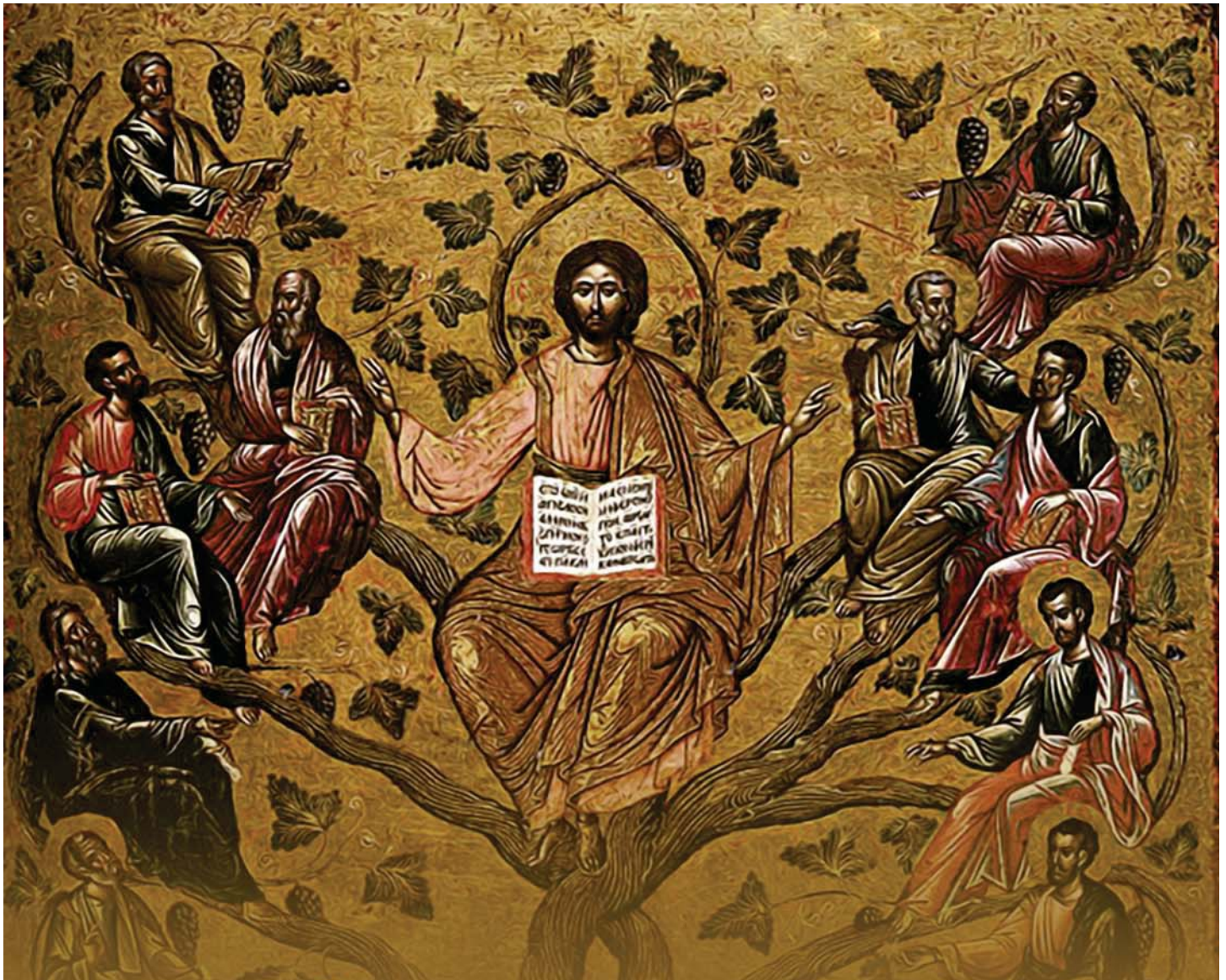


METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

APR 28
2024



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.” - Jn 15:5



**ST. PAUL CENTER
FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

*A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology
www.SalvationHistory.com*

ON THE VINE

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He is the true vine that God intended Israel to be - the source of divine life and wisdom for the nations (see Sirach 24:17-24).

