



3rd Sunday OF LENT

"He said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down.'" - Lk 13:7a

METHUEN CATHOLIC

LIVING LENT 2022

*"Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart,
with fasting, and weeping, and mourning." (Joel 2:12)*

Lent is a 40 day period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. We prepare by purifying our hearts of sin and disordered loves through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The Season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday and continues until sundown on Holy Thursday. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true interior conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were baptized into Christ's death, died to sin, and began new life in Christ.

DAILY MASS

M, T, Th, Fr | 9:00 am | St. Lucy Church

Wednesdays | 6:45am | St. Monica Church

First Saturday | 9:00 am | St. Monica Church

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8 | 6:00 pm | St. Lucy Church

followed by pizza

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesdays | 6:00 pm | St. Lucy Church

Fridays | 2:00-:500 pm | Gethsemane Chapel

CONFESSIONS

Wednesdays | 6:00 pm | St. Lucy Church

Fridays | 4:00-5:00 pm | Gethsemane Chapel

Saturdays | 3:00-3:45 pm | St. Lucy Church & Gethsemane Chapel

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, March 23 | 6:00 pm | St. Monica Church

ROSARY

Tuesdays | 6:00 pm | Gethsemane Chapel

Thursdays | 6:00 pm | Zoom

FAITH ENRICHMENT

Bible and Church Fathers | Wednesdays | 6:00 pm | Zoom

The Creed Course | Thursdays | after 9:00 am Mass | St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

MAKING A CHOICE

I was a pretty active person in my younger days. Participation in youth sports was followed by a military career that required being in physical condition. Ice hockey, soccer, wrestling, skiing and "working out" at a gym were all very routine in my life at one time or another. So it is not uncommon for me to be admonished by a family member or friend to join a team of some type or exercise more: "You should....[FILL IN THE BLANK]." To which I invariably reply, "What, are you kidding? That takes a commitment. Maybe someday when life is simpler."

So I am well aware of how difficult it can be to change our routine or even add an event that is not in our routine. That's why we try to figure out the most optimal time for the most people to attend our Lenten offerings such as Stations of the Cross, the Collaborative Penance Service, or Holy Week liturgies. This is, also, the case with our year round schedule such as the times for Mass or weekly Adoration. Nevertheless, we can't meet everyone's optimal time. The schedule of someone who works is different from someone who is retired, and both are different from a family running their kids around to their youth activities.

Lent is a perfect time to make such a commitment on behalf of our spiritual life and, more importantly, for our relationship with the Lord. It could be as simple as making a choice to bring the family to Stations of the Cross and the Lenten meal that follows on just *one* upcoming Friday. Or to stop in at Adoration *one* Wednesday evening driving home from work. A small choice in favor of a closer relationship to the Lord would not only benefit an individual or a family, but also our parishes.

TIME, TALENT, & TREASURE

The parishes have various opportunities for parishioners to donate time, talent, or treasure. We are currently looking for help with or someone to take the lead in acquiring or making the following.

- 1. missing station of the cross in Gethsemane Chapel needs replacing
- 2. memorial plaques for Gethsemane Chapel and Immaculate Conception Shrine
- 3. window treatments for the rectory
- 4. coat rack for the rectory (carpentry required)

If you are interested and would like to connect with our staff about these items, please contact Kera in the office at (978) 683-1193. Thanks again for your generosity.



This weekend we have a second collection for the people of the Ukraine. Thank you for your generosity!

COLLABORATIVE PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, March 23
6:00 pm | St. Monica Church

Craving More Peace and Less Stress in 2022? Join us on Tuesday, March 22nd at 7 p.m. in the Lower Church for a Night of Reflection on Claire McGarry's new book *Grace in Tension: Discover Peace with Martha and Mary*. Outlining the G-I-F-T acronym, Claire will walk us through the steps for how we transform our tension into grace at the feet of Jesus, the place where all wonderful transformations take place.

This is a free event with no need to RSVP. Claire will be available to sign and sell copies of her book immediately after the presentation.

If you can't make it but would still like to purchase a book, email Claire at graceintensionbookorder@gmail.com for a signed copy, or find it on Amazon.



