

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

Dec 19

2021



4th SUNDAY *of Advent*

"And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy." - Lk 1:43-44

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

"Three Comings of the Lord"

by

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

We know that there are three comings of the Lord. The third lies between the other two. It is invisible, while the other two are visible. In the first coming He was seen on earth, dwelling among men; He himself testifies that they saw him and hated him. In the final coming *all flesh will see the salvation of our God, and they will look on him whom they pierced*. The intermediate coming is a hidden one; in it only the elect see the Lord within their own selves, and they are saved. In his first coming our Lord came in our flesh and in our weakness; in this middle coming he comes in spirit and in power; in the final coming he will be seen in glory and majesty.

In case someone should think that what we say about this middle coming is sheer invention, listen to what our Lord himself says: *If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him*. There is another passage of Scripture which reads: *He who fears God will do good*, but something further has been said about the one who loves, that is, that he will keep God's word. Where is God's word to be kept? Obviously in the heart, as the prophet says: *I have hidden your words in my heart, so that I may not sin against you*. Keep God's word in this way. Let it enter into your very being, let it take possession of your desires and your whole way of life. Fill your soul with richness and strength.

Because this coming lies between the other two, it is like a road on which we travel from the first coming to the last. In the first, Christ was our redemption; in the last, he will appear as our life; in this middle coming, he is our rest and consolation. If you keep the word of God in this way, it will also keep you. The Son with the Father will come to you. This coming will fulfill what is written: *As we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, we shall also bear the likeness of the heavenly man*. Just as Adam's sin spread through all mankind and took hold of all, so Christ, who created and redeemed all, will glorify all, once He takes possession of all.

HOLIDAY SEASON METHUEN CATHOLIC MASS TIMES & EVENTS

Sunday, December 19
LESSONS & CAROLS
including Christmas Pageant
St. Monica | 4:00pm
(followed by refreshments)

Friday, December 24
CHRISTMAS EVE
St. Lucy | 3:00pm, 5:00pm, & 10:00pm
Methuen Music Hall | 4:00pm
St. Monica | 4:00pm

Saturday, December 25
CHRISTMAS DAY
St. Monica | 9:00am
St. Lucy | 10:00am
no 4:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 26
HOLY FAMILY
St. Monica | 9:00am | 11:00am
St. Lucy | 10:00am

Saturday, January 1
MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD
(Not a Holy Day of Obligation)
St. Monica | 9:00am

**MERRIMACK VALLEY
CHRISTIAN MEN'S
CHRISTMAS EVE
BREAKFAST**



**Friday, December 24th
Christmas Eve Morning**

**Doubletree Hilton
123 Old River Road, Andover**
Coffee 6:30, Program &
Breakfast: 7:30 – 9:00

The 37th annual Merrimack Valley Christian Men's Christmas Eve Breakfast will be held on Friday, December 24 at the Doubletree Hilton off River Road in Andover. Over 250 men will gather in song, prayer, and fellowship to share a hardy breakfast!

Please invite family, friends, neighbors, and your coworkers. As has become our tradition, we will harness the collective goodwill of this group to help Neighbors in Need. This year they are in dire need of diapers, sizes 4, 5, and six and baby formula especially Similac, with the blue label. Due to supply shortages, we encourage everyone to purchase their gifts early. There will be a van in front of the Doubletree by Hilton, 123 Old River Road in Andover to collect our donations.

The cost is \$20 per person. PLEASE bring cash. We need a preliminary head count by **Friday, December 17th**, and a **final headcount by Monday, December 20**. Please call Jim Hackett (978-985-8151), or email hackett.jim@comcast.net, or call Brad Heim (978-376-3178), or email bradheim@verizon.net to make your reservation.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality

Calling all KNITTING & CROCHETING crafters. The Sodality is in need of your talent to help in their new **Baby & Baptism Blankets Ministry** in our parishes. Knit or crochet blankets in a group or at home and we will give them to our newly baptized boys and girls. Please call Ellen for more information 978-682-8459.

PROJECT BETHLEHEM

Many thanks to all who donated gift cards to support PROJECT BETHLEHEM for Lazarus House Ministry. I am thrilled to announce we collected \$4,115.00. They were overwhelmed and grateful for the generosity shown by St. Lucy's Parish. Thank you for all of your support and God bless you and your families this Holy Season.

