

November 5, 2017

VETERANS DAY

Thank you for your service

St. Monica Parish

St. Lucy Parish

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
frlohan68@gmail.com

Father Joseph Thomas, BSO (978) 319-7873
Weekend Assistant irenaiosbso2002@cs.com

Father Herb Jones, O. Carm ext. 111
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Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Sharon Waning sharon.waning@yahoo.com
Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy

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



Follow us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/methuencatholic/

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Mondays at 10 a.m. Please email all bulletin notices to methuencatholicnews@gmail.com

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

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, mfc

School Principal

safondini@gmail.com

Sharon Tully

Administrative Assistant

PARISH SERVICES

St. Vincent de Paul (978) 686 - 9573

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Monica Parish

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

St. Lucy Parish

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

and any time by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesdays: 1:30 - 4:30 pm St. Lucy Church

Fridays: 7:30 am - 7:30 pm St. Monica Chapel

For more information on Adoration at St. Monica's, please contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com or (978) 270 - 3366

For St. Lucy's, please contact Ellen Wholley at (978) 682 - 8459. If school is cancelled due to weather, Adoration is also cancelled.

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

COLLABORATIVE NEWS & EVENTS

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

Please join us on Thursday, November 9th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in the St. Monica House for **Tea and Treasure**.

Our Parish Offices will be closed on Friday, November 10th for Veteran's Day.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



Breakfast With Santa

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will hold its annual Breakfast with Santa on December 3rd in the St. Monica school hall after the 7:30 and 9:30 masses at St. Monica's.

"YES I CAN" Program. WE CAN USE... baked beans, canned beans, canned spaghetti, tuna, peanut butter, cereal, spaghetti sauce, and strawberry and grape jelly. **Donations can be dropped off anytime in the baskets located at the entrances to both churches.**

St. Monica Parish 100th Anniversary Dinner Dance



The Increased Offertory Campaign: PROGRAM BEGINS THIS WEEK

This week you will receive another letter from Father Lohan. You will be asked to consider a specific increase to your regular parish giving. Please pray about this request. The Increased Offertory Campaign is a program about celebrating our blessings, about giving back to God with a grateful heart, and about strengthening the future of our parishes. While this particular request comes in the form of financial commitment, other opportunities to practice stewardship present themselves on a daily basis. You could commit a portion of your time and ability to the Increased Offertory Campaign as a Parish Advocate. To find out more about this possibility, call our Parish Offices or join us at the Parish Advocate training and Assignment meeting on **November 6 at 7 pm in the St. Monica School Hall**. Our current average weekly offertory for St. Monica's is \$8,663.00. In response to the Increased Offertory Campaign, our goal is to increase this to \$10,392.00. Our current average weekly offertory for St. Lucy's is \$6,019.00. In response to the Increased Offertory Campaign, our goal is to increase this to \$7,223.00.

Sessions are being offered for adults interested in our Catholic faith and in becoming a member of the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation, a program commonly known as RCIA. Anyone interested in receiving any or all of these sacraments, which they may have not received in their youth, are **encouraged and welcomed** to attend. If YOU know of anyone interested, please let them know and we will gladly welcome them and explain the process offered. Also, these sessions are open to anyone who has received their Sacraments but might want to come to a deeper appreciation of what these Sacraments are about. You too are welcome to join in a very interesting and relaxed atmosphere. Any questions please contact Kevin Fitzgerald, at 978-686-3311 or Bonnie Bonanno at 978-609-7307.

Our next meeting is this Sunday, November 5th at 10:00 am in the St. Lucy schoolhouse.

Please pray for **Brian A. Bunting, Michael Bonanno, Maureen Imielkowski, and Jane Davis** whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our parishes. May their soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

Our parishes have formed a JCDA Court! The Junior Catholic Daughters of America (JCDA) is a wonderful Catholic Organization for girls aged 6 - 18. The mission of the group is to help girls to grow and reach their potential through service to others and the Church. **Our next meeting is on November 11th from 3-6 pm in the St. Lucy Lower Church Hall**. Please contact Charlene Langenfeld at 978-659-0009 for more information. Joining JCDA is a wonderful opportunity to form new friendships that will last a lifetime!

Seventeenth Annual Project Warm & Fuzzy

There are boxes at the entrances of the churches where you may drop off **new** hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and socks (for children, babies and adults) until November 19th (the Sunday before Thanksgiving). These articles will be distributed to the needy during the winter months.