Seeking more peace and less stress this year?

Join us on **Tuesday, March 22nd at 7p.m.** for an **Evening of Reflection on *Grace in Tension***

**St. Lucy's Lower Church
254 Merrimack St., Methuen, MA**

Books will be available for purchase after the presentation.

Claire McGarry is the author of *Grace in Tension: Discover Peace with Martha and Mary*, and the Lenten family devotionals *Abundant Mercy* and *With Our Savior*. The founder of MOSAIC of Faith, she endeavors to fish for more people to bring to God through her retreats, women's groups, and writing. A regular contributor to [Living Faith](#), *Mornings with Jesus* and [CatholicMom](#), her freelance work has appeared in *These Days*, *The Secret Place*, *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books and *Keys for Kids*. A former lay missionary in Guatemala, she now lives in New Hampshire with her husband and three children, and blogs at [ShiftingMyPerspective.com](#).

Holy Rosary Shrine | 20 Common St. Lawrence | (978) 687-9047 | hrslawrence.org

Mass
12:05pm | Monday - Wednesday & Fridays
7:00pm | Thursdays (Spanish)
4pm | (Saturdays Vigil)
9am, 10:30am, & 12pm (Spanish) | Sundays

Confessions
6:00-6:45pm | Thursdays
10:00am-3:00pm | Fridays (except during Mass)
10:00am-3:45pm | Saturdays

St. Joseph Shrine | 37 Lee St. Lowell | (978) 458-6346 | stjosephshrine.org

Mass
8:00am, 12pm, & 5:30pm | Monday - Friday
8am, 12pm, & 4pm | Saturday
8am, 10am, & 12pm | Sunday

Confessions
10am-12pm & 4:30-5:15pm | Monday - Friday
10am-1pm | Saturday
7-8pm | First Wednesday of month




When you make a gift to the annual Appeal, you are helping put faith into action in countless and far-reaching ways and every gift makes a difference. Thank you for your generosity!



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**A JOURNEY TO
THE CROSS** 

**STRETCHING
AND LENTEN
BIBLICAL
MEDITATION**

Faith 2 FITT

SATURDAY APRIL 2ND 8-9AM
ST. LUCY LOWER CHURCH HALL

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

- FHC - Eighth Grade 12:45-2:45pm St. Lucy Church/Lower Church Hall/Schoolhouse
- AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

MONDAY, MARCH 21

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church
- Boy Scouts 7-8:30 pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church
- Rosary For Priests Prayer Group 6 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Evening of Reflection 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

- Mass 6:45 am St. Monica Church
- Prayer and Study 10 am - 12 pm (Zoom)
- Alanon 10-11:15 am St. Lucy Lower Church
- The Bible and Church Fathers Study 6 pm (Zoom)
- NO EUCH ADORATION
- Collaborative Penance Service 6-7 pm St. Monica Church

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church
- Creed Course 9:30 am St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- School Mass 1pm St. Monica Church
- Rosary for Peace 6 pm Zoom
- AA 6:30 pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church
- School Mass 1pm St. Monica Church
- Eucharistic Adoration 2-5 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Confessions 4-5 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Stations of the Cross 6 pm St. Lucy Church & Lower Church Hall followed by pizza

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

- Faith to Fitt 8 am St Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Mass for Feast of St. Joseph 9am St. Lucy Church followed by refreshments in Lower Church Hall
- Bettor's Anonymous 2 pm St. Monica SVDP Hut
- Confessions 3-3:45 pm Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY FUNDRAISER

The Blessed Mother Sodality will be sponsoring a May Calendar Gift Card Raffle.

The calendars will sell for \$10.00 dollars each. A \$50.00 dollar gift card will be drawn and awarded each day in May. Winning tickets will be put back in the drawings with an opportunity to win more than once. Only 300 hundred Calendars will be sold.

Calendars will be sold at Masses in April at both St Lucy's and St. Monica's.