-Annette Autiello / Coordinator

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

- Baptisms 11:30am St. Lucy Church
- Lessons & Carols 4pm St. Monica Church followed by Refreshments (includes Christmas Pageant)
- AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

- Half Day | St. Monica School
- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- Rosary For Priests Prayer Group 6 pm Gethsemane Chapel

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

- Prayer and Study 10am - 12 pm (Zoom)
- Eucharistic Adoration 5:30pm St. Lucy Church
- Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30-8:00pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

- *Parish Offices Closed*
- NO 9 am MASS
- NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
- Christmas Eve Masses

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

- Christmas Day Masses
- NO CONFESSIONS at St. Monica or St. Lucy Church
- NO 4:00pm MASS at St. Monica or St. Lucy Church



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Thank you for your generosity and support of our programs. Because of you, we were able to provide gifts cards for 96 children and meals for over 60 families. The families we serve truly appreciate the assistance your donations provided. Merry Christmas!

PARISH OFFICE

HOLIDAY HOURS

M/T/W, Dec 20-22	9:00am-2:00pm
Thursday, Dec 23	9:00am-12:00pm
Friday, Dec 24	Closed
Monday, Dec 27	Closed
T/W/TH, Dec 28-30	9:00am-2:00pm
Friday, Dec 31	Closed

Have a Merry Christmas!

St. Monica School is also hosting a Texas Roadhouse Gift Card fundraiser! If you would like to purchase gift cards for Christmas or other gifts, please follow this link!

<https://bit.ly/Stmonica>

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"PRAY TO BE EVER
READY FOR GOD'S WILL
EVEN WHEN IT TAKES
YOU BY SURPRISE."

ST. MARY MACKILLOP



Saint Monica School

WINTER CALENDAR RAFFLE

February 2022

(If your name is picked on the day, you win that amount)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes- day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1. \$150	2. \$50	3. \$50	4. \$50	5. \$100
6. \$100	7. \$50	8. \$50	9. \$50	10. \$50	11. \$50	12. \$100
13. \$100	14. \$50	15. \$50	16. \$50	17. \$50	18. \$50	19. \$100
20. \$100	21. \$50	22. \$50	23. \$50	24. \$50	25. \$50	26. \$100
27. \$100	28. \$150					

We must sell 200 tickets. If we do not sell 200 tickets, we will have a 50/50 raffle and one winner will be drawn and the winner will receive 50% of the monies collected and the school will receive the other 50%.

(This raffle has always sold enough tickets to be held!)

Please return this portion of ticket with payment to Sharon Tully in the School Office.

St. Monica School Calendar Raffle

\$10 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$50

Checks made out to St. Monica School by 1/31/22

Name _____ Phone (REQUIRED) _____

Address (REQUIRED) _____

St. Monica Student who sold ticket: _____ (if purchased through a school child)

Names of St. Monica School children who sell winning tickets will be put in a raffle for a prize. If there is only one winner due to 50/50, that child will win a prize (if a St. Monica Child sold ticket)

OFFERTORY | DEC 4 & 5

St. Monica - \$7,381.⁰⁰

St. Lucy - \$5,787.⁰⁰

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 Instant Cereal, Hamburg Helper, Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup, Canned Bake Beans, and Canned Fruits. Donations can be dropped off anytime at the entrances to St. Lucy and the side door of Gethsemane Chapel at St. Monica Church.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to faithformation.stlm@gmail.com.

FOR HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS SEE PAGE 3

BAPTISMS 2nd Sunday of the month at 1:00pm St. Monica's | 3rd 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 Gethsemane Chapel

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

2 - 5 pm Friday Gethsemane Chapel

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

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

PARISH OFFICES

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844

(978) 683 - 1193 or (978) 686 - 3311

www.methuencatholic.org

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

Friday 9:00am-2:00pm

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



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

(978) 686 - 9573



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

INTROIT*Isaiah 45:8*

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

1. O come, O come, Em - ma - nu - el, And
2. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In

1. ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
2. one the hearts of all man - kind; Bid thou our sad di -

1. ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re -
2. vi - sions cease, And be thy - self our King of Peace.

joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O

Is - ra - el.

PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA*Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Micah 5:1-4a*

Thus says the LORD: You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; whose origin is from of old, from ancient times. Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time when she who is to give birth has borne, and the rest of his kindred shall return to the children of Israel. He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic name of the LORD, his God; and they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalms 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19*

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from
your throne upon the cherubim,
shine forth. Rouse your power, and
come to save us.

