

# METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

JAN 21  
2024



3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

Mark 1:17

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

On this third Sunday in Ordinary Time, we find that nothing is ordinary with God. When we strive to sanctify the everyday ordinary moments of our lives we will find that even the ordinary can be quite sublime.

The prophet Jonah helped “the great city of Nineveh” to realize this truth. Jonah was assigned by God to convert the city and turn the people from “their wickedness.” Fearing the task, Jonah fled in the opposite direction, as far away as he could to the coast of Spain. However, even though you, or I, or Jonah may neglect our duty, eventually God’s will prevails.

Thus, a giant storm arose putting the ship and its occupants in danger. Jonah admitted that the storm was his fault, and willingly offered to be thrown overboard. The sailors had mercy on Jonah and tried to regain land, but the storm was too much and they threw Jonah overboard.

Now it was time for God’s mercy. “The Lord sent a large fish, that swallowed Jonah; and he remained in the belly of the fish three days....then the Lord commanded the fish to spew Jonah upon the shore,” whereupon he was given new life. Jonah took advantage of his second chance, and converted the entire city, as the people fasted, prayed, and put on sackcloth.

It would be nice if the story ended here, but we find that Jonah grew angry that God relented of his punishment and showed mercy. In discontent, Jonah left the city, built a hut and waited to see what would happen. God provided a gourd plant, “giving shade that relieved him of any discomfort.” Then God sent a worm that destroyed the plant, and a scorching heat that caused discomfort. Jonah responded, “I have reason to be angry, angry enough to die.”

How blind and selfish is Jonah? He laments the personal loss of a shady plant without any concern over the threat of loss of life to the Ninevites. If God in His goodness provides a plant for Jonah without any effort or merit, how much more is He willing to show mercy to all people when they repent of their sins and seek pardon!

If you are not aware of it already, Monday, January 22, 2024 marks the 51st anniversary of the infamous Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. Last year, the Supreme Court returned the decision of life or death for the unborn to the states. Therefore, much work is still needed to change hearts, educate, witness, and open minds to the sacredness of all human life. The annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. was held this last Friday with this year’s theme, “With every woman, for every child.”

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta went to “Nineveh.” She went to the United Nations and spoke boldly to the most powerful people in the world about the dignity of ALL human life. She said, “Works of love begin at home and works of love are works of peace. We all want peace, and yet, and yet we are frightened of nuclears, we are frightened of this new disease. But we are not afraid to kill an innocent child, that little unborn child, who has been created for that same purpose: to love God and to love you and me. This is what is such a contradiction, and today I feel that abortion has become the greatest destroyer of peace.”

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta sanctified every moment of her life, from the slums to corporate meetings. She saw the dignity of each human being, the preborn and those at the end stages of life, the sinner and the saint.

May we strive through our everyday, ordinary lives to joyfully follow our common call to work for the respect for all human life. Let’s support the various pregnancy care centers and maternity houses. Let’s intensify our prayer and courageously give witness to the mercy of God. As to the people of Galilee, Jesus also says to you and I, “This is the time of fulfillment. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Gospel.”



## WE ARE HAVING A BABY SHOWER

A Pro-Life Baby Shower to benefit the Pregnancy Care Center will be held on January 27-28 at all Masses at both St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes.

Items Needed: Disposable diapers (infant-2yrs), Walmart gift cards, new or gently used baby clothes, new or gently used maternity clothes. Cash or checks kindly accepted, please make payable to St. Lucy or St. Monica Parishes.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

The Knights of Columbus will be leading a "9 Day Novena for Life" from Tuesday, January 16 through Wednesday, January 24. The novena will take place at 7:00pm via Zoom.

The program will include prayers, the rosary & reflection on each of the 9 consecutive days. All parishioners, family & friends are welcome to join us!

Please contact Bob Beaudry at [erbeaudry@aol.com](mailto:erbeaudry@aol.com) if you would like to participate, or, if you do not have access to Zoom and would like to receive the program for a personal novena.



## ULTREYA

Tuesday, January 30th 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 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, Elaine Barker, 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!

## UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION - JANUARY 28 CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Next week's second collection supports the Church in Latin America (CLA). The CLA provides support for pastoral projects in financially poorer dioceses in Latin America and the Caribbean. CLA funds catechetical and lay leadership programs, youth ministry, evangelization programs, and formation programs for religious, priests, and deacons. CLA is making it possible for the Catholic faithful in the Western hemisphere to help each other.

Please visit [www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/latin-america/index.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/latin-america/index.cfm) for more information.

## HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS

Please join us for refreshments

**Sunday, January 21st**

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

**Sunday, January 28th**

St. Monica School Hall  
After the 9:00am mass

MONDAY, JANUARY 22nd



DAY OF PRAYER  
FOR THE  
LEGAL  
PROTECTION  
OF UNBORN CHILDREN

### CONFIRMATION RETREAT - SATURDAY, JANUARY 6th.



**Mondays**  
**6:00-8:00pm**  
**February 12 -**  
**March 25**  
**St. Lucy**  
**Schoolhouse**  
**Dinner provided**  
**\$125 Donation**  
**(suggested)**

It's set up for all couples. It's a kind of date night, one evening a week for seven weeks. You sit in a room full of couples, but at a table for two and dine together. Afterwards, you listen to presentations, issues are raised, then you and your partner discuss and complete the exercises at your table. There's no group sharing.

<https://themarriagecourse.org/try/the-marriage-course>

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



### Long Term Substitute - Middle School Language Arts Teacher Needed

St. Monica School is seeking an exceptional full-time, Long-Term Substitute-Middle School Language Arts Teacher for January to June 2024.

Candidates should be passionate about teaching our children using Best Practices and providing them with the best possible academic opportunities. Candidates should be willing to collaborate with specialists and manage individual education plans and accommodations as needed.

The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to teach students in a diverse, faith based, nurturing environment where everyone is recognized as a unique child of God. If interested, please call **Donna Henderson, Principal at 978-686-1801.**

## DEVOTIONS SCHEDULE

Tuesday evenings 6-6:30pm  
Rosary Prayer Group for Priests  
Gethsemane Chapel - all are welcome to attend

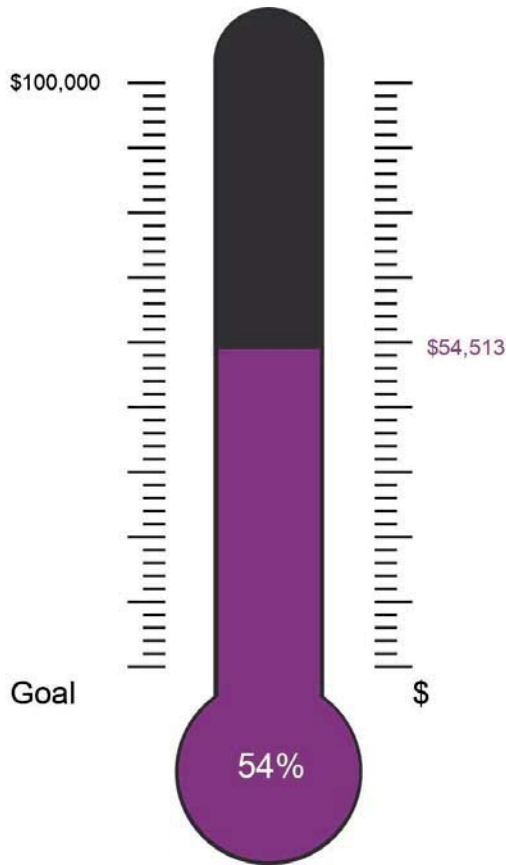
Wednesday mornings 9:30-11am (ZOOM)  
Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet & book discussion.  
Contact Bonnie Doherty at [bonnieocds@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieocds@gmail.com)

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
Wednesdays 6-7pm St. Lucy Church

