

May 21, 2017



6th

SUNDAY OF EASTER

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always." - Jn 14:15-16

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

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Pastor
frlohan68@gmail.com

Father John A. Cassani ext. 993
Parochial Vicar
frcassani1980@gmail.com

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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, mfc
School Principal

Sharon Tully
Administrative Assistant

PARISH SERVICES

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Monica Parish

Friday 6:30-7:30 pm

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

St. Lucy Parish

Tuesday 4:30-5:30pm

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

and any time by appointment

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



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



WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

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. 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

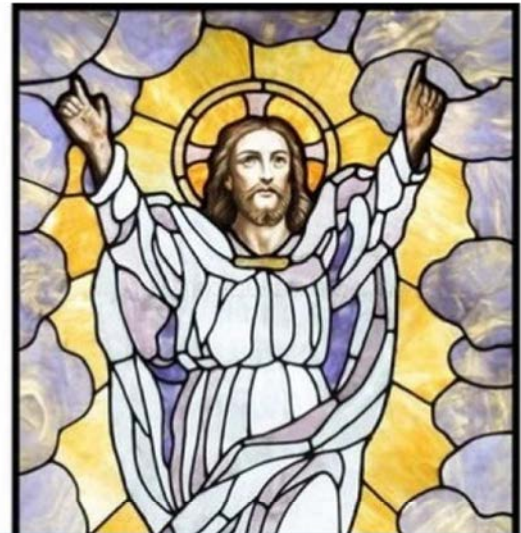
ST. LUCY'S PLEASE CONTACT:
 ELLEN WHOLLEY - (978) 682-8459

If school is cancelled due to weather, Adoration is also cancelled.

**WE ARE IN NEED OF ADORERS FOR THE
 11:30AM AND 12:30PM HOURS AT
 ST. MONICA'S.**

There will be no Adoration and Confession at St. Monica Parish on Friday May 26, 2017 due to the Memorial Day weekend.

Group Calendars for 2017/2018 - St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes: In order to plan for the upcoming fall, winter, and spring seasons we are requesting that all groups or individuals who will be using either the St. Monica or St. Lucy campuses to make a listing of the date and place they would like to use from September 2017 through June 2018. Please either drop off, mail or email (methuencatholicnews@gmail.com) the calendar dates and location wanted to Isabela Peixoto in the Parish Offices by June 9, 2017. The calendars will be reviewed and there will be a meeting later in the month to reconcile any conflicts with the dates or locations.



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

MAY 25, 2017 - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

MASS SCHEDULE:

ST. LUCY PARISH

8:00 AM
 12:30 PM
 7:00 PM

ST. MONICA PARISH

4:00 PM (PRIOR EVE)
 7:00 AM
 10:00 AM



**St. Lucy's Parish
 BVM Sodality
 Fundraiser**



On Wednesday May 24th from 4pm to 10pm come in and help support St. Lucy Parish's BVM Sodality in their fundraising efforts. Bring in this flyer and give it to your server when cashing out and The Irish Cottage will donate 20% of your bill's total (excluding alcohol) for both dine-in or take out to St. Lucy Parish's BVM Sodality. For every participant, The Irish Cottage will donate an extra \$1.00 per participant.

The Irish Cottage 1111 Riverside Dr. Methuen [978-208-4347](tel:978-208-4347)



Saint Monica Council 14725

SPRING PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 20 after the 4:00 p.m. Mass & **Sunday, May 21** after the 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Masses

All proceeds are to support the **Saint Monica Knights of Columbus Memorial Scholarship**, which is awarded to a member of the parish and/or school each Spring!

There will be a large selection of mums, asters, cabbage, kale, hanging pots and others!

GREAT FOR YOUR FLOWER BOXES, FLOWER BEDS AND CEMETERY NEEDS!

Thank you for your generosity!



Saint Monica Council 14725

Memorial Scholarship 2017

Open to 8th grade students attending a Catholic High School in the Fall of 2017

Up to \$1000 in scholarships available!