If you are unable to buy a Calendar at Mass you can call the following Sodality Members to purchase one. Judy Alaimo | 978-314-8353 or Annette Autiello | 508-783-1544 or Paula Wood | 978-902-2495 or Debbie McCall | 978-884-8317

OFFERTORY | MAR 2 & 3

St. Monica - \$10,171⁰⁰

St. Lucy - \$6,334.⁰⁰

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 mashed potatoes, soups, canned corn, pasta, pasta sauce, and canned fruit. Donations can be dropped off anytime at the entrances to St. Lucy and the side door of Gethsemane Chapel at St. Monica Church.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

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

TEMPORARY OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday | 11:30am-4:30pm

Fridays | 9:00am-2:00pm

BAPTISMS 2nd Sunday of the month at 1:00pm St. Monica's | 3rd Sunday of the month at 11:30am at St. Lucy's

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 & 11 am St. Monica | 10 am St. Lucy

MON/TUES/THURS/FRI 9:00 am St. Lucy

FIRST SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica

CONFESSIONS

3 - 3:45 pm both parishes Sat

4 - 5pm Gethsemane Chapel

6 - 7pm St. Lucy Church

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

2 - 5 pm Friday Gethsemane Chapel

6:00 - 7:00 pm Wednesday St. Lucy Church

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

PARISH OFFICES

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844

(978) 683 - 1193 or (978) 686 - 3311

www.methuencatholic.org

Temporary Hours Mon-Thurs, 11:30am-4:30pm

Friday 9:00am-2:00pm

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Darin Colarusso Pastor

Fr. Joseph D'Onofrio Parochial Vicar

Deacon John Pierce Permanent Deacon

Deacon John Kobrenski Permanent Deacon

Kera Mansour Business Manager

methuencatholic@gmail.com

Karl Jackson Director of Parish Life

faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Eric Berthiaume Music Director

Sharon Waning Music Ministry (St. Lucy)

Kevin Fitzgerald Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA



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www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org

SCHOOL STAFF

Donna Henderson Principal

Sharon Tully Administrative Assistant

smsoffice@methuencatholic.org

INTROIT*Cf. Ps 25 (24): 15-16*

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN*From The Depths We Cry To Thee*

1. From the depths we cry to thee, God of sov'-reign maj-es - ty!
2. Gra-cious God, our hearts re-new; Strength-en us thy will to do.
3. Lord, ac - cept our Len-ten fast And for-give our sin-ful past,



1. Hear our prayers and hymns of praise; Bless our Lent of for - ty days.
2. Wash us, make us pure with - in; Cleanse us from the stain of sin.
3. That we may par - take with thee In the Eas - ter mys-ter - y.

PENITENTIAL ACT*Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Ex 3: 1-8a, 13-15*

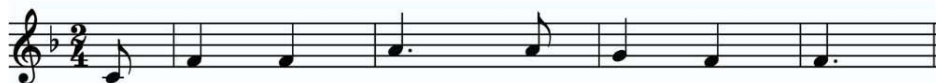
Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There an angel of the LORD appeared to Moses in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So Moses decided, "I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned."

When the LORD saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." God said, "Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers," he continued, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. But the LORD said, "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey."

Moses said to God, "But when I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' if they ask me, 'What is his name?' what am I to tell them?" God replied, "I am who am." Then he added, "This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you."

God spoke further to Moses, "Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.

"This is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Ps 103 (102): 8a; V 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11*

℣. The Lord is kind and mer - ci - ful.

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

The LORD secures justice
and the rights of all the oppressed.
He has made known his ways to Moses,
and his deeds to the children of Israel.

He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills,
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.

SECOND READING*1 Cor 10: 1-6, 10-12*

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, and all of them were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. All ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was the Christ. Yet God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the desert. These things happened as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil things, as they did. Do not grumble as some of them did, and suffered death by the destroyer. These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Mt 4: 17*

℣. Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

GOSPEL*Lk 13: 1-9*

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. Jesus said to them in reply, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! Or those eighteen people who were killed when the tower at Siloam fell on them— do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!” And he told them this parable: “There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?’ He said to him in reply, ‘Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.’”

