

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

APR 06
2025

go and
"Let the one among you
who is without sin



sin
be the first to
throw a stone at her."

John 8:7

no more

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THE ROLE OF THE FAMILY IN EVANGELIZATION

The family is called the Domestic Church for a reason. It is in the domestic family that the individual, beginning in childhood, honors God, and develops strong moral values necessary to guide them through life. Within the domestic family, children are given examples of faith, hope, and love.

Parents often ask what they can do to inspire their children to make the Catholic faith their own. Regular prayer from an early age and regular attendance at Sunday Mass together as a family are absolutely necessary to form habits that will last through life.

The following quotes are taken from Marriage and Family: Home of the New Evangelization by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

- Evangelization first takes place in the family. Parents “by word and example” are the first heralds of the faith regarding their children.
- In the family, children first learn about God, love, and the Church.
- Mothers and fathers are indispensable in sharing the faith with their children.
- When parents practice and live their Catholic faith, children receive a sure foundation to assist them in difficult life choices.
- The family has an invaluable role in passing on the faith in a joyful and bold manner.
- Children must learn that they are members of the Body of Christ and have a valuable role in the Church.
- Evangelization in the family must be age appropriate and can begin with simply teaching children the Sign of the Cross, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be.
- When children see their parents committed to the Lord and his Church, they are much more likely to do so themselves
- Every baptized Christian is called to be a disciple of Christ and proclaim the Gospel. This is true of individuals and families.
- Here are some concrete practices that anyone can use in their families to foster the New Evangelization:
 1. Pray daily (individually and as a family).
 2. Read Scripture. Children love to hear the stories of the Bible.
 3. Regularly celebrate the Sacraments, especially in Sunday Mass each week as a family.
 4. Study the faith. Use the Catechism of the Catholic Church if possible.
 5. Discuss the faith over dinner.
 6. Participate in service opportunities as a family.
 7. Trust in the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives you the grace you need to share your faith with others, including your children.

These are all good practices for families with young children, but what about those with young adolescent or adult children who have already decided to leave the Church. Families do not seem to be the main factor in the maturing process of young adults. The internet, TV and movies, even the evening news or the newspaper (or many other sources) can introduce false philosophies into the minds of young adults (or even older ones) that can draw them away from the basic tenets of the Church. How do we evangelize our children (young or adult) who have left the Church?

Giving good example in the practice of the faith and continuing to pray for them (and with them, if they are willing) are always necessary. Arguments with them, accusations, and threats are usually ineffective. The most important thing is to trust in the Holy Spirit. There you will obtain the grace you need to call your family back to the faith in ways that you would never think of which you are totally unaware are drawing them to the faith.

METHUEN COLLABORATIVE
ST. MONICA & ST. LUCY PARISHES

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SEASON

April 13 | Palm Sunday

Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

The Palm Sunday Masses begin with the Blessing of the Palms and Procession. On Palm Sunday, April 13 the 9:00am (SM) and 10:30am (SL) Masses will begin with a Solemn Procession. These processions will start at the statues of Our Lady outside the Church (weather permitting).

April 17 | Holy Thursday

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

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

April 18 | 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)

April 19 | Holy Saturday

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

8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass (St. Lucy Church)

April 20 | 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 26 / 27 | Divine Mercy Sunday

Regular Weekend Mass schedule

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

FIRST READING*Ezekiel 37: 12-14*

Thus says the Lord GOD: O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people! I will put my spirit in you that you may live, and I will settle you upon your land; thus you shall know that I am the LORD. I have promised, and I will do it, says the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)*

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive to my voice in supplication.

If you, O LORD, mark iniquities, LORD, who can stand?
But with you is forgiveness, that you may be revered.

I trust in the LORD; my soul trusts in his word.
More than sentinels wait for the dawn, let Israel wait for the LORD.
For with the LORD is kindness and with him is plenteous redemption;
and he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities.

SECOND READING*Romans 8: 8-11*

Brothers and sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the One who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit dwelling in you.

GOSPEL*John 11: 1-45*

Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and dried his feet with her hair; it was her brother Lazarus who was ill. So the sisters sent word to him saying, "Master, the one you love is ill." When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you, and you want to go back there?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in a day? If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." He said this, and then told them, "Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him." So the disciples said to him, "Master, if he is asleep, he will be saved." But Jesus was talking about his death, while they thought that he meant ordinary sleep. So then Jesus said to them clearly, "Lazarus has died. And I am glad for you that I was not there, that you may believe. Let us go to him." So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary secretly, saying, "The teacher is here and is asking for you." As soon as she heard this, she rose quickly and went to him. For Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still where Martha had met him. So when the Jews who were with her in the house comforting her saw Mary get up quickly and go out, they followed her, presuming that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

APRIL 17 - Holy Thursday
St. Vincent de Paul

APRIL 18 - Good Friday
Holy Land Shrines

Good Friday's collection for the Holy Land is, in the words of Paul VI, "not only for the Holy Places but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational, and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities."



