



JANUARY 12, 2020

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

A voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." - Mt 3:17

ST. MONICA PARISH

212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA

ST. LUCY PARISH

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA

RENEW, REBUILD, AND REACH OUT: DISCIPLES IN HEARTFELT COMMUNION WITH JESUS CHRIST

DAILY MASS **MON, TUE, & WED** 8:00 am St. Lucy **THURS & FRI** 8:15 am St. Monica **SAT** 8:00 am St. Monica
WEEKEND SAT 4:00 pm (Vigil) both parishes **SUN** 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 am St. Monica, 9:00 and 11:00 am St. Lucy

From the Pastor

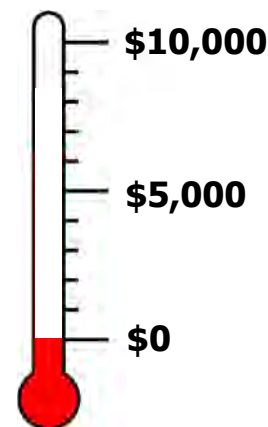
“How was your Christmas, Father?”
 “Uhm.....Effective.”

I will acknowledge that is a very strange answer, but it certainly sums up how I think the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas went at our parishes. That’s not a small assessment, particularly when one considers how many large Masses, services, and events we celebrated. Our Advent Mission at St. Lucy and our Lessons and Carols at St. Monica were successful collaborative ventures leading up to reverently celebrated mid-week observances of Christmas and Mary, Mother of God (New Year).

That sentence may read a little underwhelming, but it is not. Put another way, the more we get our act together year after year, the better we can serve God and neighbor in parishes flourishing with growth both in holiness and in numbers of worshippers.

That growth is most important in the realm of the sacred, but it still includes the mundane. Thankfully, we have been “effective” regarding finance and facility improvements, too. For example, both of our parishes have nearly met their Grand Annual goals, which is amazing given the time of year. However, let me make this one final reminder regarding this year’s appeal: while we have been blessed with gifts that fund our facility improvements, the Grand Annual is still critical for bolstering our operational revenue during the winter months.

My final update for the Grand Annual has been made very simple this year, because both St. Monica and St. Lucy Parishes can fully meet their goals with additional contributions each of \$10,000. That is very achievable, and my hope is that if you have not given to this year’s Grand Annual (at whichever parish you call home), you will be able to do so now that the additional spending that comes with these holy-days is behind us. Look for the little thermometer to see how we are doing in the home stretch for the Grand Annual and THANK YOU for your support of our great parishes!



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

A voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” - Mt 3:17

Since this Sunday is the last day of Christmas, we invite you to take a poinsettia home.

Observances for the week of January 12, 2020

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
 Monday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
 Friday: St. Anthony, Abbot
 Saturday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
 Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings for the week of January 12

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17
Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19 [17a]/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 [27b]/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 [2]/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

ST. MONICA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a 9 Day "Novena for Life" in the St. Monica Chapel at 6 PM beginning Tuesday, Jan. 21 through Wednesday, Jan. 29.

Each evening will begin with an Intercession Prayer, the Rosary, and a Reflection. The Jan. 24 session will include a Guest Speaker. All are encouraged to attend this special program that was developed by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops.

ST MONICA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, Council 14725



45'S TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER
 The Knights will be hosting a 45's Tournament Fundraiser on Saturday, January 18, 2020, at 7:00 pm in the St Monica School Hall. The cost is \$25 per person. Prizes depend on the number of participants. Refreshments and food will be available for purchase. If you have any questions, please contact the Knights 45s Coordinator Dave Michaud at 978-985-4223.

ST. LUCY'S MEN'S GUILD

Upcoming meeting: **Next Sunday, January 19, 2020**

Members are invited to gather for the 9:00 AM Mass. The meeting is immediately following the Mass in the St. Lucy Church Hall.

All men are welcome and invited to learn more about our mission and to offer any new ideas for this year. Many new and exciting projects to support our parish are being planned. Refreshments will be served. Any questions – Call 978-360-9256 Bring a friend!

ST. LUCY/ST. MONICA ULTREYA

Tuesday, January 28, 2020
 (Every 4th Tuesday of the Month)
 7:00 – 8:30 PM | St. Lucy Church Hall

Ultreya this month will begin with a Prayer Service and singing, and includes voluntary sharing in small, intimate, and confidential groups, and fellowship and refreshments that signify Christian hospitality.

Our guest speaker this month is our dear friend **Linda Campbell** – She will 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!

