St. Monica Parish St. Lucy Parish

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF

March 5, 2017

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** dnjbpierce@gmail.com

Deacon John Kobrenski **Permanent Deacon**

jpk500@verizon.net

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

ext. 26 Kera Mansour **Business Manager**

Carolvn 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



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

(978) 683-1193 ext. 41

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

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 or 978-270-3366 for more information about Adoration at St. Monica's and **Ellen Wholley** at 978-682-8459 for 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 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.

During Lent, Adoration at St. Monica's will end at 6:30 pm for Stations of the Cross at 7 pm.

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.

Prayer for the Newly Baptized

Bless, Lord Jesus, the newly baptized;

Amaia Lidia Arias Tyler Anthony Grasso Bryce Belair Swales



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 Colizzi Memorials, Inc. (978) 674 - 7035, 217 Merrimack Street, Methuen

Lent 2017 - Stations of the Cross

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

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



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

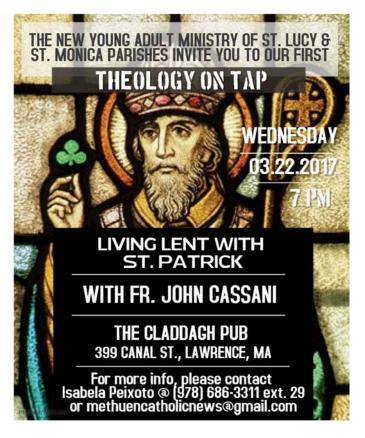
New to our Community?

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.





COLLABORATIVE NEWS & EVENTS



Please visit us on Facebook

Page:Theology on Tap MethuenGroup:Theology on Tap Methuen, MAEvent Page:Theology on Tap - Living Lentwith St. Patrick



Please pray for Linda Caron, Roberta Yankowsky, Anthony Mesiti, Pauline Mushow, Raymond J. McAlea, Dorothy Bosse, Virginia Parolisi, and Joseph Augeri whose Funeral Masses where recently celebrated at our Parishes. May their soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

Middle School and High School Youth Group

Middle School Youth and High School Youth groups are a come when you can, as you are kind of groups. NO expectations, NO judgments. Just a safe place to hang out, make friends, talk about faith, play games and pray together. This is not a program that you have to come to every time although you are welcome to! Lots of food, fun, games and laughter as well!! The Middle school youth group meets on Thursdays, and the High School youth group meets on Tuesdays. For the Middle School and/or High School youth group schedules please contact Sammie Moore at youth.stlm@gmail.com, or call her at the office at (978) 686-3311. We'd love to see you there. All are welcome!



Outreach & Service

Commission to Assist our Brothers and Sisters in need with Nursing Home Outreach

We have established a team to provide visits to parishioners of St. Monica and St. Lucy parishioners who are at Nevins Nursing and Rehab Center. If you know of a family member or friend at the Nevins who would enjoy spending some time to have a visit feel free to contact: Jeanne Desmond at 978-377-0017.

Also, if you have a few hours to spare, we would love to have you join us in this very important ministry. These visits can take place at your convenience. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Jeanne Desmond. We want to thank the following parishioners for their continued dedication to this outreach:

Marilyn Mugavero who visits at Mary Immaculate with her therapy dog.

Nevins team:

Barbara Delaney, Mary Perry, Maureen Donovan, Helen Tiberio, and John Sanguedolce



Wednesday, March 8, 2017 7 – 8:30 PM St. Lucy 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 be 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 <u>Lucille (Lu)</u> <u>Bonanno</u> of St. Monica Parish 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!