The Knights of Columbus will be leading the monthly Rosary, this Wednesday, April 9th, for St. Monica School parents in the Chapel. All parents of students are welcome to attend.

Just stop in before picking up children from school. The praying of the Rosary will begin at 1:15 PM. Rosaries and prayer cards will be provided. Come by and pray for your own personal intentions!

St. Monica School
 JOIN US FOR
Bunny Bazaar and Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, April 12, 2025
 Breakfast served
 9:00 AM - Noon
 \$8 Per ticket - Tickets are available
 at the school office or at the door.
Bazaar 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Fun for the entire family!
RAFFLES. GAMES.
CRAFTS. &
COOKIE DECORATING

HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS

Please join us for refreshments

Sunday, April 13th
 St. Monica School Hall
 following the 9:00am Mass

Sunday, April 27th
 St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
 following the 10:30am Mass



ALL ARE WELCOME!

ST MONICA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, APRIL 26 2025 after the 4:00 PM Mass ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY and Sunday, APRIL 27 2025 ST. MOMICA after the 9:00 AM, and 12:00PM Masses. ST. LUCY AFTER 10:30AM All proceeds are used for scholarships for 8th grade students going to Catholic high schools.

ST MONICA SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENTS:
WILLY WONKA JR.
 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH 
 THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH
 7 pm
 AT THE METHUEN MEMORIAL MUSIC HALL
 192 BROADWAY, METHUEN
PLEASE JOIN US FOR THESE SPECTACULAR PERFORMANCES
TICKETS - \$15
PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE TO PURCHASE TICKETS
978-686-1801

MARCH 22 & 23

St. Monica - \$7,888.00 St. Lucy - \$4,706.00

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 Canned Tuna, Mashed Potatoes, Cereal, Canned Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Soups, Peanut Butter & Jelly. 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 per week from 6am-7pm

**CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE**
Open Mon-Sat from 9am-5pm

BAPTISMS 2nd Sunday of the month, 2:00pm at St. Monica's | 3rd 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: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9am - 1pm
Closed Wed



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
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PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Marcos Peña	Administrator
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Deacon John Kobrenski	Permanent Deacon
Deacon John Pierce	Senior Deacon
Kera Mansour	Business Manager
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ST. MONICA SCHOOL
212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA 01844
(978) 686 -1801
www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org

SCHOOL STAFF

Donna Henderson	Principal
Ann Marie Collins	Administrative Assistant
smsoffice@methuencatholic.org	

OPENING SONGChrist Be Our Light

V1: Longing for light, we wait in
darkness. Longing for truth, we
turn to you. Make us Your own,
Your holy people. Light for the
world to see

Refrain: Christ, Be our Light
Shine in our hearts shine in the darkness
Christ be Our Light
Shine in your church gathered today

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD, who opens a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters, who leads out chariots and horsemen, a powerful army, till they lie prostrate together, never to rise, snuffed out and quenched like a wick. Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In the desert I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers. Wild beasts honor me, jackals and ostriches, for I put water in the desert and rivers in the wasteland for my chosen people to drink, the people whom I formed for myself, that they might announce my praise.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.
When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing. **R.**

Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad indeed.

R.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the torrents in the southern desert. Those that sow in tears shall reap rejoicing. **R.**

Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown, They shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves. **R.**

SECOND READINGPhilippians 3:8-14

Brothers and sisters: I consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having any righteousness of my own based on the law but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God, depending on faith to know him and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by being conformed to his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. It is not that I have already taken hold of it or have already attained perfect maturity, but I continue my pursuit in hope that I may possess it, since I have indeed been taken possession of by Christ Jesus. Brothers and sisters, I for my part do not consider myself to have taken possession. Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONJoel 2:12-13

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of Endless Glory

Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart;
for I am gracious and merciful.

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of Endless Glory

GOSPELJohn 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. But early in the morning he arrived again in the temple area, and all the people started coming to him, and he sat down and taught them. Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and made her stand in the middle. They said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" They said this to test him, so that they could have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. But when they continued asking him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he bent down and wrote on the ground. And in response, they went away one by one, beginning with the elders. So he was left alone with the woman before him. Then Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She replied, "No one, sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

OFFERTORY HYMNThe King of Love My Shepard Is

V1: The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness fails me never I
nothing lack if I am his, and He is mine
forever.

