

APRIL 4, 2021

He is Risen! Happy Easter!

ST. MONICA PARISH

212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA

Renew, Rebuild, and Reach Out: Disciples in Heartfelt Communion with Jesus Christ

ST. LUCY PARISH

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA

**JOIN US
FOR MASS!**



DAILY MASS

MON/TUE/THURS/FRI 9 am St. Lucy

FIRST SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica

WEEKEND

SAT 4 pm (Vigil) both parishes

SUN 9 and 11 am St. Monica, 10 am St. Lucy

Welcome

Thank you for joining us for Easter!

From Fr. Colarusso

Be Not Afraid

When Our Lord appears to the Apostles and others in the upper room the first two Sundays of Easter, his first words are: "Be not afraid." How beautiful it is, then, that after a year of fear and anxiety for most of us, we finally are beginning to see at Easter the return of those who had to be the most cautious. Making it even harder during that time for them was that those very same individuals were often our most devout parishioners.

This change of events is, no doubt, due to the arrival of the vaccines. That protection takes away fear and, in turn, allows the parish to come alive in a way that we have not seen in over a year. We pray that this trend continues all through spring--more openness bringing more people back.

Of course, the deepest fear of the human race is not a virus we can catch, but one we have already inherited--mortality. St. Paul put it succinctly when he wrote: "Death entered the world through sin; and because of the fear of death, man has enslaved himself to sin." The Lord makes visible his Resurrection not only to alleviate fear in the upper room--let alone the fear of any one thing in our life--but to push back the ultimate fear of all the living: death itself.

This day may we all receive a grace that will be like a vaccine for our souls-- an Easter Faith in the Lord's victory over sin and death. Welcome back, stay safe, be not afraid.....and Happy Easter!



Divine Mercy Novena

The Novena began on Good Friday and continues to Divine Mercy Sunday. Pamphlets are available in the magazine racks in both churches.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Next Sunday, April 11

Celebrate with us with a service at St. Monica Church beginning at 2:15 pm.

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



Volunteers needed for our new Baptism ministry

While we've been in lockdown, we have not been idle. We have spent a year developing a new formation and outreach program for the Sacrament of Baptism! We're looking for Mature and Newly Married Couples who are strong in their faith to provide witness talks, friendship, and mentoring in the faith for parents who come to our parishes for baptism and a community of faith to raise their families. This outreach will require prayerful reliance on God, some public speaking, and a desire to share the faith with others. Most of the time dedicated to this ministry will take place on evenings and weekends. Please prayerfully consider joining this effort, and reach out to Karl at (978) 683-1193.



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

SUNDAY MASS

9:00 & 11:00 AM ST. MONICA CHURCH
10:00 AM ST. LUCY CHURCH

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, & FRIDAY

DAILY MASS

9:00 AM ST. LUCY CHURCH

WEDNESDAY

CONFESSIONS

7:00 - 8:00 PM GETHSEMANE CHAPEL

FRIDAY

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

2:00 - 5:00 PM GETHSEMANE CHAPEL

CONFESSIONS 4:00 - 5:00 PM
GETHSEMANE CHAPEL

SATURDAY

CONFESSIONS 3:00 - 3:45 PM

ST. MONICA CHURCH & ST. LUCY CHURCH

VIGIL MASS 4:00 - 5:00 PM

ST. MONICA CHURCH & ST. LUCY CHURCH

**COMING SOON!
ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE**

ST. LUCY'S MEN'S GUILD, IN CONJUNCTION WITH ST. LUCY PARISH IS REMODELING THE PENANCE ROOM AT ST. LUCY INTO A CANDLE SHRINE.



The Shrine will include the following statues:

- The Blessed Virgin under the title of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States
- St. Lucy with a relic of the same
- St. Joseph
- St. Anthony of Padua
- There will be two more statues which will be selected by popular acclaim.

We will be running a raffle to raise money for two electric candle boxes for our shrine as well as the two statues yet to be selected. Keep an eye out for opportunities to participate in our fundraising raffle!



Our parish priests and deacons are now able to resume Communion Outreach to the homebound. At the same time, we continue to train lay people to be Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to their homebound family

members (so long as they are part of the same "household bubble.")

If you would like to receive this training to be sent from our Masses to distribute communion to homebound members of your family or would like to have our priests or deacons bring communion to someone, please contact Karl at the office (978) 683-1193 or through our website methuencatholic.org.



