METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

NOV 6
2022

A REPEAT FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK NOV 6, 2022

Due to the rising cost of–well–everything, we in the rectory, like everyone else, are trying to cut down on food costs. Definitely more chicken and pork. I'm surprised you can still find them for a few bucks a pound. It's a similar story for personal spending: it takes more time to save up money to pay for extras, if one can even afford them. Of course, some "extras" aren't optional – like Christmas presents and almsgiving–as in "charity." I guess parish priests could have in the past considered themselves a charity, because they didn't get a salary, whereas now we do. So yup: taxes, retirement savings, gasoline, and charity are all part of our responsibility, too. Nonetheless, I'm looking at a stack of mail from charities to which I have given previously, but have yet to respond. Unfortunately for me, the Lord isn't kidding around about our being judged partly on our almsgiving. When He says "give alms to the poor" and "you will have a treasure in heaven," and, also, "But as to what is within, give alms, and behold, everything will be clean for you," He means it literally.

At least as a parish priest I legitimately can say: "Charity begins at home." I can do things that relieve the burden on the Offertory, help out with important special or second collections, and give to the Catholic Appeal and Grand Annual. I will be doing both of those last two things this month because it's Grand Annual time…and the Catholic Appeal is one of those envelopes I've been holding back on. And this year, both are directly tied to the bottom line of our parishes.

Your Grand Annual letters have been mailed out, which includes a financial review of the Collaborative. Put simply, here's the good news up front: we got through the last couple of years without losing money, and by the end of this current fiscal year (June 2023) we will have more assets in the bank with our facilities in better shape than we did in June of 2019. The bad news is that both parishes are projected to have significant deficits this year, nonetheless. This means that we will have to cut into our savings to help run the operations of the parishes, which will begin an unsustainable trend even if we can afford it ***for now***. Reminder: each parish runs separate operating accounts, yet both are in the same boat. Why?

For starters, the same inflation impacting our household budgets affects the parish budgets. Secondly, we have financial commitments that we never seem to meet, like our Catholic Appeal assessment, which is the minimum the diocese requires of us to pay for ministries outside of our parish territory. However, the root cause of our projected deficits is that we still have only about **HALF** of the Mass attendance we had before the lockdowns. Responding with "good news" again: our regular Mass attendees have maintained over 75% of the Offertory total met in previous years and we have done really well with our Grand Annual over the same time period. If you're reading this, then you're probably one of those committed parishioners: THANK YOU.

In closing, I ask you to once again be generous with your Grand Annual donation; send in the Catholic Appeal check, too, if possible; and add a bit for inflation, if you are able. Additionally, there is a non-financial contribution about which I would ask each of us to seriously pray, which is: "How can I help reinvigorate parish life?" That's the time and talent category I always mention. The reason for this is that if our participation numbers in all aspects of parish life continue to remain low, no "Offertory Improvement Program" will bridge the gap. The other good news is that we have a year to add dynamism to the life of our parishes. It is something we will be talking about a lot in the coming months. For now, I ask you to please be as generous to the Grand Annual appeal as possible. Thank you and may the Lord reward us with treasure in our hearts, our homes, and in Heaven.

COMING SOON. CHANGE TO SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE!

Starting January 1, 2023, St. Monica's Sunday Masses will be 9:00am and 12:00pm. St. Lucy's Sunday Mass will be 10:30am.

This change comes at the advice of many in priestly ministry as well as the experience of a few instances this past year that left us scrambling to find priests to offer our regularly scheduled masses. The slight adjustments to our Sunday schedule now makes it possible for a single priest to cover all of the masses on a Sunday with the help of another priest on Saturday evenings. To be clear, we have received no indication that we are losing a priest or will be losing a priest to another assignment.

NEW MASS TIMES STARTING JANUARY 1, 2023

St. Monica Church: Saturday 4pm | Sunday 9am & 12pm
St. Lucy Church: Saturday 4pm | Sunday 10:30am
Daily mass will remain the same.

DEALING WITH GRIEF DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Are you lonely and feeling sad facing the holidays without your loved one? A six-week bereavement support group will meet at St. Monica House on Tuesdays, November 8 - December 13 from 6-7:30pm. The group is offered as a free service to the community. Contact Christine at the Parish Offices to register, 978-683-1193.

