

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

JAN 05
2025

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” Matthew 2:2

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

Where is the newborn King of the Jews?

While the people of Jerusalem submitted to the power of a tyrant king (King Herod), and they served him because he had rebuilt the Temple of Jerusalem; Another king, the King of Kings, is born in Bethlehem and is adored by the Wise Man. The Jews thought that with Herod their people and religion would have prosperity and that is why they submit to human power, but they do not know that Herod uses them. He rebuilt the temple not because he cared about the Jews and their religion, but because he wanted to show his power, he wanted to make the Roman Empire see that he was capable of building larger and more beautiful temples than those that were in Rome itself.

The people of Jerusalem had forgotten that God does not manifest Himself through temporal power, they had abandoned the true God and had forgotten the Scriptures; they only cared about the temporary goods, and in this numbness, they do not realize Herod's true intentions. They live a few miles from Bethlehem, but they are unable to set out to worship the God made flesh.

But there were some who following God's revelation through creation were looking for the real King. These men – the wise men, make a long journey to offer their gifts to Jesus; they do it with all the inconveniences of that time and without the certainty of the exact place where to find the King of Kings, but they set off.

Dear parishioners: our lives are also in danger of seeking only for earthly power and falling asleep in a faith without devotion, without fervor, and without true adoration of God. All this happens when our religiosity has become only a habit, it happens when we do not share the Good News to those who are around us, it takes place when we do not go to meet Christ in the poor and needy or when we don't set aside time to celebrate our faith in liturgical celebrations.

Definitely, we are not or do not want to be like Herod, a selfish person who wants to be in power at all costs; but neither can we be like those people who have stopped believing in God by clinging to what is only earthly. We must be, instead, like the wise men who set out on their way and look for the King until they find him; it does not matter if sometimes we lose our path as the Magi did, Christ will always come out to meet us through the light of his Word to return us to the right path; it does not matter if others do not move and do what corresponds to them, we must be like wise men and offer now our life, time and talents to our King, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Happy Feast of the Epiphany,
Father Marcos Peña
Administrator

DEVOTIONS SCHEDULE

Tuesday evenings 6-6:30pm
Rosary Prayer Group for Priests | Gethsemane Chapel
all are welcome to attend

Wednesday mornings 9:30-11am (ZOOM)
Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet & book discussion.
Contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Wednesdays 6-7pm St. Lucy Church

Thursday evenings 6-7pm (ZOOM)
Rosary for world peace & individual intentions
followed by Evening Prayer.
Contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Saturdays 9:30am-2:30pm Gethsemane Chapel

**THE MARIE RIVIER ASSOCIATES (MRA)
OF THE PRESENTATION OF MARY**

**January 9th
9:30-11:30am**

St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

Any and all parishioners from St. Monica
& St. Lucy are invited to attend.

Our book this year is

*Mysteries of the Virgin Mary:
Living our Lady's Graces*

Please contact Maureen Slattery at 978-683-0589
or by email at twigs5mcs@gmail.com to obtain a
copy of the book.

HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS

Please join us for refreshments

Sunday, January 12th in
St. Monica School Hall
following the 9:00am Mass

Sunday, January 19th in
St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
following the 10:30am Mass



The Knights of Columbus will be leading the
monthly Rosary, this Wednesday, Jan 8th, for
St. Monica School parents in the Chapel. All
parents of students are welcome to attend. Just
stop in before picking up children from school. The praying
of the Rosary will begin at 1:15 PM. Rosaries and prayer
cards will be provided. Come by and pray for your own per-
sonal intentions!



Jesus is longing
for your presence.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
& CONFESSIONS**

Wednesday Evenings
6-7pm
St. Lucy Church

Saturdays
9:30am-2:30pm
Gethsemane Chapel
at St. Monica Church

**Christmas Tree Pick up
for Methuen residents only**

St. Monica School can pick up your Christmas trees
for a \$15 donation.

Mr. Marc Krzywicki will be taking appointments for
Methuen Residents Only to pick up your tree for the
weekends of:
**December 28 & 29
January 4 & 5
January 11 & 12**

If you would like your tree picked up, please contact him
at 978-500-7880 to make your appointment!
We would like to thank Mr. Krzywicki for his generosity
in doing this for us every year!

GENTLY USED SECOND HAND ITEMS

A parishioner has volunteered to collect gently used second hand items and sell them at his flea market with all proceeds going to our parishes. This gentleman has a history of success in this area and has done this type of ongoing fundraiser for other organizations and churches in the past. If you are interested in getting rid of some old furniture or other items, please consider reaching out to Jim to arrange for pick up. Call 978-360-8796. Please no broken or damaged items. Thank you to all who have already donated!

 **PUZZLE**

Unscramble these words from today's Gospel:

wise men	king	Mary
child	star	gifts
born	worship	dream

wsie mne	<u>W</u> <u>i</u> <u>s</u> <u>e</u> <u>m</u> <u>e</u> <u>n</u>
brno	— — — —
knig	— — — —
derma	— — — — —
cildh	— — — — —
wrsohpi	— — — — — — —
Mrya	— — — —
gfsti	— — — — —
srta	— — — —

In today's changing educational climate, Catholic schools offer an unparalleled opportunity to provide children with an education rooted in faith, academic excellence, and strong moral values. At St. Monica School, our students benefit from a nurturing environment where they are encouraged to grow spiritually, academically, and socially. With dedicated teachers, and a Christ-centered curriculum, we prepare students not only for academic success but also to lead lives of service and integrity. In a world where values and personal growth are often overlooked, Catholic education and St. Monica School in particular, stands as a beacon of hope, fostering resilience, compassion, and leadership. We invite you to experience the difference firsthand-visit our open house, explore our website, or stop by for a tour to see how Catholic education can transform the future for your children and grandchildren.