Fellow Parishioners,

It has been noted that the St. Monica-St. Lucy community has congregated this past year if mostly virtually, around shared values of compassion,

equality, and neighbor looking out for neighbor. Overwhelmingly, we have sought something beyond self-interest, something greater than ourselves. In many respects, the best of humanity has been on display, the mutual support, and the willingness to sacrifice. It's been said that our religion is something we study, while our spirituality is something we experience - and something best experienced through gratitude. If so, there is a lot of it going around. This past year, you have brought "Hope" to the families in this immediate neighborhood by your generous offerings of prayer, donations, and time. This has been critical for the health and well-being of those who have been so negatively affected by the "Covid Crisis". The members of this Conference are grateful to be "stewards" of God's gifts which gives us purpose and makes us fully human. This generous parish provides the framework and the outlets for this to happen. Thank you.

God Bless you and your families this Easter of Hope.

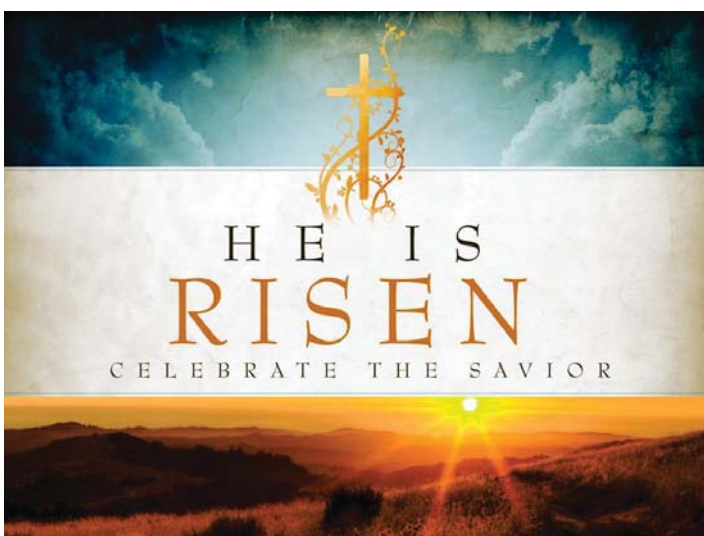
COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



GOSPEL

It was very early in the morning on Sunday. The tomb stone was rolled away. Jesus was gone. All that was left inside were the strips of linen cloth. When John and Peter saw it, they were amazed. They did not understand all the promises the prophets wrote about Jesus yet. However, they knew he was alive. He had risen from the dead!



MASS INTENTIONS

ST. MONICA PARISH

All Triduum and Easter Masses are Pro Populo.

Holy Saturday, April 3

No First Saturday Mass
7:30pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday, April 4

7:00am The Resurrection of Our Lord
9:00am The Resurrection of Our Lord
11:00am The Resurrection of Our Lord

Saturday, April 10

4:00pm John J. Weir

Sunday, April 11

9:00am *Multiple Intention*
Charles Booth, Jr.
Vincent Jablonski
Charlie & Rose Hanafin
Julia Ortolaza Torres
Rita D. Gagnon
Krystina Szablowska
Elizabeta Chojnowska
11:00am Richard Curtis

ST. LUCY PARISH

All Triduum and Easter Masses are Pro Populo.

Holy Saturday, April 3

9:00am Morning Prayer (no Mass)
7:30pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, April 4

8:00am Resurrection of our Lord
10:00am Resurrection of our Lord

Monday, April 5

9:00am Salomeja Rembisz

Tuesday, April 6

9:00am Yvonne Soucy

Thursday, April 8

9:00am Christine Ferguson

Friday, April 9

9:00am Diane L. Farelli

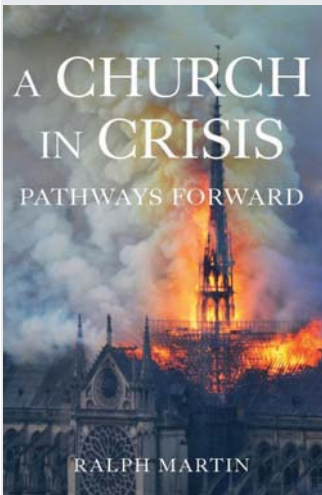
Saturday, April 10

4:00pm Vito & Giuseppina Cunsolo

Sunday, April 11

10:00am *Multiple Intentions*
Angela Iannuccilli
Sandra Bouchard

A Way to Increase Your Prayer Life



Prayer Group: Under Our Lady's Mantle

This is a weekly group that meets on Zoom for prayer and a book discussion. On March 24 we began reading *A Church in Crisis: Pathways Forward* by Ralph Martin. The reading of this book ends on June 23.