DAY OF SERVICE The Faith Formation Office is once again hosting a **Day of Service** for our parish communities. This year it will take place on the afternoon of **Sunday**. April 23rd. If you are unable to do your spring cleaning yourself due to age, illness, or circumstances please contact either Karl Jackson or Sammie Moore for more information. We'd love to send a team to your home to help you get the job done. We're planning to start the day with the 11:30am Mass at St. Lucy's followed by a short break and then work at the various homes from 1:00-3:00 pm. Candidates from our parishes' Confirmation Program, their families, and anyone else over the age of 12 who is interested in helping with this effort are also invited to contact Karl Jackson or Sammie Moore. We will spend the afternoon working at the homes of our parishioners who would like assistance with their spring clean-up. Last year we had nearly 50 kids and parents help with the clean-up at 10 different households. This year we hope to reach more than double the number of homes we reached last year.



The Parishes of St. Monica and St. Lucy welcome one and all to our **2017 Lenten Mission** Sunday - Wednesday: March 25 - 28 7 pm at St. Monica's Church

Our Catholic Faith: *"Believing the Impossible Dream!"* or *"Why we believe the impossible things we believe!"*

Fr. Joseph Irenaios Thomas, BSO

Sunday: THE HOLY TRINITY "No Big Boss, No Little Peons!" Monday: "JESUS AND FREEDOM" Father Matt Williams Tuesday: THE VIRGIN IS A MOTHER: "Impossible!" they say! Wednesday: RITE-AID, CVS, ALTAR: "The Pharmacy of Your Choice!" Concluding with: A Service of Blessings for Healing

"God became man so that man might become God!"

St. Athanasios the Great, Pope of Alexandria: "On the Incarnation"

The Bible and the Sacraments - A group will meet in the rectory to discuss the streaming video, The Bible and the Sacraments, beginning on Thursday March 9 6-8pm and ending April 6. Please contact Bonnie Doherty, 978-270-3366, if you plan to attend as there is limited seating. Check out the website. https:// www.bibleandthesacraments.com/. Join for free. We will use the workbook available for \$19.95 https://www.bibleandthesacraments.com/allat products/participant-workbook. Come with or without the workbook. All are welcome!



Saturday, March 4

8:00 am (multiple intentions) Amy Waterworth Ronald & Barbara Fitzgerald
4:00 pm Vincent Mesiti

Sunday, March 5

7:30 am Parishioners of St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes
9:30 am (multiple intentions)

Charlie & Rose Hanafin (living)
Violet Sayer
Yolanda Gayan

11:30 am Teresa Wheeler
5:30 pm Elizabeth McNiff

Thursday, March 9

7:00 am Arthur and Mary Beth Hamel

Friday, March 10 7:00 am Rose Begin

Saturday, March 11

8:00 am (multiple intentions) Robert McCarthy & Family
4:00 pm Joseph Drelick

Sunday, March 12

7:30 am	Pamela Daveta
9:30 am (m	ultiple intentions)
	Gloria Mascarito
	Deceased members of the
	Gagnon Family
	Joseph Indoccio
	Gloria Marcoux
	Manuel & Fernanda Cordeiro
	Christopher J. Burns
	Maureen Burns Tulley
11:30 am	Antoinette & Nemetallah Khalife
5:30 pm	

The **Christmas Pageant** videos are in. Please call Carol at (978) 587 - 5333

STEWARDSHIP

February 26, 2017

Offertory: \$10,328.00 Grand Annual: \$64,933.00 (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

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.

St. Vincent de Paul Society "YES I CAN" Program

WE CAN USE..... canned tuna, baked beans, tomato sauce, rice, pancake mix, pancake syrup, canned fruit, and canned pasta.



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



Saturday, March 4 4:00 pm Perry, (

m Perry, Clara, Steven, and Beverly Autiello

Sunday, March 5

8:00 am Antonio & Maria Fiasconaro
9:30 am Joseph Pipitone
11:30 am (*multiple intentions*) Agostino Cocozza James Smith Luke Caraccio

Monday, March 6 8:00 am Carina Demers

Tuesday, March 78:00 amYvonne Soucy

Wednesday, March 8 8:00 am William & Marie Mercier

Saturday, March 11 4:00 pm Parishioners of St. Lucy and St. Monica

Sunday, March 12

8:00 am Stanley Piskadlo 9:30 am Josephine Maranto 11:30 am (*multiple intentions*) Louise Vallante Anthony Calderone Gilbert Fontaine Craig McKenzie John "Jack" Sammataro

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory:

February 26, 2017 \$5,790.00

Grand Annual: \$53,510.00 (total to date)

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

Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality News



Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality News

Lenten Suppers in the Church hall on Friday evenings immediately following the Stations of the Cross.

