

# St. Monica Church



# St. Augustine Church

## ST. MONICA

**Sunday Mass** 8:30 a.m.  
**Rosary** 8:00 a.m.

**Weekday Mass** Wed & Fri.  
9:00 a.m.

Fr. Celestine Obidiegwu 918-607-8681  
Deacon: Steve Litwack 918-747-0574  
Deacon: Charles Beard 918-340-0090  
Secretary: Liz Brown 918-587-2965  
Parish Council: Sadonna Davis 918-284-9970  
Finance Council: Helen Page 918-639-4922  
Ladies of Peter Claver: Minyan Burton 918-640-1546  
Legion of Mary: Yvonne Hunter 918-587-2965  
Catholic Daughters: Amelia Henderson 918-852-0945  
Choir: ZaQue Hutchinson 918-907-8659  
Parish Life/Benevolent: Linda DeJear 918-639-3485  
RCIA: Jennifer Thomas: 918-720-9081  
Technology: John Baker 918-398-4268  
Men's Club: James Page 918-587-2965  
Religious Education:

## ST. AUGUSTINE

**Sunday Mass** 10:30 a.m.  
**Rosary** 10:00 a.m.

**Weekday Mass** Tues & Thurs.  
9:00 a.m.

Fr. Celestine Obidiegwu 918-607-8681  
Deacon: Steve Litwack 918-747-0574  
Deacon: Charles Beard 918-340-0090  
Secretary: Liz Brown 918-587-2965  
Parish Council: Peggy Prudom 918-582-4561  
Finance Council: Chuck Mitchell 918-248-4105  
Knights of Peter Claver: Paul McCurtain  
Ladies of Peter Claver: Judy Clark 918-425-5215  
Choir: ZaQue Hutchinson 918-907-8659  
Parish Life/Benevolent: Ladies Auxiliary  
RCIA: Jennifer Thomas: 918-720-9081  
Technology: Glenda Reed 918-269-0527  
Men's Club: Reggie Hurd 918-409-1300  
Soccer League: Fr. C 918-607-8681  
Religious Education:



*1ST SUNDAY OF LENT*

*FEBRUARY 22, 2026*

## Worship & Meditation

### Readings for the week of February 22, 2026

#### Sunday:

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/  
Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

#### Monday:

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/  
Mt 25:31-46

#### Tuesday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/  
Mt 6:7-15

#### Wednesday:

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/  
Lk 11:29-32

#### Thursday:

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab,  
2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

#### Friday:

Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/  
Mt 5:20-26

#### Saturday:

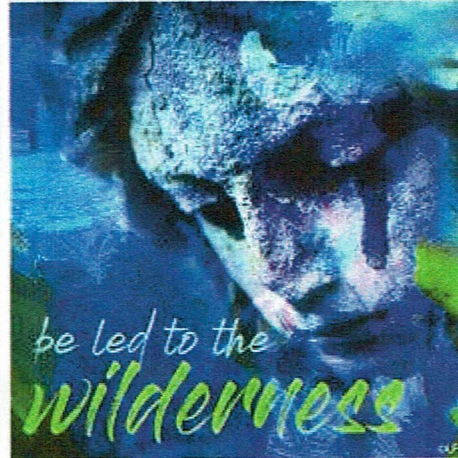
Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/  
Mt 5:43-48

#### Next Sunday:

Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/  
2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in  
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



### Gospel Meditation

#### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: **"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1)**. The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

**Lenten Challenge:** This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.

— *Father John Muir*

# MARK YOU CALENDAR

## **Black History Month Programs:**

St. Monica Hall after 8:30 mass

### **February 22:**

Ameila Henderson

Black History Questionnaire/Black History Video

### **March 1:**

Joyce Williams Black History Speaker.

### **Bedrock at St. Augustine Sunday, Feb. 22:**

After Mass, **Bedrock** (Ascension St. John) will be offering blood pressure checks and information/sign-ups for a free heart screening.

After 10:30 Mass

After 12:30 Mass

All are welcome.

### **Bedrock at St. Monica**

**2nd Sunday of the month until March 8, 2026**

Will be in Bradley hall to take blood pressure

### **Monday, February 23.**

Spring **Soccer** Registration Begins

### **Donation for Easter Lilies**

There are flower envelopes available if you would like to purchase a lily in memory of your loved ones for a \$10.00 donation.

See envelopes at back of the church

### **St. Monica - Dessert Sign up**

Parish Life is asking for help with providing a dessert for parish repast dinners. If enough people sign up, your time should not come around often. Please see sign up sheets at the back of the church.

### **Called by Name – Diocesan Event**

The diocese wants parishioners to nominate young men of the parishes to consider the priesthood.

Submit names to Fr. C, or Deacon Charles

### **Bible Study starts Thursday, March 5**

## **The Pope's Monthly Intentions February 2026**

### **For children with incurable diseases**

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

## **Stations of the Cross**

Every Friday of Lent at St. Augustine

5:30 pm in English

6:30pm in Spanish

## **2026 Lenten Revival:**

March 8 to 9 @ 6pm

with Rev. Mike Jenkins.

