Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen
What We Seek

How does a parish congregation of 400 begin the next chapter in its story? Grounded in our past and filled with anticipation of new growth, we want to engage and inspire current members, and draw new members into our faith family. St. Monica’s Naples seeks to call a creative, enlightened priest who would enjoy leading us into the future.

Our ambition is to find an experienced and energetic rector who will attract and welcome new members in all stages of life and who can direct our ministries and projects successfully. We envision dynamic worship opportunities and parish activities that are transformative and intergenerational. With an increasingly digitally connected congregation, we also envision programs that communicate with social media, website, and mobile applications to meet our members where they are when they are not in church. We hope that what our next rector creates here will become a model and an inspiration to the wider Church of effective ministry to family members of all ages in the 21st century.

We are a prayerful and inclusive community and we will invite our next rector to join us as we continue to embrace diversity. We are blessed with energetic, ambitious, and motivated parishioners who call St. Monica’s their spiritual home.

What we’re looking for at St. Monica’s Naples may surprise you, and in turn, we hope that you will surprise us.
What Our Next Rector Will Do

**LEAD WORSHIP AND PREACH** in a variety of styles and settings: Rite I and Rite II, with formal preaching and rich music; at the beach with dolphins and shorebirds joining our voices; at our less formal, more contemplative Healing Eucharist service in the Chapel; and in new settings at new times that help us and our members draw nearer to God in new ways.

**SHARE WITH LAY STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS** in pastoral care, weekday liturgies or services, home and hospital visits, and other rites of the Church.

**LEAD US IN SUPPORTING OUR NEW LATINO MINISTRY** by imagining and leading worship, educational activities, retreats, workshops, meetings, and social experiences for our growing Congregación Latina.

**LEAD AND PARTICIPATE WITH OUR VESTRY** in the day to day management of our facilities and congregation.

**BE ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS** that affect our faith community and ministries.

**PARTicipate in our constant self-examination:*** What are we doing now? What aren’t we doing? What could we do better? Who’s missing? Where is God calling us?

**HELP US TO DEEPEN RELATIONSHIPS** at St. Monica’s Naples, our spiritual home, and to ignite a contagious faith in all of us, so that we may inspire others and make meaningful connections as part of this community of charity, justice, and reconciliation.
OUR NEXT RECTOR WILL BE...

- Christ-centered;
- Energetic, passionate, and collaborative;
- Creative and digitally adept;
- Current in the latest resources in liturgy, music, and Christian Formation;
- Versatile, joyful, and flexible;
- Respectful of different opinions;
- Cooperative with lay staff in advancing our work in the community;
- Relational with children, youth, and families.

WE’D LOVE TO BE SURPRISED BY...

- Your sense of humor;
- Life experiences that have enriched you, enabled you to connect more deeply with people, and helped you see God’s grace at work;
- Engagement in the culture around you. What you are reading. What you do when you play or seek recharging. When you go out to dinner, what you seek in a restaurant;
- Your career so far. Did you have a first vocation? What brought you to the Church? How does this prepare you for the next chapter in your ministry, at St. Monica’s Naples?

WE INSIST THAT OUR NEW RECTOR...

- Have a contagious faith;
- Make family/friends a priority;
- Be willing to love our parish and love The Episcopal Church. Inherent in that love, we look for compassion, forgiveness, and understanding;
- Deliver sermons that not only challenge our intellect, but stir our hearts to respond to God’s call;
- Have a command of biblical history and scripture to share Christ’s message with us in informative, positive and encouraging ways. We enjoy humor and enlightenment in the way our rector shares Christ’s message with us;
- Be committed to self-care: have a spiritual director, be as devoted to emotional health as to physical health.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT US

- Over 80% of our members identify as year-round residents.
- Pets are welcome in our church office.
- A lot of good, fresh seafood is available in our area.
- We worship at the beach at least once a year.
- We bless our dogs, cats, birds, reptiles, rodents and any other companion animal at our St. Francis Sunday service in the sanctuary. Some of them sing along with us.
- We celebrate our seniors with a monthly 75+ Lunch Bunch.
- The average temperature in Naples is 75 degrees.
Who We Are

St. Monica’s is a parish with an average Sunday attendance of 205. Fewer than 20% of our parish members are part-time residents or “snow birds” from the north, including Canada. We have open hearts and open arms for all who enter and we constantly strive to improve our hospitality.

