

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME



"Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." - Mk 13:30-32

Last time I wrote in this space (Oct 31) I promised to speak about ways we are trying to *evangelize* and what all of us can contribute to this effort. Before getting to how we are evangelizing and who is evangelizing I think it's important to look more closely at what it is. Once again, in the previous article, I defined evangelization as *proclaiming the Gospel to those who do not yet believe*. Let's look at these two elements: proclaiming the Gospel and non-believers.

### **Proclaiming the Gospel**

The word Gospel comes from two Anglo-Saxon words *god* and *spell* which means "good story," a rendering of the Latin *evangelium* (*evangelion* in Greek), which means "good news." So to proclaim the Gospel is to proclaim the "good news." We've probably heard that before. What we might not know is that the word *evangelium* (*evangelion*) did not refer to just anybody's good news. In the time the Gospels were recorded, *evangelium* was used almost exclusively in reference to proclamations by the Roman emperor. Only his news was *evangelium*, (the good news). The emperor was viewed as a "son of the gods" and his proclamations were divinely ordained. They revealed the will of the gods. Furthermore, his proclamations—since Rome ruled almost the entire ancient world—governed the lives of all, glorifying himself, Rome, and its citizens. His words were welcomed as good news, and if they were not received in that spirit, swift and fierce punishment followed (for example crucifixion). It is in this context that the Gospel authors consciously take up this word *evangelion* and use it to name the good news from and about Jesus.

In so doing, they are making it plain: Jesus is the true son of God (Mt 27:54) made man, not the emperor of Rome nor any other person. Furthermore, he is not a god who is far off and cannot identify with us in our weakness (like an emperor far away in his Roman palace or a god on Mount Olympus). He is very near. He became one of us, a man like us in all things but sin. He brings us life (John 10:10) and reconciles us to God. And-he-remains-with- us-today. By the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is at work in the Church and in the hearts of those who believe in him (Romans 5:5).

So this is the Gospel, the good news. How are we to make this known? We proclaim it by our words and our deeds. First, our deeds. Our lives as followers of Jesus are different than the lives of those who do not follow him, or at least they should be. As believers, we do not set power, fame, honor, pleasure, or money as our life's goal. We live for Christ, to love him and do what pleases him. So what pleases him? That we have life and have it in abundance (John 10:10)! We no longer live in the shadow of death and sin. Like the men and women in the Gospel stories, Christ frees us from sin and shame. He heals our wounds and relieves us of burdens which we or others have fashioned. By faith, we are changed. We are no longer imprisoned by our past nor do we embrace the labels of the world. Our identity is found in Christ; we are beloved children of the Father. We now live in the freedom of a child of God (Gal 5:1), confident like a child in the Father's love for us as we work to become fully conformed to Christ. And so our lives are characterized by this love as well as joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Gal 5:22-23), not because we are ignorant of the suffering and struggles of life but because in that experience we have corresponding knowledge of divine love. And so we live in hope.

Second, our words. St. Peter tells us that we should "be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15). I read recently about a famous supermodel who shared with her Instagram followers that she has cried every single day for the past few years. She then encouraged her followers by telling them that they aren't alone. So the message was this: *I'm sad and so are you; we can console each other knowing that we are both sad. We can do better than this. We have to do better than this.* I heard a minister put it this way: "We Christians don't need to convince people that Jesus lived; we need to convince them that Jesus is alive." Because sin and death are not the final word, tears and sadness are not the final word. And sin and death are not the final word because Christ is alive. His life and our relationship with him gives us life. He has made us new and continues to renew us and the Church every day.

### **To those who do not yet believe.**

Now we know what we are to proclaim (or rather who)—Jesus Christ, our dearest friend and our savior—we can ask *who needs to hear this message?* The short answer is everyone. Even those who believe in Jesus grow in their faith when they hear the gospel proclaimed. For our purposes, though, I'd like to highlight some particular people. *What I mean is this: the people who have left the Church, no longer value the practices of the Catholic Faith, or do not know Jesus are not strangers.* I'll say it again: the people who do not know Jesus are not strangers. They are our brothers, sisters, parents, cousins, friends, co-workers, neighbors, classmates, and even fellow-parishioners. It is the people we love and the people with whom we live and work and play and—in some cases—with whom we attend Mass.

Let me relate two examples that illustrate what I mean. A woman I know recently shared her story that she didn't



get married in the Catholic Church—and no longer practices her faith—because her now husband doesn't want anything to do with it. His friendship with his wife influenced her to leave the faith which she had practiced until that point. This is no condemnation of her, but a story that's all too familiar. I do hope this is not the end of their story and their relationship with Christ and the Church. On the other hand, I also know a couple whose husband attended Church with his wife during their 30+ years of marriage because he knew it was important to her. Just a few short years ago, he came to faith in Christ, and entered the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. This event led their children to become confirmed in their own faith, which was waning.

