

# METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

MAR 17  
2024



5<sup>TH</sup>

SUNDAY  
OF LENT

THE COMING OF JESUS' HOUR

"But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.  
Father, glorify your name." John 12:27-28

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

Our Lenten Reflections have focused our attention on Our Lady. The Blessed Virgin Mary is also the topic of Father Colarusso's Thursday classes. Why spend so much time talking about this woman from Nazareth? The first reason is Mary's unique role in Salvation History. Her *fiat* opens the door of the world to the Savior. Christ is the dawn, and Mary is the Morning Star, who signals his arrival. She doesn't just herald Christ's coming like John the Baptist. She is the one through whom and by whom Christ enters the world. She's the doorway of salvation, the Mother of the Living, the New Eve.

The second reason is what our Blessed Mother means to discipleship. Mary is the icon of discipleship. Anyone who follows Christ, follows him only insofar as they imitate her, consciously or not. And anyone who entrusts themselves to Our Lady can be assured of becoming a disciple of Christ since Mary's discipleship in every way leads to Jesus her Son. It is no exaggeration to say that in Mary, discipleship has no room for improvement.

Our faith is all about relationships between persons. First and foremost, our relationship with the person of Jesus. Second, our relationships with the persons with whom we live. We can discern some elements of Mary's relationship with God in Luke's account of the Annunciation, the moment when the Angel Gabriel visited Mary to ask her to be the Mother of the Savior. First, Mary is a virgin. Her virginity is a sign of her consecration to God; it's total. Even in her body, she is God's (Psalm 84:2). Second, Mary is receptive to the creativity of God. Just as the waters of the abyss welcomed the creative action of the Holy Spirit in the beginning (Gen1:1-2), so also Mary welcomes the creative work of the Holy Spirit in the conception of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity (Lk 1:34-38). The difference between Mary (whose name in Latin means sea) and the abyss of water is freedom. Mary freely welcomes God's initiative. Finally, Mary's faith is unwavering. God asks us to believe in what appear to be very difficult and even unbelievable things for those who do not have the eyes of faith: the One God is Triune, God's Son became man, God's Son suffered and died for us, following God means we will suffer persecution, and the Kingdom of Heaven has come just to name a few. While Mary lived these mysteries in the Fullness of Time in Nazareth, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem, she always assented without hesitation or complaint, pondering them in her heart (Lk 2:51).

Mary's faith, which characterizes her relationship with God, informs her human relationships. She always acts in faith. By faith, she travels to her cousin Elizabeth's home to help prepare for the birth of her son John the Baptist. By faith, she waits on God to reveal himself to Joseph, her future husband, and so be welcomed into his home. By faith, she accompanies her Son with the love of a Mother and a Disciple, as her vocation takes her to Bethlehem, Egypt, Nazareth, Jerusalem, and eventually to the foot of the Cross. For us bad news, a failure, a disagreement, or tragedies can lead us to doubt God's faithfulness. In these dark moments, Mary leaned into her faith in God and surrendered herself to his care. Imagine how she felt when she learned Joseph planned to end their engagement and "put her away" (Mt 1:19). Imagine how she felt when she learned they would have to travel 90 miles to Bethlehem with her due date looming (Lk 2:1-5). Imagine how she felt when she lost Jesus on their return from Jerusalem (Lk 2:41-52). Imagine how she felt when she saw her Son hanging on the cross (Jn 19). In all of these circumstances, she renewed her faith and it grew until it could house the entire Church. "Then he said to the disciple, 'Behold your mother.'" (John 19:27).

## **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)**



## 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

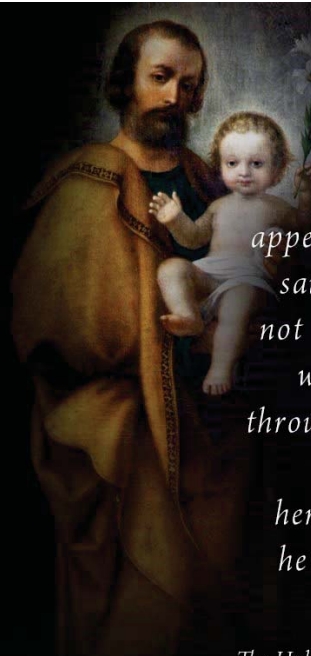
On Sunday, March 10th the Sodality members donated toiletries, face cloths, combs and brushes in support of Common Ground Ministries, which provides a shower van for local homeless people as well as a food pantry and clothing to those in need.