Electronic Giving is Convenient for You and Will Help Our Parishes

By supporting St. Monica and St. Lucy Parishes through Our Sunday Visitor, you will be helping to propel the parish into the future, with an automatic giving mechanism that is easy to use and saves the parishes time, money and resources. Our Sunday Visitor is a convenient and easy way for you to give – and for us to receive – your commitments of treasure. In addition to reducing the paper wasted in using offertory envelopes and making it easier for the parishes to track and acknowledge gifts accurately and efficiently, electronic giving allows you the ability to give as you wish, even when you are away on vacation or unable to attend Mass. It's easy to sign up. Simply check the on-line giving box and provide your email address on your commitment form and drop in the collection basket, or enroll on-line at methuencatholic.org

JOIN CUB SCOUTS TODAY! THERE'S A WORLD OF FUN AND ADVENTURE WAITING FOR YOU!



**New Skills!
Outdoor Fun!**



PARENTS:

Cub Scouting is a program for boys which is neighborhood centered and family oriented. Get your family started in Scouting by taking part in this pilot program for kindergarten aged boys. Your son and his partner (usually a parent) will participate together in this program where the emphasis is on fun, new experiences, and doing one's best.. If you are looking for safe and wholesome year-round activities for your son, then Cub Scouting is for you and your family. While your son is enjoying the adventure of Cub Scouting, he will develop in character, citizenship, self-esteem, and personal fitness. Scouting strengthens family ties and fosters the traditional values that are so important to all of us. He'll probably make some lifelong friends in the process as well! Your son will be part of a den, which is a group of other Kindergarten boys and their partners. Lions typically have two meetings each month. One is a den meeting and the other will be a den outing or at times, taking part in the monthly Pack meeting. That is a gathering of all the other Cub Scouts in grades one through five along with their families. Everyone is invited! Toward the end of this school year, he'll graduate to the next level: Tiger Cubs.

JOIN NOW - HAVE A FRIEND JOIN WITH YOU!
Sign-ups for new members for Pack 55 Methuen will
be held on:

**Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 6:30 PM at
Saint Lucy's Church Hall
Pack Contact: Jeffrey McManus
(978) 390-1666 jefreymcmanus@gmail.com**

If you are unable to attend, please call the Lion
Guide listed above to enroll your son.
For more information on Lions, please visit
scouting.org/lion.

Join us for a Faith and Fitness Workout! (this is not yoga)

- **When:** EVERY Saturday morning*
- **Time:** 7:30 am - 8:30 am
- **Where:** St. Lucy's Parish (downstairs);
- **Street address:** 254 Merrimack St, Methuen
- **Bring:** Water, a Mat for stretching & a Friend!
- **Cost:** \$5.00/class suggested donation which goes to St. Vincent De Paul

I'm, Sandra, a Revelation Wellness® instructor and we use fitness as a tool to share the gospel so you can love God, get healthy, be whole and love others. We will do interval training, strength and cardio with relaxation at the end. **ALL FITNESS LEVELS WELCOME.**

***[Facebook.com/faithandfitnesswithSandra](https://www.facebook.com/faithandfitnesswithSandra)**

***like my page for cancellations/updates**

Email: sandrafreitas613@gmail.com

Instagram: @sandrasunsand

Next week's second collection is for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), which works to uphold the dignity of human life by breaking the cycle of poverty across the United States through grants to local community-based groups who create jobs, improve education, and strengthen neighborhoods. Twenty-five percent of the CCHD collection stays in the Archdiocese of Boston to fund local anti-poverty projects; seventy-five percent supports national grant and education programs. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/cchd.

Bless, Lord Jesus, the newly baptized;

**Alexa Maria Coffey
Jeremiah Devid Lamartiniere
Jordan Pappalardo
Anthony Rocco Ramirez
Emma Faith Zhang**



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.

ST. MONICA PARISH

ROSES FOR LIFE

Roses for Life have been donated
In loving memory of

Michael and Linda Giarrusso
Cecile and Peter Checovich
Veronica Murray
John and Florence Welch
Frank and Helena Cronin

If you would like to honor a loved one and support our activities, 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.

OFFERTORY

October 29, 2017:

Regular Sunday Offering: \$9,536.00

Grand Annual: \$23,618.00 (total to date)

There is only one collection this weekend, our regular Sunday offering. The second collection next weekend is for the Campaign for Human Development. Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.

Prayer for FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

Gracious and loving God,
let your Spirit be with us today.
Hear our prayers,
and increase in us the will to follow your Son Jesus.