In baptism, each of us was joined to Him by the Holy Spirit. As a branch grows from a tree, our souls are to draw life from Him, nourished by His word and the Eucharist.

Paul, in today's First Reading, seeks to be grafted onto the visible expression of Christ the true vine - His Church. Once the chief persecutor of the Church, he encounters initial resistance and suspicion. But he is known by his fruits, by his powerful witness to the Lord working in his life (see Matthew 7:16-20).

We too are commanded today to bear good fruits as His disciples, so that our lives give glory to God. Like Paul's life, our lives must bear witness to His goodness and mercy.

Jesus cautions us, however, that if we're bearing fruit, we can expect that God will "prune" us - as a gardener trims and cuts back a plant so that it will grow stronger and bear even more fruit. He is teaching us today how to look at our sufferings and trials with the eyes of faith. We need to see our struggles as prunings, by which we are being disciplined and trained so that we can grow in holiness and bear fruits of righteousness (see Hebrews 12:4-11).

We need to always remain rooted in Him, as today's Epistle tells us. We remain in Him by keeping His commandment of love, by pondering His words, letting them dwell richly in us (see Colossians 3:16), and by always seeking to do what pleases Him. In everything we must be guided by humility, remembering that apart from Him we can do nothing.

As we sing in today's Psalm, we must fulfill our vows, turning to the Lord in worship, proclaiming his praises, until all families come to know His justice in their lives.

Jesus is longing for your presence.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & CONFESSIONS

Wednesday Evenings
6-7pm
St. Lucy Church

Saturdays
9:30am-2:30pm
Gethsemane Chapel at St. Monica Church

Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sponsored by the BVM Sodality



**St. Lucy's Church
Sunday, May 5th
following the 10:30 Mass**

All parishioners are welcome to participate. Light refreshments will follow the ceremony.



The Knights of Columbus Men's Group will be reviewing the book "What Makes Us Catholic" by Thomas H. Groome on

Wednesdays, March 13, April 10 & May 8 at 7pm.

Men of the parish are encouraged to join us! Contact Bob Beaudry at ERBeaudry@aol.com if interested in participating, and for more details.

ULTREYA

Tuesday, April 30th 7 - 8:30 PM | St. Lucy Church Hall All Are Welcome!

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, Dan Wilson, 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!



CONGRATULATIONS!
Entered into the Sacrament of Matrimony:

Matthew Campbell & Jennie Perron

"Confirm them in faith, hope, love and just deeds. Make their marriage as honorable as the marriages of the righteous and just of old."

Rite of the Covenant

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)



Spring Plant Sale

Knights of Columbus Spring Plant Sale will be held after all masses on May 4th & 5th at St. Lucy and St. Monica. All proceeds to benefit the Scholarship Fund



The Knights of Columbus will be leading a Monthly Rosary for St. Monica School Parents in the Chapel on Wednesdays, April 10, May 8 and June 5.

All parents of students are welcome to attend prior to picking up their children from school. The Rosary will begin at 1:15pm, prior to school dismissal. Rosary prayer cards will be provided. Come by and pray for your own personal intentions!

FUNERAL MINISTRY

We are currently looking for several volunteers to assist with our Funeral Ministry. Training will be provided.

Funeral Coordinators will work with parish staff to accompany families with preparations for Funeral Masses celebrated at both our parishes. Duties will include calling families and walking them through the selection of readings, music, and any other pertinent information.

Funeral Mass Volunteers. We are also in need of volunteers to help with the funeral masses themselves, including: sacristan work, altar serving, lecturing, and set-up.

These roles do require availability during the week and on weekends, depending on the parishes' funeral mass schedule. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Karl Jackson at 978-683-1193 ext. 35 or faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Scripture Study

ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS

Please join us for this study of St. Paul's beautiful letter

April 18, 20, 25, 27 May 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18

Classes are held in St. Lucy Schoolhouse at 2:30 on Thursdays and repeated on Saturdays at 2:30.

