara if you want to be on our list for free tickets to theater and play outings.

Delis G. Alejandro, Pastoral Associate
(310) 566-1531 | **delis@stmonica.net**

adult spirituality and enrichment

The *Adult Spirituality and Enrichment Ministries* of St. Monica provide many opportunities for ongoing faith formation and enrichment for adults.

RCIA INQUIRY

Are you interested in learning about Catholicism?

Maybe you have never received the sacraments of Baptism or Holy Communion. If you would like to come to a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith through the sacraments, please contact the RCIA- we offer year-round classes in Catholic faith studies. Our new RCIA group will begin on January 4th, 2010.

The RCIA is currently enrolling new members for classes. Please call **Sr. Catherine** for an appointment at (310) 566-1536 or e-mail her at srcatherine@stmonica.net

SPIRITUALITY OF THE TWELVE STEPS

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm, Trepp A&B

Led by Herb Kaighan, this workshop uses the Big book of Alcoholics Anonymous to focus on personal transformation and spiritual awakening through a precise working of all twelve steps. This workshop is not affiliated with any twelve-step fellowship; it is all inclusive. All are welcome. For more information, call **Herb** at (310) 377-3194.

ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASSES

Are you 21 years of age or older and have not been Confirmed? Consider the Confirmation Preparation Class. To enroll, contact Sr. Catherine in the Adult Formation Office.

Preparation classes for 2010 are scheduled from 9:00 am-4:00 pm on the following dates:

January 16
January 23
February 6
February 13

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Wednesdays at 7:30 pm
Spirituality Center

This group meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm. There is an informal introductory session for newcomers at 7:00 pm. Contact

www.stmonica.net

Marie McAdam at desertwisdom@earthlink.net or (818) 906-3904.

CORNERSTONE RETREATS

Cornerstone Men's Retreat-
January 29th & 30th

Cornerstone Women's Retreat-
February 26th & 27th

This unique 26 hour retreat provides men and women the opportunity to reflect, renew, and strengthen their faith.

All meals and accommodations will be provided. Information and registration forms are available at the welcome table, Pastoral Center, and online at www.StMonica.net/Cornerstone

Sr. Catherine, *Pastoral Associate*
(310) 458-5940 | catherine@stmonica.net

MARRIAGE INFORMATION NIGHT

Wed., January 27th at 6:45 pm in the
Duval Center # 1.

Those wishing to be married at St. Monica (or prepared here for a wedding elsewhere) are invited to attend this meeting. This is the first step in marriage preparation before any specific wedding arrangements can be made. This month's Marriage Information meeting will be Wednesday, January 27, 2010. The February date will be Tuesday, February 23rd.

FAITH ODYSSEY 2010- "REDISCOVER YOUR BLESSINGS"

This is the last week to sign up- Don't miss this amazing event!

Our annual Faith Odyssey Event will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2010. Start off your new year by rediscovering your blessings! Brochures are available at the welcome table and online at www.stmonica.net/faithodyssey

Give the gift of the Faith Odyssey Experience to a friend or relative! Gift Certificates are available at the sign up table.

THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Contemplative Prayer meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:30 pm, Trepp A & B

Join Dr. Jim Finley for an evening of reflection and contemplative meditation. Each evening begins with a reflection by Dr. Finley, followed by approximately one hour of sitting and walking meditation. All who are interiorly drawn to silent meditation as a way of experiencing God's presence in their lives are encouraged to attend.

Next session will be held on January 7th.

MARRIAGE INFORMATION NIGHT MUSIC FAIR!

Wednesday, January 27, 8:00 pm in the Church

Attention to all couples who are planning their wedding at St. Monica!

On Wednesday, January 27, at 8:00 pm, a Music Fair will be held to showcase our parish community musicians and vocalists. This is a wonderful opportunity to see and listen to the music and cantors who help you plan your wedding music. As a couple getting married at St. Monica, you are given the opportunity to choose the vocalist for your wedding. That person, in turn, helps you plan the music for your wedding liturgy. This event will ease the selection process for you. All are invited to attend this event at no charge. No reservations are required.

THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD DRIVE

The easiest (and most requested!) method of helping the local poor and hungry is to provide non-perishable food items, toiletries, and needed supplies to local food banks for distribution to those in need. You can help to support our monthly Loaves and Fishes Food Drive held on the second Sunday of every month. Your donations will go directly to one of three food banks: Westside Food Bank, St. Joseph Center Food Bank, or St. Robert's Center Weekend-Food Pantry. Place your donations in the bins provided outside of Church. Bags for your donation and convenience are available on the first Sunday of the month on the Duval Patio, at the Welcome Table, and in front of the Church. The most commonly needed items are canned vegetables, fruits, soups, meats and fish; coffee, tea, hot chocolate; peanut butter, hot and cold cereals; flour, beans, and rice. Our next Food Drive will be held the weekend of January 10th.



HOLY CROSS AFRICA MINISTRY

Holy Cross Africa Ministry wishes to thank all of those parishioners who joined us at California Pizza Kitchen on Wilshire Blvd. off the Promenade to help raise funds for the Veronica Lineberry Fund that supports nutritional supplements for parishioners of Holy Cross Church in Dandora, Kenya who are challenged with HIV/AIDS. We will let you know the grand total later. The ministry will continue to accept donations towards our Scholarship Drive for children in the primary and boarding schools. Contact **Trevor Rodrigues** at trev.rodrigues@gmail.com for more information.

The Peace and Justice Ministries of St. Monica Parish Community seek through education, and advocacy to transform ourselves and those we serve by responding to the Christ in everyone. Our ministries provide opportunities to reach out to those in need and learn more about our Catholic faith's call to justice.

HOLIDAY OUTREACH 2009 CONTINUES

There is so much to share with you regarding Holiday Outreach at the parish, and this week we want to share with you projects that supported efforts to curb local hunger and build shelter.

On December 11th, the San Fernando Valley Habitat for Humanity Chapter held their official Key Ceremony, where they dedicated the new homes to their new homeowners. At this special

occasion, we witnessed 11 families get a new home, helping 60 lives change forever. Of those 60, about 25 young children got a new bedroom. The ceremony was very touching, and those gathered heard among them stories from children saying they were thankful that their "brother no longer has to sleep on the floor." St. Monica has been sending volunteers to the site for over 1.5 years, seeing it from dirt field to final move-in. Norman Hilario and Chris Mercurio are pictured here receiving a special commendation on behalf of St. Monica Habitat from the City of LA Council for helping out with this project. Even though the rain might have made us feel cold, the excitement of the day made us leave with warm hearts.



Save-the-Date: Habitat Winter Olympics Event on Saturday, February 13th!! Come join us for an evening of food, music, and fun, especially our very own Habitat Olympic events (winter carnival games, team-building competitions, Wii winter sports tournaments, Olympic games viewing, and much more). You'll find us in St. Monica's "Olympic Hall" (a.k.a. the Elementary School Auditorium) from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tickets will be on sale soon - all proceeds will benefit our Habitat ministry's local builds and build trips.

On a monthly basis St. Monica serves meals

at three transitional shelters for the homeless locally helping to nourish the bodies of those trying to reenter the workforce and move into permanent housing after experiencing the tragedy of homelessness in their lives. The shelters assist them with educational, counseling, and other supportive programs to help residents get back on track. St. Monica prepared holiday meals at PATH, Samoshel, and Turning Point in December. Kimberley Balque, co-chair of our parish Turning Point Ministry, reported that volunteers at Turning Point chopped and stirred away at a great meal featuring Chicken Florentine, and prepared lunches for the residents for the next day. The real highlight of the evening, however was the Christmas show put on by two of our youngest volunteers, Ethney and Avery, ages 10 and 12 respectively, to the delight of the residents.



Our Holiday Loaves and Fishes Food Drive donations were delivered to the Westside Food Bank in Santa Monica. Nearly half of the recipients of the Food Bank food are children whose health, development, and academic performance are at risk. From La Brea to the Ocean, at a time when many of our neighbors are feeling the effects of the economic downturn, local families and individuals need help putting food on the table. Pastoral Associate Delis Alejandro, Alessandra Quaranta, and Larry Panicali led our parish team at this year's Westside Food Bank held in late November and raised approximately \$1000 to help the Food Bank feed the hungry on the Westside. Thanks to all the parishioners who supported the Walk and this year's Holiday Food Drive! Go to <http://www.westsidefoodbankca.org/> for more info on the Westside Food Bank.

Delis G. Alejandro, Pastoral Associate
(310) 566-1531 | delis@stmonica.net

Pastoral Care Ministries consist of ministries in which parishioners can receive help in time of need and where parishioners of all ages – in the spirit of stewardship – volunteer their time, talent and spiritual energy to bring the heart and hands of Jesus Christ to those who need comfort and care.

