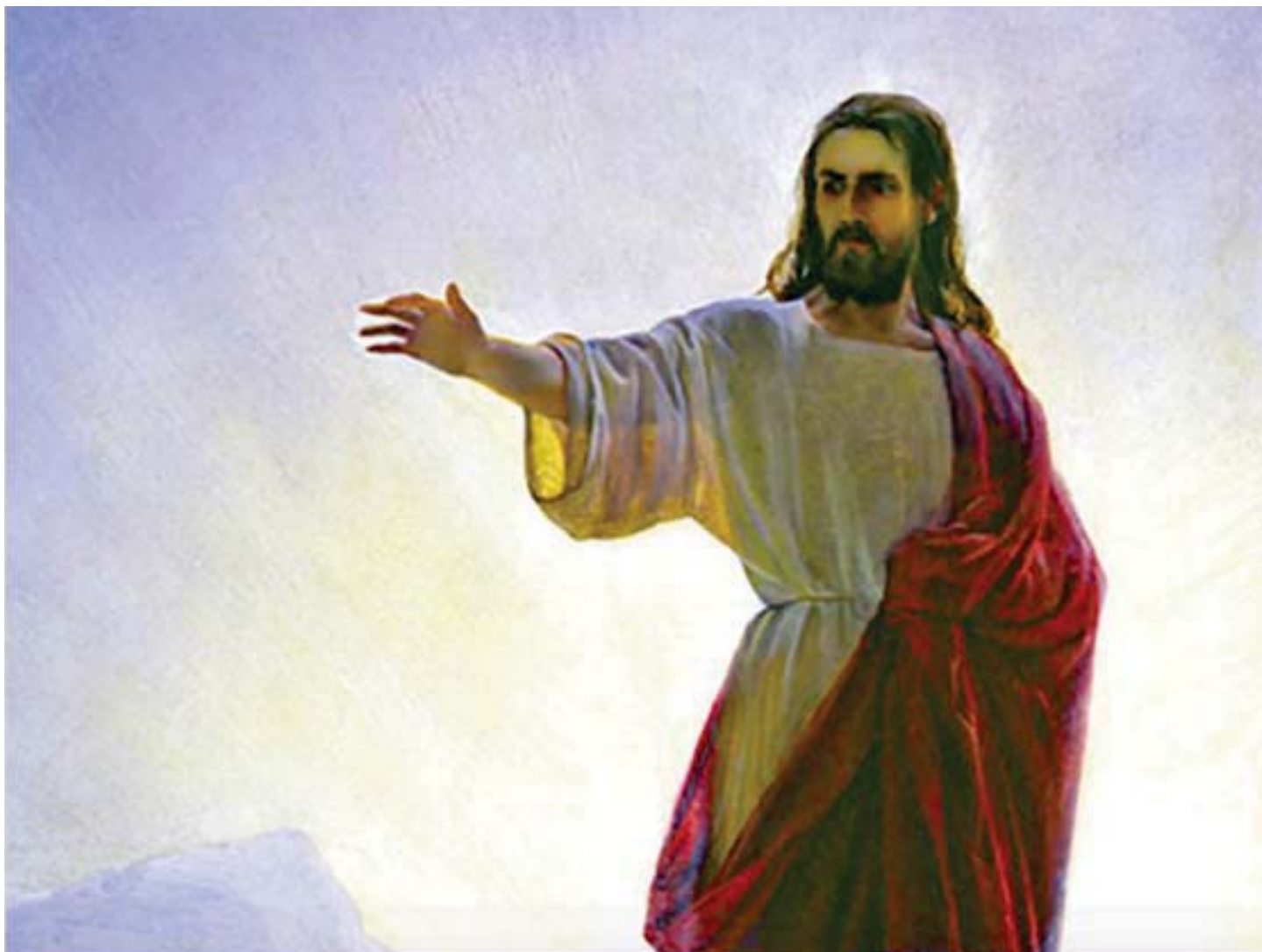


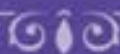


METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA & ST. LUCY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" - Lk 18:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPI

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, October 18

9:00am Albert, Russell, and Roland Raza, Joan Raza, Kenneth Duncan, Dale Duncan

4:00pm Stanislaw Arabudski, Todd Tisdale, Marie Bisson

Sunday, October 19

9:00am Walter & Dorothy Miranowicz, Walter Miranowicz Jr, Joseph Miranowicz, and James Griffin

12:00pm Paul Valliere, Aime Halde, Ethel Halde, Beth & Frank Monaco (Living), Heather & Brian Crouse (Living)

5:00pm Pedro Alanya

Monday, October 20

9:00am Manny Gianni, Christine Gianna Eldridge

6:00pm Por los feligreses de Santa Mónica y Santa Lucía

Saturday, October 25

9:00am Andrew Radar, Lee Lucas, Joseph Reitano, Steve Lori, John Smerdon

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

Sunday, October 26

9:00am William & Margaret Collins, Msgr. Richard Little, Rose & Frank Heymans, James and Paulette DeLeo, Kirk Patrick Walsh

12:00pm Mike Quintana, Lionel Lemelin, The Leslie Family (living), Sharon & Randy Wetzel (living), Donna & Joe Vicari (living)

5:00pm Por los feligreses de Santa Mónica y Santa Lucía



ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, October 18

4:00pm Bruce Beverley, Eugene Pryce, Dee Pomerleau (Living)

Sunday, October 19

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

Tuesday, October 21

9:00am Alexander & Rosemary Durso, Joseph & Mary Augeri

Wednesday, October 22

9:00am Antonio & Evelina Mollica

Thursday, October 23

9:00am Real Taschereau, Gerard Taschereau, Bertrand LeBlanc, Gail Taschereau

Friday, October 24

9:00am Joseph Lavigne, Yvette Moran, Mike Milnes

Saturday, October 25

4:00pm Connor Ofedu

Sunday, October 26

10:30am Ronald Landry, Salvatore Boragine Sr., Dorothy & Frank Verdolotti, Joseph Rapazzo Jr., Dominick DelGavio Jr.

PRAYER CORNER

Holy Father's Intention for October | For collaboration between different religious traditions: Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

Our own intentions | Patrice K., Kim P, Michelle R., Dipti S.

For those who have died | Please pray for those whose funerals we recently offered. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

THANK-YOU

Dear Parishioners of St. Monica & St. Lucy,

Thank you for all of your kind words and promise of prayers for me, my family, and my intentions as we move forward with this new chapter with me as your pastor. I am delighted to receive this appointment and the confidence of Archbishop Henning and pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide our community as we move forward as missionary disciples of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the hospitality and meals, Knights of Columbus, the Parish Council especially Jane and Erin, as well as the Hospitality Team at St. Lucy's.

Please be assured of my constant prayers and affection for you all.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Marcos Pena Portillo

Pastor

FROM DEACON JOHN PIERCE

This past Wednesday we started our Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe. We know of Our Lady's appearances to St. Juan Diego in Mexico in December 1531. I first heard of the event when I was a young boy in grade school in the 1950s. Sr. William Mary, a sister of Notre Dame de Namur, and one of the religious sisters to whom I owe so much gratitude, told our class of what had happened on the hill of Tepayac in present day Mexico City. Our Lady herself

placed flowers in St. Juan Diego's cloak, called a tilma.

When he opened his tilma before the bishop the flowers fell out and on the tilma was the image of Our Lady, copies of which hang on the walls of both St. Lucy and St. Monica Churches. Both the image and the tilma remain intact though nearly 500 years have passed.

The event speaks to us in these days. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the Americas and the Unborn, and St. John Paul II declared her the Star of the New Evangelization.

In a homily given at St. Peter's Basilica on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12, 2016 Pope Francis said, "Looking to Our Lady of Guadalupe reminds us that the Lord's visit always passes through those who manage to 'make flesh' his Word, who seek to embody the life of God within themselves, becoming living signs of his mercy...."