Grief Counseling

Our parishes are collaborating with Mission Counseling, a Catholic Counseling Center, in Haverhill, MA to offer One-on-One Grief Counseling for parishioners who have had a loss of any kind and would like somebody to talk to. If you would like more information, please contact Christine in the parish offices, 978-686-3311.

PASTOR'S VETERANS DAY SMOKER

The Pastor invites Millennial Catholic Gentlemen (age 21-40) to an afternoon of fellowship on Friday, Nov 11th.

We hope to become acquainted with one another in a low-key and casual atmosphere aimed at encouraging one another in our pursuit of the Lord's purposes for our lives and our parishes.
Men of all ages are most welcome to attend. Beginner cigars will be provided. Feel free to bring a beverage of your choice and to share. Don't forget a chair!

Time and Location: 3-5pm, St Monica Parish, outside of the rectory

BVM Sodality SOCK & GLOVE DRIVE
November 12 & 13
To benefit our Veterans and Homeless

Parishioners are welcome to drop off any donated items in bins at St. Lucy and St. Monica Churches.
Your support is greatly appreciated.

The BVM Sodality welcomes new member Jacqueline Calobrise! Women interested in supporting community outreach events that serve people in need are warmly welcomed to attend our next meeting on November 13th at 11:30 to learn more about our Sodality.

A special **THANK YOU** goes out to the members of the Collaborative Finance Council for counting the offertory when others could not during the lockdown. You have all worked diligently for the last 2 1/2 years with great dedication, devotion and sense of service!

THANK YOU to our parishioners who have signed up to volunteer for our counting teams. You are much appreciated!

As parishes, we are striving to open back up better than we closed!!

PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE OF FATIMA PARISH VISITATION

November 19, 2022
4~7pm

St. Anthony's of Padua
250 Revere St.
Revere, MA 02151

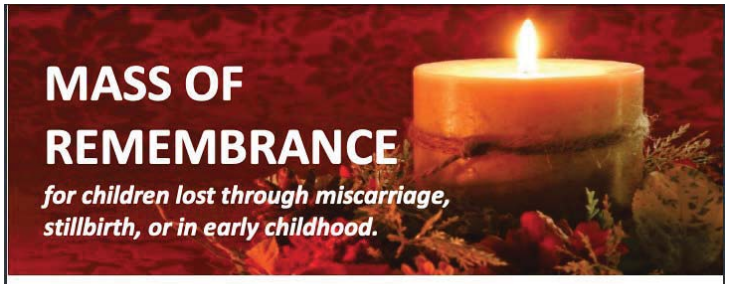
The Faithful may come before the Statue, Individually, Until Closing.

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA, USA
Our Lady's Blue Army
WWW.BLUEARMY.COM

THIRD AND FINAL
BANNS OF MARRIAGE
Michael Sheridan & Lydia Aiyeku

HOLY DAY DECORATORS NEEDED

We are looking for Volunteers to help decorate St. Monica's for the upcoming holy season.
If you are interested, please reach out to Kera at methuencatholic@gmail.com or 978-683-1193 ext. 26



If you have lost a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth or in early childhood, you may feel a very deep loss which few others seem to understand. The St. Augustine community prays for you and invites you to our annual Mass of Remembrance.

Date: November 19, 2022 *(Saturday)*

Time: 9:00 AM

Where: St. Augustine Church,
43 Essex Street, Andover, MA

Live Stream: For those who cannot attend in person, this Mass will be streamed live at:
StAugustineParish.org/live-stream

Those attending the Mass will have the opportunity to remember and honor their child with remembrance cards.

The Poor Clare Monastery in Andover will keep the babies, mothers and families remembered at this Mass wrapped in their prayers. You are invited go with us to the Monastery after Mass (445 River Rd, Andover) to present the Remembrance Cards and receive a blessing.

If you would like a Prayer Shawl, knitted with prayers and love for you and your child, and cannot attend Mass in person, they may be picked up starting Nov 22nd from 8:30-2:30 in the Parish Center at 43 Essex St Andover, MA 01810.

