



# Week of *Prayer* for Christian Unity

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

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

**January 18–25**



**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

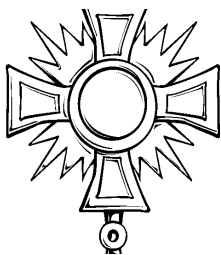
**MARRIAGES.** Please call the parish office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date and before booking a reception hall.

**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. 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.

**Observances for the Week of January 15, 2017**

Sunday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Monday: Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
Tuesday: St. Anthony, Abbot  
Wednesday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Jan. 18-25)  
Thursday:  
Friday: St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr;  
St. Sebastian, Martyr  
Saturday: St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr;  
Our Lady of Altagracia  
Next Sunday: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

Please pray for **Jennie Santacroce, Elaine Parrino, Patrick Hager, Steven Guy Allen, & Magella Boucher** whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our Parishes. May their soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Mini Retreat in the St. Monica School Hall following the 8 AM Mass on Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. The retreat will include a presentation by Father Joe Thomas, Author of the book, "In the Grasp of the Loving God". Father will discuss elements of his book with the focus on Mercy in our Lives. The Retreat will also include a Byzantine Eucharistic Adoration with member participation. This is open to all Parishioners and their guests. Contact Bob Beaudry at ERBeaudry@aol.com, or, at 978-685-4746 for more details and to register for this event.



### 2017 Holy Hour for Life With Exposition of the Holy Eucharist

Place: St. Lucy Church  
Date: Wednesday, January  
18, 2017  
Time: 7 p.m.  
Presiders: Deacon John  
Kobrenski and Deacon  
John Pierce

**A Holy Hour for Life** will be held in solidarity with the thousands of pilgrims

going to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life for the observance of the anniversary of the Roe v Wade decision of the U.S. Supreme Court legalizing abortion on demand. The United States bishops have declared a national **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children** which "shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion."

We encourage you to come and pray together during this hour for all those who have been wounded by abortion, for respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, and that those who govern us may be guided by justice, truth, and a love for the gift of life.

**The Holy Hours for Life** are sponsored by Boston Deacons for Life in collaboration with the Pro Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston. For more information, contact ProLifeOffice@RCAB.org or 508-651-1900.



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.

### Prayer for the Newly Baptized

Bless, Lord Jesus, the newly baptized;

**Shane Michael Pierce**  
**Angelina Elaine Defreitas Spencer**



Immerse them in the waters of your life and love. Seal them with the oil of gladness and strength. Illuminate their path with the light of your hope. Clothe them with goodness, kindness, and compassion. May their celebration be just the beginning of a long and fruitful journey with you. Amen.

### BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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## Miscellaneous Information

**New Year. New Opportunities!** All Care Hospice is currently seeking caring, compassionate people to offer comfort and support to their patients and families through companionship. As part of the care team, volunteers serve a vital role in affecting the quality of the patients' lives. All Care Hospice serves the North Shore, Merrimack Valley and Greater Boston. Volunteer opportunities available close to home!

For more information or to enroll in the upcoming February training, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Maureen Burge at 781-244-1129.

## ST. MONICA PARISH



**Saturday, January 14**

8:00 am *(multiple intentions)*

Joseph Klufts

4:00 pm Armand J. Deshaies

**Sunday, January 15**

7:30 am Robert Barbieri

9:30 am *(multiple intentions)*

Ronnie Caron

Thomas Canney

Silvia Arcidiacono

Ida & Andrew Piazza

Peggy Lapierre

11:30 am Barbara Liberty

5:30 pm Leo Grillo

**Thursday, January 19**

7:00 am Yvette Moran & Don Lavigne

**Friday, January 20**

7:00 am Richard McLean

**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.

11:30 am Wilfrid Valcourt

5:30 pm Emily Collopy

## ST. LUCY PARISH



**Saturday, January 14**

4:00 pm Richard Giles

**Sunday, January 15**

8:00 am People of St. Lucy & St. Monica Parishes

9:30 am Theresa Rickley

11:30 am *(multiple intentions)*

In Thanksgiving to St. Lucy, St. Jude,

St. Anthony, St. Rita, St. Joseph, & St. Teresa

Eugene Voiland

Joseph Ulbin

Theresa Demers

Helen Moore

**Monday, January 16**

8:00 am EJM Special Intention (Living)