Applications in the rear of Saint Monica Church or on the council website www.kofc14725.org
Good luck!

THE TRIUMPH: A PARISH MISSION



Sunday, May 21st - Wed. May 24th
Presented by Fr. David Gunter, MIC

Schedule of Events:

Sunday, May 21

7:00 pm: Presentation

Testimony and Introduction

Monday, May 22

6:00 pm: Confessions 6:30 pm: Rosary

7:00 pm: Presentation

Catechesis Background

Tuesday, May 23

6:00 pm: Confessions 6:30 pm: Rosary

7:00pm: Presentation

Topic: What Has Heaven Been Saying to Us?

Wednesday, May 24

6:00 pm: Confessions 6:30 pm: Rosary

7:00 pm: Presentation

Final remarks on "The Triumph"
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

As of June 2nd, our Parish Offices will close at noon on Fridays.

Please do not leave any household goods, clothing, furniture or other items on Parish property as a donation. Clothing donations may be dropped off at the St. Vincent de Paul bin behind the school at St. Monica and next to the School house at St. Lucy. You can make furniture and household item donations directly to SVDP, 42 Franklin St. Lawrence, MA (978) 655 - 1248



Congratulations to our First Communicants from St. Monica's Parish

Julia Alaimo
Portia Angelone
Dante Apperti
Emilie Beaudoin
Declan Bernier
Alanna Bistany
Jayden Bistany-Bean
Gianna Bonanno
Tyler Bouchard
Maddox Cabral
Jazmany Caraballo
Naliaka Chege
Kayden Chiasson
Mattia Cifuentes
Gianna Coletti
Chloe Cochrane
Dylan Conway
Angela Dahbour
Madelyn Daly
Zachery Deschamps
Liliana Fabiano
Davis Ferreira
Tyler Gallagher
Alexandria Gangi
Santino Garcia

Erin Getchell
Lily Giard
Danielle Gonsalves
Jason Haefner
Alexis Harrington
Adam Hathaway
Luke Hathaway
Thomas Hellman
Cameron Ireson
Arianna Jamgochian
Lucy Johnston
Cali Lucas
Kevin Lugo
Kelly Lutz
Max Madden
Jacob Marcoux
Harry McPhee
Katy Melo
Emmanuel Mercado
Gavin Morris
Kaiden Morris
Cody Nichols
Arieana Peralta
Alexis Phillips
Gabiella Portalla

Grace Portalla
Mariah Ramey
Enexis Rascon
Nathan Roukes
Luke Salerno
Samantha Saraceno
Connor Scanlon
Ella Smith
Evan Smith
Adrianna Sabounji
Lukas Sack
Kenneth Snay
Jayden Soares
Sophia Stephenson
Avery Suliveras
Reid Suliveras
Peter Sullivan
Olivia Thomas
Vivienne Tran
Ivan Vasquez
Caroline Vecchi
Nicholas Vinciguerra
Kasandra Walsh
Kaitlyn Wirtanen
Ethan Wolske



Medjugorje

September 5th
to the 13th,
2017

Come join our group traveling to beautiful Medjugorje, a place the whole world is talking

about, where a piece of heaven touches the earth. Our Blessed Mother told one of the visionaries "What I started at Fatima, I will end in Medjugorje." The spiritual trip of a lifetime! Answer Our Lady's call to "Come to me in Medjugorje."

Total cost \$2,210. Credit cards accepted. To register or for more information contact group leader Claude Langlois at (978) 682 - 6012 as soon as possible.

Our groups 14th trip to Medjugorje - nine days, seven nights, two meals per day, staying at Pope John Paul II Hotel only seconds from St. James Church in the heart of Medjugorje.

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

John G. Pirrotta (978) 794 - 0224
5 Pitman Street, Methuen

ST. MONICA PARISH 100th ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2017

LENZI'S RESTAURANT, DRACUT, MA

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AFTER ALL THE MASSES
ON THE 4TH WEEKEND OF EACH MONTH UNTIL
SEPTEMBER. TICKETS ARE \$50.00 EACH.
PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FUN EVENING.