For questions or to register call 978-683-8138 or email rachelvoiland@comcast.net

Bibles will be provided for your use

DEVOTIONS SCHEDULE

Tuesday evenings 6-6:30pm
Rosary Prayer Group for Priests
Gethsemane Chapel - all are welcome to attend

Wednesday mornings 9:30-11am (ZOOM)
Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet & book discussion.
Contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Wednesdays 6-7pm St. Lucy Church

Thursday evenings 6-6:30pm (ZOOM)
Rosary for world peace & individual intentions.
Contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com

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

HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS

Please join us for refreshments

Sunday, May 19th
St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
After the 10:30am mass

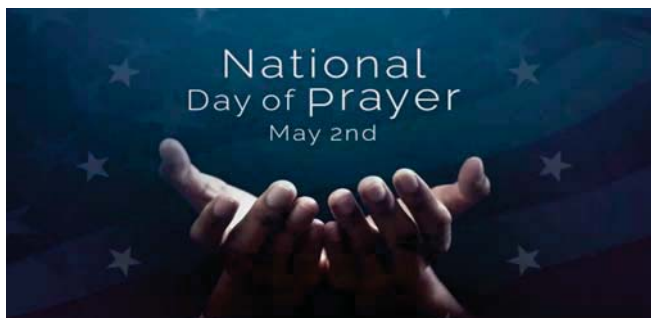
Everyone is welcome!

Saints Philip and James the Less, Apostles

FIRST CENTURY
FEAST DAY: MAY 3



Philip and James the Less, son of Alphaeus, are listed among the Twelve Apostles commissioned by Jesus. Philip brought Nathaniel to Christ, had a part in feeding the 5,000, and at the Last Supper, when asked to be shown the Father, was told by Christ: "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip?" He may have evangelized in Turkey. Not much is known about James, but "the less" may refer to his height. One tradition puts him in Syria, while another has him martyred in the same Jerusalem persecution as James the Righteous.




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, May 4 | St. Monica Church
Rosary to follow in Gethsemane Chapel

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PUZZLE

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

| | | |
|--------|--------|----------|
| vine | Father | honored |
| joined | pray | gardener |
| branch | fruit | clean |

inev v i n e

Fareth _____

genarder _____

chanbr _____

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lecan _____

jedoin _____

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onhored _____

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE FROM BOSTON

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- 7 nights in Wojtyla Hotel close to St. James' Church with breakfast & evening meal
- Marian Pilgrimages spiritual program
- English speaking Catholic guide
- Visit with visionaries (if available)
- All taxes and surcharges
- Tips for hotels, drivers & guides

Price does not include:

- Single supplement: \$335 (limited availability)
- Travel Insurance, if required please request a brochure.
- Optional Excursions are to be paid locally

It is strongly suggested that all pilgrims be covered by Travel Insurance.

A \$500 deposit is required per person at the time of booking

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO GUARANTEE THIS PRICE IS JUNE 1st 2024
AIRFARE MAY INCREASE AFTER THIS DATE