If you need to talk to one of our Friars about your own situation, please do not hesitate call: 978-475-0050. Ask for either Fr. Peter Gori, OSA, Pastor at x35 , Fr. Art Johnson, OSA at x11 , or Fr. John Dello Russo, OSA at x37.

Jesus is longing for your presence.

Wednesday Evenings
6-7pm
St. Lucy Church

Friday Afternoons
2-5pm
Gethsemane Chapel

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6
- Faith Formation Mass & Meeting 12:45-2:45pm St. Lucy Church, Lower Church Hall & School House
- AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7
- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Boy Scout Meeting 7-8:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8
- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Rosary For Priests 6pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Bereavement Support Group 6-7:30pm St. Monica House
- ALPHA Course 6-8pm St. Lucy School House
- Adult Confirmation Prep 6:30-8:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe 7-8pm St. Monica Church

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9
- Alanon 10-11:15am St. Lucy Lower Church
- Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St. Lucy Church

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10
- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Rosary 6pm (Zoom)
- Multicultural Night 6-7:30pm St. Monica School
- AA 6:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Catechism for Adults 6:30pm (Zoom)
- SVDP Meeting 6:30-8pm St. Monica House

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11 - VETERANS DAY
- PARISH OFFICES CLOSED
- SCHOOL CLOSED
- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Eucharistic Adoration 2-5pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Confessions 4-5pm Gethsemane Chapel

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12
- Faith2Fitt 8-9am St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Mass 9am St. Monica Church
- Sock Drive for Vets after masses St. Monica & St. Lucy Churches
- Mass of Remembrance 10-11:30am St. Lucy Church & Lower Church Hall
- Confessions 3-3:45pm Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church

NOVENA TO
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
Every Tuesday from
September 13 - November 15
Saint Monica Church | 7pm

OFFERTORY | OCTOBER 22 & 23

St. Monica - $6,293.00 St. Lucy - $4,113.00

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.

Family and friends of the Parishes of St. Monica and St. Lucy,
As we prepare for our Thanksgiving offering to local families in need, we are facing challenges from food distribution resources that we normally utilize. As you know, supply chain issues and other contributing factors have caused food insecurities for many. Our Vincentian mission (and yours) is to be witnesses to the truth and the hope of our Catholic Christian worldview that can give meaning and purpose to life, despite hardships and adversities. 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. You are in our prayers as we offer this thought: "Eucharisteo" is the Greek word for Thanksgiving. We are all Brothers and Sisters at the Table of Thanksgiving.

GETHSEMANE CHAPEL at ST. MONICA CHURCH	CHAPEL of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE
Open 7 days/week from morning rush hour until 7pm	Open Mon-Fri 9am-7pm , Sat & Sun 9am-5pm

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 am St. Lucy
SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica

CONFESSIONS

3 - 3:45 pm both parishes | Sat
4 - 5pm Gethsemane Chapel | Fri
6 - 7pm St. Lucy Church | Wed

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

2 - 5 pm Friday Gethsemane Chapel
6 - 7 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
Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am - 2pm

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

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

parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com

ST. MONICA SCHOOL

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

SCHOOL STAFF

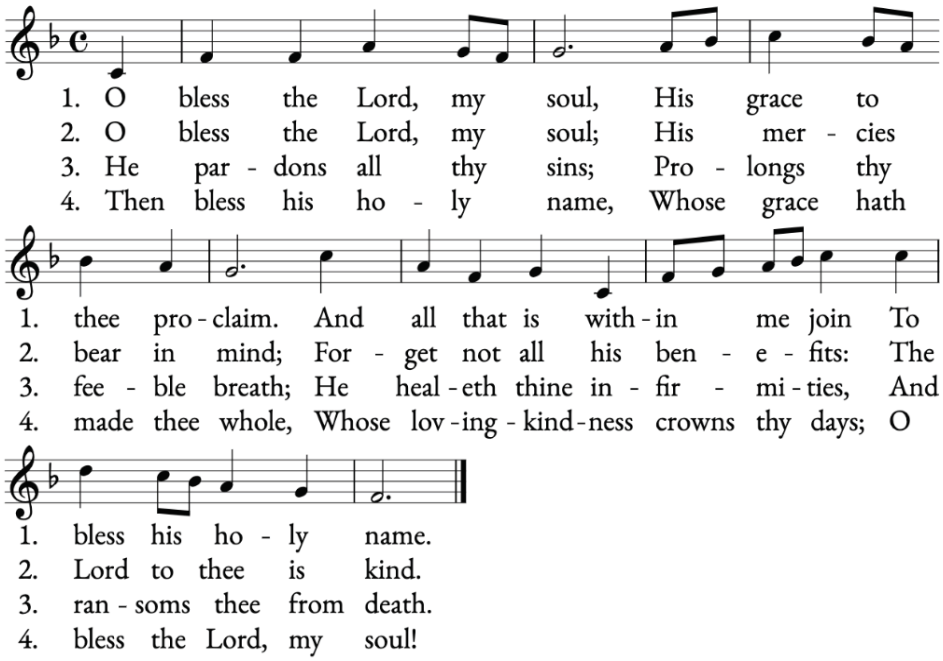
Donna Henderson	Principal
Sharon Tully	Administrative Assistant

