

April 2, 2017



5th

SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." —Jn 11:25

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

St. Monica Parish

St. Lucy Parish

©LPI

Renew, Rebuild, and Reach Out: Disciples in Heartfelt Communion with Jesus Christ

St. Monica Parish: 212 Lawrence Street
St. Lucy Parish: 254 Merrimack Street
Methuen, MA

PARISH OFFICES

254 Merrimack St • Methuen, MA 01844
Telephone (978) 683-1193 or (978) 686-3311
methuencatholic@gmail.com
www.methuencatholic.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

PASTORAL STAFF

Father William P. Lohan ext. 992
Pastor

Father John A. Cassani ext. 993
Parochial Vicar

Father Joseph Thomas, BSO (978) 319-7873
Weekend Assistant

Father Herb Jones, O. Carm ext. 111
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dnjbpierce@gmail.com

Deacon John Kobrenski jpk500@verizon.net
Permanent Deacon

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pfjernberg@gmail.com

Sharon Waning
Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy

Kevin Fitzgerald
Facilities Manager (St. Lucy's) & RCIA Coordinator



Check out our Facebook page at
www.facebook.com/methuencatholic/

ST. MONICA SCHOOL

212 Lawrence St • Methuen, MA 01844
Telephone (978) 686-1801
saintmonicaoffice@verizon.net
www.methuencatholic.org/school

SCHOOL STAFF

Sister Suzanne Fondini, mfic
School Principal

Sharon Tully
Administrative Assistant

PARISH SERVICES

Prayer Line (978) 683-1193 ext. 41

St. Vincent de Paul (978) 686-9573
at St. Monica's Parish

St. Lucy Parish

Daily Mass Schedule:

Monday through Wednesday 8:00 am

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00pm (for Sunday)

Sunday: 8:00am/9:30am/11:30am

Holy Days of Obligation:

8:00 am, 12:30 pm, and 7:00 pm

St. Monica Parish

Daily Mass Schedule:

Thursday and Friday 7:00 am, Saturday 8:00 am

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00 pm (for Sunday)

Sunday: 7:30am/9:30am/11:30am/5:30pm

Holy Days of Obligation:

4:00pm (prior eve)/7:00 am and 10:00 am

Civic Holiday Schedule:

Normal Schedule at both Parishes

MARRIAGES. Please call the parish office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date and before booking a reception hall.

BAPTISMS. Please call the parish office.

St. Monica's Parish: 1st full weekend of the month
Saturday 12:30 pm/Sunday 1:00pm

St. Lucy Parish: 3rd Saturday of the Month 12:30pm

Easter

He is Risen

Come Celebrate Holy Week
and Easter with us.

ST. LUCY PARISH & ST. MONICA PARISH
METHUEN, MA

ST. LUCY PARISH

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9

VIGIL: 4 PM
SUNDAY: 8:00, 9:30, AND 11:30 AM

MONDAY, APRIL 10 - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12
DAILY MASS AT 8:00 AM

THE HOLY TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 13

NO MORNING MASS
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT 7:00 PM
ADORATION FOLLOWS UNTIL 10:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14

NO MORNING MASS
STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 3:00 PM
SOLEMN GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE AT 7:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 15

(NO MORNING MASS AND NO 4:00 PM MASS)
EASTER VIGIL AT 8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16

MASSSES AT 8:00, 9:30, & 11:30 AM

CONFESSIONS DURING HOLY WEEK

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12:
6:30 - 8:00 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 13:
FOLLOWING THE 7PM MASS

FRIDAY, APRIL 14: 6:00 - 6:45 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 15: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ST. MONICA PARISH

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9

VIGIL: 4 PM
SUNDAY: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM,
& 5:30 PM

THE HOLY TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 13

NO MORNING MASS
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT 7:00 PM
ADORATION FOLLOWS UNTIL 10 PM IN THE
CHAPEL

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14

NO MORNING MASS
SOLEMN GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE AT 3:00 PM
STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 7:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 15

(NO MORNING MASS AND NO 4:00 PM MASS)
EASTER VIGIL AT 8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16

MASSSES AT 7:30, 9:30, AND 11:30 AM
(THERE IS NO 5:30 PM MASS)

CONFESSIONS DURING HOLY WEEK

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12:
6:30 - 8:00 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 13:
FOLLOWING THE 7PM MASS

FRIDAY, APRIL 14: 2 - 2:45 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 15: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM



New to our community? We're so happy you joined us this weekend and we'd love to have you worship with us regularly. Come discover the peace that comes from following our Lord Jesus. Contact us at the parish offices so we can get to know each other better. (978) 683-1193 or (978) 686-3311.