On Friday, February 23rd, members of the Sodality purchased food to make 110 bagged lunches for the Lazarus Home Food Truck. Bagged lunches comprised of ham and cheese sandwiches, fruit and homemade cookies were distributed to those in need the following day. The Sodality will be contributing to this feeding program on March 15th & 22nd.



The BVM Sodality meets monthly on the 2nd Sunday at 11:30am and welcomes our newest member, Linda Kelley! Looking to contribute to helping others? Come join our organization!



**The SOLEMNITY  
of ST. JOSEPH**  
Tuesday, March 19th  
“...The angel of the Lord  
appeared to him in a dream and  
said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do  
not be afraid to take Mary your  
wife into your home. For it is  
through the Holy Spirit that this  
child has been conceived in  
her...’ ...When Joseph awoke,  
he did as the angel of the Lord  
had commanded him...”  
*The Holy Gospel According to Matthew 1:20-24*



**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
Entered into the Sacrament of  
Matrimony:

*Joseph Gosselin & Julia Koralishn*

*“Confirm them in faith, hope, love and just deeds.  
Make their marriage as honorable as the marriages  
of the righteous and just of old.”*

*Rite of the Covenant*



## ULTREYA

Tuesday, March 26th 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, CJ Jewer, 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!

## HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS

Please join us for refreshments

**Sunday, March 17th & 24th**

St. Monica School Hall

After the 9am mass

**Sunday, March 24th**

St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

After the 10:30am mass

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY was observed at St. Monica School on Friday, March 1st with volunteers from our parishes who came to read to our classrooms.

Among our guest readers were Mrs. Jane Shawcross and Mr. Peter McQuillan.



## WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY!

"So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God, through faith, for all you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

Galatians 3:26-27





METHUEN COLLABORATIVE  
ST. MONICA & ST. LUCY PARISHES

# HOLY WEEK & EASTER SEASON

## March 24 | Palm Sunday

Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

## March 28 | Holy Thursday

9:00am Morning Prayer and Rosary (St. Lucy Church)

7:00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (St. Monica Church)

## March 29 | Good Friday

9:00am Morning Prayer and Rosary (St. Lucy Church)

3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion (St. Lucy Church)

7:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion (St. Lucy Church)

## March 30 | Holy Saturday

9:00am Morning Prayer and Rosary (St. Monica Church)

10:00am Confessions (Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church)

8:00pm Easter Vigil (St. Monica Church)

## March 31 | Easter Sunday

8:00am Mass (St. Lucy Church)

10:30am Mass (St. Lucy Church)

9:00am Mass (St. Monica Church)

12:00pm Mass (St. Monica Church)

## April 6 and 7 | Divine Mercy Sunday

Regular Weekend Mass schedule

2:00pm Divine Mercy Devotion (St. Monica Church)

## OFFERTORY MARCH 2 & 3

St. Monica - \$8,694.<sup>00</sup>

St. Lucy - \$5,141.<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 cereal, rice, mashed potatoes, jelly, pasta sauce, pancake mix, 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](mailto:parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com).

**GETHSEMANE CHAPEL AT ST. MONICA CHURCH**  
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**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](http://www.methuencatholic.org)

**Hours: M - F 9am - 2pm**



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### 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
<a href="mailto:methuencatholic@gmail.com">methuencatholic@gmail.com</a>	
Karl Jackson	Director of Parish Life
<a href="mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com">faithformation.stlm@gmail.com</a>	
Brink Bush	Music Director
Sharon Waning	Music Ministry (St. Lucy)
Kevin Fitzgerald	Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA
Christine Ryan	Administrative Assistant
<a href="mailto:parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com">parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com</a>	



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### SCHOOL STAFF

Donna Henderson	Principal
Pam Silveira	Administrative Assistant
<a href="mailto:smsoffice@methuencatholic.org">smsoffice@methuencatholic.org</a>	



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON***Psalm 43 (42): 1-2*

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.  
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

**ENTRANCE 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.

**FIRST READING***Jeremiah 31: 31-34 (35B)*

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers the day I took them by the hand to lead them forth from the land of Egypt; for they broke my covenant, and I had to show myself their master, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD. I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer will they have need to teach their friends and relatives how to know the LORD. All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Psalm 51: 3-4, 12-13, 14-15*

Cre - ate a clean heart, a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.  
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me. **R.**

A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me.  
Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me. **R.**

Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me.  
I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners shall return to you. **R.**

**SECOND READING***Hebrews 5: 7-9*

In the days when Christ Jesus was in the flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***John 12: 26*

Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord;  
and where I am, there also will my servant be.

