

**St. Monica Parish  
St. Lucy Parish**

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

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**REPENT**

**From that time on, Jesus  
began to preach and  
say, "Repent, for the  
kingdom of heaven  
is at hand." - Mt 4:17**

**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  
**In Residence**

Deacon John Pierce ext. 39  
**Permanent Deacon**

Deacon John Kobrenski ext. 39  
**Permanent Deacon**

Sr. Rina Brunetti, pm ext. 34  
**Pastoral Associate in the Care of the Sick**

Kera Mansour ext. 26  
**Business Manager**

Carolyn Leocata ext. 28  
**Administrative Assistant**

Isabela Peixoto ext. 29  
**Communications Associate**  
methuencatholicnews@gmail.com

Karl Jackson ext. 35  
**Director of Faith Formation**  
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Samantha Moore ext. 36  
**Youth Minister**  
youth.stlm@gmail.com

Paul Jernberg ext. 27  
**Music Director**  
pfjernberg@gmail.com

Sharon Waning  
**Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy**

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

## 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.

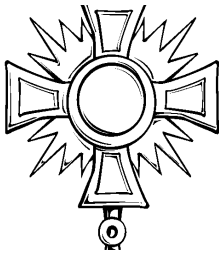
**BAPTISMS.** Please call the parish office.

St. Monica's Parish: 1<sup>st</sup> full weekend of the month

Saturday 12:30 pm/Sunday 1:00pm

St. Lucy Parish: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month 12:30pm

# ST. MONICA & ST. LUCY PARISHES



## St. Lucy and St. Monica Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration takes place at St. Lucy's Church and St. Monica's Chapel. Please contact Bonnie Doherty at [bonnieocds@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieocds@gmail.com) or 978-270-3366 for more information about adoration at St.

Monica's and the parish office for information about adoration at St. Lucy's.

Tuesdays (St. Lucy) 1:30-4:30pm

\*Fridays (St. Monica) 7:30am-7:30pm

**\*PLEASE NOTE! St. Monica - Late start at 9:30am on February 3, April 7, and May 5. REMEMBER: If school is cancelled due to weather, adoration is cancelled.** There will not be Adoration or Confession on Good Friday, April 14.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Mondays at 10 a.m.  
Please email all bulletin notices to [methuencatholicnews@gmail.com](mailto:methuencatholicnews@gmail.com)

## WELCOME!

**We're glad you could join us this weekend.**

### Blanket And Sock Drive For Lazarus House Ministries

Sponsored By The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality

Winter is an especially difficult time for our brothers and sisters living in poverty! Will you help? Throughout this month, St. Lucy and St. Monica Parishes along with St. Monica School have been collecting new and gently used, clean blankets and new adult and children socks. Together let us bring warmth to our brothers and sisters in need. Look for the blue bins at St. Lucy's main entrance and large boxes at St. Monica's entrances. Sodality Chairpersons: Elaine Frangente (St. Lucy Parish) and Norma Hernandez (St. Monica Parish)

In Father Lohan's absence, the Holy Hour for Parishioners on Monday nights at 7:00pm at St. Lucy's will be suspended.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