ONCE A STEPHEN MINISTER, ALWAYS A STEPHEN MINISTER

There are a number of mottos for which the Marine Corps of the United States is best known, such as “once a Marine always a Marine” and “Semper Fidelis” for “always faithful.” With all due respect to this branch of military service, in joining the Stephen Ministry I’ve heard the motto “once a Stephen Minister always a Stephen Minister” on more than one occasion. Over the past year, I’ve come to understand how in serving as a Stephen Minister the caring skills you learn and refine in service to the parish community can be extended to all of one’s personal relationships inside or outside of this ministry. I find the active listening skills, among others practiced and learned in 50 hours of Stephen Ministry training, have enabled me to be a more open and actively-engaged partner with my wife when we are talking about an emotionally-charged issue. After almost a year, I can see that the skills gained from one’s service do become an intrinsic part of who you are as a person.

As a Stephen Minister, one commits to being always faithful to maintaining complete confidentiality as to the identity and the personal issues that have brought your assigned care receiver to avail him/herself of Stephen Ministry. My role as a Stephen Minister is to walk with my assigned care receiver on his life’s journey for up to 12 months. I don’t offer solutions, but prayers and an open and non-judgmental mind. Together we explore those aspects of my care receiver’s life that are currently difficult for him to deal with. Every time my care receiver and I meet, the two of us prayerfully invite Christ and God our Father into our meeting sessions as the care givers. As a commissioned Stephen Minister to ensure that I’m providing the best possible service to my care receiver, I’m obligated to attend a peer-group supervision meeting twice a month during my two-year service commitment. These meetings are overseen by a pair of compassionate

leaders who are gentle guides and advisors to the rest of the Stephen Ministry team.

I’ve found that peer group supervision has for me provided the necessary guidance to ensure that my care receiver obtains the maximum possible benefit from the Stephen Ministry. No personal identifiers are ever disclosed in the supervision meeting, but only the personal and spiritual challenges being experienced by the person receiving care. Given the many different kinds of darkness that can enshroud a care receiver, the Stephen Ministry is able guided by the Holy Spirit to serve for those entrusted to its care as a light that nurtures hope, self-esteem, and spiritual well being. The more time I spend in Stephen Ministry, the more I’ve come to appreciate that the light that shines forth from God is brightest when it’s able to be magnified by a group of dedicated and caring individuals such as my fellow Stephen Ministers who devote themselves to the service of their care receivers.

Guys Stocks

Stephen Minister

St. Monica Parish Community

APPLICATIONS FOR THE NEXT TRAINING CLASS OF STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

Stephen Ministry provides one-to-one pastoral care for individuals experiencing a wide range of life’s stressors. Stephen Ministers receive intense training to prepare them for this ministry and are required to attend supervision every other week. Applications for the next training class of Stephen Ministers are now being accepted. Pick up an application at the Pastoral Center or at the Welcome Table or call (310) 566-1575 for more information. An informational meeting for those wanting to be a Stephen Minister will be held on Wednesday, January 13th, beginning at 7pm in the Pastoral Center.

Delis G. Alejandro, *Pastoral Associate*
(310) 566-1531 | delis@stmonica.net

THE WEEK’S HIGHLIGHTS

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Our Bereavement Group meets for an eleven-week session, and is open to anyone who is still grieving a loved one through death, whether the loss occurred recently or many years ago. Our next session begins on January 7, 2010, with an orientation meeting in the Spirituality Center. If you would like to register for the group, or have any questions about whether the group is right for you, please contact **Christine** at christine@stmonica.net or 310-566-1530.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

We invite all seniors of our parish for our next monthly luncheon, to be held on Friday Jan.8, following the noon Mass. Please make a reservation by Wednesday, Jan 6, 2010, by contacting **Marcus** at (310) 566-1540 or marcus@stmonica.net We now have parking passes for all attendees. If you need one, please let Marcus know as well.

ST. JUDE SUPPORT GROUP

Join the St. Jude Autoimmune and Chronic Illness Support Network on the 1st Monday of the Month at 5:30 PM in the Pastoral Center for education and support. Next meeting: Monday, January 11th. Please note that due to the Holidays, January’s meeting is the second Monday of the month. In February we resume first Mondays. Contact **Pala** at LAsylum@aol.com for more info.