**Tuesday, January 17**

8:00 am Angelo & Laura Chester

**Wednesday, January 18**

8:00am Robert Zucchi

**Saturday, January 21**

4:00 pm Angelina (Gene) Rizzo

**Sunday, January 22**

8:00 am

9:30 am Maria Fatima Freitas

11:30 am *(multiple intentions)*

Robert Arsenault

### STEWARDSHIP

January 8, 2017

Offertory: \$10,652.50

Grand Annual: \$45,985.00 (total to date)

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

### STEWARDSHIP

January 8, 2017

Offertory: \$5,287.00

Grand Annual: \$39,940.00 (total to date)

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



**Roses for Life have been donated...**

In Loving Memory of

Michael & Linda Giarrusso

Cecile & Peter Checovich

Valentine Jackpot Raffle Tickets to benefit The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality of St. Lucy will be sold starting this weekend January 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> at all masses. The one prize of \$200.00 worth of Scratch tickets will be drawn on February 19<sup>th</sup> in St. Lucy's Hall at 11:00 AM. Our next monthly meeting will be on Sunday, February 19, 2017



### The Parishes Have a Great Team dedicated to serving you well

As I prepare for my sabbatical, I have been praying in thanksgiving to God for the fine staff that we have serving our parishes. I thought as I go it might be a good time to remind you what each of our staffers do and encourage you to use them well, not only while I am gone, but always. Please make them your first contact to resolve particular issues, *don't presume that every question has to go to a priest!*

**Fr. John Cassani**- is Parochial Vicar for the parishes, call him for sacramental services: confessions, anointing of the sick, and viaticum.

**Deacon John Pierce** (St. Monica) and **Deacon John Kobrenski** (St. Lucy)- secretary will route calls to them regarding baptism prep and marriage prep. You may reach Deacon John Pierce at [jb\\_pierce@verizon.net](mailto:jb_pierce@verizon.net) or at 978-686-3311 X39 and Deacon John Kobrenski at [jpk500@verizon.net](mailto:jpk500@verizon.net).

**Sharon Tulley**-is the Administrative Assistant for all school issues and works closely with **Sr. Suzanne Fondini, MFIC**, our principal. You may reach Sharon at [saintmonicaoffice@verizon.net](mailto:saintmonicaoffice@verizon.net).

**Carolyn Leocata**- serves as the Administrative Assistant for the parishes, she is the one to contact to book masses, sign up for an infant baptism and serves as administrative support to the religious formation program for youth. If you are unsure who should handle your request start with her. Contact her for visits to sick and homebound at St. Monica. You may reach Carolyn at [carolyn.leocata@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.leocata@gmail.com) or at 978-686-3311 X28.

**Isabela Peixoto** (Pay-show-toe)- is the Communications Associate, she handles the bulletin, bulletin boards, and the website as well as all of the parish calendars. She serves as the backup Administrative Assistant if Carolyn is absent or away from her desk. You may reach Isabela at [methuencatholicnews@gmail.com](mailto:methuencatholicnews@gmail.com) or at 978-686-3311 X29.

**Kera Mansour**- is the Business Manager for both parishes and the Facilities Manager for St. Monica. Contact her for any physical plant issues at St. Monica. She will contact St. Monica custodians, **Ritchie Russo** and **C.J. Shea**. You may reach Kera at [kmansour@andoveradmin.com](mailto:kmansour@andoveradmin.com) or at 978-686-3311 X26.

**Sr. Rina Brunetti, PM**- is the outreach minister to the homebound and sick for St. Lucy Parish. You may reach Sr. Rina at [rinab44@gmail.com](mailto:rinab44@gmail.com) or at 978-686-3311 X34.

**Kevin Fitzgerald**- is the RCIA Coordinator for the parishes, baptism prep coordinator, and Facilities Manager and sacristan for St. Lucy Parish. Please call the Parish Office at 978-686-3311 to contact Kevin.

**Paul Jernberg**- is the Music Director for the parishes and choir director at St. Monica- all questions regarding music, especially for weddings and funerals are handled and approved by him. You may reach Paul at [pjfernberg@gmail.com](mailto:pjfernberg@gmail.com) or at 978-686-3311 X27.

