

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

APR 07

2024

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



The Great Parable of Divine Mercy

In the letter to the Hebrews there is a wonderful verse that speaks of Scripture saying that “the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart.” (Heb 4:12)

Whenever I hear or read that verse the great parable of the prodigal son comes immediately to mind. In the 15th chapter of his Gospel, St. Luke actually recounts three parables of divine mercy which Jesus told to the Pharisees and the scribes who were offended that tax collectors and sinners were so drawn to him.

It may have been that the Pharisees and scribes were unmoved by the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin; we know these particular Pharisees and scribes for their hardness of heart. Jesus continued then to tell them the parable of the son who leaves his father’s home.

Is it possible to be unmoved by the parable of the prodigal son? Isn’t the parable of the prodigal son living and effective? Doesn’t it penetrate even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow? It goes right to our hearts.

In the first volume of *Jesus of Nazareth* Pope Benedict XVI writes that it would be more accurate to title it the *The Parable of the Two Brothers (the Prodigal Son and the Son Who Remained at Home) and the Good Father*.

We know the parable well. “A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.’ So the father divided the property between them. . . .” The father gives freedom. The son journeys to a distant country where he squanders his inheritance on a life of dissipation. This son sinks low.

Pope Benedict notes that the Greek word used for property means “essence” in the vocabulary of Greek philosophy; the son squanders “his essence,” himself. He becomes totally enslaved. Far away from his father’s home he lost true freedom; he lost himself. In his anguish he realizes this and has a change of heart. He came to himself; he came to be who he truly is. He decides to return to his father.

The father saw the son from far off, ran to him, embraced him and kissed him. “His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.’ ”His son had found the way to true freedom; he had risen from the dead. The father ordered a feast and celebration, an image of the Eucharist.

The father also went out to meet the son who had remained at home and was bitter at his father’s forgiveness. “He said to him, ‘My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’”

Who but God could have told such a story? Doesn’t it penetrate our heart? Such is Divine Mercy.

We think of the times we have been prodigal. We think of our jealous bitterness in times of joyful forgiveness. And thankfully through the divine life given to us in the sacraments we also have the grace to be like the Father. Such is Divine Mercy.

St. Luke is the only evangelist who recounts the parable of the prodigal son. He addresses his Gospel to Theophilus, which means friend of God; we know that we are. To St. Luke we owe a debt of gratitude.

St. Luke, pray for us.
Pope St. John Paul II, pray for us. St. Faustina, pray for us.
Jesus, I trust in you.