Help us to draw on the resources of our faith
as we use the opportunities of our democracy
to shape a society more respectful
of the life, dignity, and rights of the human person,
especially the poor and vulnerable.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever.
Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 4

8:00 am *(multiple intentions)*

4:00 pm Colombe Zucchi

Sunday, November 5

7:30 am Deceased members of the
Roy and Valcourt Families

9:30 am *(multiple intentions)*
Charlie and Rose Hanafin **(Living)**
Violet Sayer
Jennie Hanscom
Virginia Jackson
Jane Ellen Melia
Veronica Murray
Dennis Brisson
Joanne Jesmer
Warren and Dorothy McGovern
Deborah D'Iorio and deceased
members of the Savina, Leone
and D'Iorio Families
11:30 am
5:30 pm Parishioners of St. Monica and
St. Lucy Parishes

Thursday, November 9

7:00 am

Friday, November 10

7:00 am Christine and
George O. Ferguson

Saturday, November 11

8:00 am *(multiple intentions)*
Joanne Jesmer
4:00 pm William and Philip Muhilly

Sunday, November 12

7:30 am Deceased members of the
Kennedy and Murphy Families
9:30 am *(multiple intentions)*
Joseph Indoccio
Manuel and Fernanda Cordeiro
Veronica Murray
June Stachalis
Jeannette and Robert Sirois
11:30 am
5:30 pm Peter Gallo
Germaine Duhamel

ST. LUCY PARISH



Saturday, November 4

4:00 pm Michelangelo Iuvara

Sunday, November 5

8:00 am Parishioners of St. Lucy and St. Monica Parishes
9:30 am Mr. & Mrs. Sid Demarco, Grace Barbin, and Marie Querol

11:30 am (*multiple intentions*)
John and Anne D'Agata
Larry, Jeannette, and David Lombardo
Patricia Jankowski
Mary Diodati
Joseph E. Houle
Special Intention **(Living)**

Monday, November 6

8:00 am Michael Tiberio

Tuesday, November 7

8:00 am Yvonne Soucy

Wednesday, November 8

8:00 am "EJM" **(Living)**

Saturday, November 11

4:00 pm Perry, Clara, Steven, and Beverly Autiello

Sunday, November 12

8:00 am Mr. and Mrs. Rinaldo Petrosino and Mr. and Mrs. John Amato
9:30 am Fred Boucher
11:30 am (*multiple intentions*)
Leonita A. Klier
Anthony and John Fiato and Michael Sign
Walter Cheltowski
Charles Pattavina Jr.
Mary Gallo
Anthony Carsanaro

Offertory October 29, 2017:

Regular Sunday Offering: \$6,716.00

Grand Annual: \$20,315.00 (total to date)

There is only one collection this weekend, our regular Sunday offering. The second collection next weekend is for the Campaign for Human Development. Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, December 17, 2017

2:00 p.m. St. Lucy Church

Advent Concert with Gregory Norbet

Gregory Norbet, formerly of Weston Priory, is a respected spiritual leader, composer, singer and retreat director. Some of his many compositions include "Hosea" (Come Back to Me) and "Wherever You Go" as well as new settings for Morning and Evening Prayer. Come join us as we **begin** a year of celebration for our **60th Anniversary** as a **Parish Faith Community! (1958 – 2018).**

ADVENT TREE OF LIGHT

Once again St. Lucy's Parish will partner with Lazarus House in assisting families over the Christmas Holiday. The Advent Tree of Light will be located at the main entrance to the Church from November 22 to December 6. Tags will be placed on the tree for specific requests. If you are able, please make another family's Christmas brighter by taking a tag and purchasing the item requested.

PLEASE DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS

Place the gift in a GIFT BAG and place the tag on the outside of the bag. Leave the gift bags in the **rear of the Church.** **All gifts must be returned by December 10.** Please call Annette Autiello at 978-683-5159 or 508 783 1544 with any questions.

ST. LUCY PARISH'S ANNUAL TURKEY SHOOT

Sunday, November 19 1:00 - 4:00 pm in the parish hall. Please join us for a fun-filled afternoon!

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY

Our next Sodality meeting is this Sunday, November 5th after the 9:30 Mass and the praying of the rosary.



Dinner for 2 Anywhere in the World!?!

St. Monica School PTO is sponsoring a Special Raffle. The Prize will be Dinner for 2 anywhere in the World. Each Ticket costs *\$30.00.