**Sharon Waning**- is Choir Director and Lead Cantor at St. Lucy Parish and assistant to Paul Jernberg. You may reach Sharon by calling the Parish Office.

**Karl Jackson**- is the Director of Faith Formation for the parishes, he is the one to talk to regarding youth formation. You may reach Karl at [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com) or at 978-686-3311 X35.

**Samantha Moore**-is the Confirmation Coordinator for the parishes and serves as the assistant to Karl Jackson for the Sunday Morning formation program for youth. She is also director of the High School and Middle School Youth Groups. You may reach Sammie at [youth.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:youth.stlm@gmail.com) or at 978-686-3311 X36.

**Mrs. Caroline Beaudoin** - is sacristan and funeral coordinator for St. Monica

**Ms. Elaine Frangente** - is funeral coordinator at St. Lucy

**Ms. Annette Autiello** - is wedding coordinator at St. Lucy

**Ms. Karen Harrigan** - is wedding coordinator at St. Monica

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

"Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God." John the Baptist had an important message to impart. He was called by God to prepare the people of Israel to recognize Jesus' true identity. In a sense, he helped establish credibility for Christ by confirming that he was in fact the Messiah. Jesus didn't just have to claim it on his own; John also "testified" to the fact. We, of course, also benefit from the witness of John the Baptist recorded for us in the Gospels. And we have additional witnesses from the rest of the people throughout the Gospels who knew and recognized Jesus as the Son of God. But we also have the benefit of two thousand years of Church history! We have countless testimonies of saints and believers throughout the centuries who have known Jesus in their own lives and acted accordingly.

This raises two questions. First, are we willing to believe these testimonies from those who have gone before us? Consider how much credence we give to the experiences and the stories of our forefathers and foremothers in the faith--whether they are blood relatives or members of the larger communion of saints. Sometimes these personal accounts of coming to know the Lord are much more powerful than any "proof" or intellectual proposal about Christianity. They do require a degree of faith and trust, but they nonetheless provide us with real evidence about the impact of being close to Christ.

Secondly, let us consider whether or not we are willing to give testimony to who Christ is to us? It's one thing to believe in Jesus; it's another thing to share that faith with others. But like John the Baptist, we are called to share the truth so that others may come to believe.

## SAINT MONICA SCHOOL NEWS



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.



## Young Adults

Are you happy? Tired of the same old day to day routine? Roll out of bed, eat breakfast, stare at your laptop, sleep, repeat. Dreaming of the day when you'll finally be happy? Once I move to that apartment close to work... Once I meet that perfect person... Once I get that well-deserved promotion... then, and only then, will I finally be happy. Does this sound like you? If the answer is yes, that's where God comes in. Our journey from late teens throughout our early thirties is a winding road where we all want to become who we are meant to be. Some of us take longer than others, but all that matters is that we realize that, without a personal relationship with God, something will always be missing.

Please join local Catholic young adult groups for the first **"Jesus aCROSS the Border – Lowell"** at St. Joseph the Worker Shrine (37 Lee Street, Lowell, MA) on Friday, January 20, 2017 from 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM. We'll start with adoration accompanied by contemporary Christian music from Brandon Fitts of the Lift Ministries band. During peaceful adoration, confession will be available from various local priests, many of whom hear confessions regularly at the Shrine. Following adoration and confession, we will celebrate the Holy Mass. We'll wrap up the night in the Shrine Meeting Room for an "after party" with more music, pizza, and fellowship. This is a Catholic based organization, but all are welcome!

In addition to the incredible blessing of personal spiritual growth and development through adoration, confession, and Mass, a goal of this event is to provide a platform that unites all Young Adult Catholic groups in the area. Various local Catholic Young Adult groups will be present at the "after party" to share information and grow in fellowship. We hope to see you there! Remember, you deserve to be happy right now, so please join us!

Cost: Free (free will offering accepted)

Contact: Please contact Billy Beauchesne at [JESUSaCROSStheBorder@gmail.com](mailto:JESUSaCROSStheBorder@gmail.com) or 603-475-7532 for more information.

