

# METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

FEB 25  
2024



Photo: Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

### THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them;  
from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Mark 9:7

## Blessed Mary, a disciple in prayer

We began the 40 days of Lent on Ash Wednesday reading from St. Matthew's Gospel. There in the Sermon on the Mount Our Lord said to his disciples, ". . . when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you." Jesus prays in this way frequently, rising very early before dawn to seek out a deserted place to pray. In this he teaches his disciples throughout the ages an essential way of prayer.

But in his humanity who would have taught Our Lord this way of prayer? Our Blessed Mother is the model of a disciple in prayer and our mother who teaches prayer.

Pope Benedict XVI has written, "The stages of Mary's path, from the house of Nazareth via the Cross, where her Son entrusted her to the Apostle John, to the house in Jerusalem, are marked by the capacity to preserve an atmosphere of persevering recollection in order to meditate on each event in the silence of her heart, before God (cf. Lk 2: 19-51), and, in meditation before God, also to understand the will of God and to become capable of accepting it interiorly."

In life we have anxiety about what the future holds; we can be uncertain as to the course that we should take and what might happen on the way. And even in the lesser decisions of ordinary day-to-day life we wonder just what to say or to do as events unfold in our lives.

Our Blessed Mother gives us the example of preserving an atmosphere of *persevering recollection* beginning in the house in Nazareth in her desire to do God's will: how to reconcile her desire to be a virgin totally dedicated to God and at the same time to be a mother. She waits in the inner room, not taking matters into her own hands, but listening to God. And then the angel Gabriel.

Mary accepted what the angel said, but she also asked for a little more light, just enough to take the next step. She didn't need to know everything in advance. "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" In our lives we can often ask how will we do this? How do we fulfill our vocations?

We too keep all these things, reflecting on them in our hearts.

There are many deserted places to pray as the inner room of our heart is the center of our being in our homes, in our cars, in crowded streets, and in quiet chapels and churches; we pray always in the inner room of the heart.

As the 40 days unfold let's pray, asking for a little more light, just enough to take the next step on the Way.

Mary, mother of grace, mother of mercy, in life, in death, protect us, Our Lady.

## Mariology Class

Thursday evenings | February 15 - March 21 | 7-8pm | St. Monica Church

Lent is a time for spiritual enrichment. Please join us for a Mariology Class, a follow-up to last year's Christology Class. We will study the Blessed Virgin Mary in the life of the Church.

The Class will be taught by Fr. Colarusso

To register or if you have questions, contact Karl at [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com) or 978-683-1193 ext 35

**SECOND COLLECTION****SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD**

This week's second collection will support the Church in those underdeveloped areas of the world where there are insufficient resources for evangelization and formation. Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the Church in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe and three important national Catholic missions: The Military Archdiocese, Home Missions, and the Black and Indian Missions. Your generosity to this collection will help fund the spiritual, educational and humanitarian needs of the Church around the world. For more information about each of these organizations go to their websites:

1. CRS: [www.uscc.org/catholic-relief](http://www.uscc.org/catholic-relief);
2. Church in Africa: [www.usccb.org/africa](http://www.usccb.org/africa)
3. Church in Central and Eastern Europe: [www.usccb.org/ccee](http://www.usccb.org/ccee)
4. Military Archdiocese: [www.milarch.org](http://www.milarch.org)
5. Catholic Home Missions: [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions)
6. Black and Indian Missions: <https://blackandindianmission.org/>

**HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS**

Please join us for refreshments

**Sunday, February 25th**

St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

After the 10:30am mass

**Sunday, March 3rd**

St. Monica School Hall

After the 9am mass



St. Monica School is looking for volunteers from our parish to read to a classroom for Community Reading Day at our school on Friday, March 1st from 9-9:30am. We need 10 volunteers! We have plenty of short stories to choose from or you could bring your personal favorite!!

Please call Mrs. Nancy Michaud at 978-794-9247 if you would like to volunteer!

Light refreshments will be provided.



The annual observance of Lent

is the special season for the ascent to the holy mountain of Easter.