Prize includes Round Trip Airfare, a Dinner for Two, and Overnight Accommodations.

Winner will be drawn at our Pasta Dinner, during our Winter Carnival on Saturday, December 16th in our School Hall located at 212 Lawrence St, Methuen, MA 01844.

*See Fine Print Section for details!



* Airfare is booked in Coach Seating. Upgraded seating is available at the expense of the Winner.

*Overnight Accommodations for two nights will be in a 3 Star, or better if available, Hotel or Resort. Extended days may be booked with our Travel Agent at the expense of the Winner.

*Alcohol not included with Dinner

*The Winner will be required to complete a W-9 Form and will be issued a 1099 Form at year end to file with their tax return.

*St. Monica School will put you in direct contact with a dedicated agent at our Travel Agency and Winner will have until 01/16/2018 to BOOK the Travel. Some Black Out Dates may apply.

*Anyone 18 years or older may purchase a Raffle Ticket.

*200 Tickets need to be sold, at \$30.00 each, to have this Grand Prize. In the event they are not, anyone who purchases a ticket will be entered into a 50/50 Cash Raffle and the Prize Amount will be half of all collected cash for this Raffle.

*Other Terms and Conditions May Apply

Where do I get my tickets??

Starting 10/30: *On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:30-8:15am*, tickets will be sold in the School Cafeteria. Tickets are \$30.00 each. ***For St. Monica Families who have paid their \$125 Fundraising Fee, you will be able to purchase ONE ticket for \$5.00 (\$25.00 of the ticket cost is covered by your Fundraising Fee). Any other tickets must be purchased at the \$30.00 price. You must request and pay for your ticket. It will not be provided to you.***

Starting 11/5: After all Weekend Masses, tickets will be sold in the back of the church.

You do NOT need to be present to win, but tickets MUST be bought in person. Cash or Checks accepted. Checks made payable to St. Monica School

Staffing of a parish – Always a challenge, always an opportunity to trust God

One of the biggest challenges to leading two parishes and a school is trying to make sure we have the right people in the right positions to carry out the mission of the Church. We know that life is always presenting us with changes and accepting changes when they come unexpectedly is an important life skill that I feel we never fully acquire with total confidence. For the Christian, we believe firmly in God's providence and that he knows the "big picture" that we can't always see so clearly because we are not Him. Around Labor Day we experienced a big loss when Fr. John Cassani took a leave of absence. So far we have not received a new priest to take his place but we are confident before long we will and continue to pray for one that will be a good fit. I am so grateful to the priests who have been filling in for us. This month we will see Fr. Richard O'Brien on each weekend rotating between the parishes. Fr. Joe Thomas, as always, plays a key role in keeping us going, even more so when we are short-handed.

This week we said good-bye to our Director of Music, Paul Jernberg, who took a position closer to home for family reasons. It will be a challenge to replace such an accomplished musician but we are confident as we prepare to post the job, that many good directors will be interested in applying. Sharon Waning has been great in lining up fill-ins for now and we hope to hire after January 1st when musicians are more likely to be open to changing jobs. I greatly appreciate your patience with the interim situation at St. Monica especially on the few dates we may have no musical accompaniment. I appreciate the flexibility of those at St. Lucy, as we ensure that the faith formation 9:30 Mass at each parish will always have an organist.

Lastly, but not to be overlooked, we also said good-bye at the end of the summer to Sammie Moore, Confirmation Coordinator and Youth Minister, who also took a job much closer to home. For now Karl Jackson is overseeing our confirmation program. We have made a strategic decision to hold off on hiring a new youth minister as part of a shift in focus. We are moving away from the youth minister model for now and putting a large investment into Alpha. It is our hope that as Alpha grows and our parishioners grow in discipleship that some will have an interest in forming a Core Team that will work with and mentor our youth. We are confident this long-term strategy will yield benefits that will be long lasting. Often parishes that rely only on a youth minister, even one as gifted as Sammie Moore, experience a large drop off in participation when the popular youth minister leaves. The youth programs in the archdiocese that have shown lasting fruit have successfully implemented a Core Team model. This does not preclude hiring a youth minister later, but the Core Team of parishioners will be the backbone of a good program in the future.

Please continue to pray that God will lead the right persons to these positions and that Alpha will continue to bring us closer to God and closer to one another.

Peace,

Fr. Bill

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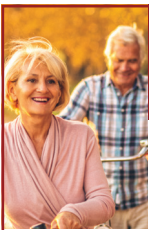
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