St. Monica Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 6:30-7:30 pm
Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

St. Lucy Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday 4:30-5:30pm
Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

and any time by appointment

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Cataudella Funeral Home (978) 685 - 5379

126 Pleasant Valley Street, Methuen, MA

ST. LUCY AND ST. MONICA ADORATION



TUESDAYS (ST. LUCY CHURCH) 1:30-4:30PM
***FRIDAYS (ST. MONICA CHAPEL) 7:30AM-7:30PM**

FOR MORE INFO ON ADORATION
AT ST. MONICA'S PLEASE CONTACT:
BONNIE DOHERTY
bonnieocds@gmail.com or (978) 270-3366

ST. LUCY'S PLEASE CONTACT:
ELLEN WHOLLEY - (978) 682-8459

*Please note! St. Monica - Late start at 9:30am on April 7 and May 5.
If school is cancelled due to weather, Adoration is also cancelled. There will not be Adoration or Confessions on Good Friday, April 14.

During Lent, Adoration at St. Monica's will end at 6:45 pm for Stations of the Cross at 7 pm.

The Bible and the Sacraments - Join us every Thursday from 6-8pm until April 6 at the St. Monica rectory to discuss the streaming video, The Bible and the Sacraments. Please contact Bonnie Doherty, 978-270-3366, if you plan to attend. Check out the website, <https://www.bibleandthesacraments.com/>. Join for free. We will use the workbook available for \$19.95 at <https://www.bibleandthesacraments.com/all-products/participant-workbook>. Come with or without the workbook. All are welcome!

The bulletin deadline for Palm Sunday is Monday, April 3rd.

The Easter Sunday deadline is Monday, April 10th.

ST. LUCY/ST. MONICA ULTREYA

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

7:00 – 8:30 PM at St. Lucy's 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 begin with Liturgy 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 **Christine Burke** who has been invited to 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!

From Sr. Rina,

A sincere thank you for the many expressions of sympathy I received at the passing away of my dear sister, Doris. You are in my prayers and God bless each and everyone of you.

Sister Rina



Lent 2017 - Stations of the Cross

St. Lucy: Fridays at 5:30 pm
(followed by pizza or soup)
St. Monica: Fridays at 7 pm

Good Friday Collection

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the **Pontifical Good Friday Collection**, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous!

Easter Collection

This Easter, our parish collection will support the priests of our Archdiocese who share the good news, perform good works, and spread good faith. The Clergy Health and Retirement Trust ensures an appropriate level of care and quality of life for our 601 diocesan priests. Remember the priests who have cared for you, and consider honoring them with a gift that helps care for them. Thank you in advance for supporting the priests who continue to give so much to our Church.

Massachusetts Citizens for Life Convention 2017

Keep The Momentum Going

Come hear the top medical, legal, and educational experts in the current life issues. To register online or find more information on the exciting line-up of speakers, including Dr. Martin J. McCaffrey, Director of the Perinatal Collaborative of North Carolina and star of *Hush*, go to: www.masscitizensforlife.org/get-involved/annual-convention

Registration/Coffee: 8:30 am **Convention: 9 am**

Price: (Includes lunch, coffee, snacks and drink)

General Public \$40 Student \$15

Voting Member \$30 (*voting members are those who have donated \$30 in the last year*)

Boston College

Devlin Hall, 529 Main Street, Suite 1M9, Boston, MA

April 8

"Mary, Mother Of God - Heart Of Compassion"

The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality invites all women to a Morning of Reflection

When: Saturday, April 8, 2017 8am to 1pm

Where: St. Lucy Parish Hall
254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA

Cost: \$15 (includes continental breakfast & lunch)

Give yourself a spiritual gift and enter into Holy Week walking with Mary. We will share in Mary's pain, her sorrow, and her joys. As women, we can easily relate to Mary. She is our model! Do not miss this beautiful presentation by Sr. Ann Whittaker, SCN, and Sr. Anne Marie O'Shea, SCN.

Morning Schedule

8:00 - 9:00am	Mass with choir
9:00 - 9:30am	Registration and Continental Breakfast (meet old friends and make new ones.)
9:45 - 10:45am	First Session
10:45 - 11:00am	Break
11:00 - Noon	Second Session
Noon - 1:00pm	Lunch

For further information or to register, please contact: Elaine Frangente, co-chairperson (978) 373-2376, efrangente@aol.com or Ellen Wholley, co-chairperson (978) 682-8459, auntiellen@aol.com

Important Reminder!!!

If you are planning to attend the Morning of Reflection on April 8th and haven't yet registered, please call to reserve your place. Don't hesitate! The response has been great!

Thank You,

The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality

An Invitation

The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality would like to invite all parishioners and friends to the 8am Mass on Saturday, April 8th. The Mass will begin our Morning of Reflection. As we enter Holy Week, please join us as we remember our deceased members and pray for a beautiful, spiritual, and prayerful morning.