Please pray for **George Spates, Thomas Dubois, Joyce Marie Finnegan, and Charles Long** whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our Parishes. May their soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

Next week's second collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). CCC communicates the Gospel through various formats, including social media, podcasts, TV, radio, and print media. 50% of the collection will support this national programming. Please visit www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/catholic-communication-campaign/index.cfm for more information. The other 50% of the collection will remain at the parish to support local communication efforts, such as website technology and bulletins.



Everyone's Mother

Perhaps one of the greatest compliments a woman can receive is that those who are not her children in the natural order, consider her to be like a mother, or perhaps a second mother. No doubt teachers and religious sisters that made an impact in our lives come to mind, as we think of these second mothers. Perhaps as a child you had a friend's mom who always made you feel at home, inviting you and her own child's other friends in for a sandwich or soda during a break in a game of street hockey or whiffle ball on a hot summer day. In addition to loving our own moms, it is important to contemplate spiritual motherhood in these days of May, a month traditionally dedicated to Mary. That emphasis is even more amplified this year as we have just celebrated the 100th anniversary of Our Lady's first appearance at Fatima.

One of the greatest wonders of the Incarnation, is that in that moment of Jesus' conception within the womb of Mary, God himself had a mother. Mary bore her Son as one of the Eucharistic Prefaces tells us, "*with a love beyond all telling*". We marvel at the love that that Perfect Son and perfect mother share. As Catholics we know in firm faith that Jesus gave us His own mother to be ours when He commended her to Saint John the Evangelist's care as he hung upon the cross. "*Son, behold your mother.*" How amazing that he would give us such a gift. This mother too, just like our earthly mothers, basks in the affection of her loving children. She does not compete with our earthly moms but raises their dignity as we see Mary, though in an imperfect way, in them. Do we take time to thank Mary for her "yes" to God's plan and for her acceptance of God's call to care for us just as she did Jesus? "*Woman, behold your son.*" Mary, though unrelated to us by blood, is the greatest spiritual mom.

Those of us fortunate to have mom's still living on earth, joyfully made time for them last Sunday. Why would we not do the same for our heavenly mom?

This week for four nights, beginning tonight at St. Monica (Sunday through Wednesday). We have an opportunity to show our heavenly mother this love and devotion and to be reminded of her powerful presence in our lives. Fr. David Gunter, MIC who served for several years at St. Monica Parish, is returning to lead us in a parish mission called the "The Triumph". It is my sincere hope that many from both our parishes and beyond will participate. There is nothing like a mother's love. How blest we are to have her. May we remember her and travel to her just as lovingly and passionately as we did our earthly moms last Sunday. We will begin tonight (Sunday) at 7pm and Monday through Wednesday we will begin at 6:00pm with the rosary and confessions.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS & EVENTS

CRAFTER'S NEEDED

for the St. Lucy Parish Sodality Craft Fair, being held on Saturday, October 21, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact Norma Hernandez by email at st.lucycraftfair@gmail.com or phone 978-689-3511.

Please help us spread the word. Thank you.

A small group is meeting in the St. Monica Rectory first floor sunroom to watch DVD presentations on Prayer.

Upcoming meeting dates:

Thursday 6/1, 6/8, 6/22, and 6/29 from 6-7 pm

The DVD is 30 minutes long followed by a discussion. Bring a notebook, Bible, and Catechism. The room holds only 20 so please register early. Contact Bonnie Doherty for more information: 978-270-3366 or bonnieocds@gmail.com.

