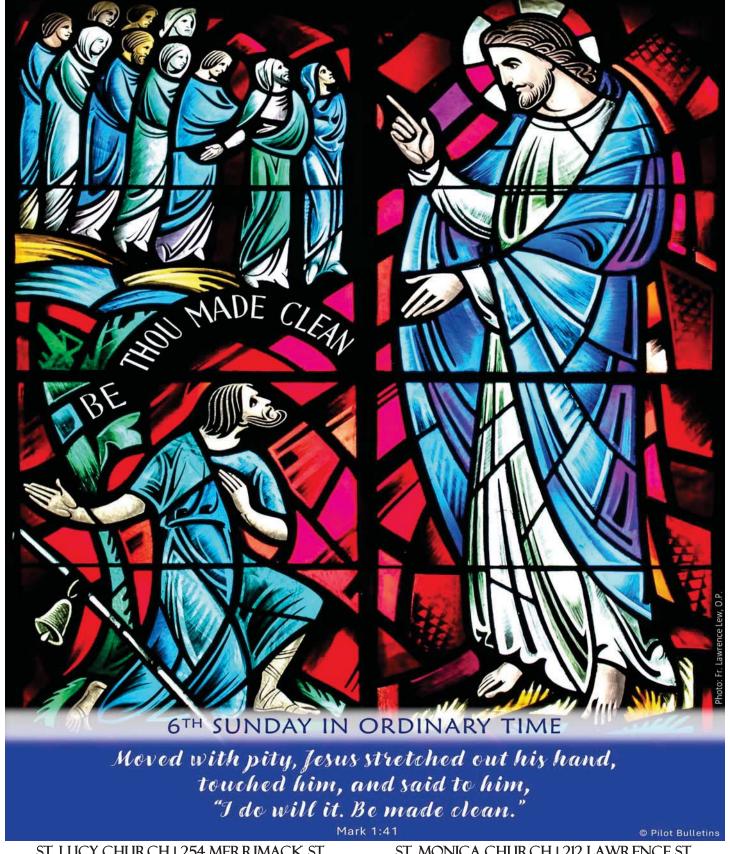
# METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

**FEB 11** 2024



"Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart...rend your hearts and not your garments." Joel 2:12-13

LENT

ALMSGIVING

The Call to Charity is inseparable from Christianity. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on "almsgiving," which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is "a witness to fraternal charity" and "a work of justice pleasing to God." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2462).

**FAST & ABSTINENCE** 

There are two types of fasting in the Christian Tradition. One is the total fast which customarily preceded all high holy days, and the second is abstinence from certain foods, such as meats or fats. Abstinence is an act of self-denial and a challenge to practice self-control. So we abstain from meat on Fridays of Lent and choose to abstain from other things throughout the 40 days, which we discern are efficacious. We still keep the "total fast" for one hour before the reception of Holy Communion. After we receive the Eucharist, we break the fast for now that for which we kept vigil has arrived. Lent is also a season for fasting. Fasting makes us hungry. We desire food and food keeps us alive. When Christians fast, we imitate Jesus, and we declare with Him, "Man does not live by bread alone" (Mt 4:4). Our lives do not depend on food alone. "It is the Spirit that gives life" (Jn 6:63). So fasting which arises from faith liberates us from a total dependence on food and the world. It leads us to discover our true spiritual nature. Furthermore, fasting acknowledges that the spiritual life is a battle between good and evil, one which we will sometimes lose but which we must continue fighting.