### What's to be done?

At this point, you've probably noticed that I tricked you. I told you I'd share what the parish is doing and all I've shared is what believers could be doing. Well it's not really a trick. *Assisting you to do Christ's work is our work.* As St. Paul tells us:

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers **to equip the saints for the work of ministry**, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Eph 4:11-13).

In this passage, you and me (we baptized men and women) are the "saints". Just as Christ associates his disciples in his work so all of us have a part to play, including those of us in the pews. Of course, our priests continue to celebrate Mass and offer Eucharistic Adoration and the parish continues to offer various opportunities for study and outreach (including faith formation classes for children and adults which I need to highlight here because one takeaway readers had from my last article was that we no longer hold religious instruction classes. That is incorrect. My apologies for causing such confusion and panic.) But we need to rediscover these practices in this new context and in some cases unlearn some habits that impede Christ's work. Over the coming weeks, we'll continue to walk through different ways we plan to support you, our parishioners in the "work of ministry" to which you are called.

## THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY

The Sodality will hold their annual monthly meeting Sunday, November 14th at 8:30am in the lower Church with light refreshments followed by the Joyous Rosary and Mass at 10 AM. All women are welcome.

The Sodality invites parishioners interested in knitting or crocheting to join their Baby Blanket and Baptismal Blanket ministry to begin January, 2022.

If interested, please email Ellen at [auntiellen@aol.com](mailto:auntiellen@aol.com) or call 978-682-8459.



*The Church sets aside **NOVEMBER** as the month dedicated to praying for the souls in purgatory and all of our beloved dead.*

There is a Book of Remembrance in both St. Lucy and St. Monica Churches for people to record the names of their deceased family and friends. Those people recorded in the books will be remembered at all of our masses throughout the month.

The book at St. Monica's is located at the main entrance.

The book at St. Lucy's is located at the front of the Church, on the left side altar.



# Discover Catholic Schools Week 2021 November 14-20

#CSW22  
www.NCEA.org/csw



## ST. MONICA SCHOOL

212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA 01844  
(978) 686-1801  
www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org

## SCHOOL STAFF

Donna Henderson Principal  
Sharon Tully Administrative Assistant  
smsoffice@methuencatholic.org

*Please call Mrs. Tully to learn more about opportunities at St. Monica School*



St. Monica School

Christmas Fair

Saturday, November 20th  
9AM—6PM

St. Monica School Hall  
212 Lawrence St., Methuen

**Games Galore**—Reindeer Races,  
Turducken, Children's Punchboard,  
Plinko, Santa's Wheel of Prizes and  
more!

**Incredible Raffles**—Baskets, Gift  
Cards

**Sweet Shoppe**—homemade treats,  
decorate your own gingerbread per-  
son

**Santa's Workshop**—Make a special  
craft and ornaments

**Country Kitchen**—Stop by for lunch  
and snacks all day long!

Holy Mass “is the sun of Christianity, the soul of faith, the center of the Catholic religion, wherein are beheld all her rites, all her ceremonies, and all her Sacraments; in fine, it is the compendium of all the good and beautiful to be found in the Church of God.”

—St. Leonard  
of Port Maurice

### 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL PROJECT WARM & FUZZY

“Project Warm & Fuzzy” is dedicated to collecting new, warm articles of clothing for those in need. This year the project will take place on **Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the parking lot of The Eagle Tribune located at 100 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA.** Drop-off donations of **new** hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and socks for infants, children and adults are welcome. **New** children's clothing will also be accepted. All donations will be distributed by the Lazarus House to those in need during the winter months. Your donations help make this project a success. Thank you for your continued support!



## COME CELEBRATE WITH US

**FR. JOE THOMAS** will celebrate 50 years of priesthood with a Mass of thanksgiving on Friday, November 19, 2021 at St. Lucy Church.

Refreshments to follow. All are invited.

## ST. LUCY & ST. MONICA ULTREYA

Tuesday November 30, 2021

(Last Tuesday of the Month)

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

St. Lucy' Church Hall

All St. Lucy and St. Monica parishioners are invited to take part in a monthly 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 is Elle Andrews. She 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!



