



## 26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him.” - Mt 21:32



## **ST. PAUL CENTER FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

*By Dr. Scott Hahn*  
**The Humble Path**

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Ezekiel 18:25-28  
Psalm 25:4-9  
Philippians 2:1-11  
Matthew 21:28-32

Echoing the complaint heard in last week's readings, today's first reading again presents protests that God isn't fair. Why does He punish with death one who begins in virtue but falls into iniquity, while granting life to the wicked one who turns from sin?

This is the question that Jesus takes up in the parable in today's Gospel.

The first son represents the most heinous sinners of Jesus' day - tax collectors and prostitutes - who by their sin at first refuse to serve in the Lord's vineyard, the kingdom. At the preaching of John the Baptist, they repented and did what is right and just. The second son represents Israel's leaders - who said they would serve God in the vineyard, but refused to believe John when he told them they must produce good fruits as evidence of their repentance (see Matthew 3:8).

Once again, this week's readings invite us to ponder the unfathomable ways of God's justice and mercy. He teaches His ways only to the humble, as we sing in today's Psalm. And in the Epistle today, Paul presents Jesus as the model of that humility by which we come to know life's true path.

Paul sings a beautiful hymn to the Incarnation. Unlike Adam, the first man, who in his pride grasped at being God, the New Adam, Jesus, humbled himself to become a slave, obedient even unto death on the cross (see Romans 5:14). In this He has shown sinners - each one of us - the way back to the Father. We can only come to God, to serve in His vineyard, the Church, by having that same attitude as Christ.

This is what Israel's leaders lacked. In their vainglory, they presumed their superiority - that they had no further need to hear God's Word or God's servants.

But this is the way to death, as God tells Ezekiel today. We are always to be emptying ourselves, seeking forgiveness for our sins and frailties, confessing on bended knee that He is Lord, to the glory of the Father.

*A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology*  
*[www.SalvationHistory.com](http://www.SalvationHistory.com)*

**THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION  
HOLY FATHER - MISSIONARY EFFORTS**

This week's second collection will support the Holy Father's "Peter's Pence" collection that provides funds for emergency and disaster relief. This collection also provides support to The Catholic University of America (CUA) that educates priests, lay people for ministry, and will assist the Inner-City Parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston, Your generosity will assist the Holy Father as well as the various missionary efforts at home and abroad.

For information on these Collections, go to:

1. [www.usccb.org/national-collection/peters-pence](http://www.usccb.org/national-collection/peters-pence)
2. [www.cua.edu](http://www.cua.edu)
3. [www.BostonCatholic.org](http://www.BostonCatholic.org)

**HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS**

Please join us for refreshments  
this Sunday, October 1st  
at St. Monica School Hall  
after the 9am mass.  
Everyone is welcome!

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Karl at the office, extension 35 or email [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com)



**SAVE THE DATE!** **M** **¡RESERVA LA FECHA!**

**2023**

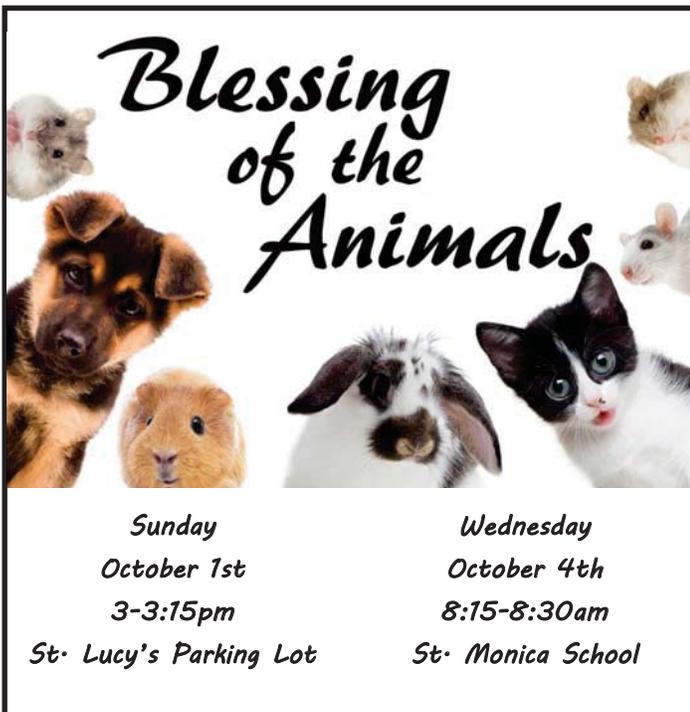
**METHUEN DAY**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sabado el</b>
<b>October 7th</b>	<b>7 de Octubre</b>
10 am – 3 pm	10 am – 3 pm
Downtown Methuen Hampshire Street	El Centro de Methuen Hampshire Street

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**STOP BY OUR TABLE TO SAY "HI"!!**



**Blessing of the Animals**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>October 1st</b>	<b>October 4th</b>
<b>3-3:15pm</b>	<b>8:15-8:30am</b>
<b>St. Lucy's Parking Lot</b>	<b>St. Monica School</b>



**Faith FITT**  
**SATURDAYS 8AM**

All meetings return to St. Lucy's Lower Church Hall Oct 7



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OCTOBER 14, 2023  
9AM-3PM

**Knights of Columbus**



**Tootsie Roll Drive**

St. Monica & St. Lucy Churches  
October 7 & 8 after all masses  
All proceeds go to helping disabled children.