Deacon John Pierce



ST. LUCY EASTER FLOWERS

Theresa & Robert Lynch Perry, Clara, Steven & Beverly Autiello Janet Szostak Mrs. Concetta D. Bella Mr. Alfred Bella Angela M. Bella Maria Arasi Lois & Dick Belanger Albina & Filippo Bonvino Aurora Berthiume Vito & Giuseppina Cunsolo Sam & Mary Alaimo Donat Mailloux Rita Lalime Lucille Guimond Angelo & Laura Chester Anthony & Joanne Fraini Joseph Kazanjian John & Grace Mulligan Oscar Lemieux Babij Family Starek Family Ryan Thistle Taryn Spinazzola Lisa McIntosh Felicia Giglio Salvatore Giglio Vincenzo & Isabella Dadducci Vincenzo & Vinzenzina Meli Paul & Toni Meli Deceased Members of the Covey Family Deceased Members of the Petralia Family McEnany Family Fr. Angelo Loscocco Sr. Rina Brunetti The Comei-Martin Family Albert & Nora Wnek Broadhurst Family	Morin Family Edward Leyland Don Silvia Paul Paskowski Dominick Campone & Family Rotonelli Family Bevilacqua Family Sguelgia Family Maimone Family The Landry Family Eileen Lannon Diane Farelli Betty Casale Hickey Family Real Taschereau Gerard Taschereau Bertrand LeBlanc Ralph Belmonte Amelia Bucci James Hajjar Adeline & Peter DiBurro Carmine & Jennie Parolisi Deceased Members of the Hajjar Family Deceased Members of the Parolisi Family The Koralishn Family The Taormina Family Manny Gianni Christine Gianni Eldridge Gianni & Parolisi Families Alice & Bruce Beverley Paula Nichols Mark Nichols Susan McGee Gordon & Carol Arkley Peter Salayko Anthony & Lucy Galluccio Alfio & Venerina Coco Giacomo & Angelina Galluccio Ted & Eileen Baranowski	Richard Kenny Robert Mullin James Tiberio Lisa MacLean Richard Family Broadhurst Family Richard Bazarian Geno & Ann Pelosi Kathie Espinola M/M James J. Burke Dr. James J. Burke, Jr. M/M Walter Vignault Victor & Lena Andreoli Douglas Hamel In Honor of The Crew Andrew & Isabel Mulvaney Gertrude & Joseph Reardon, Sr. Margaret & William Kallery Phylliss & Joseph Reardon, Jr. Maureen & James Reynolds Mary Reardon Bill Ford Dick Coughlin Tony Comei William Burns Gaetano Milia Blanche Milia Elaina Nye Linda Hale Richard Rogers Robert Coleman Anna Coleman Ann Coleman Donald Coleman Chandra Coleman Viger Family Angelina Danella Mauro Danella Angelo Danella Joseph Danella	Santa Shea Stephanie Torla Bruno Torla Eva Moreau Henry Moreau Jennie & Vito Milone Corteze & Rizzo Families M/M William Hoh M/M Robert Foote Dorothy Horgan Peter Foote Joseph Caiado M/M Leo Blais M/M Michael Dailey, Sr. Mrs. Doris Dailey Mrs. Margaret Underhill Mrs. Sharon Dailey Mr. James Finnegan Deceased Members of the Carpenito Family Joseph Hg Van Han The Souls Who Need Most of Jesus' Mercy M/M Sam D'Agostino M/M Alfred Caron Alfio Greco Vito & Giuseppina Cunsolo Giuseppe Sangiorgio Deceased Members of the Consoli Family Deceased Members of the Koralishn Family Sandra Bouchard Gaston & Germaine Ouellette Richard & Germaine Letourneau Emile & Claire Bouchard James & Claire McDermott James & Thelma McDermott Kimberley McDermott Alfreda Skop	Joseph & Josephine Skop Olindo & Carmina Longo Hector & Millie Longo Stanley Jarosz & Family John Chmielecki Julia & Edward Gustowski Sarah & Sam Privitera Irene & Omer LaPointe Privitera Family Patricia & Ray Sullivan Chiara Family LaPointe Family Joseph S. Augeri Joseph & Mary Augeri Alexander & Rose D'Urso John & Louise Salmi The Carey Family The Dugan Family The Knox Family The Foster Family William Ward James J. Battye Engus & Julia Puglise Theresa & Joe DiCenzo James & Iracena Leal Daniel Curran III Joseph Mendes Salvatore D'Urso In loving memory of my father Stackelin Karpowicz Family John Fitzpatrick John Fitzpatrick, Jr. The Cortese & Rizzo Families Paula, Evelyn & Thomas Dolan Joseph A. Sciacca, Sr. Deceased Members of the Rivas & Hebert Families
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ST. MONICA EASTER FLOWERS



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| Michael Jabour | Mary Walsh | In Memory of All Our | Vincenza & Alberto | Henry, Ruth |
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| Ray Dupuis | Donald Michalski | Pellegrino Family | the St. Pierre Family | Dorothy Miranowicz |
| Eva Bernier | James & Maxine Moore | Mary & Joseph Pelosi | Deceased Members of | Francis Gaudet |
| Marlene Godin | Adam & Ann Michalski | John Pelosi | of the Boush Family | Theresa Gaudet |
| Pauline Dowling | All Souls in Purgatory | Rocco & Helen Pelosi | Deceased Members of | Yvonne Landry |
| Paul Dupuis | All I'm Praying for | Albert & Cecile Stevenin | the Wieszeck Family | Bresnahan & Wrenn |
| Ed Dupuis | Connie & Albert Zampelli | Rose & Salvatore Filetti | Deceased Members of | Families |
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| Thomas J. Griffin, Jr. | Gloria & Arthur Royer | Charles Corsaro | Deceased Members of | |
| Addison Melissa Lewis | Mary & Andre Serpa | Joseph & Eva Corsaro | of the Romeo Family | |
| Mary O. Houlihan | Santo & Theresa Cavallaro | Alexander & Winifred | | |



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
followed by
WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Wednesday, April 10th
6-8pm
St. Lucy Church

The Knights of Columbus will be leading a Monthly Rosary for St. Monica School Parents in the Chapel on Wednesdays, April 10, May 8 and June 5 or 12.

All parents of students are welcome to attend prior to picking up their children from school. The Rosary will begin at 1:15pm, prior to school dismissal. Rosary prayer cards will be provided. Come by and pray for your own personal intentions!

The Parish Offices will be CLOSED on Monday, April 15 in observance of Patriots' Day.



**DIVINE MERCY
SUNDAY
APRIL 7th**

Celebrate with us with a service at St. Monica Church beginning at 2pm.

