The Assumption OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

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

Regular Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am-4:30pm *Our Parish Offices will close at noon on Fridays until September 8.

PASTORAL STAFF

Father William P. Lohan ext. 992 **Pastor** frlohan68@gmail.com

Father John A. Cassani e Parochial Vicar frcassani1980@gmail.com

ext. 993

Father Joseph Thomas, BSO(978) 319-7873Weekend Assistantirenaiosbso2002@cs.com

Father Herb Jones, O. Carm ext. 111 **In Residence**

Deacon John Pierce **Permanent Deacon** dnjbpierce@gmail.com ext. 39

Deacon John Kobrenski jpk500@verizon.net Permanent Deacon

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Samantha Moore ext. 36 Youth Minister youth.stlm@gmail.com

Paul Jernberg **Music Director** pfjernberg@gmail.com ext. 27

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

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

AUGUST 13, 2017

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY





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.



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



at our Parishes

Monday, August 14:

 Commission to Assist Our Brothers and Sisters in Need Meeting - 10:00 am in the St. Monica House

Sunday, August 13:

Masses

St. Vincent de

Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality Meeting after the 9:30 Mass at

St. Lucy's

Paul representative to speak at all

Tuesday, August 15: Holy Day of Obligation

- Eucharistic Adoration at St. Lucy's 1:30 4:30 pm in the church
- Confessions at St. Lucy's 4:30 5:30 pm in the church

Thursday, August 17:

• <u>Discipleship Group</u> - Last meeting 6:00 pm in the St. Monica Rectory sunroom. Enter by front door and take 2nd left. For more information, please contact Bonnie Doherty at 978-270-3366 or bonnieocds@gmail.com

Friday, August 18:

- Eucharistic Adoration at St. Monica's 7:30 am 7:30 pm in the chapel
- Confessions at St. Monica's 6:30 7:30 pm in the chapel

Saturday, August 19:

- Confessions at St. Lucy's 3:00 3:45 pm in the church
- Confessions at St. Monica's 3:00 3:45 pm in the chapel

Next Sunday, August 20:

• <u>Knights of Columbus Family Picnic</u> 11:00 am - 5:00 pm in the rear of Knights Building



September 23, 2017

We will kick off from St. Monica at 9:00 am for the one mile walk. Please register to be a walker and ask all your friends and relatives to support you. No amount is too small!



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

During June, the Society of St Vincent de Paul brought **Christ and hope** to 47 families comprised of 79 adults and 56 children.

In addition, we brought 127 bags of food, \$1240 in Market Basket gift cards, diapers/ wipes, gas cards, clothes vouchers and sneakers. Other services included preventing 5 utility shutoffs, providing rent help to 3 families, and paying for a two night stay at the Days Hotel for a homeless couple.

We are dependent on your support, other benefactors and fund raising to provide this help.

A member of the Society will speak at all the St. Lucy masses regarding our need for food.

We are humbled by your support and continue to pray for you.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food" Matthew 25:35

St. Monica 100th Anniversary Dinner Dance

Come join the fun at Lenzi's restaurant in Dracut on Saturday, October 28, 2017. Tickets are going fast. Get yours now by calling Jane & Bill Shawcross at 978-794-8681 or 978-273-8830. Tickets are \$50.00 each.

Got questions about life?

Join us for Alpha.



Alpha isn't a lecture, and it isn't a class. Alpha is a chance to talk about life, God and everything in between.

You could be a life-long Catholic or know absolutely nothing about Christianity. Alpha is for everyone!

Come see if it's for you.

No commitment. No charge. No judgement.

Bring a friend and join the conversation.

Starting September 13 at 6:00 pm St. Lucy Church Hall

For more information: Karl Jackson faithformation.stlm@gmail.com (978) 683 - 1193 ext. 35

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK McKinnon's Supermarkets 236 N. Broadway, Salem, NH (603) 894 - 6328

Notice to Parishioners

In an effort to ensure the safety of the Parishioners, we ask that those attending Mass park only in designated parking spots. Parking in Fire Lanes and non-designated spots creates an unnecessary danger for all. We appreciate your anticipated cooperation.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC

Program for Adults desiring to receive the Sacraments

Sessions will be offered for any 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.