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY



We would like to thank all those who have donated their time, talent and treasure to our fundraising efforts. If you baked, sold raffle tickets, prepared meals, know that everyone of you helped make the year truly memorable for so many in our community and beyond. God Bless you all. Here are some of the organizations that we have helped along our journey through 2019.

- Lazarus House
 - Daybreak Shelter
 - Haven of Hope
 - St. Vincent DePaul
 - Eugene Voiland Flag Program
 - Prepared Box Lunches for the homeless – TMF Foundation
 - The Commission for our Brothers & Sisters in Need
 - Foster Kids of Merrimack Valley
 - Bread & Roses
 - Neighbors in Need
 - Project Bethlehem
 - St. Monica's School
- On behalf of all those in need THANK YOU!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



We would like to express our deepest thanks for your overwhelming and very generous response to our Nativity/Giving Tree Program this season.

Because of your extraordinary contributions, we were able to provide gifts to 66 families with a total of 154 children. Please know that you have the prayers and gratitude of the Society and the families we serve. Your ongoing support of our organization allows us to bring the love of Jesus and badly needed food and assistance to our community members who need it. Please know that your generosity made it possible for each of these families to experience a joyful and blessed Christmas.

YES I CAN PROGRAM - We are in need of canned beans, canned spaghetti, rice sides, peanut butter, and spaghetti sauce.
Donations can be dropped off anytime in the baskets located at the entrances to both churches.



11th Annual Holy Hour for Life, Healing and Forgiveness

Marking the Anniversary of Roe v Wade

Wednesday, January 22
7 PM at St. Lucy Church
Presiders: Deacon John Kobrenski & Deacon John Pierce

A Holy Hour for Life, Forgiveness and Healing with Exposition of the Holy Eucharist will be held on January 22, 2020 as part of the Archdiocesan observance of the National Day of Prayer and Penance marking the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion on demand.

We will pray together for respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, for those who have been wounded by abortion, for those facing death, and for increased holiness in the Church.

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PICK OF THE WEEK

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Session 2 - The Rite Explained



Each prayer and action in the Rite of Baptism is filled with spiritual significance, beauty, and grace. By understanding more clearly what's happening, we'll have a greater appreciation for why Baptism takes us further into a life-changing relationship with God.

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3. Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"
4. Find our parishes by name, zip, or our access code **(9772VM)**
5. Enter your email - and you're in!

We encourage you to extend an invitation to family and friends. **After you register, please email Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com.** If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie at (978) 270 - 3366 or at the email above.

ST. MONICA SCHOOL

We will hold an Open House on Sunday, 1/26/20 after the 9:30 Mass at St. Monica's. All prospective families are welcome to visit the school, meet the teachers, and interact with our students.



Support our school by selling Krispy Kreme's famous glazed doughnuts!! \$10 per dozen. Orders and payment need to be turned in by Tuesday, January 21st. Doughnuts will be available for pick up Sunday, January 26 at the school hall 10:30 AM- Noon. To order, please contact the school.

MASS INTENTIONS

ST. MONICA PARISH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

8:00 am Living Mass
Members of the Friel and Felice Families
Carla Sweetra

4:00 pm Yvette Moran and Don Lavigne

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

7:30 am Yvette Moran and Don Lavigne

9:30 am
Lionel Gingras
Frank Stumpo
Marie Fradette
Maurice Roy

11:30 am Flora and Joseph LaTorre

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

8:15 am Ida Lazzara

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

8:15 am Joe Gould

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

8:00 am Claire Waterworth

4:00 pm Michael and Laura Cote

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

7:30 am People of St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes

9:30 am
Ann L. Sunderland
Lawrence Caffrey
John Hallsworth
Barbara Liberty
Charles Keough

11:30 am Karen Sullivan

ST. LUCY PARISH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

4:00 pm People of St. Lucy and St. Monica Parishes

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

9:00 am Manuel Leal

11:00 am Carmela Fuschi
Deceased members of the Ciofola and
DiVincentis Families
Patricia Dionne
Pasquale DeCunco
Wayne and Michael Walworth

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

8:00 am

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

8:00 am Fernando Cafua

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

8:00 am

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

9:00 am Antonio and Maria Fisaconaro

11:00 am Robert Arsenault
John Mulligan
Anne Louise Glynn

WEEKLY FAITH ENCOURAGEMENT



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month

6:00 - 7:00 pm in St. Lucy Church

Fridays beginning after the 8:15 am Mass until
5:30 pm in St. Monica Chapel

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month

6:00 - 7:00 pm in St. Lucy Church

Fridays 4:30 - 5:30 pm St. Monica Chapel

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45 pm

St. Monica Chapel & St. Lucy Church

After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." - *Mt 3:16-17*

GIVE

OFFERTORY

ST. MONICA PARISH

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day: \$8,845.00
Weekend of 12/29/19: \$10,353.00
Weekend of 1/5/2020: \$11,549.00