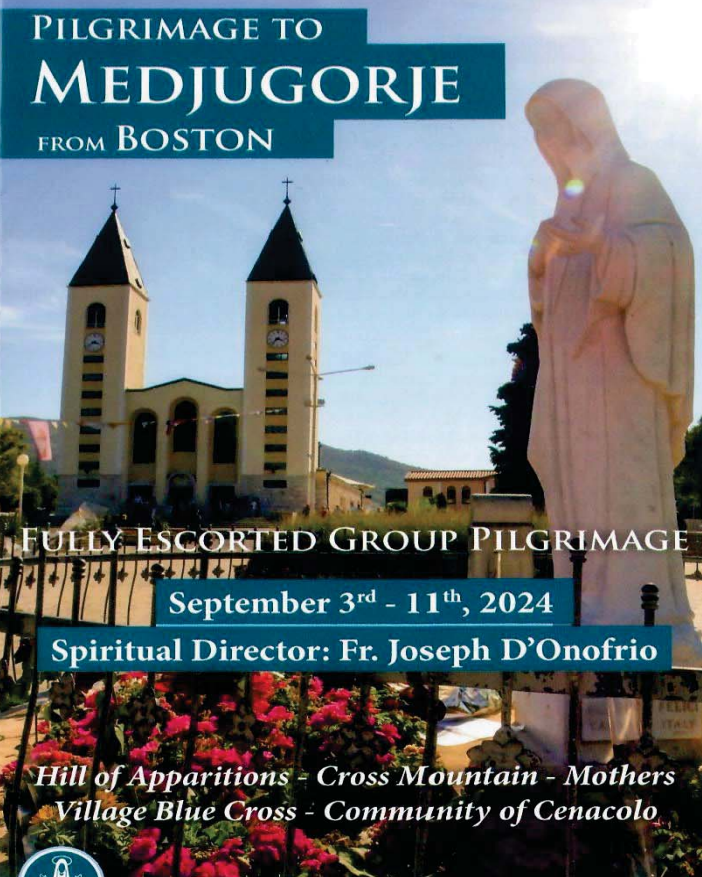
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For additional information please contact
Maureen Slattery (Group Leader): 978-683-0589
 twigs5mcs@gmail.com

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APRIL 13 & 14

St. Monica - \$8,378.⁰⁰

St. Lucy - \$5,159.⁰⁰

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 pasta, baked beans, mashed potatoes, jelly, pasta sauce, pancake syrup, canned fruit & instant rice. 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.

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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: M - F 9am - 2pm



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
978.686.9573

PASTORAL STAFF

| | |
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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 |
| methuencatholic@gmail.com | |
| Karl Jackson | Director of Parish Life |
| faithformation.stlm@gmail.com | |
| Brink Bush | Music Director |
| Kevin Fitzgerald | Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA |
| Christine Ryan | Administrative Assistant |
| parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com | |



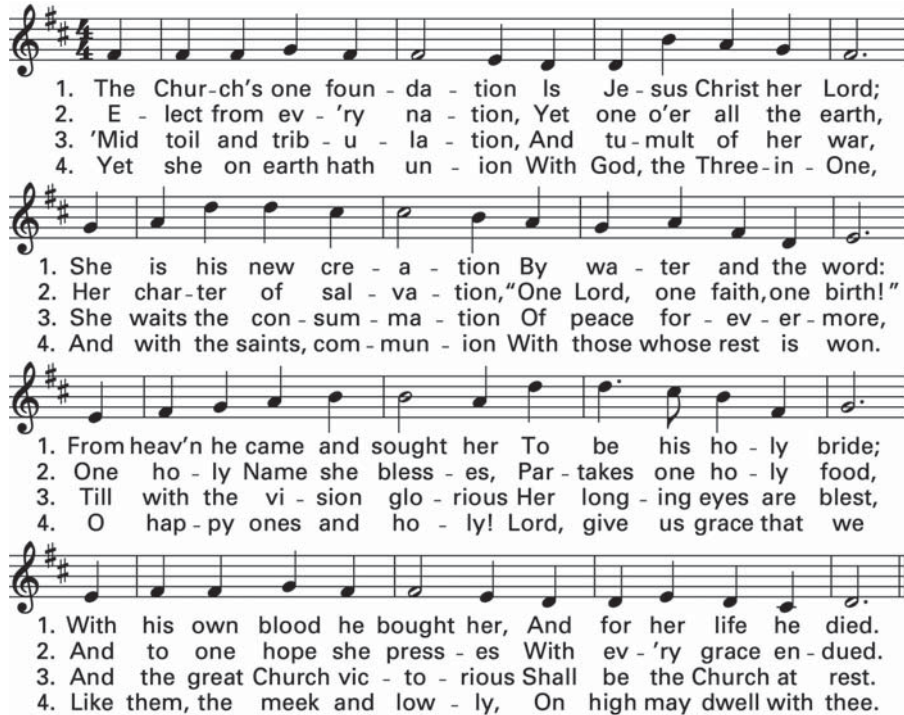
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SCHOOL STAFF