"To celebrate the remembrance of Mary is to celebrate that, like her, we are invited to go out and to encounter others with the same gaze, with the same mercy within, with the same gestures. To contemplate her is to feel the strong invitation to imitate her faith. Her presence leads us to reconciliation, giving us strength to create bonds in our blessed land, by saying 'yes' to life and 'no' to every kind of indifference, exclusion, and rejection of peoples and persons.

"Let us not be afraid to go out and look upon others with the same gaze. A gaze that makes us brothers and sisters. We do so because, like Juan Diego, we know that our mother is here, we know that we are beneath her shadow and under her protection, which is the source of our joy, that we are within her embrace (cf. *Nican Mopohua*, 119)."

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us. St. Juan Diego, pray for us.



ATTENTION PARISHIONERS

ST. LUCY PARISH | FALL CRAFT FAIR

254 MERRIMACK STREET,
METHUEN MA

Drop in to the **CRAFT FAIR** on Oct. 25th from 9:00-3:00. **FORTY EIGHT** Tables filled with unique products!!

New this year: Drop in to the **Schoolhouse** to visit 17 more vendors!! Play Our **Wheel of PRIZES!**



Come take a chance and spin the wheel - everyone is a winner! Or...looking for **Labubu Dolls??** Enter a special drawing!

Stop by our **book sale** too! Or take a chance to win our **NEW Salad Greens** -not lettuce- **just lots of \$\$\$\$**. Not to mention the Basket Raffle offers 27 **Baskets** loaded with goodies this year!

Looking for something yummy for lunch? Stop by the kitchen for **home-made sausage or meatball sandwiches** made by Donna Ramirez!

Free Door Prize Raffle Ticket for everyone who brings in a **canned food donation** to support the Methuen Senior Center.



Attention all BAKERS! Our Bakery Table raised more than \$1300 LAST YEAR. We hope to receive lots of donations from our parishioners. Baked goods can be dropped off in the parish hall on Friday 9:00-6:00 or Saturday 8:00-9:00.

We are looking for Volunteers to help during the Craft Fair. Please contact Judi at 978.314.8353 if you can donate some time on October 25th. Much appreciation to the 9 parishioner volunteers: Dave K.; Debbie R.; Mary R.; Debbie H.; Daisy L.; Carly H.; Curtis C.; Pauline H.; Sharon P.; Lindsay S.; Erin M.

Special thanks to all who have pitched in to support this event! Hope to see you next Saturday!



**Knights of
Columbus®**

The 9:00 AM Mass at St. Lucy on Wednesday, October 29, will be for Parishioners, their families, friends, neighbors, acquaintances, and anybody in the community, living or deceased, who may be suffering or have suffered from substance abuse. A petition box will be located in back of the church at St. Monica the weekend of Oct. 18-19 and at St. Lucy from Oct. 23-29. You may enter the **FIRST NAME ONLY**, of anybody you know of, that is suffering or have suffered from any form of substance abuse. The petition box will be included as part of the Mass on October 29th.

SECOND COLLECTION

This week's second collection supports Catholic World Missions. By Baptism, all Catholics are called to participate in the mission of the Church and share their faith as missionaries. World Mission Sunday gathers support for the pastoral and evangelization programs and needs of more than 1,150 mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and remote regions of Latin America. The funds gathered on World Mission Sunday are distributed in the pope's name by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith—a Pontifical Mission Society. Please visit www.propfaithboston.org for more information.

OFFERTORY | OCT 4/5

St. Monica - \$9,014.00 St. Lucy - \$4,929.00

Weekly Offertory needed to sustain parish operations: St. Monica - \$10,000 | St. Lucy - \$6,000

Thank you for continuing your generous contributions to the mission of our parishes.