PROFESSION OF FAITH*Refer to Pew Card***SANCTUS - MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION - AGNUS DEI***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Cf. Ps 84 (83): 4-5*

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young; by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

COMMUNION HYMN

Save Your People

Refrain



Save your peo-ple, O Lord. Show us the way to come
home. We have been wan-der-ing far from your love. Save your
peo-ple, O Lord.

Verses

1. One thing I ask, — O —
2. For you will hide me in the
3. Lis - ten, O Lord, — to the
4. Thus will I bless you all the

1. Lord, — this I seek: to dwell for - ev - er in your
2. shel - ter of your wings and from the ar - rows of my
3. sound — of my call, for I ac - knowl - edge my of -
4. days — of my life. Lift - ing my hands, I call your

1. house, that I may gaze — on your love - li - ness
2. foes. You set me high — on a moun - tain - top,
3. fense. Wash me and I — shall be pur - i - fied.
4. name: "O Lord, re - mem - ber your in - her - i - tance.

to Refrain

1. all — the days of my life.
2. saved — me from my dis - tress.
3. I shall be whit - er than snow.
4. Save — your peo - ple, O Lord!"

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

Saint 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 evil spirits
who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

*Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights Reserved.
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ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, March 19

4:00pm Daniel & Monica Allen

Sunday, March 20

9:00am Joseph Lavigne
Yvette Moran
Michael Milnes
Jim Drelick
Matthew Brouder
James Baker
Deatrah Reilly

11:00 am Maurice Lariviere, Sr.
& Maurice Lariviere, Jr.

Wednesday, March 23

6:45am

Saturday, March 26

4:00pm Blanche Bonneau & Evelyn Fitzpatrick

Sunday, March 27

9:00am Joseph O'Neil
Nancy Tardif
Jack Mears
Mark Kupiec
Manuel & Fernalda Cordeiro

11:00 am Deceased Members of Cutuli Family

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINAR.
Sunday	03/20/22	Fr. Mark Storey	Johnathan Saniuk
Mon	03/21/22	Msgr. Peter Marmocchio	Aaron Yohe
Tues	03/22/22	Fr. Stephen Madden	Marcelo Ferrari
Wed	03/23/22	Msgr. John Abruzzese	David Joanis
Thurs	03/24/22	Fr. Thomas Reilly	Chris Letizia
Friday	03/25/22	Pope Francis	Barry Mongeon
Sat	03/26/22	Fr. Sean Connor	Gustavo Neitzke

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, March 19

9:00am Patronal Feast of St. Joseph
4:00pm Joan Moreau Souza

Sunday, March 20

10:00am Real Tascherea
Gerard Taschereau
Bertrand LeBlanc
Linae Brosco
Antonio & Evelina Mollica
Nancy Boucher

Monday, March 21

9:00am Living Intentions
Marilyn, Joseph, & Elizabeth Mugavero
In thanksgiving to Immaculate Heart
St. Rita, and the Holy Spirit for favors
received

Tuesday, March 22

9:00am Manny Gianni
& Christine Gianni Eldridge

Thursday, March 24

9:00am Michael Milnes

Friday, March 25

9:00am Paul Sharrock

Saturday, March 26

9:00am Patronal Feast of St. Joseph
4:00pm Gertrude & Joseph Reardon, Sr.
Peggy & Bill Kallery
Phyllis & Joseph Reardon, Jr.
Maureen & James Reynolds, Jr.

Sunday, March 27

10:00am Vincent Minicucci
Gerard & Mattia D'Andrea
Pasquale Petralia
Jamie Legere
Dominic DeFeo
Lucy Rose & Salvatore Sapuppo

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Deacon John K., Patrice K., Susan F., Valarie G, Mary E., and Joseph V.

Please pray for Ida Messineo, Nancy Boucher, William Nartif, and James DeVita whose funerals we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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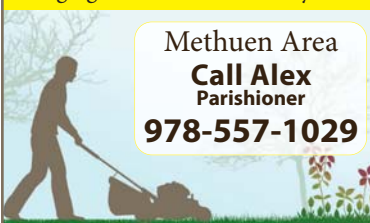
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