#### PRAYER

Prayer is our "vital and personal relationship with the living and true God" (2558). Christian Prayer "is communion with Christ (2565). It is also a grace-filled response to God's initiative, emanating from the human heart. It arises from the Spirit who prays with us and for us to the Father in His Son Jesus. While definitions of prayer are helpful, they remain insufficient for a huge difference lies between knowing about prayer and praying. "If a man wants to pray, let him go and pray" (The Rule of St. Benedict). The Church herself prays without ceasing through liturgy. Every liturgical celebration is an action of Christ the High Priest and his Mystical Body, the Church. It therefore requires the active participation of the People of God. Liturgy is neither entertainment nor a spectator event. It is the holy "work" of the Church and the participation of its members is at once internal and external, engaging the mind, heart, and body of all. (adapted from www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship)

## **LENTEN CALENDAR**

MONDAYS (starting Feb 12th) | The Marriage Course 6-8pm | St. Lucy Schoolhouse

TUESDAYS | Rosary 6-6:30pm | Gethsemane Chapel

WEDNESDAYS | Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet 9:30-11am | Zoom

Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm | St. Lucy Church

THURSDAYS | Mariology Class 7-8pm | St. Monica Church

Rosary 6-6:30pm | Zoom

FRIDAYS | Stations of the Cross followed by Pizza 6-7pm | St. Lucy Church SATURDAYS | Eucharistic Adoration 9:30am-2:30pm | Gethsemane Chapel

to connect with our groups on Zoom contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com

FEB 11, 2024



Please call the school to reserve your tickets. 978-686-1801



## **HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS**

Please join us for refreshments

Sunday, February 11th

St. Monica School Hall After the 9am mass

Sunday, February 25th

St. Lucy Lower Church Hall After the 10:30am mass

## Mariology Class

Thursday evenings | February 15 - March 21 7-8pm | St. Monica Church

Lent is a time for spiritual enrichment. Please join us for a Mariology Class, a follow-up to last year's Christology Class. We will study the Blessed Virgin Mary in the life of the Church.

The Class will be taught by Fr. Colarusso

To register or if you have questions, contact Karl at faithformation.stlm@gmail.com or 978-683-1193 ext 35

# ASH WEDNESDAY | FEB 14

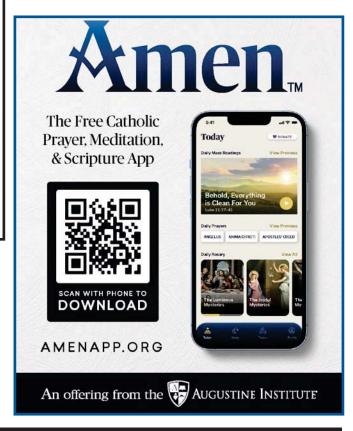
6:30am - Distribution of Ashes (St. Monica)
9:00am - Mass with Distribution of Ashes (St. Lucy)
12:00pm - Mass with Distribution of Ashes (St. Lucy)
1:00pm - School Mass with Distribution of Ashes (St. Monica)
all welcome
7:00pm - Mass with Distribution of Ashes (St. Monica)

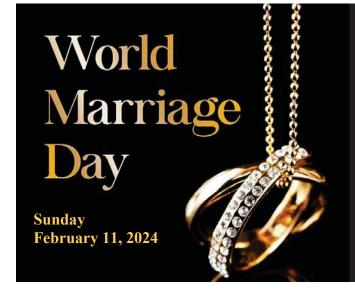
FEB 11, 2024











### PRAYER FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Almighty and eternal God,

You blessed the union of married couples so that they might reflect the union of Christ with his Church: look with kindness on them. Renew their marriage covenant, increase your love in them, and strengthen their bond of peace so that, with their children, they may always rejoice in the gift of your blessing.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## The Marriage Course

A course to help couples strengthen their relationship

Mondays 6:00-8:00pm
February 12 - March25
St. Lucy Schoolhouse
Dinner provided \$125 Donation (suggested)

It's set up for all couples. It's a kind of date night, one evening a week for seven weeks. You sit in a room full of couples, but at a table for two and dine together.

Afterwards, you listen to presentations, issues are raised, then you and your partner discuss and complete the exercises at your table. There's no group sharing.

https://themarriagecourse.org/try/the-marriage-course

To register or if you have questions, contact Karl at faithformation.stlm@gmail.com or 978-683-1193 ext 35



Join us for a spiritually uplifting evening of Adoration, & Confession, featuring a Guest Speaker and live worship music by Mike McDuffee.