Please visit our Facebook page and website for more information. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/JESUSaCROSStheBorder/>  
<https://sites.google.com/site/jesusacrosstheborder>

## Why Do We Do That? - Catholic Traditions Explained



### Question:

Why do we baptize infants when the Bible says "repent and be baptized"? How can an infant repent?

### Answer:

When you take a trip, you do not wait until you run out of gas before you fill the tank--at least not on purpose! You fill your tank and pack your bags as you anticipate a trouble-free journey. We can make a similar case for the baptism of children as they begin their spiritual journey. In the early church, only adults were baptized when they professed faith in Jesus as the Messiah. As the church grew, children were baptized and raised in faith. The Bible does not limit baptism to adults. Several passages point to infant baptism. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not hinder them," while Paul would baptize people "and their household." He did not limit baptism to adults. Ultimately, our whole life is an act of repentance, a continual struggle to turn from sin and be faithful to the Gospel. We believe that baptism is more than a symbolic act of faith. It forgives original sin as well as personal sin, and brings us into the church, where we begin our journey of faith.







## Sharing the Gospel

John the Baptist told everyone that Jesus was the Son of God. He told them the Holy Spirit came down on Jesus and remained on him as the Scriptures said. Jesus taught his disciples and others. He healed people to show his power as the Son of God. God wants you to be his disciple. He wants you to be a good example of a loving child of God.



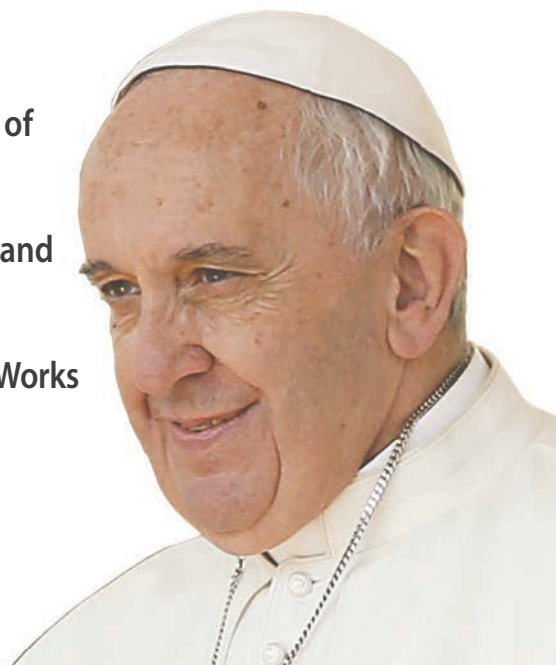
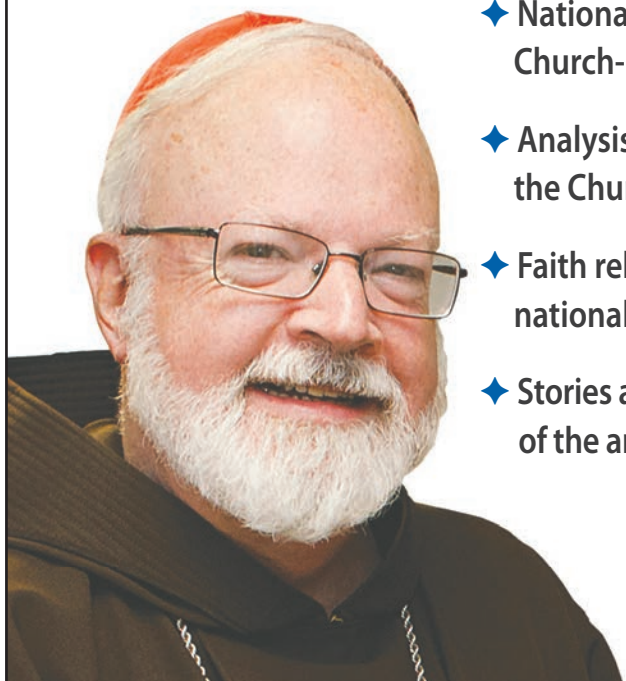
## Prayer

Lord, I will be a good disciple by learning and sharing your words.

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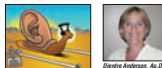
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1 John 4:8



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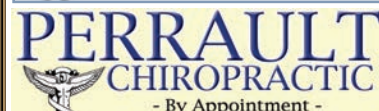
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