Our staff includes 1 priest and 5 lay staff.

We lease space to Heavenly Day Pre-school.

We also have numerous small group ministries that appeal to parishioners’ varied interests. These offer a wide-ranging array of opportunities for outreach, service and fellowship.

We are a neighborhood parish with most of our members driving short distances to our church for weekend services. A third of our members have attended St. Monica’s for 11 or more years; a third of our members have attended St. Monica’s for 5-10 years, and a third for 3 years or fewer.

A third of our members were raised in the Episcopal/Anglican tradition. Over half come from the Roman Catholic tradition. We have all found a true church home here where all are welcome.

Diocese of Southwest Florida

We are a constituent member of the worldwide Anglican Communion and The Episcopal Church in the United States. The Diocese of Southwest Florida’s 78 congregations total over 30,000 baptized persons who share an exciting pilgrimage of ministry and mission. The Diocese extends along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, from Brooksville in the north to Marco Island in the south.

The Rt. Rev. Dabney Tyler Smith was installed as Bishop in 2007, and in 2014 he was one of the four final candidates for Presiding Bishop.

The Diocesan offices and conference rooms are located at DaySpring, a beautifully wooded retreat and conference center. Our Diocese has a relatively low apportionment (10%) versus other dioceses in TEC. For more information, visit the website of the Diocese at www.episcopalswfl.org/
St. Monica’s history began in 1991 when it was formed as a mission of St. John’s Episcopal Church and the Naples Deanery. St. Monica’s first worship services were held in the community room of the North Collier Hospital and then in an office building near Valewood Drive and Immokalee Road.

On October 2, 1994, we held the first service in what is now our Parish Hall. In 2002, three classrooms were added to our formation wing. In 2006, the Chapel of the Holy Family was named and blessed. The icons of the Holy Family of Jesus and the Holy Family of St. Monica were commissioned and blessed at the same time.

Our first priest in 1994 was the Reverend John Adler and our recently retired rector, the Reverend Kathryn Schillreff, led our community for 17 years.

Our Campus

Late in 2005, our Vestry realized that we could not do the ministry God had called us to without more space. We began planning for the construction of our current worship space, which seats 180. The first worship was held there in July 2010. By then, we’d also added restrooms to two classrooms and enclosed a porch to create a library.

The future will bring completion of the newer building with modifications for a permanent worship space, music room, nursery, and welcoming and fellowship space. This phase of construction also includes plans for more classroom and office space as needed.

The preserve area outdoors, behind the classroom wing now contains a rustic garden, with stations for prayer and meditation. In addition, we have a beautiful Chapel Garden for burial of cremains including those of our beloved pets.
Our Location

Perched on the Gulf of Mexico in southwest Florida, Naples is well known for its resort atmosphere, world-class culture, and sophisticated dining. But it’s also a family destination that appeals to nature lovers and beach aficionados. The Greater Naples area has a population of over 250,000. The beach on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico is more than 10 miles (16 km) long and is known for its cleanliness and pristine white sand.

Tourism, especially eco-tourism, is a major industry. Audubon’s Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Rookery Bay, the Southwest Florida Conservancy, the Naples Botanical Garden, and the Naples Zoo are all huge draws for tourists to our area, and for our residents as well. The Naples Municipal Airport and Southwest Florida International Airport serve our travelers. Cultural activities include the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra concerts and others at Artis-Naples, the Baker Art Museum and over 100 art galleries. Naples is home to the Naples Players, Opera Naples, Theatre Zone, and the Gulfshore Playhouse.
Current Snapshot

- 62% of our members are over 65.
- 30% are 45-64 years old.
- We enthusiastically support an active Latino Congregation worshiping in Spanish.
- Over 75% of our members hold college or graduate degrees.
- Over 60% are retired.
- Over 30% work full or part-time.
- 63% are female, representing the age range of our congregation.
- We prayerfully invite all seekers, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or country of origin.
Congregational Life

St. Monica’s is Broad Church in style, centered on two Rite II services, and also a Rite I service, a Latino service with contemporary flair, and a contemplative prayer on Wednesdays at 11 a.m., followed by a less formal, more contemplative healing service in the chapel at 12 noon. Each service includes Holy Eucharist. We also celebrate Morning Prayer on Fridays at 8:30 a.m. We have a variety of educational and social activities throughout the week and host a number of local organizations on campus.