**Saturday, May 20 - Easter Weekday**

4:00 pm Jennie and Vito Milone

Sunday, May 21 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Bernard Godbout and Joy Breen

9:30 am Tony Longo

11:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Rose Cavallaro

Irene Gagne

Marie Sirois

John Thomas Daly

Silippo Cali, Giuseppe and

Carmela Ardizzone

Walter Cheltowski

Charles and Ann Torrisi

Ellen Jackson

(Living)

Monday, May 22 - Easter Weekday

8:00 am Therese Rousseau

Tuesday, May 23 - Easter Weekday

8:00 am Luigi Nicoletti

Wednesday, May 24 - Easter Weekday

8:00 am

Thursday, May 25 - The Ascension of the Lord

8:00 am

12:30 pm

7:00 pm Irene LaPointe and Sarah Privitera

Saturday, May 27 - Easter Weekday

4:00 pm Leonita A. Klier

Sunday, May 28 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Parishioners of St. Lucy and
St. Monica Parishes

9:30 am Anthony R. Coco

11:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Robert Peluso

Fred Ramey Sr.

Jennie Ciardello

Anne Carelli

Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality News

The members of the Sodality will recommit to the Blessed Virgin Mary at the 9:30 Mass on June 11th.

The next Sodality meeting will be after the Recommitment Ceremony. Please remember the Irish Cottage Fundraiser on May 24th.

Men's Guild News

Sunday, May 21st – Men's Guild Meeting
after the 9:30 Mass in St. Lucy's Church Hall

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 – call Larry @ 978-360-9256 or Jack @ 978-373-2376*

Our Guild is an association of men dedicated to St. Joseph who meet regularly to pray and encourage each other to be spiritual leaders in their families, in their parishes, and in their community.

Offertory May 14, 2017: \$6,447.00

There is only one collection this weekend, our regular Sunday Offering. On Thursday, we have one collection for the Holy Day of Obligation. Next Sunday, the second collection is for Catholic Communications.

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

We are pleased to share that **St. Lucy Parish** has raised **\$19,695.00** toward our 2017 Catholic Appeal goal of **\$30,693.00**. Thank you to all who have helped make our campaign a success. If you have not had a chance to give, we need your help! Please donate today to help us reach our goal by June 30. Gifts can be made online at bostoncatholicappeal.org or by completing a pledge form available at the Church exits. On behalf of Cardinal Seán and all who benefit from your generosity, thank you for your support.



Saturday, May 20 - Easter Weekday

8:00 am (*multiple intentions*)

Joseph O'Neil

4:00 pm

Joseph Drelick

Sunday, May 21 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

7:30 am

Bernard Murphy Jr.

9:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Claire Waterworth

Kenneth Coco

Nelinda Decola

James Dicroce Sr. and Ann Orlando

Cecelia Ahern

Constance Rand

Patricia Leslie

(Living)

11:30 am

Bernadette M. Beaudry

5:30 pm

Parishioners of St. Monica and
St. Lucy Parishes

Thursday, May 25 - The Ascension of the Lord

7:00 am

Jean Caron

10:00 am

Friday, May 26 - Saint Philip Neri

7:00 am

Ann Caulfield

Saturday, May 27 - Easter Weekday

8:00 am (*multiple intentions*)

Patricia Leslie

(Living)

4:00 pm

Adele Saba

Sunday, May 28 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

7:30 am

Joseph Klufts

9:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Pierrette Picard

Arthur Hutton

11:30 am

Michael Arcidiacono

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

"YES I CAN" Program

WE CAN USE... canned fruit, strawberry jelly, canned beans, canned spaghetti, cereal, rice sides, pancake mix, pancake syrup, and spaghetti sauce.

ROSES FOR LIFE



Roses for Life have been donated in loving memory of

Michael & Linda Giarrusso
Cecile and Peter Checovich

Francis J. Morel

John and Michael Raineri

Francis Doran Jr.

Amalia Langlois

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.

We will not have the 5:30 Mass on Sundays beginning next Sunday, the 28th. It will resume on September 10.

CATHOLIC LENDING LIBRARY



Next Sunday, May 28 the Catholic Lending Library will be available for free lending of books/DVDs at the 9:30 Mass. Borrowed books/DVDs may be returned at that time or in the return basket also located in the back of the church.

Offertory May 14, 2017: \$9,879.00

The second collection this weekend is for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. On Thursday, we have one collection for the Holy Day of Obligation. Next Sunday, the second collection is for Catholic Communications.