smsoffice@methuencatholic.org

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Cf. Ps 88 (87): 3*

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *O Bless the Lord, My Soul*



PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA *Refer to Pew Card*

FIRST READING *2 Macc 7:1-2, 9-14*

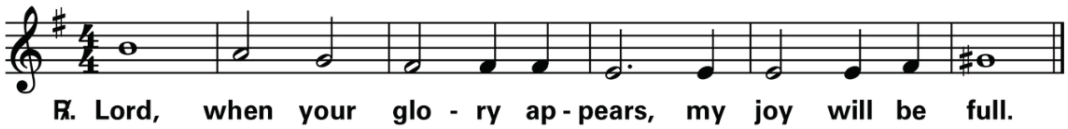
It happened that seven brothers with their mother were arrested / and tortured with whips and scourges by the king, / to force them to eat pork in violation of God's law. / One of the brothers, speaking for the others, said: / "What do you expect to achieve by questioning us? / We are ready to die rather than transgress the laws of our ancestors."

At the point of death he said: / "You accursed fiend, you are depriving us of this present life, / but the King of the world will raise us up to live again forever. / It is for his laws that we are dying."

After him the third suffered their cruel sport. / He put out his tongue at once when told to do so, / and bravely held out his hands, as he spoke these noble words: / "It was from Heaven that I received these; / for the sake of his laws I disdain them; / from him I hope to receive them again." / Even the king and his attendants marveled at the young man's courage, / because he regarded his sufferings as nothing.

After he had died, / they tortured and maltreated the fourth brother in the same way. / When he was near death, he said,/ "It is my choice to die at the hands of men / with the hope God gives of being raised up by him; / but for you, there will be no resurrection to life."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 17 (16): 15b (V) 1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15 L*



Hear, O Lord, a just suit; attend to my outcry;
hearken to my prayer from lips without deceit.

My steps have been steadfast in your paths, my feet have not faltered.
I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my word.

Keep me as the apple of your eye, hide me in the shadow of your wings.
But I in justice shall behold your face; on waking I shall be content in your presence.

SECOND READING

2 Thes 2: 16-3:5
2 Thes 2: 16-3:

Brothers and sisters:
May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, / who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, / encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word.

Finally, brothers and sisters, pray for us, / so that the word of the Lord may speed forward and be glorified, as it did among you, / and that we may be delivered from perverse and wicked people, / for not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful; / he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one. / We are confident of you in the Lord that what we instruct you, / you are doing and will continue to do. / May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the endurance of Christ.

ALLELUIA

Rev 1: 5a, 6b L

℟. Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus Christ is the first born of the dead;
to him be glory and power, forever and ever.