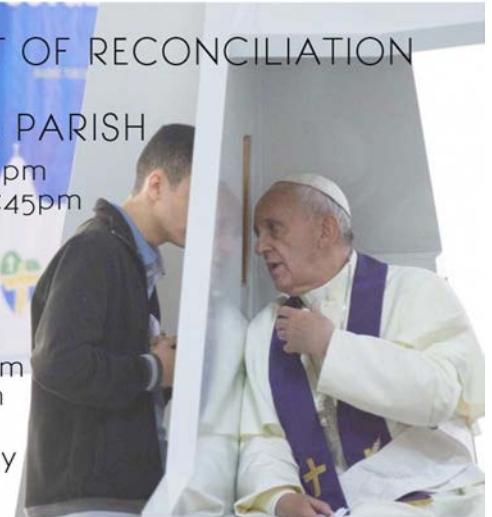
### ST. MONICA PARISH

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

### ST. LUCY PARISH

Tues. 4:30-5:30pm  
Sat. 3:00-3:45pm

and any time by appointment

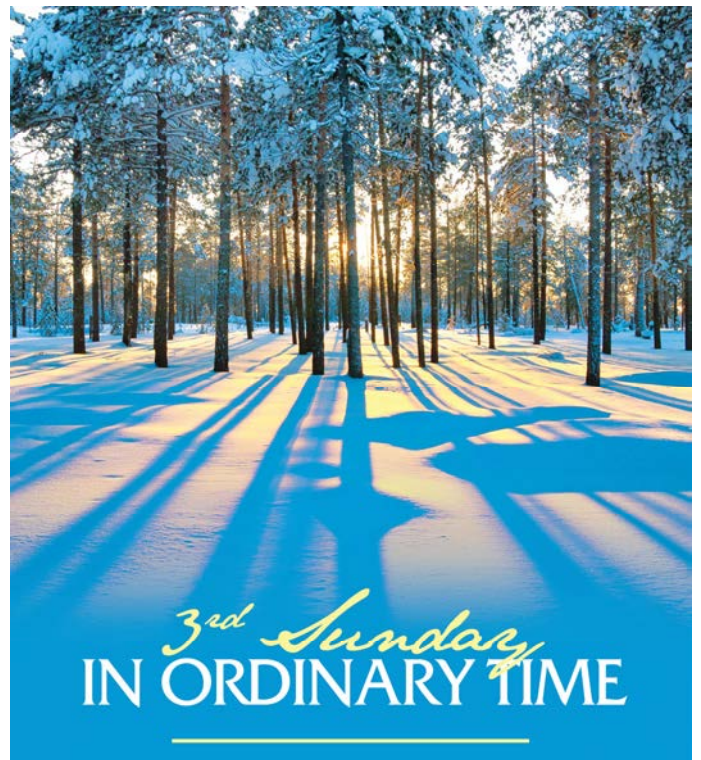


## NEW TO OUR COMMUNITY?

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.



Check out our new Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/methuencatholic/](http://www.facebook.com/methuencatholic/)





Come and learn about the approved apparition of **Our Lady of Beauraing**. The talk will be given by Irene Tremblay on Wednesday, January, 25, at 10:30 am at the ranch at St. Monica Parish. Please call Kathy Garon, 978-683-1193 ext. 119, to register for this presentation.

The **Columbian Squires** will be holding an outdoor Rosary for Life on Friday, January 27 beginning at 7:00pm outside of the Knights building in the Saint Monica parking lot. This Rosary will coincide with the annual March for Life in Washington, DC and allow us to stand in solidarity with our Brother Squires and Knights who are traveling to the event. All are welcome and encouraged to attend! The event will be held rain or shine.

## St. Lucy/St. Monica Ultreya

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

St. Lucy Parish 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 be begin with the 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 **Ed Murphy** 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!

The Spiritual Trip of a Lifetime

### Medjugorje

September 5<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

9 days, 7 nights, 2 meals per day

- Stay at beautiful Wojtyla Hotel dedicated to Pope John Paul II and next to St. James Church in the heart of Medjugorje
- Visit St. Anthony's Shrine and Divine Mercy Shrine
- Answer Our Lady's call “Come to me in Medjugorje”

To register, please call group leader Claude Langlois (978) 682 - 6012. Total cost: \$2,210 per person

### BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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There is only one collection this weekend, our regular Sunday offering.

Next weekend, we will have a second collection to support the Church in Latin America (CLA). The CLA provides support for pastoral projects in financially poorer dioceses in Latin America and the Caribbean. CLA funds catechetical and lay leadership programs, youth ministry, evangelization programs, and formation programs for religious, priests, and deacons. CLA is making it possible for the Catholic faithful in the Western hemisphere to help each other. Please visit [www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/latin-america/index.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/latin-america/index.cfm) for more information.

Please pray for **Frances Nadeau, Yvonne Soucy, Patricia Meeker & Rose Campiola** whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our Parishes. May their soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.



**Saturday, January 21**

8:00 am *(multiple intentions)*  
Wells Bean Sr.  
Claire Waterworth  
4:00 pm Joseph Drelick

**Sunday, January 22**

7:30 am People of St. Monica &  
St. Lucy Parishes  
9:30 am *(multiple intentions)*  
John Ryan Sr. & John Ryan Jr.  
Yvonne Soucy  
In Thanksgiving to St. Jude,  
St. Anthony, & St. Joseph  
Robert & Jeannette Sirois  
11:30 am Wilfrid Valcourt  
5:30 pm Emily Collopy