**October  
Month of the Holy Rosary**



**Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary  
October 7**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**



Saturdays  
9:30am-2:30pm  
Gethsemane Chapel

Wednesdays  
6-7pm  
St. Lucy Church

"...IN THIS WORLD I CANNOT SEE  
THE MOST HIGH SON OF GOD WITH  
MY OWN EYES, EXCEPT FOR HIS  
MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD."  
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



Sts. Mary & Joseph Parish  
**Rosary Rally**



Indoor Rosary Rally  
at Sts. Mary and Joseph Parish (South Campus)

**October 8th / 3 PM - 5 PM**

**200 Lawrence Rd. Salem, NH**

A Procession will begin at 3pm outside and will move inside the Church,  
followed by a short program!

- ◇ Presentation on the power and beauty of the Rosary.
- ◇ Music will enhance our program.
- ◇ We will gather together to pray the Rosary for our families, our community, and our country!

If you have any questions please contact the office! 603-893-8661

**WANTED - HOMEMADE BAKERY GOODS**



The BVM Sodality will be hosting a bake table during the Fall Fair on October 14th. All parishioners are invited to support our bake sale!

Please drop off any donated bakery items on Friday, October 13th from 12-6pm at St. Lucy's Parish Hall. Your support is much appreciated!

**OFFERTORY SEPTEMBER 16 & 17**

St. Monica - \$7,289.<sup>00</sup>

St. Lucy - \$3,766.<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 soups, cereal, rice sides, peanut butter, jelly, canned pasta, canned beans, tuna, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit & pancake syrup. 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.

<p><b>GETHSEMANE CHAPEL AT ST. MONICA CHURCH</b> Open 7 days/week from morning rush hour until 7pm</p>	<p><b>CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE</b> Open Mon-Fri 9am-7pm , Sat &amp; Sun 9am-5pm</p>
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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

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

<p><b>MASS SCHEDULE</b></p> <p>SAT 4 pm (VIGIL) both parishes SUN 9 am &amp; 12 pm St. Monica 10:30 am St. Lucy MON/TUES/THURS/FRI 9 am St. Lucy SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica</p>	<p><b>CONFESSIONS</b></p> <p>SAT 3-3:45pm at both parishes</p>
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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>	



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**SCHOOL STAFF**

Donna Henderson	Principal
Pam Silveira	Administrative Assistant
<b>smsoffice@methuencatholic.org</b>	

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*Dn 3: 31, 29, 30, 43, 42*

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

ENTRANCE HYMN*Amazing Grace*

1. A - maz - ing grace! How sweet the sound That saved \*a
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my
3. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His word my
4. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al -
5. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright shin - ing



1. wretch like me! I once was lost, but
2. fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
3. hope se - cures; He will my shield and
4. read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
5. as the sun, We've no less days to



1. now am found, Was blind but now I see.
2. grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
3. por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
4. safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
5. sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA*Refer to Pew Card*FIRST READING*Ezek 18: 25-28*

Thus says the LORD: You say, "The LORD's way is not fair!" Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair? When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die. But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, and does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life; since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Ps 25 (24): 4-5, 6-7, 8-9*

℟. Re - mem - ber your mer - cies, 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.

The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not; 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***Phil 2: 1-11*

Brothers and sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others.

Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Jn 10: 27*

Ÿ. My sheep hear my voice, says *the Lord*; \*  
I know them, and they follow me.

**GOSPEL***Mt 21: 28-32*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, 'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not,' but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did his father's will?" They answered, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him."

**CREED***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Ps 119 (118): 49-50*

Remember your word to your servant. O Lord, by which you have given me hope.  
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

**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*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

1. Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, Ere the worlds be -  
 2. Bless-ed was the day for ev - er When the Vir - gin,  
 3. This is he whom seers in old time Chant-ed of with

1. gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
 2. full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
 3. one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets

1. He the source, the end - ing he, Of the things that  
 2. Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the child, the  
 3. Prom-ised in their faith - ful word; Now he shines, the

1. are, that have been, And that fu - ture years shall see,  
 2. world's Re - deem - er, First re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
 3. long - ex - pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise the Lord,

Final

1-5. Ev - er-more and ev - er-more. 5. A - men.