All are welcome to join at anytime. Contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com or 978-270-3366 for the Zoom link and more information. It's best to email her so she can send you the link.





PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for **Frank Manzer, Matthew W., Marco Bezerey, Josephine Cuttsinger, Roger and Carol Branchaud, and Sharon Davis.**

Please pray for **Bill & Maddie Rayno, Patricia A. Cursio-Maglia, and Robert J. Loughlin** whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our parishes. May their soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

Please pray for our priests, seminarians, and vocations daily. Pick up a Pray for Our Priests calendar and a seminarian prayer card at the back of the church or use this list each day. Our priests and seminarians need our prayers!

Day	Priest	Seminarian
Sunday	Pope Francis	Pope Francis
Monday	Fr. Robert Connors	Andrew Rondelli
Tuesday	Fr. Huy Nguyễn	Hung Tran
Wednesday	Fr. John Tackney	Paul Born
Thursday	Fr. Israel Rodriguez	Rodrigo Martinez
Friday	Fr. Sean Maher	Peter Schirripa
Saturday	Fr. Paul Sullivan	Hien Vu

IN LOVING MEMORY

Roses for Life for this week

Theresa A. Rickley and Richard Curtis

Altar Bread for the month of April

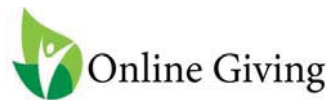
St. Monica - Richard Curtis



Yes I Can Program

We are in need of **canned fruits** and **canned spaghetti.**

We have placed food collection baskets in both churches. You may also drop off food at the side door of Gethsemane Chapel during the week, but please do not leave food donations at the main door or entranceway of the chapel. Thank you for your generosity!



To sign up, please visit methuencatholic.org/onlinegiving

Parish Offices: 254 Merrimack Street, Methuen
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
St. Monica School: 212 Lawrence St., Methuen

Parish Offices: (978) 683-1193 or (978) 686-3311
St. Monica School: (978) 686-1801
St. Vincent de Paul Society: (978) 686 - 9573

Parishes: methuencatholic@gmail.com
School: smsoffice@methuencatholic.org

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[stmonicalucymethuen](https://www.instagram.com/stmonicalucymethuen)

[facebook.com/methuencatholic/](https://www.facebook.com/methuencatholic/) [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/)

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
Isabela Peixoto	Communications Associate
Donna Henderson	St. Monica School Principal
Sharon Tully	St. Monica School Administrative Assistant
Karl Jackson	Director of Mission and Formation
Eric Berthiaume	Music Director - St. Monica
Sharon Waning	Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy
Kevin Fitzgerald	Facilities Manager (St. Lucy)/RCIA Coordinator

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

BULLETIN DEADLINE Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to methuencatholicnews@gmail.com

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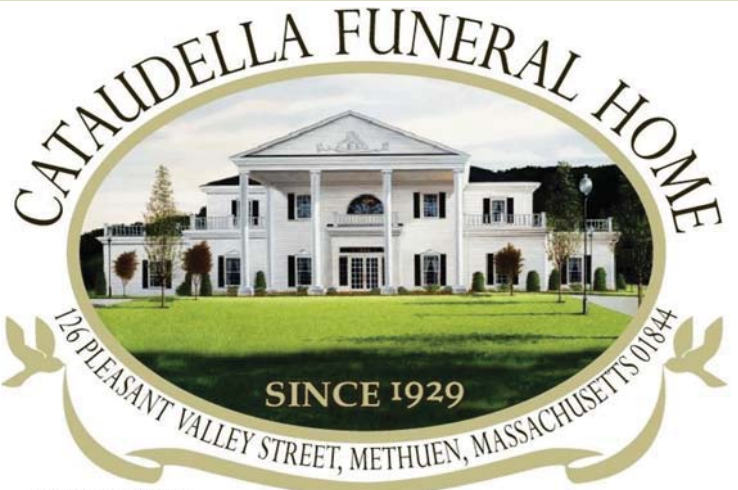
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Artist's rendering

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