Aqui se habla Espanol. We have confirmed members from Argentina, Cuba, Colombia, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, and Venezuela, as well as Latinos born here in the United States. Most are young, professional, and bilingual. We are the only Episcopal church offering a Spanish language worship service and fellowship in the Naples Deanery.

We tend to be a theologically and socially liberal community.

A Night in Olde Napoli is our annual fundraiser. We enjoy a wonderful Italian-themed dinner at nearby The Club at Olde Cypress, with silent and live auctions adding to the fun and proceeds. Our annual meeting is usually a themed dinner in the parish hall, and we kick off the educational year with a Latina Fiesta.

We have active Women of St. Monica’s and Men of St. Monica’s groups, which meet monthly on campus as well.
The Music at St. Monica’s

The role of music in worship is that of Servant of the Liturgy. Our music programs are under the direction of Dr. Ron Doiron, supported by the St. Monica’s Friends of Music. St. Monica’s owns a set of 43 Malmark handbells and a set of 24 Malmark hand chimes. Our worship is graced with a Handbell Choir, in addition to our Adult Choir, with four staff section leaders.

**Congregación Latina**

“As a leader in the Latino Congregation I must say that everyone, and especially the Spanish speaking people in Naples, acknowledge that we’re here to serve all human beings. The doors of St. Monica’s Episcopal Church are always open to everyone, without distinction. We believe in Jesus’ radical inclusiveness. This proclamation we make is much more than an institutional policy and more profound and compelling than a comfortable statement; indeed, all are welcome in this place, because the love of Jesus never closes the doors.”

*Padre Hipolito*

Several years ago, our former rector and several lay leaders acknowledged that there were thousands of Spanish speaking residents within a 20 minute drive of St. Monica’s. A number of events underscored their understanding that the church was ideally situated in many ways to offer an opportunity to those local residents to worship and pray together in their first language. After much consideration, a bilingual-bicultural Latino priest from the Dominican Republic was called to be our Associate Rector. The parish members support the presence and activities of our Latino Congregation and we have integrated those new members into our parish family. We are not two congregations, one Anglo and one Latino. We are one congregation, with some members choosing to worship in Spanish.

Our Latino ministry continues to evolve. We pray that our new rector will have ideas on how to build on our original plan. We do not require Spanish language skills, but we hope our new rector will bring a willingness to learn Spanish and to support our growing Latino congregation.
St. Monica’s Youth

Our youth have traveled to Italy, Ireland, Scotland, England, and Greece on their pilgrimages to adulthood. We have small but active groups in the Rite-13, J2A and YAC programs, which are described on our website at http://www.stmonicasnaples.org/ministries/learning/teen-learning/. Godly Play, for children ages 3 through 4th graders and the Tweens Class round out our Sunday School for the youth.

Our 2017 Vacation Bible School will be a Music Camp for grades 1-8, organized and led by our music director, Dr. Ron Doiron.
Outreach/Partnership Activities

St. Monica’s is known for active involvement with many local organizations that provide food, shelter, and protection to adults and children. Visit our website at http://www.stmonicasnaples.org/caring-families-children/ for a complete description. We actively support over 80 social service organizations, from Baby Basics to Avow Hospice, assisting those in need from infancy through end of life. Our members actively support Meals of Hope, the Guadalupe Soup Kitchen, St. Matthew’s House, The Shelter for Abused Women and Children, and Habitat for Humanity among many others.
Each October, for the last 8 years, we sell pumpkins, through an alliance with a Navaho Indian group, at our Pumpkin Patch, which provides financial support for our youth programs as well as our operating fund. Families from all over Collier County come to Pumpkin Fest, held on the third weekend of October. Bounce houses, rock-climbing walls, petting zoo, pony rides, and face-painting are available and lunch items are sold for on-site picnics. St. Monica’s Pumpkin Patch and Pumpkin Fest are wonderful opportunities to open our church home to young and old in the area.