- Ceremonial of Bishops

**LENTEN CALENDAR**

**TUESDAYS** | Rosary 6-6:30pm | Gethsemane Chapel

**WEDNESDAYS** | Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet 9:30-11am | Zoom

Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm | St. Lucy Church

**THURSDAYS** | Mariology Class 7-8pm | St. Monica Church

Rosary 6-6:30pm | Zoom

**FRIDAYS** | Stations of the Cross followed by Pizza 6-7pm | St. Lucy Church

**SATURDAYS** | Eucharistic Adoration 9:30am-2:30pm | Gethsemane Chapel

to connect with our groups on Zoom

contact Bonnie Doherty at [bonnieocds@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieocds@gmail.com)

**ULTREYA**

Tuesday, February 27th 7 - 8:30 PM | St. Lucy Church Hall | All Are Welcome!

Ultreya...this Spanish word means "Onward!" "Persevere!" "Hang in There!"...words of encouragement to each other as we travel on life's journey. Ultreya this month will be begin with Prayer Service and singing and includes voluntary sharing in small intimate and confidential groups, fellowship and refreshments that signify Christian hospitality. Our guest speaker this month, David Sheehan, will offer a personal witness of what life was like before Cursillo and how it is now after the Cursillo experience. Come support our dear friend.

**All parishioners** are invited to come and share in this monthly evening of praise and worship. Please feel free to **invite a friend** to join you!

**New Homeschooling Models Conversation!**

As the number of homeschooling families have increased significantly in recent years, many Catholic parents are seeking new models to establish community & formation for their children.

Parents interested in a discussion & sharing ideas on possible future models are invited to a Town Hall Meeting on Monday, 3/4/24 from 7:00-8:00pm, hosted at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 311 River Street, Waltham, MA 02453.

Fr. Ed Riley, Liaison to Homeschooling Families for the Archdiocese of Boston will moderate our discussion. For questions or more information, please email: [eriley@rcab.org](mailto:eriley@rcab.org).



**St Patrick's Dinner**  
**Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:30-9:00**  
**St Lucy's Lower Church Hall**

K of C will be selling tickets after all masses at St. Monica & St. Lucy on Feb 24/25 and Mar 2/3  
 Tickets are \$35 ea. Tables of 10 can be reserved.  
 Please contact Kevin Quinn at 978-618-3499 with questions.

# YOUR DONATION IS DOUBLED



ANOTHER generous donor has offered to match every gift made to the Grand Annual at St. Monica's, up to \$5,000. If you have been considering making a gift or making another gift, now is the time.

For every \$1 you give, we receive \$2.

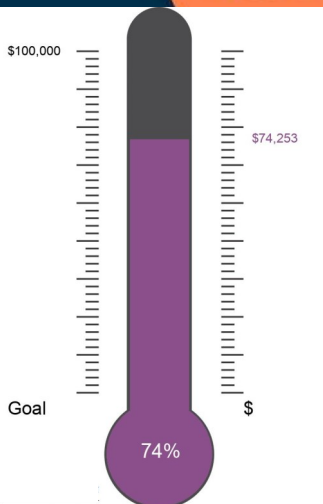
**Double your impact.**

**THANK YOU!**

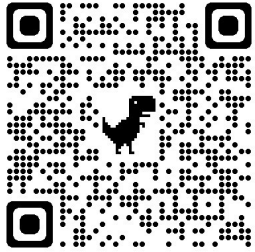


## GRAND ANNUAL

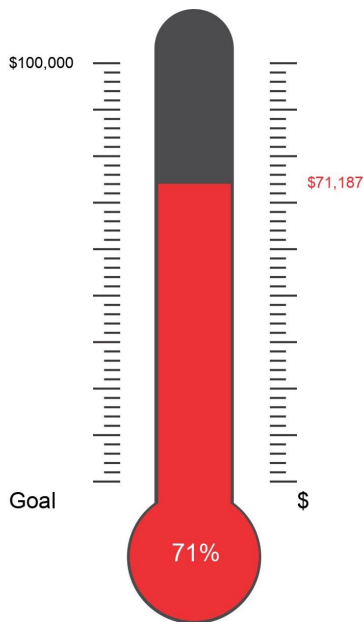
St. Monica Parish



# St. Lucy Grand Annual



## GIVE



# ADORE



**Adoration**  
**Confession**  
**Guest Speaker**  
**Live worship music by**  
**Mike McDuffee**

**St. Lucy Church**  
 254 Merrimack St  
 Methuen, MA

**Wednesday, February 28th**  
**6:00-8:00 PM**



**Mike McDuffee** has been leading worship in the Catholic Church since he was 12 years old. He currently lives in Lynnfield with his wife and four children and serves as the campus minister of St. Mary's School in Lynn, MA.