THE PHOENIX MINISTRY

The Phoenix Ministry is a St. Monica Catholic Community peer support group for those experiencing a separation and/or divorce that meet Wednesday nights in the Spirituality Center from 7 to 8:30pm. The next Phoenix Group series resumes February 3rd. Please contact **Jynyvy** at (310) 857-8209 or jynyvy@yahoo.com or **Ed** at (310) 824 3380 or pick up a flyer at the Welcome Table.

Fun for the Family

Answers for the November 22nd crossword.

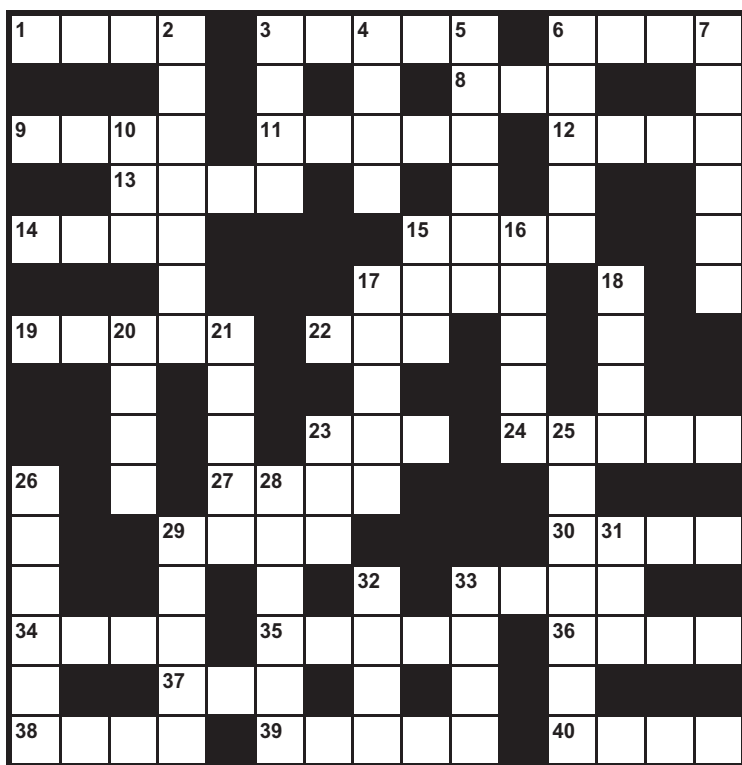


www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

THE ROSARY

www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

- BEADS
- CHAIN
- DECADE
- DEVOTION
- FIFTEEN
- GLORIOUS
- GLORY BE
- HAIL HOLY QUEEN
- HAIL MARY
- JOYFUL
- MYSTERIES
- OUR FATHER
- PRAYER
- SORROWFUL
- TEN



www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

ACROSS

- 1 Church divider
- 3 Minor prophet
- 6 "Vaya con ___"
- 8 Nathan told David that taking Bathsheba was like stealing this (2 Sm 12:3)
- 9 Pertaining to the non-ordained members of the Church
- 11 This is found in the sanctuary
- 12 Christmas visitors
- 13 "Angels we have heard on ___"
- 14 Home of St. Rose
- 15 An apostle
- 17 "...thy will be ___."
- 19 Top monk
- 22 Adam was the first
- 23 OT prophetic bk.
- 24 David married his widow
- 27 Prayer counter
- 29 Confession requirement
- 30 Amo, ____, amat
- 33 Sometimes it is ordinary
- 34 Son of Jacob
- 35 Father of Abraham
- 36 "And ___ with you."
- 37 Jurisdiction of a bishop
- 38 Esau and Jacob, to Rebekah
- 39 They were found in Juan Diego's cape at Guadalupe
- 40 Monk's room

DOWN

- 2 Catholic opera singer Pavarotti
- 3 He survived the flood
- 4 "What God ___ joined together.."
- 5 Author of The Seven Storey Mountain
- 6 A fallen angel
- 7 Land in which the Tower of Babel was built
- 10 Congregational initials
- 15 Catholic actor Voight
- 16 Sr. Prejean
- 17 A man after God's heart (1 Sm 13:14, 16:12-13)
- 18 Husband of Queen Jezebel
- 20 ___ of Christ
- 21 Reuben or Gad, for example
- 23 OT prophetic bk.
- 25 Native language of Jesus
- 26 Gregory I sent missionaries to convert these barbarians
- 28 Most solemn Christian feast
- 29 Guard of the Vatican
- 31 Catholic actor Gibson
- 32 "...my brother, co-worker, and comrade in ___" (Phil 2:25)
- 33 "Give us ___ day our daily bread"