Sessions will begin in the Fall at the St. Lucy Parish Schoolhouse. Any questions please contact Kevin Fitzgerald, at 978-686-3311 or Bonnie Bonanno at 978-609-7307.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS Monday- Thursday: 8:30 Am - 4:30 Pm | Friday: 8:30 Am - 12:00 Pm

Dear friends,

After a lot of discernment and prayer, I will be resigning as the Youth Minister of St. Monica and St. Lucy Parishes. I am taking a full time position at my home parish in New Hampshire doing music ministry and youth ministry. This has been a difficult decision for me to make. My time here at St. Lucy and St. Monica parishes has been full of love, learning and growth. I will miss working with the youth and with everyone here.

I am beyond grateful for my time in Methuen. Thank-you to Father Bill Lohan, Father John Cassani, Karl Jackson, the entire staff, the youth and the community here in Methuen. My time here has allowed me to grow spiritually, and socially. I have fallen in love with the people here, which makes it that much harder to leave, but we will be united through faith in Jesus Christ.

This is a very exciting time for St. Lucy and St. Monica because of the work the Holy Spirit is doing in these communities. I am confident that He will continue to move the parishes in the direction of evangelization, fellowship and worship. I truly love the community and all of you here. I will keep you all in my prayers, I hope I will be in yours.

Your Sister In Christ,

Samantha Moore



"I was in prison and you visited me" (Mt 25:36)

When I was in my second year of seminary I was blessed to be assigned to MCI-Framingham, the Massachusetts State Correctional Facility for women. During that year I helped to lead a bible study and prayer session once per week. From my very first visit I was impressed by the authentic searching for God and desire to know Him better and trust in Him more that was so evident in the ladies that came to our group. Before my first visit I had prejudicially suspected that some might be coming only to get excused from one of the many aspects of prison life that can be so hard, or simply as a distraction from the routine. I couldn't have been more wrong.

Last Sunday evening I returned to the prison to offer Sunday Mass as I have tried to do at least annually since my ordination. My supervisor of many years ago is still there, Sister Maureen Clarke, CSJ, the chaplain, who tirelessly serves the women forgotten by most of society. To see her interaction with them, how she lifts them up and acts as a tireless advocate for them inspires me more than anyone I have met in ministry.

At the prayers of the faithful at Mass many of the women offered from the heart their particular petition to God out loud. There is no doubt that the prayers from the hearts of these women, many of them suffering from addiction and other emotional and psychological afflictions, separation from young children, pierce the clouds and move at lightning speed to the ear of God.

Each time I leave I feel uplifted and reenergized by their witness. They have such a beautiful faith that sustains them through challenges most of us would find unimaginable. I also leave with a slight sense of guilt remembering how I underestimated them so much as I prepared for my first visit 14 years ago.

Fr. Martin Hyatt, our neighbor at St. Basil's, is a frequent visitor there. Sister and the ladies tell me that he taught them the DOC (Dept. of Corrections) stamped on the back of their uniforms really stands for "Daughter of Christ." Father Martin certainly is right on the money.

I promised I would return more often to offer Mass with them, before leaving we discussed the idea of her coming to Methuen to speak at our Masses about her ministry.

Very early each Christmas morning as a seminarian I would return to the prison with Sister and her team, including Santa, to deliver directly to each woman a little care packet of candy and toiletries. By their reaction you would have thought each lady you saw was a beloved sister that you hadn't seen in 20 years. The joy that lit their faces on those mornings is something I will never forget. I tell many that if I did not have parish priestly duties on Christmas morning that is the place where you would find me.

I know some Methuen folks go there as volunteers now, perhaps after Sister's visit more will.