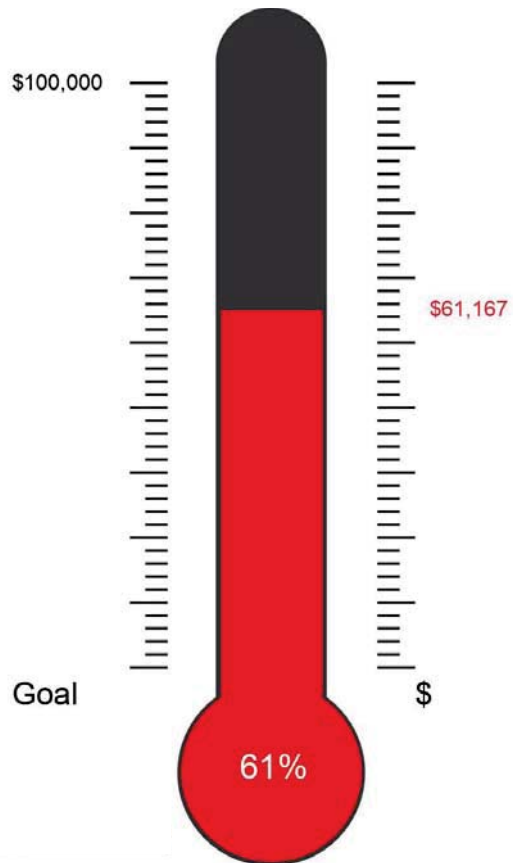
Thursday evenings 6-6:30pm (ZOOM)  
Rosary for world peace & individual intentions.  
Contact Bonnie Doherty at [bonnieocds@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieocds@gmail.com)

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
Saturdays 9:30am-2:30pm Gethsemane Chapel

## St. Monica Grand Annual



## St. Lucy Grand Annual



**GIVE NOW**

**OFFERTORY JANUARY 6 & 7**

St. Monica - \$6,870.00

St. Lucy - \$2,993.00

**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 cereal, canned pasta, canned corn, canned carrots, canned peas, mashed potatoes, jelly, pasta sauce & 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.

**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 96 (95); 1, 6*

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
In his presence are majesty and splendor, strength and honor in his holy place.

**ENTRANCE HYMN***Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven*


1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To his  
2. Praise him for his grace and fa - vor To his  
3. Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; Well our  
4. An - gels, help us to a - dore him; You be -

1. feet thy trib - ute bring; Ran - sored, healed, re - stored, for -  
2. chil - dren in dis - tress; Praise him still the same as  
3. fee - ble frame he knows; In his hands he gen - tly  
4. hold him face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be -

1. giv - en, Ev - er - more his prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia!  
2. ev - er, Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia!  
3. bears us, Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia!  
4. fore him, In his ho - ly dwell - ing place. Al - le - lu - ia!

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.  
2. Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.  
3. Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.  
4. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

**PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA***Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Jonah 3: 1-5, 10*

The word of the LORD came to Jonah, saying: "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to it the message that I will tell you." So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD'S bidding. Now Nineveh was an enormously large city; it took three days to go through it. Jonah began his journey through the city, and had gone but a single day's walk announcing, "Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed," when the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them; he did not carry it out.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Psalm 25: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9*


R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths,  
guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old.  
In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.

Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way.  
He guides the humble to justice and teaches the humble his way.

**SECOND READING***1 Corinthians 7: 29-31*

I tell you, brothers and sisters, the time is running out. From now on, let those having wives act as not having them, those weeping as not weeping, those rejoicing as not rejoicing, those buying as not owning, those using the world as not using it fully. For the world in its present form is passing away.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Mark 1: 15*

The kingdom of god is at hand.  
Repent and believe in the Gospel.

**GOSPEL***Mark 1: 14-20*

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

**CREED***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Psalms 34 (33): 6*

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.

**PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL**

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle,  
be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

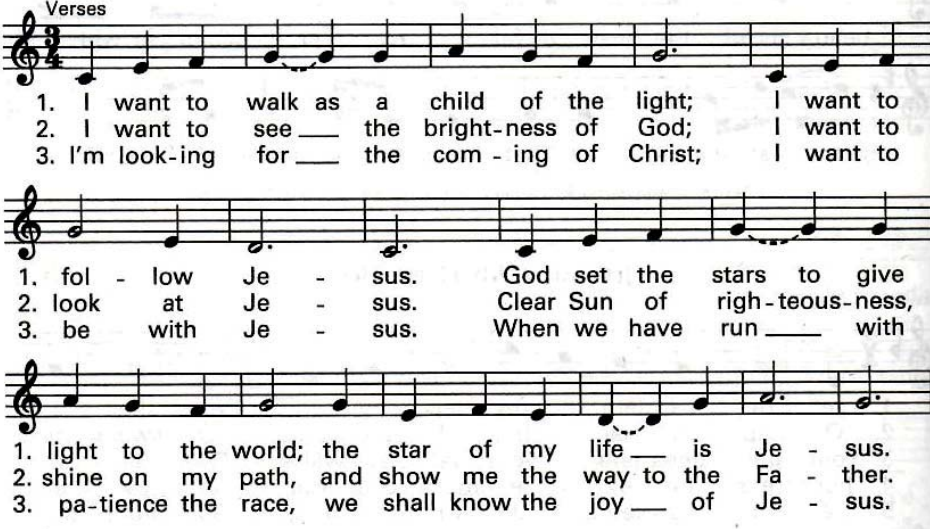
May God rebuke him we humbly pray;  
and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God,  
cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits  
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.