℟. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 20: 27-38

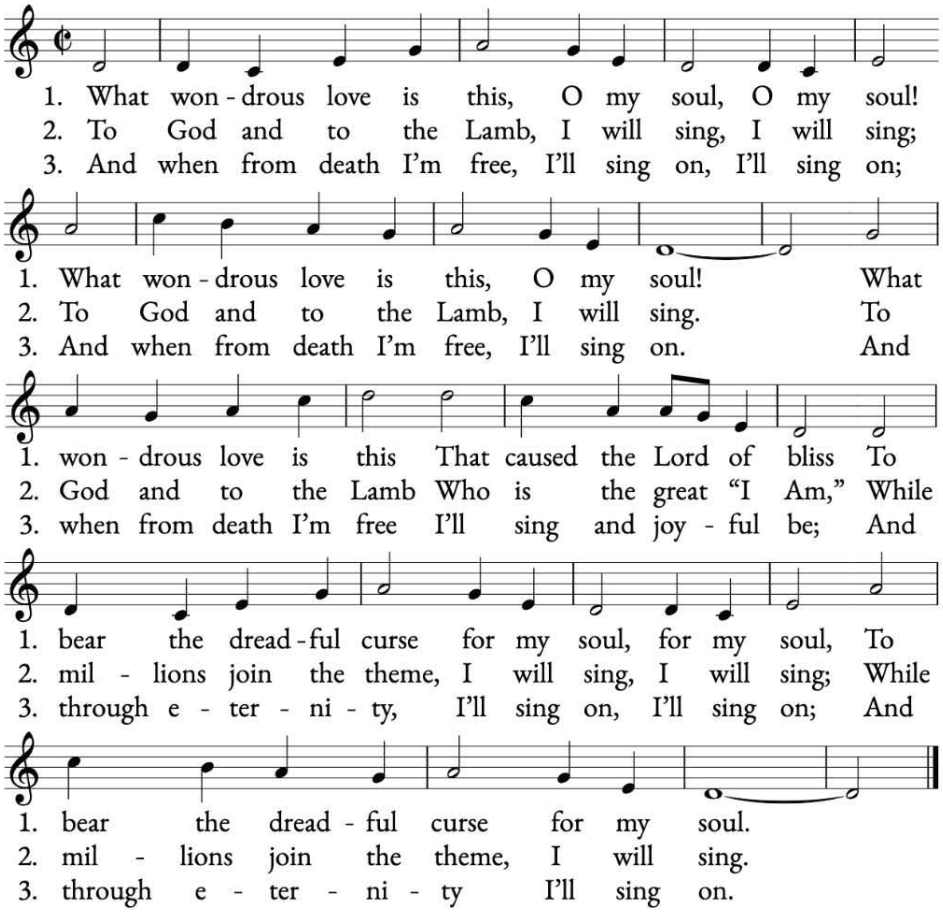
Some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, / came forward [and put this question to Jesus, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us, / If someone's brother dies leaving a wife but no child, / his brother must take the wife
and raise up descendants for his brother. / Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman but died childless. Then the second and the third married her, / and likewise all the seven died childless.
Finally the woman also died. / Now at the resurrection whose wife will that woman be?
For all seven had been married to her."] / Jesus said to them, "The children of this age marry and remarry; / but those who are deemed worthy to attain to the coming age / and to the resurrection of the dead / neither marry nor are given in marriage. / They can no longer die, / for they are like angels; / and they are the children of God / because they are the ones who will rise. / That the dead will rise / even Moses made known in the passage about the bush, / when he called out 'Lord,' / the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; / and he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive."