Fr. Bill has returned from his sabbatical this weekend and is excited to be back in the Parishes. He would like to thank you for your prayers and support while he was away.

The **St. Padre Pio Prayer Group** will meet on Tuesday, April 4 from 6:30-8:30pm in the chapel of St. Monica's Church. In addition to the recitation of the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the evening's topic of discussion will be 'Pertinent figures on the road to Calvary'. A St. Padre Pio relic is available for veneration. New members are welcome.

DID JESUS RISE BODILY FROM THE TOMB TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO?

MANY SCHOLARS, MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA, AND EVEN OUR OWN NEIGHBORS DO NOT BELIEVE IN THIS CENTRAL CLAIM OF CHRISTIANITY. EVERY YEAR AROUND EASTER OR CHRISTMAS, BOOKS AND ARTICLES ARE WRITTEN THAT ARGUE THAT THE BODILY RESURRECTION OF JESUS IS NOT TRUE. SOME ARGUE THAT THE APOSTLES AND DISCIPLES OF JESUS WERE INVOLVED IN A MASSIVE CONSPIRACY...

JOIN US FOR
THEOLOGY ON TAP
WITH
DAN NORTON

DAN IS A CATHOLIC APOLOGIST FROM BOSTON WHO HAS SPOKEN TO COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT GROUPS FROM BOSTON TO BALTIMORE.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017 - 7 PM

BRICK HOUSE TAVERN + TAP **105 PLEASANT VALLEY ST., METHUEN, MA**

PLEASE R.S.V.P. TO ISABELA PEIXOTO @ (978) 686 - 3311 OR METHUENCATHOLICNEWS@GMAIL.COM BY APRIL 12

ST. MONICA & ST. LUCY YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (AGES 21-40)



Our first Theology on Tap was a success! Thank you to our guest speaker Fr. Cassani and to all who attended. Check out our website for more photos.

This past week we have celebrated the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. Aside from meaning that we now have less than nine months until Christmas, there is great importance in the meaning of this wonderful feast. There is no doubt that the world is in great need to hear the amazing news that God has become one of us, that he now is able to have true compassion on us. His mercy has now been taken to new heights.

The world that Jesus was born into was obviously very different from our own. Everyone knew that some sort of god existed, whether it was the One True God, who revealed Himself to Israel, or one of the deities of the many other religions that existed. There was no such thing as an atheist. What would have been hard to believe, however, was the very idea that God could become man. Even the religions that saw their gods as having human qualities never imagined that they could be so vulnerable as to be born in poverty, and at risk of being murdered by an envious ruler. In taking our flesh, God has revealed to us that there is absolutely no limit to the love that He has for us.

We all need to thank Mary for having said yes to God's plan. Even though God had prepared her from the moment of her conception to bring His Son into the world, she still made a completely free choice. She has such an incredible amount of love for each one of us, which comes from her total love of God. She loves God more than any other person, whether human or angelic. It is from this almost infinite ocean of love within her that her great compassion for us comes. Mary has the greatest compassion for all of us sinners, because she can not imagine ever being out of communion with God.

Jesus and Mary have put themselves on the line for us. They have gone to the greatest lengths to make sure that God's grace is available to each one of us. They want us to take advantage of what they have done. Let us never hesitate to pray to them for what we need. Let us never think that it is selfish to pray for what we truly need. Let us always pray for those we love. Let us never succumb to the temptation to say "God has more important things to worry about." Jesus stops at nothing to give us His grace. Mary stops at nothing to bring us close to her Son. As we move closer to Holy Week, let us pray that what we commemorate will bring us closer to Christ.

God bless,
Fr. Cassani



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, April 1

8:00 am (*multiple intentions*)

4:00 pm Eva and Joseph Austin

Sunday, April 2

7:30 am Parishioners of St. Monica and
St. Lucy Parishes

9:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Charlie & Rose Hanafin

(Living)

Thomas Conley Sr.

Deceased members of the
Comerford Family

Violet Sayer

Mary Dow

Eileen O'Rourke

Kimberly S. Witham

The Angelo and Ragonese Family

The Michaud and Chanel Family

The DiBartolo and Rocco Family

11:30 am Maurice, Helen, & Maurice Jr. Lariviere

5:30 pm Ida Manning

Thursday, April 6

7:00 am Christine Ferguson

Friday, April 7

8:15 am School Mass

Saturday, April 8

8:00 am (*multiple intentions*)

John Fitzgerald

Yvonne Soucy

Myrna G. Nolan

4:00 pm Philip, Johanna, and William Muhilly

Sunday, April 9

7:30 am

9:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Vincent Jablonski

Jadwiga Gawenda

George H. LaRose Jr.