ST. MONICA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY PASTORAL CENTER

725 California Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90403 | T: (310) 566-1500 | F: (310) 566-1510 | Please visit our web site: www.stmonica.net

ADMINISTRATION

Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson, Pastor, x586
Rev. Tim Klosterman, Assoc. Pastor, x504
Delis Alejandro, Pastoral Assoc., x531
Jason Farmer, Dir. of Com. & Tech., x548
Mike Mottola, Parish Administrator, x519
Sr. Catherine Ryan, Pastoral Assoc., x536

ADVERTISING IN THE BULLETIN

Nicole Renaud, (310) 562-0888

ADULT ED. & ENRICHMENT

Sr. Catherine Ryan, x536

AIDS MINISTRY

Delis Alejandro x531

ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

Fr. Tim Klosterman, x512

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES

(213) 637-7000

ANNULMENTS

Fr. Tim x504

AUDIO-VISUAL

Ric Perez-Selsky x546

BAPTISMS

Sacrament Office, x503

BEREAVEMENT

Christine Gerety, x530

BOOKKEEPING

Donna Damian, x520

BOOKSTORE

Michelle Crenshaw, x549

BOUTIQUE

Toni Miller, (310) 393-7907

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Gretchen Willison, x537

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

Jason Farmer, x548

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Adolescent Suicide Hotline: (800) 621-4000
Alcoholics Anonymous: (800) 923-8722
Al-Anon Family Groups: (818) 760-7122
Child Abuse Hotline: (800) 541-4000
Domestic and Teen Abuse: (800) 992-2600
Domestic Violence Hotline: (310) 370-5902
Elder Abuse Hotline: (877) 477-3646
Pregnancy Resource Center: (310)-268-8400
Suicide Prevention Hotline: (310) 391-1253

CONFIRMATION

Sr. Catherine Ryan, x536

DATABASE

Chrystal Hagerty, x513

EARLY CHILDHOOD RELIGIOUS ED.

Erin Amendolare, x316

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Dr. Neil Quinly, Ed.D.,
(310) 451-9801

ENTERTAINMENT FELLOWSHIP

Marcus Johnson, x540

EUCHARIST TO HOSPITAL / HOMES

Christine Gerety, x530

50 + (ADULTS, 50 & OVER)

Delis Alejandro, x531

FACILITY RESERVATIONS

(310) 566-1500

FAITH SHARING / FOUNDATIONS

Sr. Catherine Ryan, x536

FUNERALS

Veronica Gray, x503

GAY & LESBIAN OUTREACH (GLO)

Delis Alejandro, x531

HELPING HAND MINISTRY

(310) 566-1500, x377

HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Thom Gasper, (310) 394-3701

HOSPITALITY

John Putnam, (310) 428-3689

LIBRARIAN, SPIRITUALITY CENTER

Lynn Peterson, x310

LITURGY & WORSHIP

Fran Curry, x533

LOST & FOUND

Pastoral Center, (310) 566-1500

MUSIC MINISTRY

Ed Archer, x539

PARISH COUNCIL

Co-chair: Geoconda Ruiz-Hoffman, x133

PEACE & JUSTICE

Delis Alejandro, x531; Christine Gerety, x530

PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT GROUP

Philip Tirone, (310) 453-1901

PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. David Guffey, CSC, x555
Rev. Willy Raymond, CSC, x554
Rev. Venantius Yikore, x556

RCIA

Sr. Catherine Ryan, x536

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Marie Slaton, (310) 395-8903

SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN

Daphne Bass, (310) 829-2805

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Christine Gerety, x530; Marcus Johnson, x540

SEPARATED & DIVORCED (PHOENIX)

Delis Alejandro, x531

SERRA CLUB

Daniel Cragin, (310) 450-7830

STEPHEN MINISTRY

(310) 566-1500, x575

STEWARDSHIP

Jim Carper, x523

TEEN CONFIRMATION

Fr. Tim Klosterman x508

TTF (ADULTS, 35-49)

Christine Gerety, x530

VOLUNTEERS

Jim Carper, x523

WEBSITE

Jason Farmer, x548

WEDDING COORDINATION

Veronica Gray, x503

YMA (YOUNG ADULTS, 20s & 30s)

Delis Alejandro, x531

YOUTH MINISTRY

Fr. Tim Klosterman x508

in the neighborhood

MATERNITY HOME BENEFIT

Tuesday, January 5, 2010 -7:00 or 8:15 pm
7201 Sunset Blvd. in Hollywood

Please join us at Family Theater Productions for a screening of Stephen McEveety's new documentary, "The Star of Bethlehem," to benefit Angels Way Maternity Home, a home for single, pregnant women eighteen and older who have chosen to give their babies the ultimate gift...life. Free admission. Call Margot @ (818) 648-7740 to reserve seats or for more information.