God Bless,

Fr. Bill

ROSES FOR LIFE

Roses for Life have been donated In loving memory of

Michael and Linda Giarrusso Cecile and Peter Checovich Flora LaTorre (3 roses)

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.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

"YES I CAN" Program

WE CAN USE... canned carrots and beans, rice sides, spaghetti sauce, soups, and canned fruit.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

In commemoration of the Fourth Apparition of Our Lady at Fatima, the Knights of Columbus will lead in Praying the Rosary, in the Chapel, after the 4 PM Mass, on Saturday, August 19th. All are welcome to join us in Prayer.

OFFERTORY

August 6, 2017: \$9,061.00

There is only one collection this weekend, on August 15, Holy Day of Obligation, and next Sunday as well.

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



Saturday, August 12 8:00 am (multiple intentions)

4:00 pm

St. Monica Knights of Columbus Joseph Drelick

Sunday, August 13 7:30 am

Donald MacMillan and John, Alice, Philip McMahon

9:30 am (multiple intentions)

Manuel and Fernanda Cordeiro Donato and Concetta Ferraro and deceased members of the Ferraro Family Angelo Ragonese Family, Claire Michaud and Family, Emanuela DiBartolo Family Carmella Autieri Norma Ouellette Mercedes Melendez Parishioners of St. Monica and St. Lucy Parishes

Ann Murray Clovis Michaud

Arthur Hamel

Joseph Austin Jr.

11:30 am

Monday, August 14 4:00 pm

Tuesday, August 15 7:00 am 10:00 am

Thursday, August 17 7:00 am

Friday, August 18 7:00 am

Saturday, August 19 8:00 am (*multiple intentions*)

4:00 pm

Sunday, August 20 7:30 am Marie - Paule Labrie 9:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Jack O'Brien Michael and Stella Polomoscanik Lillian Sanborn Mercedes Melendez Thomas Jernberg

Yvette Moran and Don Lavigne

11:30 am

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Neighbors in Need

Next collection: Next Sunday, August 20

On the 3rd weekend of every month, we collect food for the needy. If you would like to make a donation, please drop it off in the designated basket located at the entrance of the church. Thank you in advance.



SPECIAL MEETING

There will be a special Sodality meeting this **Sunday, August 13th**, after the 9:30 Mass to discuss details of the **Sodality Craft Fair.** Please mark your calendar and try to make every effort to attend.

DATES TO REMEMBER

first The Sodality Meeting of the new season is Sunday. September 10th after the 9:30 Mass and the praving of the Rosary. The Craft Fair is Saturday, October 21st. a Sodality We are dedicated to the Blessed Mother in service to our parish.

Saturday, August 12 4:00 pm

Sunday, August 13 8:00 am

9:30 am

Joseph R. Traina, Nancy M. Traina, Robert J. Traina Deceased members of the Sodality

Mass

Salvatore D'Urso

11:30 am (multiple intentions)

ntions) Dr. William Irving and Joan Constantine Angela, Pietro, and Margherita Gagliardi

Dorothy and Lucy Boragine

Dr. William Irving Jr.

Gilbert Fontaine

John Fugge

Anthony Calderone and

Monday, August 14 8:00 am

Tuesday, August 15 8:00 am 12:30 pm

7:00 am

Wednesday, August 16 8:00 am M. Janet Szostak

Saturday, August 19 4:00 pm

Sunday, August 20 8:00 am 9:30 am

Yvonne Soucy Parishioners of St. Lucy and St. Monica Parishes

11:30 am (multiple intentions)

Tony Somma, Tony Waters, and Mary Rita Costa Sally Bradley

Offertory August 6

Offertory August 6 \$6,440.00

There is only one collection this weekend, on August 15, Holy Day of Obligation, and next Sunday as well.

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

Please remember the poor when leaving Mass today. Donation boxes are located at the entrances to the church. Thank you for your generous contribution.

Please pray for **Maria Arasi** whose Funeral Mass was recently celebrated at our parish. May her soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

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