**Thursday, January 26**

7:00 am

**Friday, January 27**

7:00 am John Wajda

**Saturday, January 28**

8:00 am *(multiple intentions)*  
James M. Hourihan  
4:00 pm Verna Tela

**Sunday, January 29**

7:30 am Lionel Bedard  
9:30 am *(multiple intentions)*  
Raymond Winning  
Manuel Peixoto  
Bruno Deshaies  
11:30 am Mary Margaret Esposito  
5:30 pm Francisco Antonio Tabares



**Roses for Life have been donated...**  
In Loving Memory of  
Michael & Linda Giarrusso  
Cecile & Peter Checovich

**STEWARDSHIP January 15, 2017**

Offertory: \$10,352.00  
Grand Annual: \$47,560.00 (total to date)  
Special Collection: \$2,210.00

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

**St. Monica Parishioners**

Please when using the Pollard Funeral Home parking lot make sure you park beyond the pillars, please do not park in the circle or in any spots before the pillars. We would appreciate if parishioners only use Pollards lot when there are no spaces available in the St. Monica lot. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Catholic Lending Library**



Next Sunday, the Catholic Lending Library will be available for free lending of books/DVDs after the 9:30 Mass in the back of the church.

Borrowed books/DVDs may be returned at that time or any day in the basket marked returns also located in the back of the church.

The **Our Lady of Peace Prayer Group** will be celebrating First Saturday devotions to Our Blessed Mother on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be attending Mass at 8:00 am followed with praying the Rosary. All are welcome to join us.





**Saturday, January 21**

4:00 pm Angelina “Jean” Rizzo

**Sunday, January 22**

8:00 am

9:30 am Maria Fatima Freitas

11:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Robert Arsenault

Joseph Giuffrida

**Monday, January 23**

8:00 am Carmela Rapa

**Tuesday, January 24**

8:00 am John & Nellie Higgins

**Wednesday, January 25**

8:00am Perry, Clara, Steven, & Beverly Autiello

**Saturday, January 28**

4:00 pm Lee Privitera

**Sunday, January 29**

8:00 am

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

11:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Joan Rogers

Francis R. Covey Sr.

Eileen Joyce

Geraldine Miele

Sometimes we get so accustomed to walking in shadows and even in darkness that we forget that there is a light that can illuminate our lives more clearly. That light is Jesus Christ. Have you ever been looking for something in a dimly lit room and when someone shines a light, you suddenly find what you seek? This is how the Gospel works. At first we may not realize that we need it but then when someone shares its good news with us it all becomes clear. Jesus invites us out of darkness and calls us to come after him.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**January 15, 2017**

Offertory: \$6,578.00

Grand Annual: \$40,660.00 (total to date)

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: \$1,629.00

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

## Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality



The **Valentine Jackpot Raffle** will be drawn on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> in St. Lucy's Hall at 11:00 AM. Our next meeting will be on the same date after the drawing.

## St. Lucy's Men's Guild

**Sunday, January 29, 2017**

Members are invited to gather in the vestibule for 9:30 Mass. The meeting will begin at 10:30 in the church hall (immediately following the 9:30 Mass). Guest Speaker is **Angie Rizzo**, President of the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality. All men of St. Lucy Parish are invited to come and learn more about our mission.

Bring a Friend



As we move into this new year, with new challenges and opportunities both for our nation, and for our parishes, let us be sure to ask God for His blessings always. On a more personal level, I wish to ask for prayers for Fr. Bill and for me, as well as for all priests. Pray that we will be able to serve you with joy and with great love at all times. Pray that we will all be endowed with an abundance of all the virtues.

The responsibility to preach the gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ is the primary responsibility of priests and deacons. It is in fact the primary responsibility of the clergy, even ahead of governing and sanctifying God's people. That said, priests are quite human, and will occasionally misspeak, or speak without the utmost thoroughness or clarity. At the 4 pm Mass this past Saturday at St. Monica's, I transgressed in this way. I realized my mistake quickly, and I modified my homily for the Sunday Masses I celebrated, but I would like to be able to clarify what was said in my homily on Saturday.

Without going into all of what was said, I mentioned something that Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger wrote in a book published in 1986, concerning the possibility of someone fasting from receiving Holy Communion, in order to be in solidarity with those who are unable to receive, particularly due to matters related to second marriages after divorce. I think that I may have given the impression that I was suggesting that people should undertake this discipline immediately. That was not my intention, and I am very sorry for the confusion.