## THE WEEK AHEAD

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- Faith Formation Confirmation 1 & 2 St Lucy's Church 12:45 - 2:45
- AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- Boy Scouts Meeting 7:00-8:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- Rosary For Priests Prayer Group 6 pm Gethsemane Chapel

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- Prayer and Study 10am - 12 pm St. Monica Ranch House
- Scripture Study on Book of Revelation Repeated 2pm St Lucy School House
- Adoration 5:30 pm St. Lucy Church
- Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30-8:30pm
- Collaborative Finance Council Meeting 6:30-7:30pm

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- AA 6:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Study on the Creed 6:00-7:00pm (Zoom)

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- Mass (FJT 50th Anniversary of Priesthood) 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary and Refreshments
- Eucharistic Adoration 2 - 5 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Confessions 4 - 5 pm Gethsemane Chapel

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- Faith to Fitt 8 am St Lucy Schoolhouse
- St. Monica School Christmas Fair 9am-6pm St. Monica School Hall
- Bettor's Anonymous 2pm St. Monica SVDP Hut
- Scripture Study on Book of Revelation 2 pm St Lucy School House
- Confessions 3-3:45pm Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church

## PRAYER FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY

**Eternal Father**, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

**OFFERTORY | OCT 30 & 31**

St. Monica - \$7,140.<sup>00</sup>

St. Lucy - \$4,396.<sup>36</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.*



As we prepare for our Thanksgiving offering to local families in need, we are facing challenges from food distribution resources which we normally utilize. We are requesting your support for the following items which will be supplemented by gift cards for our friends in need to purchase Turkeys if they so desire. **Please consider donating stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce, instant mashed potatoes, canned vegetables, quick bread, or cake mixes.** Thank-you.

**TEMPORARY OFFICE HOURS**

Until further notice, our parish office hours are:

**Monday-Thursday | 11:30am-4:30pm**

**Fridays | 9:00am-2:00pm**

**BAPTISMS** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 1:00pm St. Monica's | 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 11:30am 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.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

SAT 4 pm (VIGIL) both parishes

SUN 9 am & 11 am St. Monica | 10 am St. Lucy

MON/TUES/THURS/FRI 9:00 am St. Lucy

FIRST SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica

**CONFESSIONS**

3 - 3:45 pm both parishes Sat

4 - 5pm Gethsemene Chapel

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

2 - 5 pm Friday Gethsemene Chapel

5:30 - 6:30 pm Wednesday St. Lucy Church

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254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844

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www.methuencatholic.org

Temporary Hours Mon-Thurs, 11:30am-4:30pm

Friday 9:00am-2:00pm



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

(978) 686 - 9573

**PASTORAL STAFF**

Fr. Darin Colarusso Pastor

Fr. Joseph D'Onofrio Parochial Vicar

Deacon John Pierce Permanent Deacon

Deacon John Kobrenski Permanent Deacon

Kera Mansour Business Manager

**methuencatholic@gmail.com**

Karl Jackson Director of Parish Life

**faithformation.stlm@gmail.com**

Eric Berthiaume Music Director

Sharon Waning Music Ministry (St. Lucy)

Kevin Fitzgerald Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FIRST COMMUNION, FAITH FORMATION (CCD), BAPTISM, OR OTHER SACRAMENTS?

contact Karl Jackson at (978) 683 - 1193 ext. 35 | [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com)



**INTROIT***Jeremiah 29:11-12*

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN***Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*


1. Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come, Raise the song of  
 2. All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to his  
 3. For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take his

1. har - vest - home: All is safe - ly gath - ered in, Ere the  
 2. praise to yield; Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to  
 3. har - vest home; From his field shall in that day All of -

1. win - ter storms be - gin; God, our Mak - er, does pro - vide  
 2. joy or sor - row grown; First the blade, and then the ear,  
 3. fens - es purge a - way; Give his an - gels charge at last

1. For our wants to be sup - plied; Come to God's own  
 2. Then the full corn shall ap - pear: Grant, O har - vest  
 3. In the fire the tares to cast, But the fruit - ful

1. tem - ple, come, Raise the song of har - vest - home.  
 2. Lord, that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.  
 3. ears to store In his gar - ner ev - er - more.

**PENITENTIAL ACT — GLORIA***Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Daniel 12:1-3*

In those days, I Daniel, heard this word of the Lord: 'At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people; it shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until that time. At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake; some shall live forever, others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace. But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.'

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Psalm 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11*


R. You are my in - her - i - tance, O Lord.

1. O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup, you it is who hold fast my lot. I set the LORD ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

2. Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices, my body, too, abides in confidence; because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.