Internationally, we support the Albergue Infantil el Buen Samaritano in the Dominican Republic, the Tumaini Fund for Tanzania, and Miracles in Action.

We are proud to be known as a Giving and Helping faith community.

Heavenly Day Pre-School

Laura Rodrigues and her Heavenly Day Pre-School contracts for classroom and common area space for 30+ children ages 2-5. She and her certified pre-school teachers provide safe and dependable care and stimulating educational opportunities in a Christian environment. We support the presence and activities of the Heavenly Day Pre-school students at St. Monica’s. For more information, please visit https://www.facebook.com/heavenlyday/preschool.
The Healing Ministry at St. Monica’s is an active source of spiritually centered healing. Stephen Ministers and members of our Healing Team administer the ancient, traditional laying on of hands and anointing with holy oils, accompanied by prayers to anyone seeking a healing experience. Every Wednesday at noon we offer a Healing Eucharist service in the Chapel of the Holy Family.
Our Budget

The 2017 balanced budget at St. Monica’s is $549,551 with $396,800 in pledges. Our total assets are about $3,463,590.00. St. Monica’s Endowment fund is relatively new, but is growing and now has about $40,000.

Governance

St. Monica’s Vestry is a dedicated 10-member committee, including a youth representative. Each member is elected to a three-year term. The Rector appoints a senior warden. The Vestry selects a junior warden, treasurer and recording secretary.
Our Challenges and Hopes

Among our most pressing concerns:

❖ attracting young families with children;
❖ engaging our current members;
❖ finding financial stability;
❖ continuing to support our Congregación Latina;
❖ providing welcome to ethnically diverse families in our area.

We hope to:

❖ continue to grow in numbers;
❖ launch a future campaign to complete our interrupted building project;
❖ continue to provide a meaningful journey to seniors and youth members;
❖ enjoy everyone in our church family;
❖ nurture our music program;
❖ grow our reputation as a helping and giving community a safe world for all people.
Participate In Our Search

Thank you for your interest in St. Monica’s search for a new Rector. If, after reviewing this information, you feel called to enter into a process of mutual discernment with us, please follow the application process found on page 18.
Application Process

Please submit the following materials:

1. Resumé/CV
2. A copy of your updated OTM profile
3. A letter of interest that highlights how you feel you meet the needs of St. Monica’s and why you may be called to serve as our Rector
4. Letters of reference from three people, one clergy, one lay, and one either clergy or lay who is not supervised by you and who is not related to you. Please ask your references to read our materials, then focus their comments on what it is in your life and ministry that makes you a good candidate for this unique call.
5. The Search Committee and the Vestry request that finalists respond to the following questions:
   - What are the demographics of your present congregation and what have you done to tailor your ministry to your parish? What have you done to embrace inclusiveness and diversity? Please discuss specifics regarding youth and young families, ethnic groups, and the LGBT community.
   - Please describe your management style: how you manage the leadership, work, and performance of your staff members and the vestry. What is your experience with the financial stewardship of your parish?
   - Describe your preaching style as perceived by yourself and your members. How do you deliver the message of Christ in your worship services? How do you approach planning a Sunday liturgy? Include a written or audio copy of a recent sermon.
   - What has been your experience in a new parish? How do you plan to communicate changes you might make? What did you learn from your last parish about making changes in worship service, staff, financial stewardship, programs, and other aspects of parish life?

Please email all documents in PDF format to:

The Rev. Canon Michael Durning  
Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida  
Email: MDurning@EpiscopalSWFL.org  
Questions: 941-556-0315
Search Timetable

Mid-August to Mid-September, 2017  
Candidate application materials accepted by Diocesan Transition Office

Late September, 2017  
Approved candidate list submitted to Search Committee by Diocesan Transition Office

Early October to Early November, 2017  
Search Committee reviews candidate materials (including reference checks)

Early to Mid-November, 2017  
Candidate telephone interviews

Mid to Late November, 2017  
Search Committee provides Vestry with final candidate list

Early to Mid-December, 2017  
Vestry will conduct on-site interviews

Mid to Late December, 2017  
Final candidate submitted to Bishop for consent

Early to Mid-January, 2018  
Welcome the new Rector and celebrate the new ministry

Where Christ’s Light Shines