- ◆ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- ◆ Recitation of the Rosary
- ◆ The Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- ◆ Confessions
- ◆ Veneration of the image of Divine Mercy

The Knights of Columbus Men’s Group will be reviewing the book “What Makes Us Catholic” by Thomas H. Groome on Wednesdays, March 13, April 10 & May 8 at 7pm.

Men of the parish are encouraged to join us!

Contact Bob Beaudry at ERBeaudry@aol.com if interested in participating, and for more details.

Scripture Classes - Epistle to the ROMANS
April 18, 20, 25, 27 May 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18

Classes are held in St. Lucy Schoolhouse at 2:30 on Thursdays and repeated on Saturdays at 2:30.

For questions or to register call 978-683-8138 or email rachelvoiland@comcast.net

Bibles will be provided for your use

MARRIAGE BANNS

Second Banns of Marriage

Matthew Campbell & Jennie Perron



THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD - APRIL 8



Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.

Luke 1: 38

ST. MONICA SCHOOL PRESENTS:
FINDING NEMO JR.



Wednesday, April 10th

Thursday April 11th

at 7:00 P.M.

at Methuen Memorial Music Hall

Tickets are \$15 each



Please contact the school office for ticket information.

978-686-1801

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- ☑ Talks by guest speakers
- ☑ Engaging, upbeat music
- ☑ Small group discussions
- ☑ Connecting with other peers

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July 26-28

Mass Mutual Center - Springfield, MA

\$50 deposit DUE APRIL 8TH

Contact Information:

To sign up or for more information please contact
Sandra Freitas
sandrafreitas613@gmail.com
978-376-7309



HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS

Please join us for refreshments

Sunday, April 7th

St. Monica School Hall
After the 9am mass

Sunday, April 21st

St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
After the 10:30am mass

OFFERTORY MARCH 23 & 24

St. Monica - \$8,458.⁰⁰

St. Lucy - \$4,885.⁰⁰

Weekly Offertory needed to sustain parish operations: St. Monica - \$10,000 | St. Lucy - \$6,000

Thank you for your continued generous contribution to the mission of our parishes.



Yes, I CAN... We are in need of canned pasta, baked beans, mashed potatoes, jelly, pasta sauce, pancake syrup, canned fruit, instant rice & soups. Donations can be dropped off anytime at the entrances to St. Lucy Church and the side door of Gethsemane Chapel at St. Monica Church.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com.

<p>GETHSEMANE CHAPEL AT ST. MONICA CHURCH Open 7 days/week from morning rush hour until 7pm</p>	<p>CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE Open Mon-Fri 9am-7pm , Sat & Sun 9am-5pm</p>
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BAPTISMS 2nd Sunday of the month, 2:00pm at St. Monica's | 3rd Sunday of the month, 2:00pm at St. Lucy's
Please call the Parish Offices at least 2 months in advance to schedule.

MARRIAGES Please call the Parish Offices at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date and before booking a reception hall.

<p>MASS SCHEDULE</p> <p>SAT 4 pm (VIGIL) both parishes SUN 9 am & 12 pm St. Monica 10:30 am St. Lucy MON/TUES/THURS/FRI 9 am St. Lucy SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica</p>	<p>CONFESSIONS</p> <p>SAT 3-3:45pm at both parishes</p>
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METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

PARISH OFFICES

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844
978.683.1193
www.methuencatholic.org
Hours: M - F 9am - 2pm



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
978.686.9573

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Darin Colarusso	Pastor
Fr. Michael Harvey	Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Kobrenski	Permanent Deacon
Deacon John Pierce	Senior Deacon
Kera Mansour	Business Manager
methuencatholic@gmail.com	
Karl Jackson	Director of Parish Life
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com	
Brink Bush	Music Director
Kevin Fitzgerald	Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA
Christine Ryan	Administrative Assistant
parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com	



ST. MONICA SCHOOL
212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA 01844
(978) 686 -1801
www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org

SCHOOL STAFF

Donna Henderson	Principal
Pam Silveira	Administrative Assistant
smsoffice@methuencatholic.org	

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*1 Peter 2: 2*

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk,
that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

ENTRANCE HYMN*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to-day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3. But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia!



1. Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2. Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
3. Our sal - va - tion have pro-cured, Al - le - lu - ia!



1. Who did once up-on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
2. Who en-dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
3. Now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!



1. Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
2. Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
3. Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!

PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA*Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Acts 4: 32-35*

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 118: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24*

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is ev-er-last - ing.

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever."
Let those who fear the LORD say, "His mercy endures forever."