MARRIAGE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

An 8-hour training session to become a FOCCUS facilitator will be held Wednesday, January 13th, at the Immaculate Heart Retreat Center in Los Angeles. Training held in both English and Spanish. FOCCUS is a Premarital Assessment Instrument. \$150 per person; a spouse may attend at no extra charge. Contact Ian Hagan to register or for more info: ihagen@la-archdiocese.org or (213) 637-7213.

"BEGINNING EXPERIENCE" WORKSHOP

January 15-17, 2010
Holy Spirit Retreat Center in Encino

A "Beginning Experience" Workshop will be held for those who have experienced the loss of a spouse through death, divorce/separation. This program helps one to move from the darkness of grief into the light of a new beginning. For info and registration, call Brenda Mikhail (818) 352-5265.



st. monica catholic community

725 California Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90403
 t (310) 566-1500 | f (310) 566-1510 | www.stmonica.net

COMMUNITY HOURS:

CHURCH

Sunday: 7:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
 Monday - Friday: 6:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
 Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - 6:45 p.m.

PASTORAL CENTER

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
 Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
 Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SPIRITUALITY CENTER LIBRARY

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 1st and 3rd Fridays: 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

BOOKSTORE

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 5:00-7:30 p.m.
 Saturday: 12:00 - 7:00 p.m.

FAITH-SHARING QUESTIONS

THEME: Jesus establishes His obedience to and relationship with God the Father.

ADULTS: How are you, too, called to our Father's house?

CHILDREN: Why is it important to obey our parents? Why is it important to obey God?

THIS WEEK: JANUARY 3 - JANUARY 9

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	9
BOOKSTORE OPEN 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.	RCIA MONDAY NIGHT 7:30 p.m. (T)	WOMEN'S ACA 7:00 p.m. (D) SPIRITUALITY 12 STEPS 7:30 p.m. (T) LEGION OF MARY 7:00 p.m. (SC) YMA VESPERS 7:30 p.m. (SC) MEN'S CORNERSTONE MEETING 7:00 p.m. (D)	BIBLE STUDY 6:30 p.m. (T) CHRISTIAN MEDITATION 7:30 p.m. (SPC)	FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY 6:00 p.m. (PC) BEREAVEMENT GROUP 7:00 p.m. (SC) CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER 7:30 p.m. (T)	ALWAYS BEGINNING LUNCHEON 12:30 p.m. (A) RESPECT LIFE ROSARY 5:00 p.m. (C)	LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD DRIVE <i>After All Masses</i> FAITH ODYSSEY 9:00 a.m.- 5p.m.	

LEGEND | A = Auditorium D = Duval Center PC = Pastoral Center T = Trepp Center SPC = Spirituality Center

NEXT WEEK: JANUARY 10 - JANUARY 16

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	16
LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD DRIVE <i>After All Masses</i> BOOKSTORE OPEN 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. ART OF LIVING BREATHING SESSION 3:00 p.m. (SC)	ST. JUDE AUTOIMMUNE GROUP 5:30 p.m. (PC) RCIA MONDAY NIGHT 7:30 p.m. (T)	WOMEN'S ACA 7:00 p.m. (D) SPIRITUALITY 12 STEPS 7:30 p.m. (T) LEGION OF MARY 7:00 p.m. (SC) YMA VESPERS 7:30 p.m. (SC) MEN'S CORNERSTONE MEETING 7:00 p.m. (D)	BIBLE STUDY 6:30 p.m. (T) CHRISTIAN MEDITATION 7:30 p.m. (SPC) BAPTISM CLASS 7:15 p.m. (D)	FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY 6:00 p.m. (PC)	RESPECT LIFE ROSARY 5:00 p.m. (C)		

LEGEND | A = Auditorium D = Duval Center PC = Pastoral Center T = Trepp Center SPC = Spirituality Center