Once again, O LORD of hosts, look
down from heaven, and see; take
care of this vine, and protect what
your right hand has planted the son
of man whom you yourself made
strong.

May your help be with the man of
your right hand, with the son of man
whom you yourself made strong.
Then we will no more withdraw
from you; give us new life, and we
will call upon your name.

SECOND READING*Hebrews 10: 5-10*

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God.'" First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in." These are offered according to the law. Then he says, "Behold, I come to do your will." He takes away the first to establish the second. By this 'will', we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

ALLELUIA*Luke 1:38*

℟ Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.

GOSPEL*Luke 1:39-45*

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

PROFESSION OF FAITH*Refer to Pew Card***SANCTUS - MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION - AGNUS DEI***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Isaiah 7:14*

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

COMMUNION HYMN*See How The Virgin Waits*

1. See how the Vir - gin waits for him; Ma - ry in won - der
2. Gent - ly she hears the dis - tant breeze sway - ing the sil - ver
3. Now a new pat - tern on the loom; now a new pres - ence



1. waits for him. Shake off your slum - ber: come all full of
2. ol - ive trees. What is she think - ing as the sun is
3. in the room. Wak - ing or sleep - ing, all her love she's



1. won - der. Je - sus is com - ing as the Prince of Peace.
2. sink - ing, wait - ing the birth - day of her first - born Son?
3. keep - ing, wait - ing the com - ing of the Son of God.

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*O come, Divine Messiah*

1. O come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah, The
 2. O you, whom na - tions sigh for, Whom

1. world in si - lence waits the day When hope shall sing its
 2. priest and proph-et long fore - told, Will break the cap - tive

1. tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way. Dear Sav - ior, haste!
 2. fet - ters, Re - deem the long - lost fold.

Come, come to earth. Dis - pel the night and show your
 face, And bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, Di - vine Mes
 si - ah, The world in si - lence waits the day When
 hope shall sing its tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way.

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ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, December 18

4:00pm Marion Bench

Sunday, December 19

9:00am Ann Gallant
Don Lavigne
Yvette Moran
Nancy Tardif
William F. Hutton
Richard Fairbanks

11:00 AM Deceased Members of Charles Booth Family, James McCarthy Family, and Howard Hart Family

Friday, December 24

4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass
4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass (Music Hall)

Saturday, December 25

9:00am Christmas Day Mass
4:00pm *NO MASS*

Sunday, December 26

9:00am Stephen Campagnone
John Rosatone
Mary Biffin
Gaetano DiStefano
Joseph O'Neil

11:00 AM Robert Putnam

ALTAR BREAD FOR DECEMBER

St. Monica Parish - Maria Laird

ROSES FOR LIFE FOR THIS WEEK

Theresa A. Rickley & Maria Laird

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINAR.
Sunday	12/19/21	Fr. Desmond Tynan	Deacon Bertrand Proulx
Monday	12/20/21	Fr. Frank Silva	Deacon Nicholas Stano
Tues	12/21/21	Fr. Tinh Nguyễn	Deacon Steven Restrepo
Wed	12/22/21	Fr. Michael Rora	Deacon Maxwell Chukwudiebere
Thurs	12/23/21	Fr. John Swencki	Deacon Joseph Ferme
Friday	12/24/21	Fr. Michael McNamara	Saul Quechol
Sat	12/25/21	All Priests in the World	Seminarians around the world

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, December 18

4:00pm Dominick (Rex) Campone
& Campone Family

Sunday, December 19

10:00am Jeffrey Waters
Anthony Waters
Lucille Arsenault
Gerard Lebel
Charles J. Piro
Concetta D. Bella
Elaine Parrino

Monday, December 20

9:00am Trudy Mulligan

Tuesday, December 21

9:00am Manny Gianni & Christine Gianni Eldridge

Thursday, December 23

9:00am Mark Nichols

Friday, December 24

9:00am *NO DAILY MASS*
3:00pm Christmas Eve Mass
5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass
10:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Saturday, December 25

10:00am Christmas Day Mass
4:00pm *NO MASS*

Sunday, December 26

10:00am Catherine Petralia
Real Taschereau
Thomas Wholley, Jr.
Gerard Lebel

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Joan I, David M, Rick T, Dianne T, Nick K, and Audrey K.

Please pray for Mary Swan & Vincenza Pellicione whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our parishes. May their souls and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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6208-0721

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