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Donna Henderson | Principal |
| Pam Silveira | Administrative Assistant |
| smsoffice@methuencatholic.org | |

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*Psalm 98 (97): 1-2*

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

ENTRANCE HYMN*The Church's One Foundation*


1. The Chur-ch's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth,
3. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, And tu - mult of her war,
4. Yet she on earth hath un - ion With God, the Three - in - One,

1. She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the word:
2. Her char - ter of sal - va - tion, "One Lord, one faith, one birth!"
3. She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more,
4. And with the saints, com - mun - ion With those whose rest is won.

1. From heav'n he came and sought her To be his ho - ly bride;
2. One ho - ly Name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
3. Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,
4. O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

1. With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.
2. And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
3. And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
4. Like them, the meek and low - ly, On high may dwell with thee.

PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA*Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Acts 9: 26-31*

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles, and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus. He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem, and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord. He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists, but they tried to kill him. And when the brothers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him on his way to Tarsus.

The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace. It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 22: 26-27, 28, 30, 31-32*


R. I will praise you, Lord, in the as - sem - bly of your peo - ple.

I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the LORD.
the lowly shall eat their fill; they who seek the LORD shall praise him: "May your hearts live forever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of the nations shall bow down before him.

To him alone shall bow down all who sleep in the earth;
before him shall bend all who go down into the dust.

And to him my soul shall live; my descendants shall serve him.
Let the coming generation be told of the LORD that
that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born the justice he has shown.

SECOND READING*1 John 3: 18-24*

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts before him in whatever our hearts condemn, for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*John 10: 14*

℣. Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit.

GOSPEL*John 15: 1-8*

Jesus said to his disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

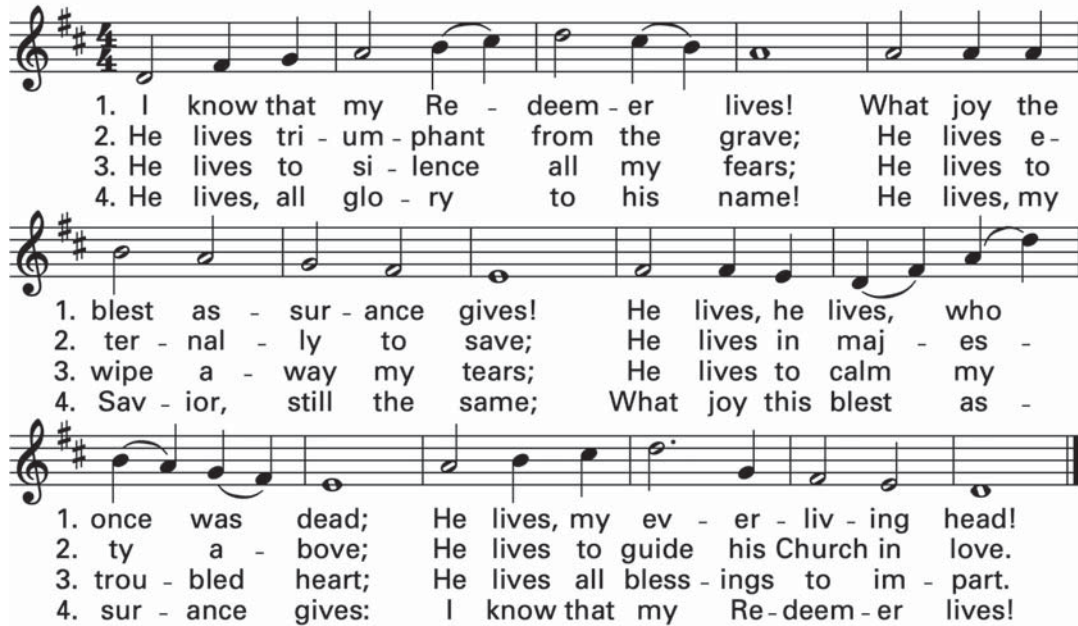
COMMUNION ANTIPHON*John 15: 1, 5*

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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*I Know That My Redeemer Lives*