PRO-LIFE

Dear Catholic Family,

After the Masses on the weekend of **October 25 & 26**, volunteers from the MA Alliance to Stop Taxpayer Funded Abortions will be collecting signatures for a ballot initiative, attempting to save the lives of the unborn in Massachusetts, one of the most pro-abortion states in the country.

If you are a registered voter in Massachusetts, please sign the petition sheet as the situation is dire; millions of dollars have been allocated to advance abortion in the state. Not a single dollar is allocated for the life-saving Pregnancy Care Centers that offer love and support to mothers and their babies and must rely on private donations.

We need 74,574 signatures to get the initiative on the ballot in 2028 so that citizens can vote on whether or not their taxes should be used to subsidize the abortion industry, which will remain legal. Decreasing the funding is the first small step. If you can volunteer, please contact Monica Silvey at 978-853-8248.



**Abortion destroys the smallest and most helpless members of the human family. We, as Catholics (Christians), are called by God to protect his precious gift of Life.*

RISE
LET US BE ON OUR WAY

RISE: COMMUNITY - Join Us!

RISE is an ongoing faith enrichment program for all parishioners that strengthens faith & fosters friendships. Each RISE session includes: a simple meal, presentation and discussion for adults, and classes for children.

Be a part of sharing your faith!

We are in need of volunteer for teachers, facilitators, and help with hospitality and set-up. Please consider donating your time.

Contact: Karl 978-683-1193 or
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com



Dear Parishioners of St. Monica & St. Lucy,

As we prepare for our Thanksgiving offering to local families in need, we are asking for whatever support you can offer to help our Society to provide a meal so that the families can enjoy the blessings of the Thanksgiving holiday. We will be providing a Market Basket gift card to purchase a turkey.

Please consider bringing Thanksgiving dinner items to either church & leaving them in the baskets for food donations. The items we could use are, stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, gravy, canned vegetables, quick bread or cake mixes. Once again we thank you for your continued support and generosity to "Help us Help People."

Society of St. Vincent De Paul



Faith2FITT
SATURDAYS 8AM

St. Lucy's Lower Church Hall
254 Merrimack St. Methuen

*Come Holy Spirit,
Fill the hearts of
thy faithful and en-
kindle in us the fire
of thy love. Send
forth thy spirit and
we shall be created.
And thou shalt re-
new the face of the
earth.*



Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our annual novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe: Patroness of the Americas, Star of the New Evangelization, and Patroness of the unborn will begin on October 15th.

Place: St. Lucy Church | 6 p.m. | Wednesdays
October 15, 2025 - December 10, 2025

- Exposition & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- Rosary
- Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Novena prayers
- Confessions



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)

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

BAPTISMS | Please call the parish offices at least two months in advance of your desired baptism date.

St. Monica | 2:00pm

1st Sunday of Month (Spanish) & 2nd Sunday of Month

St. Lucy | 2:00pm

3rd Sunday of the Month



ST. MONICA SCHOOL

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(978) 686 -1801
www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org

SCHOOL STAFF

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



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

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Yes, I CAN...THANKSGIVING DONATIONS! Please see our letter in this bulletin, and thank you for your generous support!

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sunday	10/19/2025	Fr. Mark Coiro	Christopher Silebi RMS
Monday	10/20/2025	All Passionists	Isaac Velazquez RMS
Tuesday	10/21/2025	Fr. Linus Mendis	Liam Warner SJS Boston
Wednesday	10/22/2025	Fr. Joseph Nguyễn	Daniel Morrissey SJS Worcester
Thursday	10/23/2025	Fr. John E. McLaughlin	Kennedy Oguiuba SJS Boston
Friday	10/24/2025	All Claretians	Patrick Horngam SJS Manchester
Saturday	10/25/2025	Fr. William O'Connor	Juan Cano RMS

PARISH OFFICES

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844
978.683.1193
www.methuencatholic.org

Hours: Mon | Tu | Th | Fri 9am - 1pm
Closed Wed

GETHSEMANE CHAPEL AT ST. MONICA CHURCH

Open 7 days a week from 7am-7pm

ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE

Open Mon-Sat from 9am-5pm

BULLETIN DEADLINE | Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com.