I was hard pressed and was falling, but the LORD helped me. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my savior. The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD this has been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. This is the day the LORD has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

SECOND READING*1 John 5: 1-6*

Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*John 20: 29*

☩. You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord;
Blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

GOSPEL*John 20: 19-31*

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

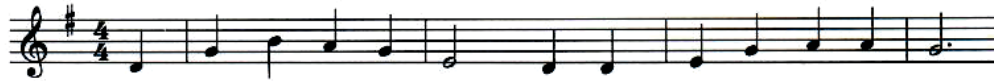
COMMUNION ANTIPHON*John 20: 27*

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle,
be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him we humbly pray;
and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



COMMUNION HYMN*O Sacrament Most Holy*

1. O Je - sus, we a - dore you, Who in your love di - vine,
2. O Je - sus, we a - dore you, Our vic - tim and our priest,
3. O Je - sus, we a - dore you, Our Sav - ior and our King,
4. O Je - sus, we a - dore you; Come, live in us, we pray,
5. O come, all you who la - bor In sor - row and in pain;



Con - ceal your might - y God - head In forms of bread and wine.
 Whose pre - cious blood and bod - y Be - come our sa - cred feast.
 And with the saints and an - gels Our hum - ble hom - age bring.
 That all our thoughts and ac - tions Be yours a - lone to - day.
 Come, eat this bread from heav - en; Your peace and strength re - gain.



O sac - ra - ment most ho - ly, O sac - ra - ment di - vine,



All praise and all thanks - giv - ing Be ev - 'ry mo - ment thine!

RECESSIONAL HYMN*At the Lamb's High Feast*

1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our vic -
2. Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dark an - gel
3. Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, Sin a - lone can



1. to - rious King, He has washed us in the tide
2. sheathes his sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
3. this de - stroy; From sin's pow'r do thou set free



1. Flow - ing from his o - pen side; Praise we him, whose
2. Through the wave that drowns the foe. Praise we Christ, whose
3. Souls new - born, O Lord, in thee. Hymns of glo - ry,



1. love di - vine Gives his sa - cred Blood for wine, Gives his
2. blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread; With sin -
3. songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise: Ris - en



1. Bod - y for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.
2. cer - i - ty and love Eat we man - na from a - bove.
3. Lord, all praise to thee With the Spir - it ev - er be.

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, April 6

9:00am FIRST SATURDAY MASS
4:00pm Roland Beaudoin

Sunday, April 7 - DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

9:00am Vincent Jablonski
Yvonne & Harry Costa
Doris Mack
Eleanor Coogan
Jim Gablosky
Norman Rainville, Jr.

12:00pm Richard Curtis

Saturday, April 13

9:00am Martin & Timothy Maher
4:00pm For the Parishioners of
St. Monica & St. Lucy

Sunday, April 14

9:00am Deceased Members of the Cutuli Family
12:00pm Angelina Bencivenga

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	03/31/24	Pope Francis	Max Muenke
Mon	04/01/24	Fr. Pablo Gomis	Luca Contini
Tues	04/02/24	Fr. Kevin Leaver	Miguel Angel DeLoera
Wed	04/03/24	Fr. Godfrey Musabe	Kyle Ellis
Thurs	04/04/24	Fr. Maciej Araszkiwicz	Thiago Mesquita deSousa
Fri	04/05/24	Fr. David Brogan	Matthew Thoni
Sat	04/06/24	Fr. Daniel Moloney	Giovanni Trimboli

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, April 6

4:00pm Diane L. Farelli

Sunday, April 7 - DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

10:30am For the Parishioners of
St. Monica & St. Lucy

Monday, April 8

9:00am Christine Kattar

Tuesday, April 9

9:00am Paula Thompson

Thursday, April 11

9:00am Richard G. Ferguson

Friday, April 12

9:00am Jeffrey Lannon

Saturday, April 13

4:00pm Michael Kenny, Jr.
Robert Mullen, Jr.
Ann Kenny

Sunday, April 14

10:30am Deceased Members of the BVM Sodality
Juana Sanchez
Deceased Members of the Maggio,
Grelle & Cafiso Families
Walter Charles



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Leo L., Richard D., Maureen S., Gary R. Eddie R., Susana M., Joyce M., Donna V., Sharon P., Alan P., Joe V., Michelle O., Nora N., Brian J., Bill R., & Patrice K.

Please pray for Ellen Mailloux whose funeral we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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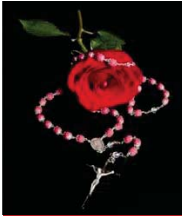


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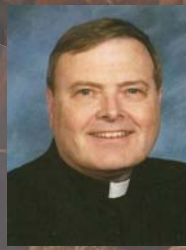
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