Any person who is, to the best of their knowledge, in a state of sanctifying grace, should always feel free to receive Holy Communion. In 1905, Pope St. Pius X encouraged frequent, and even daily reception. One may even receive a

second time in a single day, as long as they are at mass when they receive the second time. Frequent reception of communion demands of us frequent confession. If we receive every Sunday, then it would be reasonable to try very hard to get to confession every month or two, at the very least.

Nevertheless, no one who is well disposed for reception of communion should ever hesitate to receive. However, since we are only required to receive once per year (we must come to Mass every Sunday and Holy Day), it is possible to refrain from receiving, if we have discerned well the reason for doing so. This should only be done after prayerful discernment, with spiritual counsel.

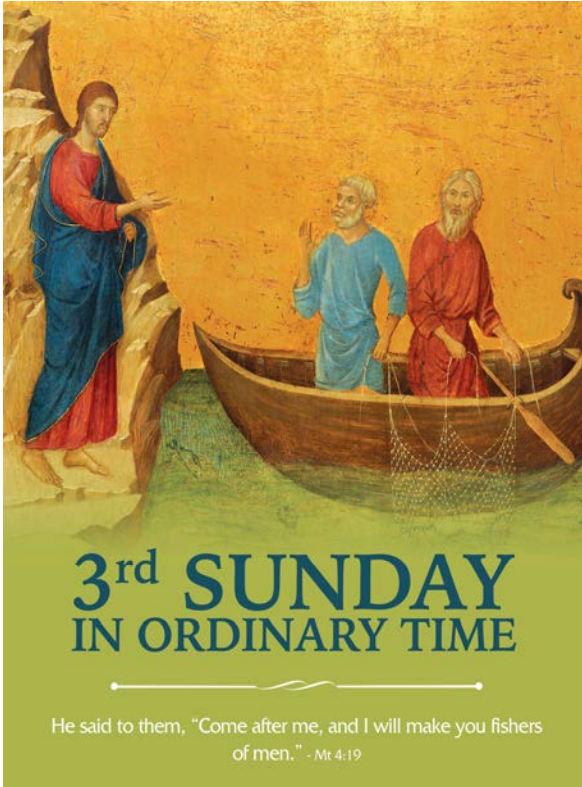
It is very important to me that I be exact in my preaching, and it is equally important that you feel comfortable approaching me if you have any question at all regarding anything I preach about, or say publicly.

In Christ,  
Fr. Cassani

**Observances for the Week of January 22, 2017**

<u>Sunday:</u>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time
<u>Monday:</u>	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children; St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin
<u>Tuesday:</u>	St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
<u>Wednesday:</u>	Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
<u>Thursday:</u>	Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops
<u>Friday:</u>	St. Angela Merici, Virgin
<u>Saturday:</u>	St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church
<u>Next Sunday:</u>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catholic Schools Week

# SAINT MONICA SCHOOL NEWS



"He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him." Peter, Andrew, James, and John's lives would never be the same. They were going about their usual business--fishing on the Sea of Galilee--

when Jesus approached them and said, "Come after me." And that's just what they did. "At once they left their nets and followed him." Such a quick response to such a radical request!

What compelled these men to leave their livelihood to follow the Lord? His promise to them was that he would make them "fishers of men." Perhaps they thought that promise sounded fabulous. But it seems more likely that it was Christ himself who drew the men. There must have been something utterly attractive about him, and completely trustworthy. Otherwise, it seems unbelievable that these men would have been so quick to respond to his call.

This compelling man is the same Christ who calls us. We hear his voice in a different way, of course, through the Church and through the Bible, through his Spirit in our hearts, but it is nonetheless the same Jesus of Nazareth who asks us to follow him. Have we allowed ourselves to be drawn by his voice? Are we open to a real encounter with the Lord who changes lives?

If our relationship with Jesus does not transform us, if it does not change us into different, better people moment by moment and day by day, then chances are that we are not truly encountering him. He is too powerful to be inconsequential. It might take some courage and commitment to come into authentic contact with the Lord, but when we do, our lives will never be the same.



St. Monica/St. Lucy Parish will hold a **Protecting God's Children Training Session** at St. Lucy Schoolhouse on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. If you would like to register for this session, please call Sharon Tully in the School Office at 978-686-1801 and also register online at [VIRTUS.ORG](http://VIRTUS.ORG).