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

We are pleased to share that **St. Monica Parish** has raised **\$30,632.00** toward our 2017 Catholic Appeal goal of **\$52,600.00**. Thank you to all who have helped make our campaign a success. If you have not had a chance to give, we need your help! Please donate today to help us reach our goal by June 30. Gifts can be made online at bostoncatholicappeal.org or by completing a pledge form available at the Church exits. On behalf of Cardinal Seán and all who benefit from your generosity, thank you for your support.



Our second grade students at their First Holy Communion that was held last Sunday, May 14.

May Procession by St. Monica School Students

Please join us on Tuesday, May 23 at 8:30 am for the beautiful devotion to our Blessed Mother Mary as the students of our St. Monica School lead us in the May Procession.

The second grade children who have just received their First Holy Communion, will lead us in reciting the Holy Rosary, crowning our Blessed Mother, and singing beautiful hymns. Come pray with us and be part of this holy experience!

Mission Statement

Saint Monica School is a distinctively Catholic School, a faith community of the Catholic Church. Our mission is that of the Church; to spread the Gospel and prepare students for their state in life. In our striving for academic excellence, we keep in focus that this is a Catholic School where religious and moral formation are the first in the hierarchy of values. In fostering leadership in our students, we prepare them to take their place in the Church and Society as leaders who will be prepared to serve all with respect, dignity, and justice.

St. Monica School is now set up as a charitable organization on Amazon Smiles. If you order from Amazon and you would like to support St. Monica School, you must go to www.smile.amazon.com and choose St. Monica School (make sure it is METHUEN because there are other St. Monica Schools) as the organization you want to support. If you go through smile.amazon.com all the time, St. Monica School will receive a percentage of what you spend! And if you are an Amazon Prime member, it does not change anything. You still get all your perks and benefits! Tell all your friends and family to help support the students of St. Monica School!

Sr. Suzanne is looking to hire a Part-Time Development Associate (20 hours per week) starting in August 2017. The Development Associate would be responsible initially for Event Planning (large scale events bringing in upwards of \$20K) and creating a database of Alumni. The Development Associate position would eventually become full-time. The full-time Development Associate would also be responsible for planning, organizing, and directing all of St. Monica's fundraising in conjunction with the PTO. Other responsibilities would include grant writing, the major gifts program, annual fund, planned giving, special events, capital campaigns and raising funds for financial aid. Requirements for the position are a Bachelor's Degree in Business or related field with 3-5 years experience in marketing, organizing and pre-planning, grant writing, and finance. Research, technology, social media and public relations skills are required. If you or someone you know would be interested in this position, please send a resume with cover letter and names and phone numbers of three employer references to Sr. Suzanne Fondini, St. Monica School Development Search, 212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA 01844. Application deadline is July 1, 2017. Please, no phone calls.



Meet Fr. Milik— *Bringing the good news to the most unlikely of places*

When Fr. Adrian Milik was ordained in 2012, he was eager to start his work as a parish priest at St. Thomas Aquinas in Bridgewater. He never imagined his ministry would take him to the local prison.

For four years, Fr. Milik made frequent visits to Old Colony Correctional Center to serve inmates in a variety of ways—hearing confessions, celebrating Mass, but most importantly, bringing the presence of God inside the barbed wire fences. It was in the prison that Fr. Milik learned how to truly live a life of non-judgmental love.

As Fr. Milik so beautifully states, “Each one of us has a calling to change the world—to make it better.” Not only do our priests make the world a better place through their own actions, but they inspire others to do the same no matter where they may be in life.

To help ensure priests like Fr. Milik are cared for as they live out their vocation, please support the Easter collection this year.

To see Fr. Milik’s full video story, visit clergytrust.org.



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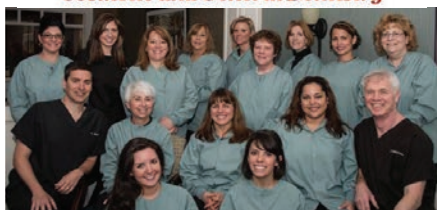
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