Our next Sodality Meeting is Sunday, March 19th, after the 9:30

Mass and the praying of the Rosary.

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

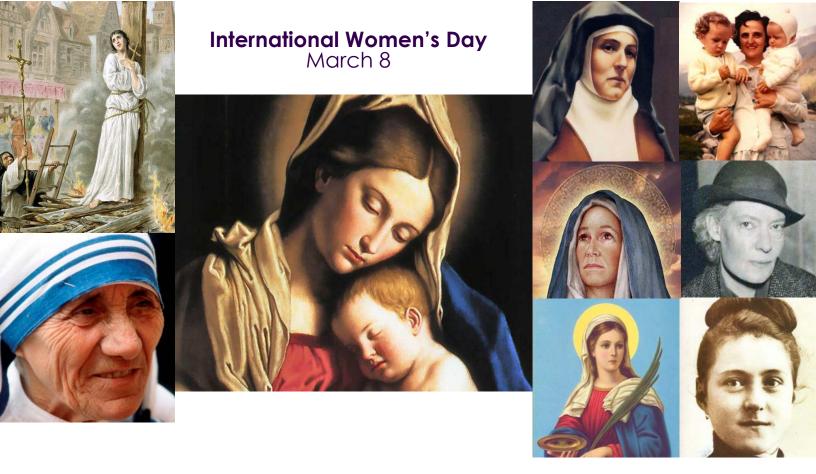
St. Lucy's Men's Guild

Save The Date Notice

- Saturday, April 15 following Easter Vigil Mass – Ice Cream Social
- Saturday, June 4th 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
- Sunday, March 26th Men's Guild Meeting after 9:30 Mass in St. Lucy's Rectory

Mark your calendars for our St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Saturday, March 18 at 5:30 pm. Tickets are on sale now in the front of the church or during the week at the Parish Office. \$20 for adults Children 10 and under free Come and enjoy!





FROM FR. Cassani

In his first Encyclical letter, Deus Caritas Est, Pope Benedict XVI gave a wonderful reflection on the connection between faith and charity. "We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. (1 Jn 4:16)." He goes on to tell us that "being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person... Since God has first loved us, love is now no longer a mere command; it is the response to the gift of love with which God draws near to us." It is not enough for us Christians to know about God, even if one were to be able to recite from memory every article of the Catechism! Lent is the time the Church sets aside so that we can tune our entire selves with our intellects, bodies and spirits moving closer to the love which God wishes to shower upon us.

Love is the standard for everything we do, especially during this season. Fasting allows our bodies to heed the words Christ spoke to Satan as he was tempted; "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. (Mt. 4:4)" When our lives are ruled less by our appetites, and more by our mind and will, we are able to be more like Jesus. Almsgiving trains us to live as instruments of the love of God. How often have we experienced God's love? It is good for each of us to reflect on this often. For me, the love of God is manifest most often through the love that others have shown me. When the poor pray for relief, God answers their prayers in many ways, but certainly through what we give to the poor. Prayer is the most important form of love we can express this Lent. The conversation we have with God allows us to hear his will all the better, so that we can know clearly the way our lives must be shaped.

Let us pray for one another during this Lent, and encourage one another to sacrifice in such a way that we can come to love God with everything we have, and bring His love to everyone, especially those who need it most.

God bless, Fr. Cassani



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 St., Methuen, MA

Cost: \$15 (includes continental breakfast and 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, @untiellen@aol.com

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> GROUP ESCORTS: Christina & Paul Blanchette

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