3. You will show me the path to life, fullness of joys in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.



**SECOND READING***Hebrews 10:11-14, 18*

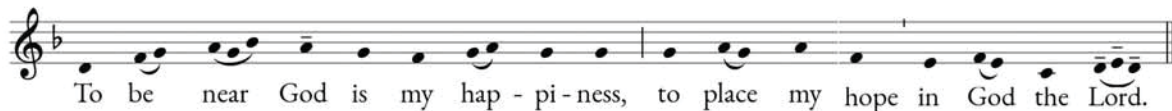
Brothers and sisters: Every priest stands daily at his ministry, offering frequently those same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But this one offered one sacrifice for sins, and took his seat forever at the right hand of God; now he waits until his enemies are made his footstool. For by one offering he has made perfect forever those who are being consecrated. Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer offering for sin.

**ALLELUIA***Matthew 5:3*

∕ Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to stand before the Son of Man.

**GOSPEL***Mark 13:24-32*

Jesus said to his disciples: "In those days after that tribulation the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in the clouds' with great power and glory, and then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of the sky. Learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, know that he is near, at the gates. Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."

**PROFESSION OF FAITH***Refer to Pew Card***SANCTUS - MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION - AGNUS DEI***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Psalm 73: 28***COMMUNION HYMN***Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, And with fear and  
2. King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, As of old on  
3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van-guard

1. trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,  
2. earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture;  
3. on the way, As the Light of Light de - scend - eth

1. For with bless - ing in his hand Christ our God to earth de -  
2. In the Bod - y and the Blood He will give to all the  
3. From the realms of end - less day, That the pow'rs of hell may

1. scend - eth, Our full hom - age to de - mand.  
2. faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.  
3. van - ish As the dark - ness clears a - way.



**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.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN***Rejoice, The Lord Is King*

1. Re - joice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King a - dore! Re -
2. Our Lord and Sav - ior reigns, The God of truth and love; When
3. His king - dom can - not fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n; The
4. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come And



1. joice, give thanks and sing, And tri - umph ev - er - more: )
2. he had purged our stains, He took his seat a - bove: )
3. keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus giv'n: ) Lift up your
4. take his ser - vants up To their e - ter - nal home: )



- 1-4. heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!



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## ST. MONICA PARISH

### Saturday, November 13

4:00pm Philip & Johanna Muhilly

### Sunday, November 14

9:00am Joan & Tim Jackson  
Francis J. Heymans  
Manuel & Fernanda Cordeiro  
Shirley Rosatone  
Catherine Olson  
Armando V. Bezeready  
11:00 AM Helen Lariviere & Benjamin LaTorre

### Saturday, November 20

4:00pm Don Lavigne & Yvette Moran

### Sunday, November 21

9:00am Richard & Margaret McCarron  
Amy Augustonovich  
Robert Higgins  
Peter & Joza Zelic  
Tony & Neva Zelic  
Nikola Zelic  
Mara Kovacevic  
11:00 AM Deceased Members  
of the Knights of Columbus

## ST. LUCY PARISH

### Saturday, November 13

10:00am Mass of Remembrance  
4:00pm Veterans

### Sunday, November 14

10:00am Philip Maggio

### Monday, November 15

9:00am Helen E. Mahoney

### Tuesday, November 16

9:00am Living Intentions  
Bernard & Margaret Maher  
Paul & Teresa Jackson  
Fr. Dennis Wheatley

### Thursday, November 18

9:00am Mark Nichols

### Friday, November 19

9:00am Rita Doherty

### Saturday, November 20

4:00pm Angelo, Jack, & Jenny Maimone

### Sunday, November 21

10:00am John & Ann D'Agata  
Evelina Mollica  
Stephanie Abraham  
Mary & Vincent McCarthy  
Brianna McCarthy  
Joseph Lambert  
Nina Berryman

## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINAR.
Sunday	11/14/21	Fr. Henry Yanju	Mateus Martin
Mon	11/15/21	Fr. Albert Stankard	Paolo Strudthoff
Tues	11/16/21	Fr. Ronald Bourgault	Javier Padilla
Wed	11/17/21	Fr. Michael Alfano	Gustavo Neitzke
Thurs	11/18/21	Fr. George Fitzsimmons	Michael Castellon
Friday	11/19/21	Fr. Stephen Zukas	Ulises Diaz
Sat	11/20/21	Fr. Thomas Nestor	Aaron Sanz

## ROSES FOR LIFE FOR THIS WEEK

Theresa A. Rickley

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com).

## BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

McKinnon's Supermarkets | 603-894-6328  
236 N. Broadway | Salem, NH

## PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for **Delores R., Nick K., Stacy B., Shirley L., Shannon R., and Ray R., Sandra P.**

Please pray for **John N. Fitzpatrick & Ken Cyr** whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our parishes. May their souls and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.



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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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