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

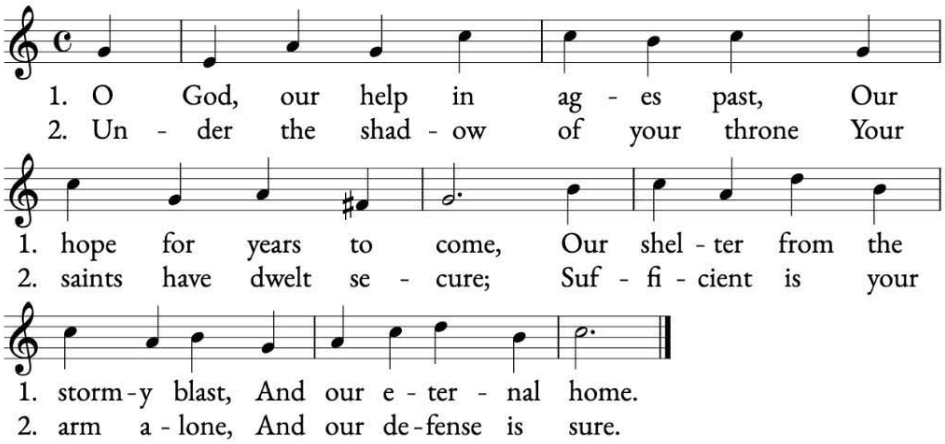
Psalm 23 (22): 1-2; V Ps 23(22) GR RM

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

COMMUNION HYMN *What Wondrous Love*



RECESSIONAL HYMN *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*



PRAYER FOR PASTORAL PLANNING

Almighty Father, give us the grace to follow where your Son leads.
Make our priests holy and effective ministers of the Gospel.
Make our staff and parishioners enthusiastic and dedicated disciples.
May we all be docile to the Holy Spirit and obedient to your will.
Help us make our parishes a light for those seeking you
and a safe harbor for those who hope in you.
We entrust ourselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary as we pray: Hail Mary, full of grace...

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, November 5
9:00am First Saturday Mass

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

Sunday, November 6
9:00am Manuel & Fernanda Cordeiro
Evelyn & Jose Freitas
Angela Ciocca
Barbara Hardy

11:00 am Carmelo Carcia

Saturday, November 12
9:00am Deceased Members of the Fitzpatrick-Doran Family

4:00pm Ronald & Irene Silva

Sunday, November 13
9:00am For the Parishioners of St. Monica & St. Lucy

11:00 am Ann Foderaro

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PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	11/06/22	Fr. David Brogan	Luca Azzani
Mon	11/07/22	Fr. Andrea Filippucci	Chris Barton
Tues	11/08/22	Fr. Mario Guarino	Alden Bronson
Wed	11/09/22	Pope Francis	Alexander De Tirado
Thurs	11/10/22	Fr. Succes Jeanty Jean-Pierre	Joe Jasinski
Fri	11/11/22	All Military Chaplains	Diego Mendoza
Sat	11/12/22	Fr. Przemyslaw Kasprzak	David Pineda

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, November 5
4:00pm Vincent Minicucci
Gerard & Mattia D'Andrea

Sunday, November 6
10:00am Tim Jackson
Helene Giordano
Rocco & Amelia Bonanno and Deceased Members of the Bonanno Family
Fr. George Riley, O.S.A.
Patricia Jankowski

Monday, November 7
9:00am Yvonne & Roland Soucy

Tuesday, November 8
9:00am Feast of Maria SS Lattani and Maria SS Costantinopoli

Thursday, November 10
9:00am Dick Doherty

Friday, November 11
9:00am Veterans Day Mass In Honor of Those Who Served

Saturday, November 12
10:00am Mass of Remembrance

4:00pm For the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, November 13
10:00am Mary Gallo
Lehane & Spampinato Families
Chris & Charlie DiLavore
Rose & Tony Saitta
Angie & Nick Pisano
Filomena, Mario, & Elena Pisano
Deceased Members of BVM Sodality

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Linda K., Anne, Zoey, L., Bill & The Prudentia Family

Please pray for Geraldine J. Berthiaume, Beatrice Charewicz & Joyce Peters whose funerals we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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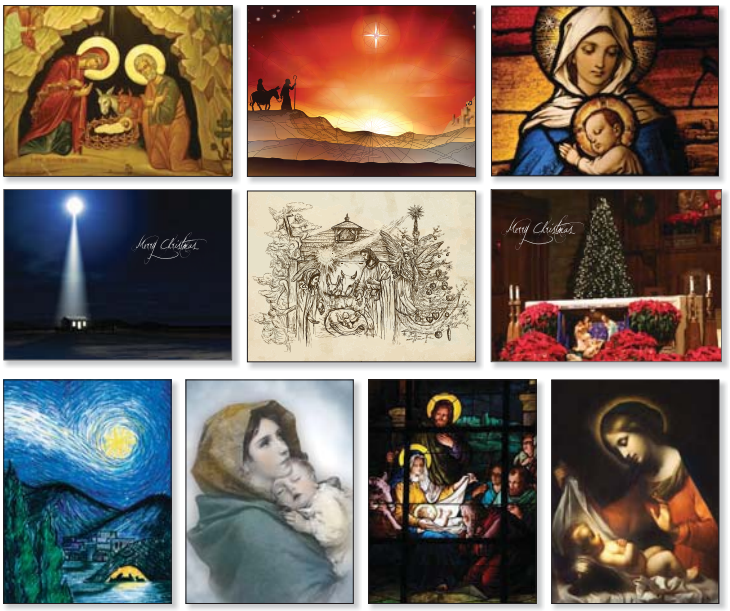