Is God Calling You – or Someone You Know – to be a Deacon?

The Archdiocese of Boston is beginning its Fall 2025 Inquirer Program for men interested in becoming a deacon with meetings across the Archdiocese.

For more information please go to
[https:// bit.ly/BostonDeacon2025](https://bit.ly/BostonDeacon2025)

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Marcos Peña | Pastor
frmarcosmethuen@gmail.com

Fr. Michael Harvey | Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Kobrenski | Permanent Deacon

Deacon John Pierce | Senior Deacon

Kera Mansour | Business Manager
methuencatholic@gmail.com

Karl Jackson | Director of Parish Life
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Joseph Lundin | Music Director

Administrative Assistant
parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com

Reading 1

Exodus 17:8-13

In those days, Amalek came and waged war against Israel. Moses, therefore, said to Joshua, "Pick out certain men, and tomorrow go out and engage Amalek in battle. I will be standing on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." So Joshua did as Moses told him: he engaged Amalek in battle after Moses had climbed to the top of the hill with Aaron and Hur.

As long as Moses kept his hands raised up, Israel had the better of the fight, but when he let his hands rest, Amalek had the better of the fight. Moses' hands, however, grew tired; so they put a rock in place for him to sit on. Meanwhile Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other, so that his hands remained steady till sunset. And Joshua mowed down Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 121

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes toward the mountains;
whence shall help come to me?

My help is from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

May he not suffer your foot to slip;
may he slumber not who guards you:
indeed he neither slumbers nor sleeps,
the guardian of Israel.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The LORD is your guardian; the LORD is your shade;
he is beside you at your right hand.

The sun shall not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The LORD will guard you from all evil;
he will guard your life.

The LORD will guard your coming and your going,
both now and forever.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Reading 2

2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

Beloved:

Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed, because you know from whom you learned it, and that from infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures, which are capable of giving you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching.

Alleluia

1 Thessalonians 5:18

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The word of God is living and effective,
discerning reflections and thoughts of the heart.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, "There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.'

For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.'

The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

PROCESSIONAL SONGTable of Plenty

Refrain



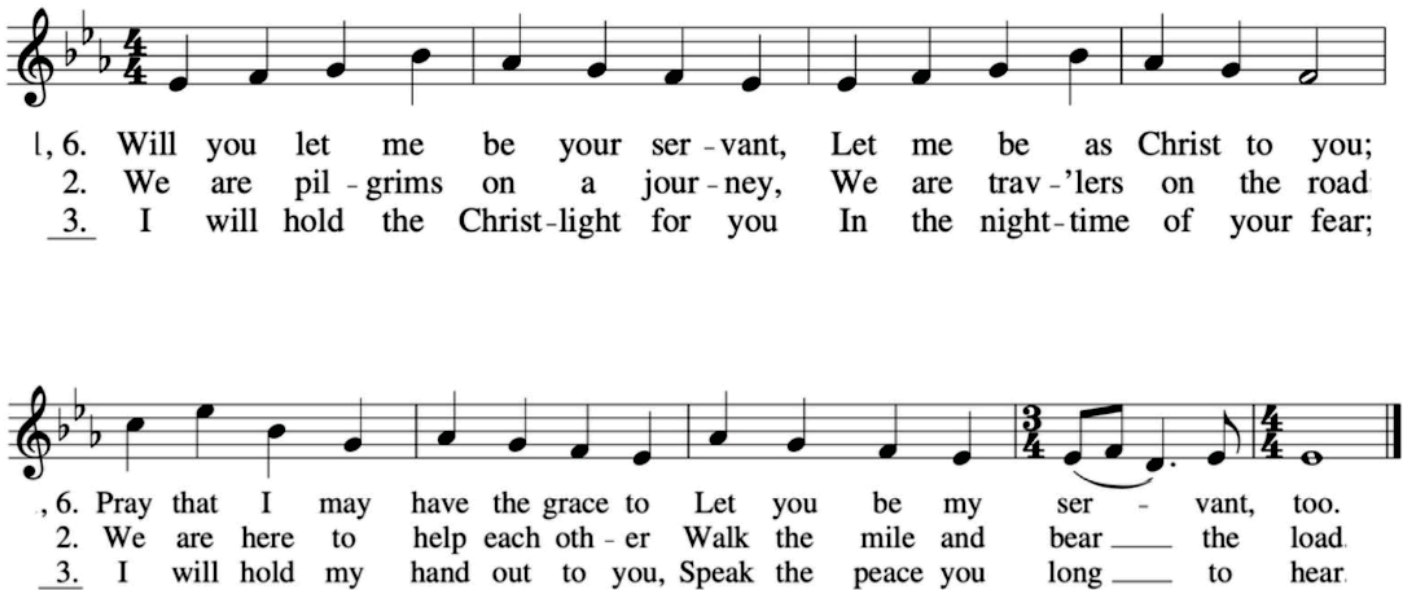
Come to the feast of heav-en and earth! Come to the ta -
 - ble of plen - ty! God will pro-vide for all that we
 need, here at the ta - ble of plen - ty.