COMMUNION HYMN*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

Verses




1. I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to  
 2. I want to see the bright-ness of God; I want to  
 3. I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ; I want to

1. fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
 2. look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness,  
 3. be with Je - sus. When we have run with

1. light to the world; the star of my life is Je - sus.  
 2. shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 3. pa-tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all; the night and the  
 day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the  
 cit - y of God: Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

RECESSIONAL HYMN*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
 Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, op'ning to the sun above.  
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;  
 Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, Earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
 Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise;  
 Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
 Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
 Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
 Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;  
 Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
 Love divine is reigning o'er us, binding all within its span.  
 Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;  
 Joyful music leads us sun-ward, in the triumph song of life.

## ST. MONICA PARISH

### Saturday, January 20

9:00am Joseph Lavigne  
Yvette Moran  
Mike Milnes

4:00pm Jan Grzejka

### Sunday, January 21

9:00am Dorothy Bellingreri  
Michael McGreevy  
Elizabeth Chojowska  
Claire Waterworth  
Robert Deziel

12:00pm Ann Foderaro  
Henry Foderaro  
Mark Foderaro  
Joseph Comerford

### Saturday, January 27

9:00am Calvin R. Snell

4:00pm Richy Gallagher

### Sunday, January 28

9:00am Theresa Claire Parent  
Eileen Joyce  
Frank Wholley  
Sheila Spinney

12:00pm Francisca Rivadeneira

### BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	01/21/24	Fr. Ken Cannon	Vincenzo Caruso
Mon	01/22/24	Fr. Shawn Carey	Deacon Marcelo Ferrari
Tues	01/23/24	Msgr. George Carlson	Deacon Gabriel Hanley
Wed	01/24/24	Fr. Francis P. O'Brien	Deacon Matthew Harrington
Thurs	01/25/24	All Paulista	Deacon David Joanis
Fri	01/26/24	Fr. Timothy Butler	Deacon Christopher Letizia
Sat	01/27/24	Fr. Paul Curran	Deacon Giovanni Argote

## ST. LUCY PARISH

### Saturday, January 20

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

### Sunday, January 21

10:30am Charles Blatti  
Alfio Greco  
Geraldine Miele  
Deceased Members of the Ciofola Family  
Deceased Members of the  
DiVincentis Family  
Joseph L. Giuffrida

### Monday, January 22

9:00am Manny Gianni  
Christine Gianni Eldridge

### Tuesday, January 23

9:00am Martin Maher

### Thursday, January 25

9:00am Charles & Mary Lamarche

### Friday, January 26

9:00am Carole & Cecile Locke

### Saturday, January 27

4:00pm Perry, Clara, Steven & Beverly Autiello

### Sunday, January 28

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



## PRAYER CORNER

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

Please pray for Theresa A. Hanefant whose funeral we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

# STAND UP TO YOUR SCIATIC PAIN!

Are you seeking relief from crippling BACK PAIN or SCIATIC PAIN?

Sciatica is used to describe nerve pain that originates in the lower back, radiates deep into the buttock, and travels down the leg. Better known as, a literal 'PAIN IN THE BUTT' All jokes aside, we understand how painful and debilitating sciatic pain can be.

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"Be a Servant" Matthew 20:26



**Fr. Tom Nestor** has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

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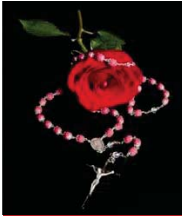


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Artist's rendering

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—OR—



"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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