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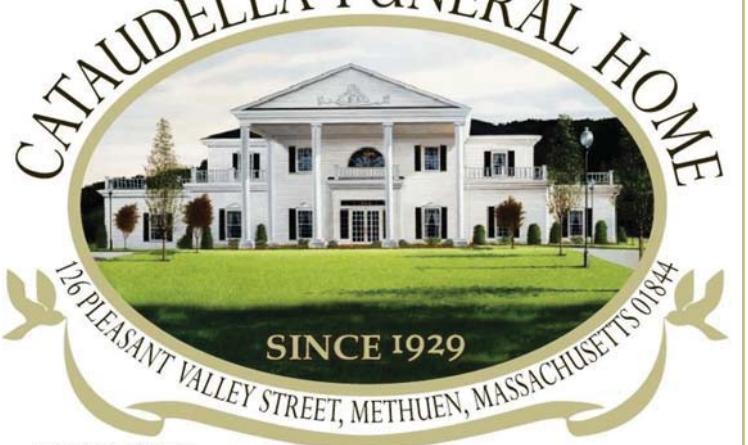

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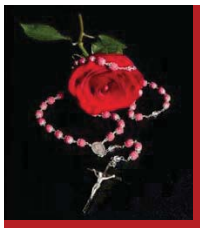

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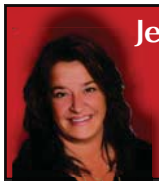

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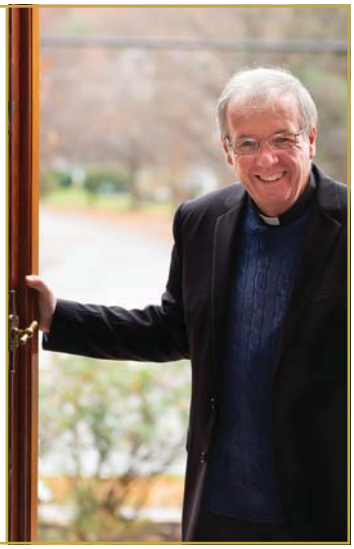

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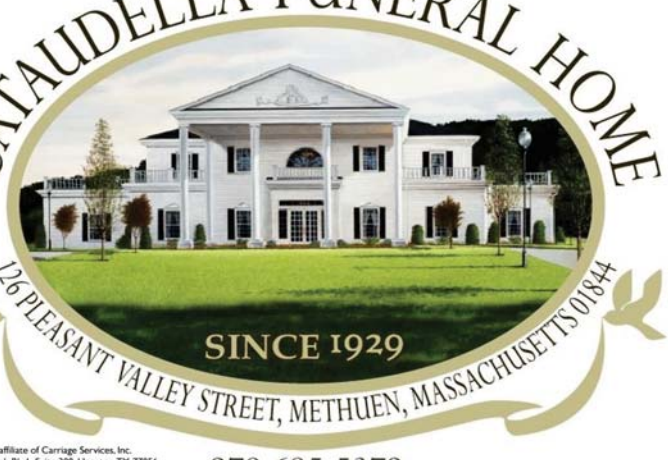

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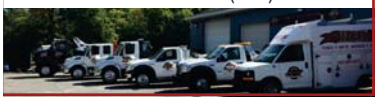

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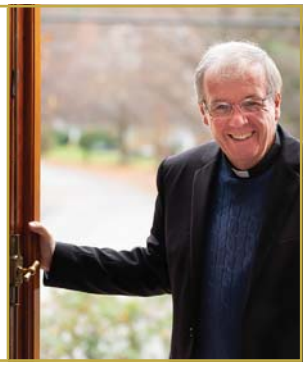

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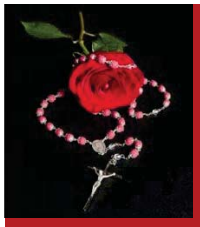

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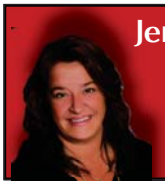

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