St. Monica School will have an Open House during Catholic Schools Week on Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 – 11:00AM and also from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Please come and visit our school and take a tour with our Student Ambassadors. We would love to have you visit to see all the wonderful things about St. Monica School. Applications are being taken now for the 2017-2018 school year. If you have any questions, please call Sharon Tully in the school office at 978-686-1801.

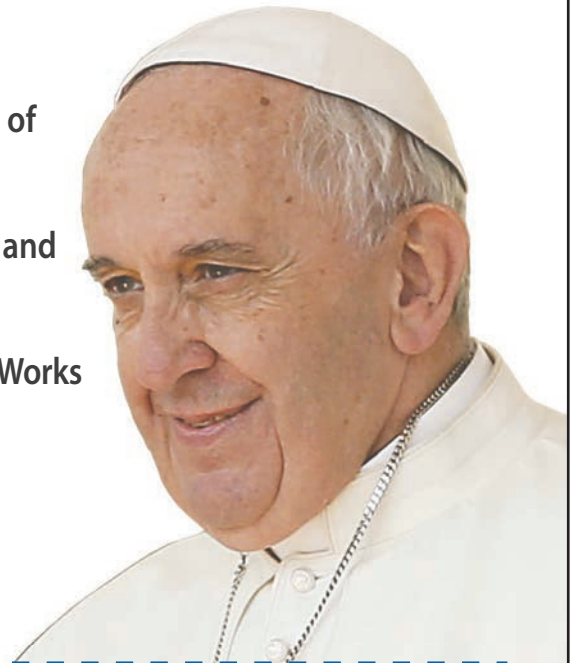
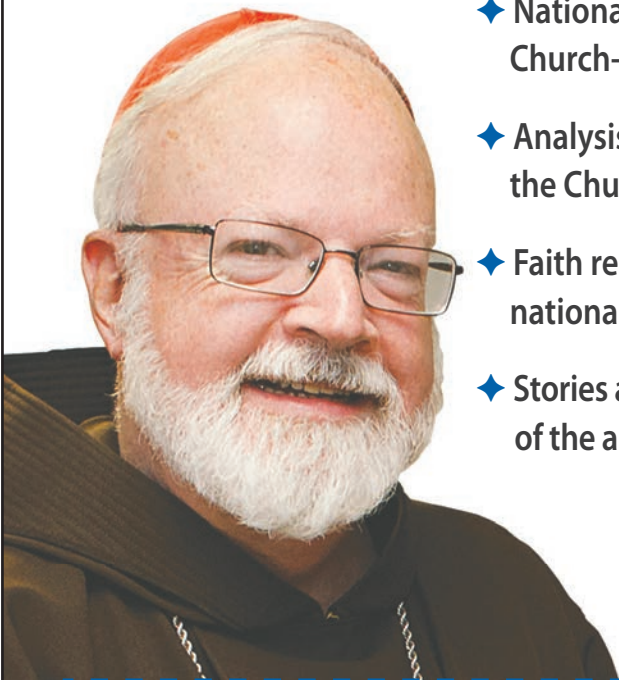




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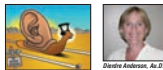


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"God is Love"  
1 John 4:8

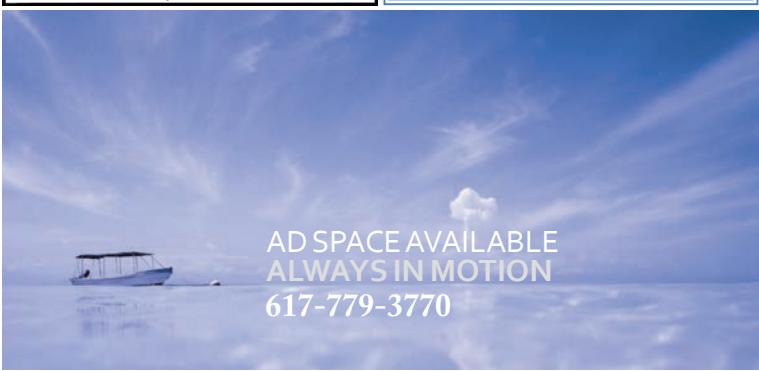
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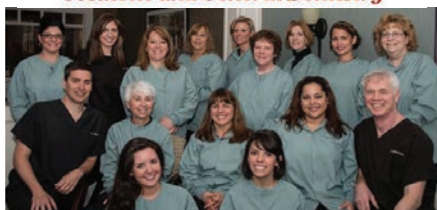
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