St. Lucy Church Wednesday, February 28th 6:00-8:00 PM

Free Will Offerings Accepted



## St. Monica Grand Annual





## **GIVE NOW**

# St. Lucy Grand Annual





## OFFERTORY JANUARY 27 & 28

St. Monica - \$8,131.00

St. Lucy - \$4,171.00

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 cereal, rice, mashed potatoes, jelly, pasta sauce, pancake mix, syrup, canned fruit, instant rice & soups. 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.

GETHSEMANE CHAPEL AT ST. MONICA CHURCH Open 7 days/week from morning rush hour until 7pm

CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE Open Mon-Fri 9am-7pm, Sat & Sun 9am-5pm

**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 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

Fr. Darin Colarusso Pastor

Fr. Michael Harvey
Deacon John Kobrenski
Deacon John Pierce
Kera Mansour

Parochial Vicar
Permanent Deacon
Senior Deacon
Business Manager

methuencatholic@gmail.com

Karl Jackson Director of Parish Life

faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Brink Bush Music Director

Sharon Waning Music Ministry (St. Lucy)
Kevin Fitzgerald Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA
Christine Ryan Administrative Assistant

parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com



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SCHOOL STAFF

Donna Henderson Principal

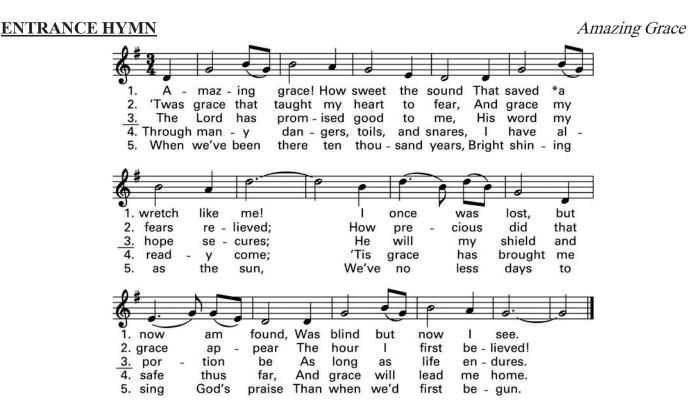
Pam Silveira Administrative Assistant

smsoffice@methuencatholic.org

### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Psalm 31 (30): 3-4

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.



#### **PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA**

Refer to Pew Card

#### FIRST READING

Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "If someone has on his skin a scab or pustule or blotch which appears to be the sore of leprosy, he shall be brought to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests among his descendants. If the man is leprous and unclean, the priest shall declare him unclean by reason of the sore on his head.

"The one who bears the sore of leprosy shall keep his garments rent and his head bare, and shall muffle his beard; he shall cry out, 'Unclean, unclean!' As long as the sore is on him he shall declare himself unclean, since he is in fact unclean. He shall dwell apart, making his abode outside the camp."



Psalm 147: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6



Blessed is he whose fault is taken away, whose sin is covered. Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt, in whose spirit there is no guile.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, my guilt I covered not. I said, "I confess my faults to the LORD," and you took away the guilt of my sin.

Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you just; exult, all you upright of heart.

#### **SECOND READING**

1 Corinthians 10: 31-11:1

Brothers and sisters, Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God. Avoid giving offense, whether to the Jews or Greeks or the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in every way, not seeking my own benefit but that of the many, that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Luke 7: 16



A great prophet has arisen in our midst, God has visited his people.

<u>GOSPEL</u> *Mark 1: 40-45* 

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once.

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

<u>CREED</u> Refer to Pew Card

## **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Psalm 78 (77): 29-30

They are and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

## PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

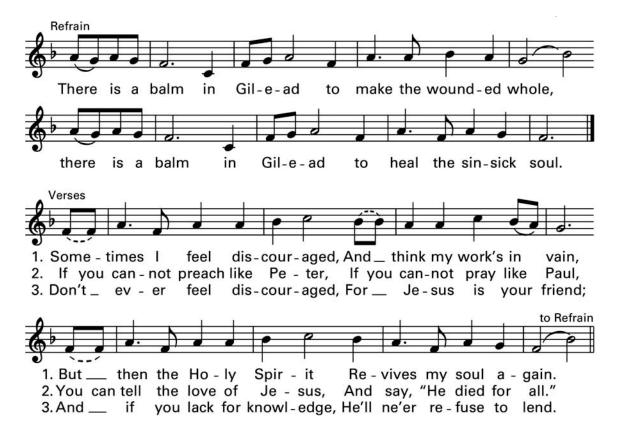
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

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.