**Free Will Offerings Accepted**

### MARRIAGE BANNS

**First and Second Banns of Marriage**



*Joseph Gosselin & Julia Koralishn*

### A NOTE OF THANKS....

To the Parishioners at St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes,

Thank you for being so kind and thoughtful. Thank you for your generous donations to the Pregnancy Care Center. New mothers and babies will be blessed and cared for because of your gifts. God Bless you!

Blessings,

The Pregnancy Care Center

**OFFERTORY FEBRUARY 10 & 11**

St. Monica - \$7,567.<sup>00</sup>

St. Lucy - \$4,937.<sup>00</sup>

**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 boxed spaghetti, canned pasta, baked beans, mashed potatoes, jelly, pasta sauce, pancake mix, & syrup. 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.

**GETHSEMANE CHAPEL AT ST. MONICA CHURCH**  
Open 7 days/week from morning rush hour until 7pm

**CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE**  
Open Mon-Fri 9am-7pm , Sat & Sun 9am-5pm

**BAPTISMS** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, 2:00pm at St. Monica's | 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**MASS SCHEDULE** 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

**CONFESSIONS**  
SAT 3-3:45pm at both parishes

**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             |
| <b>methuencatholic@gmail.com</b>     |                              |
| Karl Jackson                         | Director of Parish Life      |
| <b>faithformation.stlm@gmail.com</b> |                              |
| Brink Bush                           | Music Director               |
| Sharon Waning                        | Music Ministry (St. Lucy)    |
| Kevin Fitzgerald                     | Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA |
| Christine Ryan                       | Administrative Assistant     |
| <b>parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com</b>   |                              |



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

**SCHOOL STAFF**

|                                      |                          |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Donna Henderson                      | Principal                |
| Pam Silveira                         | Administrative Assistant |
| <b>smsoffice@methuencatholic.org</b> |                          |

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*Psalm 27 (26): 8-9*

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

ENTRANCE HYMN*The Glory of These Forty Days*

1. The glo - ry of these for - ty days We cel - e -
2. A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw The lov - ing
3. So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, De - liv - ered
4. Then grant that we like them be true, Con - sumed in
5. O Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest, To you be



1. brate with songs of praise; For Christ, by whom all
2. God who gave the law; And to E - li - jah,
3. from the li - ons' might; And John, the Bride - groom's
4. fast and pray'r with you; Our spir - its strength - en
5. ev - 'ry pray'r ad - dressed; Who are in three - fold



1. things were made, Him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
2. fast - ing, came The steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
3. friend, be - came The her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
4. with your grace, And give us joy to see your face.
5. Name a - dored, From age to age the on - ly Lord.

FIRST READING*Genesis 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 (26B)*

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you."

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing— all this because you obeyed my command."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 116: 10, 15, 16-17, 18-19*

**R. I will walk be - fore the Lord, in the land of the liv - ing.**

I believed, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted."  
Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds.  
To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

**SECOND READING***Romans 8: 31b-34*

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Matthew 17: 5*

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

**GOSPEL***Mark 9: 2-10*

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

**CREED***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Matthew 17: 5*

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

**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 (ST. LUCY)*Transfigure Us, O Lord*

Trans - fig - ure us, O Lord, trans - fig - ure us, O Lord.



Break the chains that bind us; speak your heal - ing word, and



where you lead we'll fol - low. Trans - fig - ure us, O Lord.



1. Down from heights of glo - ry in - to the depths be - low, the
2. Light for those in dark - ness, the hun - gry have their fill, glad
3. Par - don for the sin - ner, a shep - herd for the sheep, a
4. To the ho - ly cit - y, Je - ru - sa - lem, you go; your



1. love of God self - emp - tied, the love of God to show. You
2. tid - ings for the hum - ble, the heal - ing of all ills; in
3. drink of liv - ing wa - ter for all who thirst and seek, and
4. face set toward the end - ing, the cross to be your throne. γ



1. light the path be - fore us, the way that we must go.
2. these we glimpse your glo - ry, God's prom - is - es ful - filled.
3. feast - ing at your ta - ble, the low - ly and the least.
4. Shall we jour - ney with you and share your pasch - al road?