**GOSPEL***John 12: 20-33*

Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.

"I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." The crowd there heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come for my sake but for yours. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." He said this indicating the kind of death he would die.

**CREED***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***John 12: 24*

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain.  
But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

**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*What Wondrous Love Is This*

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my  
 2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will  
 3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing

1. soul? What won-drous love is this, O my soul? What  
 2. sing; To God and to the Lamb, I will sing; To  
 3. on; And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; And

1. won-drous love is this that caused the Lord of  
 2. God and to the Lamb, who is the great I  
 3. when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful

1. bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul, for my  
 2. AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing, I will  
 3. be, And through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing

1. soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 2. sing; While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 3. on! And through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on.

RECESSIONAL HYMN*Again We Keep This Solemn Fast*

1. A - gain we keep this sol - emn fast, A gift of  
 2. The law and proph - ets from of old In fig - ured  
 3. More spar - ing, there - fore, let us make The words we

1. faith from ag - es past, This Lent which binds us  
 2. ways this Lent fore - told, Which Christ, all ag - es'  
 3. speak, the food we take, Our sleep, our laugh - ter,

1. lov - ing - ly To faith and hope and char - i - ty.  
 2. Lord and Guide, In these last days has sanc - ti - fied.  
 3. ev - 'ry sense; Learn peace through ho - ly pen - i - tence.

## ST. MONICA PARISH

### Saturday, March 16

9:00am Joseph Lavigne  
Yvette Moran  
Mike Milnes  
4:00pm Sheila Fichter

### Sunday, March 17

9:00am For the Parishioners of  
St. Monica & St. Lucy  
12:00pm Maurice Lariviere, Sr.  
Maurice Lariviere, Jr.

### Saturday, March 23

9:00am Gerardo & Mattia D'Andra  
Vincent Minicucci  
4:00pm Francis T. Roberge

### Sunday, March 24 - PALM SUNDAY

9:00am Austin Michael Willette  
Cheryl Laird  
Jean Guy Dulac  
12:00pm For the Parishioners of  
St. Monica & St. Lucy

## BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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## ST. LUCY PARISH

### Saturday, March 16

4:00pm Joe & Millie DaGraca  
Janessa Ciofalo

### Sunday, March 17

10:30am Domenic Pappalardo  
Lino Brosco  
Juana Sanchez

### Monday, March 18

9:00am Alexander & Rose D'Urso

### Tuesday, March 19 - Feast of St. Joseph

9:00am Bertrand LeBlanc  
Real Taschereau  
Gerard Taschereau

### Thursday, March 21

9:00am Busty & Tina Consoli  
Lucille Guimond

### Friday, March 22

9:00am John & Louise Salmi

### Saturday, March 23

4:00pm Melanie Klier

### Sunday, March 24 - PALM SUNDAY

10:30am Lucy, Rose and Salvatore Sapuppo and  
Deceased Members of their Family  
Eleanor Coogan  
Alice Beverley

## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	03/17/24	Fr. Patrick Fiorillo	Mateus Martin
Mon	03/18/24	Fr. Edward McDonagh	Gustavo Neitzke
Tues	03/19/24	Fr. Joseph Curran	Javier Padilla
Wed	03/20/24	Fr. Brian O'Hanlon	Diego Pena
Thurs	03/21/24	Fr. Richard Shmaruk	Aaron Sanz
Fri	03/22/24	Fr. William McLaughlin	Vincenzo Caruso
Sat	03/23/24	Fr. Charles Madi Okin	Deacon Marcelo Ferrari



## PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for 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., Jason & Matt W.

Please pray for Diane Amaral-Manley & Phyllis Mazzaglia whose funerals 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?

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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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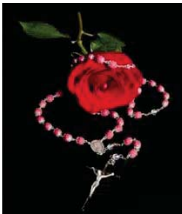


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