

# NOVENA PRAYER

August 18 – August 26, 2022



We pray for all God's people currently absent from our Church and who have fallen away from their faith. May the Holy Spirit open their ears and hearts so they may hear this invitation to come home.

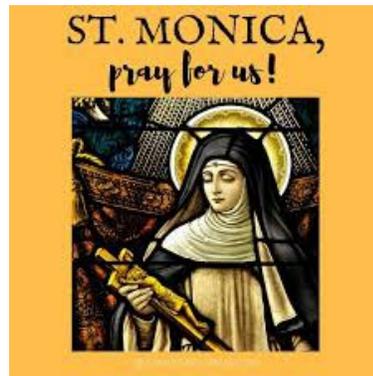
St. Monica, exemplary mother of the Great Augustine, you perseveringly pursued your wayward son with prayerful cries to heaven, your lived faith and witness to the Catholic faith, and encouragement. Intercede for all mothers and fathers in our day so that parents may draw their children to God.

Teach us to remain close to all God's children, even the prodigal sons and daughters who have sadly fallen away from the Church.

Dear St. Monica, wife and mother, many sorrows pierced your heart during your lifetime. Yet, you never despaired or lost faith. With confidence, persistence, and profound faith, you prayed daily for the conversion of your beloved husband, Patricius and your beloved son, Augustine.

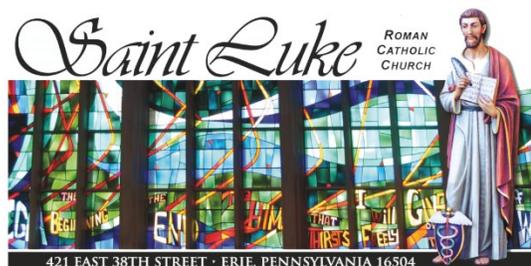
Grant me that same fortitude, patience, and trust in the Lord. Intercede for me, dear St. Monica, that God may favorably hear my plea for (names of those you are praying for) and grant me the grace to accept His will in all things, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen.

Pray 3 Hail Mary and 3 Glory Be  
St. Monica, pray for us!  
St. Augustine, pray for us!



St. Monica, mother of Saint Augustine of Hippo St. Monica was born into a Christian family in Tagaste, Algeria, across the Mediterranean Sea from Rome, in 332 AD. She married a pagan, a minor Roman government official named Patricius. Christians were few and far between in those days. The marriage was blessed with three children; the oldest and most famous was Augustine. Patricius was not a model husband, yet Monica prayed ceaselessly for his conversion. Her sweet piety, patience, and persistence paid off. One day, Patricius accepted baptism, but he died a year after. Her son Augustine was a constant concern for Monica. Brilliant and likable, Augustine followed the example of his father. He refused to accept baptism and lived a passionate life with his mistress. For years Monica prayed, fasted, and cried silently for Augustine. God was listening. He heard and answered these prayers of this faithful mother. Augustine, abandoning his sinful ways, accepted baptism from St. Ambrose of Milan, on Easter Sunday, 387 AD. Augustine's mother, St. Monica, died shortly after at the age of 55, secure in the knowledge that her son had heard God's call and her work on earth was finished.

Her feast is celebrated on August 27.  
The feast of St. Augustine is on August 28.



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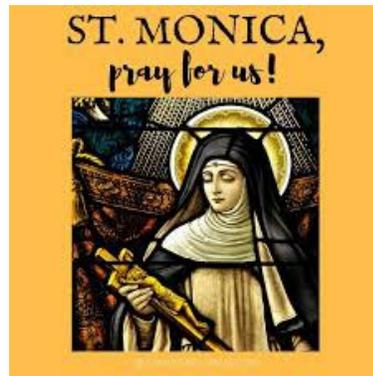
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