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

ST. LUCY PARISH

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day: \$6,546.00
Weekend of 12/29/19: \$6,333.00
Weekend of 1/5/2020: \$7,137.00

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

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

- **Faith Formation at St. Lucy's**
- **Confirmation 1** 12:45 pm St. Monica School Hall
- **Baptisms** 1:00 pm St. Monica Church

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

- **8th Grade Faith Formation**
4:00 - 5:00 pm St. Monica House
- **Rosary Prayer Group** 6:00 pm St. Monica Chapel

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

- **Bible Study** 9:30 - 10:30 am St. Lucy Church Hall
- **Alpha** 6:15 - 8:00 pm St. Lucy Church Hall

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

- **Prayer and Study** (Join us in reading "The Way of Perfection" by St. Teresa of Avila)
10:00 am - 12:00 pm St. Monica House
- **Friendship Club** 1:00 - 4:30 pm St. Monica House
- **Knights of Columbus Meeting** 6:30 - 9:30 pm
St. Monica School Hall

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

- **Adoration** beginning after the 8:15 am Mass until 5:30 pm St. Monica Chapel
- **Confessions** 4:30 - 5:30 pm St. Monica Chapel

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

- **Faith2fitt (Faith & Fitness)** 8:00 am
St. Lucy School House.
- **Choir Rehearsals** 2:30 pm St. Monica Church & 3:15 pm St. Lucy Church
- **Confessions** 3:00 - 3:45 pm
St. Monica Chapel & St. Lucy Church
- **45s Tournament** 7:00 pm St. Monica School Hall

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

- **Men's Guild Meeting** 9:00 am St. Lucy Lower Hall
- **Faith Formation at St. Monica's**
- **RCIA Class** 10:00 am St. Lucy School House
- **Confirmation 1** 12:45 pm St. Monica School Hall
- **Baptisms** 1:00 pm St. Monica Church

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for **Claire M., Sujerlty, Pamela, Catherine N., Justine N., Greg P., Ron B., Bella B., Alexa M., Sonia, and Jeffrey**

Please pray for **James Graham, Guy Piccirillo, Eileen Dowd, and Evelyn Shields** whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at St. Monica's. May their soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

Please pray for our priests/seminarians/vocations daily. Pick up a Pray for Our Priests calendar and a seminarian prayer card at the back of the church or just use this list each day. Our priests and seminarians need our prayers. And we should be praying for vocations!

Day	Date	Priest	Seminarian
Sunday	1/12/20	Fr. Joseph Rake	Peter Schirripa
Monday	1/13/20	Fr. Michael Harkins	Alphonsus Quang Vu
Tuesday	1/14/20	Fr. Richard Crowley	Jeremy Wagner
Wednesday	1/15/20	Fr. Shawn Allen	Desmond Conway
Thursday	1/16/20	Fr. Richard Bradford	Marcelo Ferrari
Friday	1/17/20	Fr. Joseph McCarthy	Joseph Thuy Van Nguyen
Saturday	1/18/20	Fr. William Coughlin	Ryan O'Connell

IN LOVING MEMORY

Roses for Life for this week
Theresa A. Rickley

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STAFF

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Fr. Joseph D'Onofrio	Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Pierce	Permanent Deacon
Deacon John Kobrenski	Permanent Deacon
Kera Mansour	Business Manager
Carolyn Leocata	Administrative Assistant
Isabela Peixoto	Communications Associate
Donna Henderson	St. Monica School Principal
Sharon Tully	St. Monica School Administrative Assistant
Karl Jackson	Director of Faith Formation
Eric Berthiaume	Music Director - St. Monica
Sharon Waning	Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy
Dan Bolster	Weekend Organist - St. Lucy
Kevin Fitzgerald	Facilities Manager (St. Lucy) & RCIA Coordinator

BAPTISMS Please call the parish office. St. Monica: 2nd Sun. of the month @ 1pm | St. Lucy: 3rd Sun. of the Month @ 1pm

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

BULLETIN DEADLINE Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to methuencatholicnews@gmail.com

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And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. - Peter 5:10



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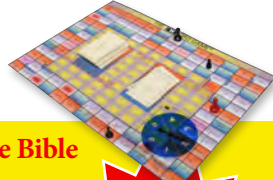
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will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. - Peter 5:10



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 www.bellafiore.salon Methuen, MA 01844