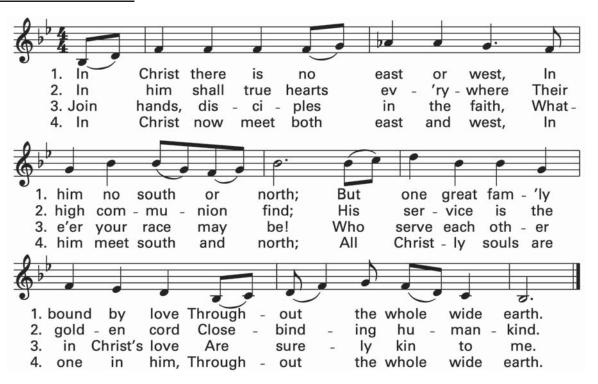
#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

There Is a Balm in Gilead



### **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

In Christ There Is No East or West



## ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, February 10

9:00am Pat Jackson 4:00pm Alan Roderick

Sunday, February 11

9:00am For the Parishioners of

St. Monica & St. Lucy

12:00pm Dick Doherty

Wednesday, February 14 - ASH WEDNESDAY

6:30am Distribution of Ashes

1:00pm Mass with Distribution of Ashes7:00pm Mass with Distribution of Ashes

Saturday, February 17

9:00am Joseph Lavigne

Yvette Moran Mike Milnes

4:00pm Anthony Gerst

Sunday, February 18

9:00am Jose Rivadeneira

Hank Hillier Peter Gumaskas John K. Foster, Jr. Leontina Picanso Kirk Patrick Walsh Peter Flagg

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## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	02/11/24	Fr. Robert Kickham	Connor Roukey
Mon	02/12/24	Fr. Edward Gallagher	Paulo Carvalho
Tues	02/13/24	Fr. Gregory Vozzo	Nicholas Colon
Wed	02/14/24	Fr. Eric Cadin	Ryan Henderson
Thurs	02/15/24	Fr. Robert Labrie	Jake Livingstone
Fri	02/16/24	Fr. John Mulloy	Christian Ortez
Sat	02/17/24	Fr. Christopher Boyle	Rafael Rubio

## ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, February 10

4:00pm Giuseppe Sangiorgio

Sunday, February 11

10:30am Ryan Matthew Thistle

William E. Donahue Douglas H.Knapp

Joseph & Lucille Pappalardo

Monday, February 12

9:00am Dick Doherty

**Tuesday, February 13 - LIVING INTENTIONS** 

9:00am To the Blessed Mother for favors received

Kimberly Rovinski

Wednesday, February 14 - ASH WEDNESDAY

9:00am Mass with Distribution of Ashes12:00pm Mass with Distribution of Ashes

Thursday, February 15

9:00am Janet Szostak

Friday, February 16

9:00am Dorothy Berryman

Saturday, February 17

4:00pm Antonio & Evelina Mollica

Sunday, February 18

10:30am Deceased Members of the BVM Sodality

Bertrand LeBlanc Real Taschereau Gerard Taschereau

Bridget S



## PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Susana M., Joyce M., Donna V., Sharon P., Alan P., Joe V., Michelle O., Nora N., Brian J., Bill R., Patrice K., Jason & Matt W.

Please pray for Thomas Graney, Alfred LeSage, & Gary Ouellette whose funerals we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

## **STAND UP TO YOUR SCIATIC PAIN!**

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"Be a Servant" Matthew 20:26

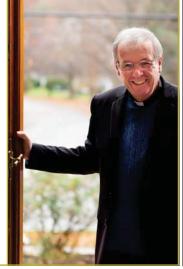


at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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