POSTLUDE AT ST. MONICA*Mr. Bush*RECESSIONAL HYMN*Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*

1. Songs of thank-ful-ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise,  
 2. Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;  
 3. Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, Mir-rored in thy ho - ly Word;

1. Man - i - fest-ed by the star To the sag - es from a - far;  
 2. And at Ca - na, wed-ding guest, In thy God-head man - i - fest;  
 3. May we im - i - tate thee now, And be pure, as pure art thou;

1. Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In thy birth at Beth - le - hem;  
 2. Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 3. That we like to thee may be At thy great E - pi - pha - ny;

1. Prais - es be to thee ad-dressed,  
 2. Prais - es be to thee ad-dressed,  
 3. And may praise thee, ev - er - blessed, ) God in flesh made man - i - fest.

**ST. MONICA PARISH**

**Saturday, September 30**

9:00am John D. Jalbert, Jr.  
4:00pm Margaret Collins

**Sunday, October 1**

9:00am Kevin Waterworth  
Charles Dobeck  
Marjorie Ann Robichaud  
Vincent Minicucci  
Gerard & Mattia D’Andrea  
Charlie & Rose Hanafin  
12:00pm Richard Ferguson

**Saturday, October 7**

9:00am FIRST SATURDAY MASS  
NO INTENTIONS  
4:00pm For the Parishioners of  
St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes

**Sunday, October 8**

9:00am Stanislaw Arabudzki  
Todd Tisdale  
Marie Bisson  
Greg L’Heureux  
Patricia Barrett  
12:00pm Walter & Theresa Witkos  
Patricia Wright

**ST. LUCY PARISH**

**Saturday, September 30**

4:00pm Deceased members of the  
Cortese & Rizzo Families

**Sunday, October 1**

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

**Monday, October 2**

9:00am Bruce Beverley

**Tuesday, October 3**

9:00am Blasco & Sal Scrofano

**Thursday, October 5**

9:00am George, Christine & Richard Ferguson

**Friday, October 6**

9:00am Yvonne & Roland Soucy

**Saturday, October 7**

4:00pm Deceased members of the family of  
Rocco & Amelia Bonanno and Helene  
Giordano

**Sunday, October 8**

10:30am Deceased members of the  
Wholley Family  
Jamie Legere  
James Mahoney  
Arthur & Helen Mahoney  
Raymond Richard, Jr.

**BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

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**PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS**

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	10/01/23	Fr. Ixon Chateau	Timothy Derosa
Mon	10/02/23	Fr. Mark DeAngelis	Sean McKeowen
Tues	10/03/23	Fr. William Kremmell	Jack Monbouquette
Wed	10/04/23	All Franciscans	Connor Roukey
Thurs	10/05/23	Fr. Rodney Copp	Paulo Carvalho
Fri	10/06/23	All Carthusians	Nicholas Colon
Sat	10/07/23	Pope Francis	Ryan Henderson

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION**  
To keep the First Saturday Devotion, attend Mass, pray rosary, meditate on the mysteries for 15 minutes. Go to confession within eight days.  
9am Mass  
Saturday, October 7th | St. Monica Church  
Rosary to follow in Gethsemane Chapel

**PRAYER CORNER**  
Please pray for Michelle, Marlene, Kay, Jim, Carlos S., Paul C., Meg C., Bill R., Patrice K., Jason, & Matt W.  
Please pray for Betty Irene Pollard & Martin J. McGowan, Jr. whose funerals we recently celebrated.  
May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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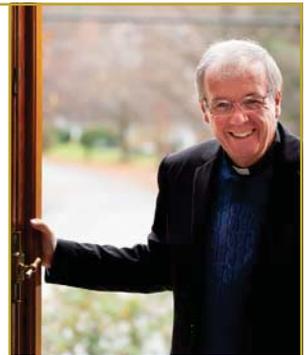
"Be a Servant" Matthew 20:26

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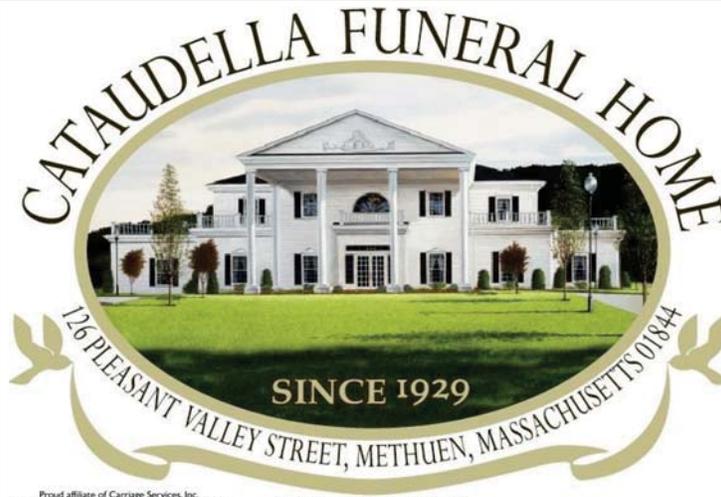
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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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