Verses



1. O come and sit at my ta - ble where saints and
 2. O come and eat with-out mon-ey; & come to
 1. sin - ners are friends. I wait to wel-come the lost and
 2. drink with-out price. My feast of glad-ness will feed your
 1. lone - ly to share the cup of my love.
 2. spir - it with faith and full - ness of life.

to Refrain

OFFERTORY HYMNThe Servant Song


1, 6. Will you let me be your ser - vant, Let me be as Christ to you;
 2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, We are trav - 'lers on the road
 3. I will hold the Christ-light for you In the night-time of your fear;

, 6. Pray that I may have the grace to Let you be my ser - vant, too.
 2. We are here to help each oth - er Walk the mile and bear ____ the load.
 3. I will hold my hand out to you, Speak the peace you long ____ to hear.

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 HYMNThis is Jesus

This is Je - sus, Em - man - u - el; God is with _ us in this

sac - ra - ment. Come re - ceive _ Him, a - dore _ Him; This is Je - sus, our

Lord. 1. Bright Star of Da - vid, ra - di - ance of God,
2. Drink of liv - ing wa - ters flow - ing from the Lord.

now be - come the liv - ing bread, the bod - y of the Lord. Come in a - dor - a - tion; re -
Taste the cup of - bless - ing; Par take of pre - cious blood. Riv - er of sal - va - tion, _

-ceive with trem - bling hands, the sac - ra - ment most ho - ly, the ban - quet of the Lamb. ____
ho - ly cleans - ing tide, foun - tain of - re demp - tion flow - ing from the Sav - ior's side. ____

Verse 3 Additional Lyrics:

Priest of Highest Honor, King and sov'reign Lord, unblemished lamb
of sacrifice; your very life outpoured
Royal Paschal victim true begotten son, offered as our ransom by the
Holy One

RECESSIONAL HYMNChrist Be Our Light

Verses

1. In deep - est night, shad - ows are lift - ed. Now let your
2. With our own eyes, we see sal - va - tion. With - in our
3. Christ, be our hope! Christ, be our pur - pose! Christ, be our

1. ser - vant go forth in peace. Your Word ful - filled,
2. hearts, we are set free. Your Word made flesh,
3. vi - sion, ra - diant and bright! Christ, be our Way,

1. your prom - ise hon - ored, Love that will nev - er cease!
2. hope of the na - tions, Light for the world to see!
3. shatt - ring our blind - ness, Gift - ing us with your sight!

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

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Artist's rendering

Because of the increased demand among area Catholics, making cemetery plans for their family on a PRE-NEED basis, we have completed construction on the new **Our Lady of Good Counsel Chapel Mausoleum** addition.

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