Fellowship after each session

St. Monica Hall

## **Sunday, March 15**

African Mass - St. Monica

## **Parish Lenten Revival**

March 16 to 18

Fr. Juan Grajeda

Begins at 6 pm daily (Spanish)

St. Augustine

## **Save the Date**

### **Christ Care Day - Saturday April 11**

We will gather at Christ the King to begin Mass at 8:00 a.m. followed by a light breakfast. Following breakfast, we will head out to assist local homeowners with yard work, serving until early afternoon. This is a wonderful opportunity to lend a helping hand and support our neighbors who need extra care.

Tulsa Responds - Free Tax Service

2174 S Sheridan Rd

[tulsaresponds.org](http://tulsaresponds.org)

(918) 900-0918

**ST. MONICA MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

**MARCH 1, 2026**

**LECTORS**

*Maria Smith  
Jared Smith*

[www.stmonica-tulsa.org](http://www.stmonica-tulsa.org)  
[Stmonicachurch@aol.com](mailto:Stmonicachurch@aol.com)

*STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING*

February 15, 2026      \$4,605.23

MASS ATTENDANCE

Youth  
Adults

**MASS INTENTIONS**

1st SUNDAY OF THE MONTH MASS, IN MEMORY OF  
MAXINE STALEY

4th SUNDAY OF THE MONTH MASS, IN MEMORY OF  
MR. & MRS. C. Y. GIBBS

**ST. MONICA**

*Gloria Noble  
Requested by St. Monica Ladies Club*

**ST. AUGUSTINE**

**PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK & SHUT-INS**

Princetta Newman, Charles Towns Jr., Rachel Stake,  
Idella Miller, Norma Stripling, Patricia Lyons, James  
Jones, Billie Clark, Deacon Steve, Joselinn Fuselier,  
Melvin Noble, Sr., Gloria Petit, Johnny Towns, David  
Towns, Steven Bagby, Doris Minter-Littles, Pam  
Towns

**\*\*\*\*\* PARISH NEWS \*\*\*\*\***

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES**

Wed 6-7:30pm CCD Bldg

**Snacks & Drinks**

Group 8

**NTLC TUTORING**

Tues and Thurs  
3:30-6pm CCD Bldg

**SPANISH MASS**

**ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH**  
Sundays at 12:30

**Bible study**

Thursdays 10:00 - 11:15am  
St. Monica Bradley Hall  
March 5, 2025  
The Book of Joshua

**NAMI**

National Alliance of Mental Illness  
St. Augustine Parish - CCD  
4th Monday 6 - 7:30pm

**Senior Saints Mass  
And Potluck Luncheon**

Every 4th Wednesday 12 noon  
Bradley Hall

## ST. AUGUSTINE MINISTRY SCHEDULE

MARCH 1, 2026

### LECTORS

Tony Fuselier  
Jeff Gallant

[www.staugustine-tulsa.org](http://www.staugustine-tulsa.org)

Staugustineparishtulsaok@yahoo.com

### *STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING*

FEBRUARY 15, 2026                      \$2,059.31

MASS ATTENDANCE

YOUTH  
ADULTS

SPANISH MASS

YOUTH  
ADULTS

## ***CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PARISH GOALS / INITIATIVES***

***JUNE 1, 2021- FEBRUARY 15, 2026***

### ***St. MONICA***

**GOAL:**                      \$100,000  
**RAISED:**                 \$ 58,504  
**REMAINING:**            \$ 41,496

### ***St. AUGUSTINE***

**GOAL:**                      \$120,000  
**RAISED:**                 \$ 85,134  
**REMAINING:**            \$ 34,866

### **RCIA**

*Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults  
Wed 6 - 7:30pm St. Monica in person/Zoom*

### **SPANISH CLASS**

*St. Monica - Tuesday 6-7:30pm  
St. Augustine - Saturday 12-2pm  
February 24 - May 9, 2026*

## **SACRAMENTS**

**BAPTISM** – Call the Parish at 587-2965

**FIRST EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION**– Celebrated once a year. Call the Parish

**RECONCILIATION** – Sunday before Mass or anytime by appointment.

**MARRIAGE** – A minimum of six months preparation is required. Call the Pastor before the date is set.

**VISITATION OF THE SICK** – The last Friday of each month

**COMMUNION TO THE SICK** – In the event of illness, please contact the Pastor. Eucharist is brought to shut-ins weekly. Please call the Pastor if you know of someone unable to attend Mass.

**VOCATIONS** – Anyone interest in becoming a Priest, Deacon or Lay Minister. Contact the Pastor

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

**RCIA** – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. If interested in becoming Catholic, contact the Parish

**NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME!** Please register in the Church by contacting an usher

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** – Every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m.–7:30p.m. from September to May @ St. Augustine.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** – Please submit bulletin announcements to the office before noon on Tuesdays at least two weeks prior to your scheduled event.