V3. You spread a table in my sight,
Your saving grace bestowing. And O
what joy and true delight from your
pure chalice flowing.

V2: Where streams of living
water flow with gentle care he
leads me And where the verdant
pastures grow, with heav'nly
food He feeds me.

V4: And so through all the
length of days, Your goodness
fails me never. Good
Shepherd, may I sing your
praise within your house
forever.

COMMUNION HYMNBe Not Afraid

Refrain: Be not afraid I go before you
always Come, follow me and I will give
you rest .

V1: You shall cross the barren desert
But you shall not die of thirst
You shall wander far in safety
Though you do not know the way You shall
speak your words to foreign men
And they will understand
You shall see the face of God and live

V2: If you pass through raging waters
in the sea You shall not drown If you
walk amid the burning flames You
shall not be harmed If you stand
before the power of hell And death is
at your side Know that I am with you
through it all

V3. And blessed are your poor For
the kingdom shall be theirs Blest are
you that weep and mourn For one
day you shall laugh And if wicked
men insult and hate you All because
of me Blessed, blessed are you

RECESSIONAL HYMNGlory in the Cross

V1: Let us ever glory in the cross of Christ Our salvation and our
hope. Let us bow in homage to the Lord of Life, who was broken
to make us whole. There is no greater love, as blessed as this: to
lay down one's life for a friend. Let us ever glory in the cross of
Christ and the triumph of God's great love.

V2: Let us make our journey to the cross of Christ who
surrendered glory and grace. to become a servant of the great and
small, that all people may know God's face.
Though his birth was divine, he knelt as a slave, to wash common
dust from our feet.
Let us ever glory in the cross of Christ and the triumph of God's
great love.

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.



ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, April 5

9:00am FRIST SATURDAY MASS
4:00pm Philip, Johanna & William Muhilly

Sunday, April 6

9:00am For the Parishioners of St. Lucy & St. Monica
12:00pm Mary Hamel
Robert LaPiana
Fred J. & Jenny Bonaccorsi
Joseph F. Bonaccorsi
Roland & Eleanor Marchman

Saturday, April 12

9:00am Patricia Jennings
4:00pm Vincent Jablonski

Sunday, April 13 - PALM SUNDAY

9:00am Charlie & Rose Hanafin
Richard Curtis
Richard Ferguson
William E. Donahue
Marc Lyonnais
12:00pm For the Parishioners of St. Lucy & St. Monica



ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, April 5

4:00pm Joanne Kaufman

Sunday, April 6

10:30am Vito & Giuseppina Cunsolo
Deceased Members of the Cunsolo & Galvagno Families
Joe Potvin
John Bellino

Monday, April 7

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

Tuesday, April 8

9:00am Joseph Rapazzo

Wednesday, April 9

9:00am Othon Wiltz

Thursday, April 10

9:00am Richard G. Ferguson

Friday, April 11

9:00am Ann Marie Mears

Saturday, April 12

4:00pm Michael Kenny, Jr.

Sunday, April 13 - PALM SUNDAY

10:30am John McDermott
Deceased Members of the BVM Sodality
Paula Melnick



PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	04/06/25	Fr. Robert Monagle	Jake Livingstone SJS Boston
Mon	04/07/25	Msgr. John McLaughlin	Br. Chris Puglia OMV
Tues	04/08/25	Fr. Richard Uftring	Patrick Razhamah SJS Manchester, NH
Wed	04/09/25	Fr. Edward McCabe	Br. Miguel Roque OMV
Thurs	04/10/25	Fr. Daniel Zinger	Deacon George Bastedo SJS Rochester, NY
Fri	04/11/25	Fr. David Michael	Deacon Vincenzo Caruso RMS Boston
Sat	04/12/25	Msgr. William Fay	Deacon Brian Daley SJS Boston

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Kristin M., John S., Michael B., Robert L., Victor T., Barbara S., Carolyn, Adrienne M., Terry, Chris C., Joy M., William T., Chris B., Kathy P., Jeff H., Phyllis T. & Patrice K.

Please pray for Lillian Coco & Manuel Brasil whose funerals we recently offered. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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clergytrust

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So it means a lot to all of us."

- Fr. Richard Clancy

Pastor, River of Divine
Mercy Parish
Dracut/Lowell/Tyngsboro



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Artist's rendering

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