1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What joy the
 2. He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
 3. He lives to si - lence all my fears; He lives to
 4. He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my

1. blest as - sur - ance gives! He lives, he lives, who
 2. ter - nal - ly to save; He lives in maj - es -
 3. wipe a - way my tears; He lives to calm my
 4. Sav - ior, still the same; What joy this blest as -

1. once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 2. ty a - bove; He lives to guide his Church in love.
 3. trou - bled heart; He lives all bless - ings to im - part.
 4. sur - ance gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

RECESSIONAL HYMN*Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer*


1. Guide me, O thou great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

1. bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art
 2. stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y
 3. fears sub - side, death of death, and hell's de -

1. might - y, hold me with thy pow'r - ful hand:
 2. pil - lar lead me all my jour - ney through;
 3. struc - tion, land me safe on Ca - naan's side;

1. bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en, feed me
 2. strong De - liv - 'rer, strong De - liv - 'rer, be thou
 3. songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es I will

1. till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 2. still my strength and shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
 3. ev - er give to thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, April 27

9:00am Elizabeth Marsan
Doris Thibodeau

4:00pm Monica & Daniel Allen

Sunday, April 28

9:00am Leonide Michaud
Sandra Bouchard
Solange Destin
Jacques Fournier
Thomas Verzi

12:00pm For the Parishioners of
St. Monica & St. Lucy

Saturday, May 4

9:00am FIRST SATURDAY MASS

4:00pm Lindy Surawski

Sunday, May 5

9:00am Phillip Hamel
Jeanette Hamel
Richard Hamel
Deceased Members of DiNoto Family
Frank Wholley
Bob Walsh
Robert A. Murad

12:00pm Theresa Witkos

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| DAY | DATE | PRIEST | SEMINARIAN |
|-------|----------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Sun | 04/28/24 | Fr. Benito Moreno | Alexander de Tirado |
| Mon | 04/29/24 | Fr. Joseph Nguyen | Joseph Jasinski |
| Tues | 04/30/24 | Fr. William O'Connor | Diego Mendoza |
| Wed | 05/01/24 | Fr. Joseph Almeida | Henry Seuffert |
| Thurs | 05/02/24 | Fr. Wellington Oliveira | Tim Walsh |
| Fri | 05/03/24 | Fr. Felipe Gonzalez | Fritz Anacreon |
| Sat | 05/04/24 | Fr. Andrea Povero | Aaron Arbizo |

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, April 27

4:00pm Bertrand LeBlanc
Real Taschereau
Gerard Taschereau

Sunday, April 28

10:30am Lorraine & Sam Malignaggi
Gertrude & Joseph Sarro
Laura Miele York & Deceased Members
of the Miele Family
Robert Allan
Carol Ross

Monday, April 29

9:00am Joseph Poirier

Tuesday, April 30

9:00am Joseph Musumarra

Thursday, May 2

9:00am Joseph Lavigne
Yvette Moran
Mike Milnes

Friday, May 3

9:00am Marie Jeanne Pelletier

Saturday, May 4

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

Sunday, May 5

10:30am Frank Wholley
Andrew & Isabel Mulvaney
Philip Maggio
Patrick & Peter Grelle
Francesca Garcia



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Josephine P., Karen C., Lloyd M., Mike B., Leo L., Richard D., Maureen S., Eddie R., Susana M., Joyce M., Michelle O., Brian J., Bill R., & Patrice K.

Please pray for Christopher Shepherd, Lillian Zakia & Rene Dumont whose funerals we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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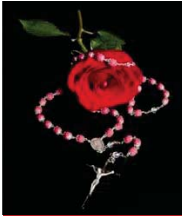


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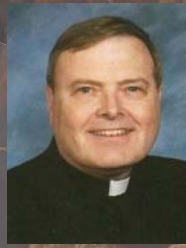
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