Manuel & Fernanda Cordeiro

Robert Dowd

11:30 am Richard Curtis

5:30 pm In thanksgiving to St. Jude

STEWARDSHIP

March 26, 2017

Offertory: \$9,714.00

Grand Annual: \$69,138.00 (total to date)

Flowers: \$3,210.00

Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.

This weekend and next weekend, there is only one collection, our regular Sunday Offering. Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

"YES I CAN" Program

WE CAN USE..... canned fruit, strawberry and grape jelly, mashed potatoes, and peanut butter.

ROSES FOR LIFE



Roses for Life have been donated

In Loving Memory of

Michael & Linda Giarrusso

Cecile and Peter Checovich

Robert & Nicholas DiBenedetto

If you would like to honor a loved one and support our activities in support of life, for a donation of \$10, we'll purchase a rose and place it in the vase before the statue of the Blessed Mother for a week. Please contact the parish office at (978) 683-1193.

Divine Mercy Sunday - April 23, 2017

Beginning at 2:15 to include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and veneration of the image of Divine Mercy. The Novena of the Chaplet begins on Good Friday. Novena pamphlets will be available in St. Lucy and St. Monica Churches.

St. Monica 100th Anniversary Dinner Dance - at Lenzi's restaurant in Dracut on Saturday, October 28, 2017. For tickets please call Jane & Bill Shawcross at 978-794-8681 or 978-273-8830. Tickets are \$50.00 each



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, April 1

4:00 pm Donald Silveira

Sunday, April 2

8:00 am Solomeja Rembisz

9:30 am Deceased Members of the Sodality

11:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Joseph Augeri

Aurora Ilagan

Diane L. Farelli

Gertrude Morrissette

Monday, April 3

8:00 am Jennie Bonacorsi

Tuesday, April 4

8:00 am John Fitzpatrick Jr. & Sally Bradley

Wednesday, April 5

8:00 am Antony Mercury

Saturday, April 8

8:00 am (Sodality Mass)

For the deceased members
of the Sodality

4:00 pm Mary Rizzo

Sunday, April 9

8:00 am Michael Kenny Jr.

9:30 am Parishioners of St. Lucy &
St. Monica Parishes

11:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Elizabeth Gomes

Raffaele Tammaro & Family

Giovanni Lobrutto

STEWARDSHIP

March 26, 2017

Offertory: \$5,566.00

Grand Annual: \$54,935.00 (total to date)

Flowers: \$2,560.00

Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.

This weekend, there is only one collection, our regular Sunday offering. Next weekend, the second collection is for our religious ed. program. Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.

Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality News



Our next Sodality Meeting is this Sunday, April 2nd after the 9:30 Mass and the praying of the Rosary.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Morning of Reflection: April 8th

- Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Sodality

Brunch: May 7th

- Irish Cottage Fundraiser: May 24th.

We are a Sodality dedicated to the Blessed Mother in service to our parish.

St. Lucy's Men's Guild

Save The Date

- **Saturday, April 15** – following Easter Vigil Mass – Ice Cream Social
- **Saturday, June 3rd** – Sock Hop – to benefit St. Monica/St. Lucy's Youth Group

Sock Hop co-sponsored by St. Monica's Knights of Columbus. For tickets for Sock Hop – call Larry @ 978-683-2220



2017 Science Fair

Winners:

Grade 4

1st Place – Luke Armano and Matt Getchell

2nd Place – Anthony Bonanno and
Corbin Walsh

3rd Place – Lauren Christy and
Aaliyah Devlin

Grade 5

1st Place – Flynn Bowler and Ryan DeMattia

2nd Place – Kaylin Rosado

3rd Place – Sara Johnson

Grade 6

1st Place – Patricia Pham and Anjali Serrano

2nd Place – Emily D'Arcangelo

3rd Place – Sophia Camacho and
Megan Kennedy

Grade 7

1st Place – Owen Bowler, Ryan McShan,
Hunter Wolters

2nd Place – Emma Chouinard and Ava Mills

3rd Place – Ryan Grenier and
Michael Wolfendale

Grade 8

1st Place – Alexa Apolinar, Sofia Bovenga,
Gabi Garozzo and
Brooke Wickson

2nd Place – Licinia Russo and Jessica Trinh

3rd Place – Isabelle Hesselton,
Cooper O'Neil,
Sheila Ospina, Brandon Perez

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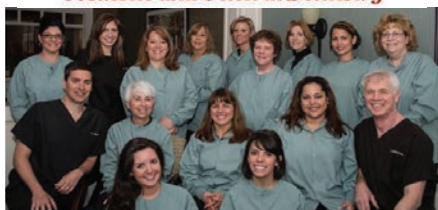
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"Feed My Sheep"
John 21:17

"God is Love"
1 John 4:8

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