Send electronically to [stmonicachurch@aol.com](mailto:stmonicachurch@aol.com)

### **Follow us on Facebook**

### **and Websites:**

<https://www.facebook.com/Stmonicacatholicchurch>

<https://www.facebook.com/Staugustinecatholicchurch>

<https://www.facebook.com/northtulasoccerleague>

[www.stmonica-tulsa.org](http://www.stmonica-tulsa.org)

[www.staugustine-tulsa.org](http://www.staugustine-tulsa.org)

From the desk of Fr. C.,

Our Lenten journey begins with Jesus in the desert, where he is tempted by the devil. To help us understand today's Gospel, the First Reading from Genesis takes us back to the second Creation account and the Garden of Eden, where Adam and Eve encounter the serpent.

What is striking in this story is how quickly Eve – and then Adam – accept the serpent's word. Though they lived in intimate relationship with God, they did not turn to him for guidance in the face of temptation. The Church teaches that through their disobedience, humanity embraced sin and fractured its relationship with God.

That story stands in sharp contrast to Jesus' experience in the desert. Matthew's Gospel opens with a key detail: "Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil." Unlike Adam and Eve, Jesus remains rooted in his relationship with the Father and the Spirit throughout his trial. Strengthened by that relationship, he faces three temptations that challenge his obedience to the commandment to love God with heart, soul, and strength.

When tempted by hunger, Jesus responds with Scripture: "One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God," quoting Deuteronomy. When the devil twists Scripture to tempt Jesus to test God's power, Jesus answers again from Deuteronomy: "You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test." Finally, when offered power over all the kingdoms of the world, Jesus firmly rejects the temptation: "The Lord your God shall you worship, and him alone shall you serve."

Jesus, fully human, faces the same temptations as Adam and Eve – but he does not give in. Grounded in prayer, strengthened by the Spirit, and nourished by God's Word, he shows us the path for our own Lenten journey. If we remain close to God and rooted in Scripture, we too can resist the temptations that draw us away from him.

Ken Canedo at [www.ocp.com](http://www.ocp.com)

### **Let us Pray.**

God, our Father  
As we take this journey  
That draws us ever closer to you  
Walk with us Sustain us, Nurture us.  
God, as we go through  
The wilderness of lent and of our lives,  
Send your manna to us,  
give us wisdom to turn from temptation  
And your grace to turn to remain steadfast in faith  
God, as we walk through the potholes of life,  
The valleys, the pits of life,  
Guide us with your hand  
Keep our feet steady,  
And our vision on you.  
Amen

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. (Gn 2:7)

### Psalm:

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. (Ps 51)

### Second Reading:

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous. (Rom 5:19)

### Gospel:

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights. (Mt 4:1-2)

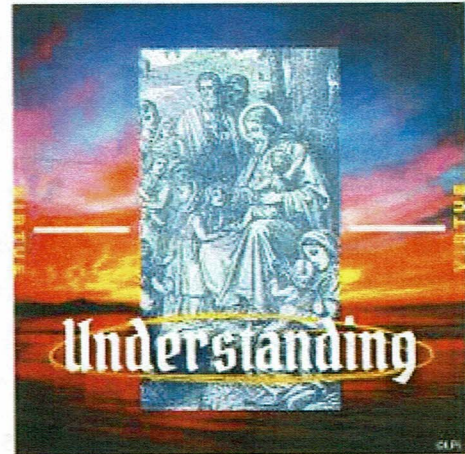
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997. International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Our Lord is so humble that he allows us to see him experience temptation. The vulnerability of this moment is awesome to behold. Let us learn from Jesus' interaction with the devil, and be transformed by it. Let us say, with him: "Get away, Satan."

## Observances for the week of February 22, 2026

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent  
**Monday:** St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr  
**Friday:** St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church  
**Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Lent



## Virtues, Explained!

Understanding is the "food" of faith. "I believe, in order to understand," said St. Augustine. We must constantly ask the Holy Spirit for greater and more profound understanding, for though understanding proceeds from faith, it in turn nourishes that faith.

## Lenten Blessing

Bless us in Your mercy, Lord, as we enter these 40 Days of Lent. Use this time to call, anoint, bind, strengthen, and inspire us anew. Like a good shepherd, teach us Your voice, and give us the strength to follow. Amen.

## IN REMEMBRANCE

*Sister Phyllis Vaske  
Mary Rogers  
James & Colleen Brooks  
James & Ruth Sayles  
Carmel & J.C. Thompson  
Willie & Dorothy Wilson*

*Gwen Monteilh Hammons  
Robert Musgrove  
James Madison & Espize Thierry Brooks  
Gary Randolph Davis  
Carmel Dennard  
Calvin 'Butch' Burton*

*Samuel West  
Mary Dawson  
Leo Sayles  
Don Terry Davis  
Marilyn Kay Troupe  
Danta Wilson*



- SILO Steel
- 1355 N Louisville Ave., Tulsa, OK 74115  
[www.silosteel.com](http://www.silosteel.com)
- Specialize in Structural Steel, Decorative Metals, Oil & Gas

Customers: Tulsa Botanic Garden, Tulsa Zoo, USPS, Zeeco



Sales Service Installs



**Murrell Heat And Air**

Licensed Bonded And Insured  
License #77020

P.O. Box 481126  
Tulsa OK 74148

[Murrellheatingandair@gmail.com](mailto:Murrellheatingandair@gmail.com)