COMMUNION HYMN (ST. MONICA - SOLO)*Transfiguration*RECESSIONAL HYMN*Forty Days and Forty Nights*

1. For - ty days and for - ty nights You were fast - ing in the wild;
2. Shall not we your sor - row share And from world - ly joys ab - stain,
3. Then if Sa - tan on us press, Flesh or spir - it to as - sail,
4. So shall we have peace di - vine: Ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
5. Keep, O keep us, Sav - ior dear, Ev - er con - stant by your side;



1. For - ty days and for - ty nights Tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
2. Fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, Strong with you to suf - fer pain?
3. Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, Grant we may not faint nor fail!
4. Round us, too, shall an - gels shine, Such as served you faith - ful - ly.
5. That with you we may ap - pear At th'e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

## ST. MONICA PARISH

### Saturday, February 24

9:00am Marilyn & Joyce Wilson  
4:00pm Stephen Bellingreri

### Sunday, February 25

9:00am Raymond Lacerte  
Jeffrey Waters  
Tony Waters  
Carol Amabello  
Kay Wilson  
Mary Rita Costa  
Noreen Duxbury  
  
12:00pm Gratien Michaud

### Saturday, March 2

9:00am FIRST SATURDAY MASS  
4:00pm Michael McGreevy

### Sunday, March 3

9:00am Amy Waterworth  
Sheryle Parolisi  
Donald C. MacMillan  
Ronald P. MacMillan  
William & Margaret Collins  
Julie Morley  
Donald Leslie  
  
12:00pm Peter & Johan Maclsaac  
Johanna Maclsaac  
Sarah Maclsaac

## ST. LUCY PARISH

### Saturday, February 24

4:00pm For the Parishioners of  
St. Monica & St. Lucy

### Sunday, February 25

10:30am Eddie Serrano  
Fernando Iannuccilli

### Monday, February 26

9:00am Helen A. Piskaldo

### Tuesday, February 27

9:00am William Ward

### Thursday, February 29

9:00am Allan R. Roderick

### Friday, March 1

9:00am Aline Duncan  
Valorie Duncan  
Mr. & Mrs. Mecleor Raza

### Saturday, March 2

4:00pm Manuel Melo

### Sunday, March 3

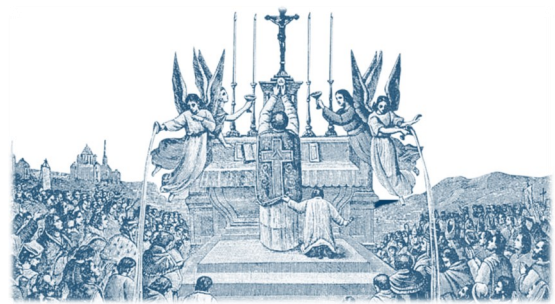
10:30am For the Parishioners of  
St. Monica & St. Lucy

### BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Perrault Chiropractic  
76 Woodland St - Methuen, MA 01844  
978-686-7791 | www.methuenchiro.com

## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

| DAY   | DATE     | PRIEST                    | SEMINARIAN      |
|-------|----------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Sun   | 02/25/24 | Fr. Jonathan Gaspar       | Diego Mendoza   |
| Mon   | 02/26/24 | Fr. Corey Bassett-Tirrell | Henry Seuffert  |
| Tues  | 02/27/24 | Fr. Robert J. Blaney      | Tim Walsh       |
| Wed   | 02/28/24 | Fr. Simisa Ubiparipovic   | Fritz Anacreon  |
| Thurs | 02/29/24 | Fr. Jason Makos           | Aaron Arbizo    |
| Fri   | 03/01/24 | Fr. John Sheridan         | Giris Azize     |
| Sat   | 03/02/24 | Fr. Matthew Conley        | Stephen Baruffi |



### PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Eddie R., Susana M., Joyce M., Donna V., Sharon P., Alan P., Joe V., Michelle O., Nora N., Brian J., Bill R., Patrice K., Jason & Matt W.

Please pray for Mary B. Corsaro & Robert G. Duerr whose funerals we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.