ST. MONICA SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE
JANUARY 28TH
6:00PM

Currently accepting applications for Fall 2025



It is a wonderful place to begin your child's Catholic School education.



Please call to set up a tour and learn about our application process.
978-686-1801 212 Lawrence Street
www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org Methuen, MA 01844

Today the Bridegroom claims his bride, the church, since Christ has washed her sins away in Jordan's waters; the magi hasten with their gifts to the royal wedding; and the wedding guests rejoice, for Christ has changed water into wine,
alleluia.



MORNING PRAYER
ROMAN RITE



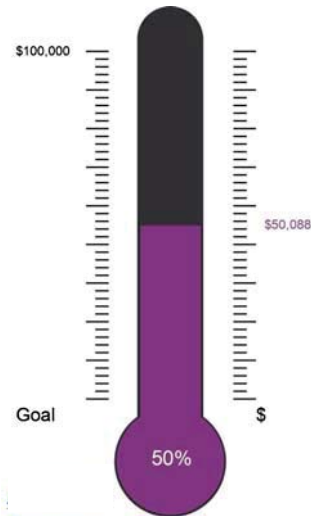
I look to the future with hope, and I invite you to do the same...we have an incredible opportunity to build the Kingdom of God by responding to the inspirations of the Holy Spirit for the good of our parish, our community, and ourselves. To become even more vibrant and active in spreading the Gospel and sharing the hope of Christ with others.”

...The Grand Annual Appeal represents a crucial step in achieving our goals. For this reason, I thank you for your generous support of the Appeal, and our weekly offertory/online giving. As Saint Paul write to the Corinthians, “Whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully...for God loves a cheerful giver. Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work.” (2 Cor 9: 6-8).

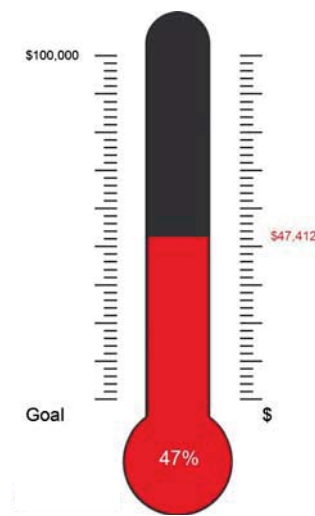
As I repeat at the end of every Mass, thank you for your gifts of time, talent, and treasures; and in a special way, thank you for your support of our Grand Annual appeal.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Marcos



St. Monica Parish



St. Lucy Parish



DECEMBER 14 & 15

St. Monica - \$7,434.00 St. Lucy - \$4,681.00

Weekly Offertory needed to sustain parish operations: St. Monica - \$10,000 | St. Lucy - \$6,000

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



Yes, I CAN... We are in need of Peanut Butter, Jelly, Rice & Rice Sides. Donations can be dropped off anytime at the entrances to St. Lucy Church and the side door of Gethsemane Chapel at St. Monica Church.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com.

GETHSEMANE CHAPEL AT ST. MONICA CHURCH
Open 7 days per week from morning rush hour until 7pm

**CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE**
Open 7 days per week from 9am-5pm

BAPTISMS 2nd Sunday of the month, 2:00pm at St. Monica's | 3rd Sunday of the month, 2:00pm at St. Lucy's
Please call the Parish Offices at least 2 months in advance to schedule.

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

MASS SCHEDULE SAT 4 pm (VIGIL) both parishes
SUN 9 am & 12 pm St. Monica
10:30 am St. Lucy
MON/TUES/THURS/FRI 9 am St. Lucy
SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica

CONFESSIONS
SAT 3-3:45pm at both parishes

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

PARISH OFFICES

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844
978.683.1193

www.methuencatholic.org

Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9am - 1pm
Closed Wed



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
978.686.9573

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Marcos Peña	Administrator
frmarcosmethuen@gmail.com	
Fr. Michael Harvey	Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Kobrenski	Permanent Deacon
Deacon John Pierce	Senior Deacon
Kera Mansour	Business Manager
methuencatholic@gmail.com	
Karl Jackson	Director of Parish Life
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com	
Christine Ryan	Administrative Assistant
parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com	



ST. MONICA SCHOOL
212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA 01844
(978) 686 -1801
www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org

SCHOOL STAFF

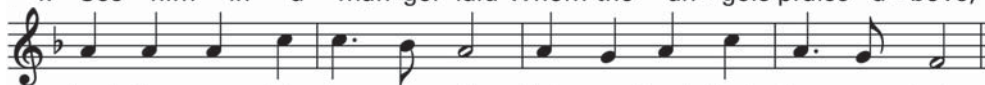
Donna Henderson	Principal
Ann Marie Collins	Administrative Assistant
smsoffice@methuencatholic.org	

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*Malachi 3: 1; 1 Chronicles 29: 12*

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

ENTRANCE HYMN*Angels We Have Heard on High*

1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4. See him in a man - ger laid Whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



1. And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
2. Say what may the tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song.
3. Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
4. Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While we raise our hearts in love.



Refrain
Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA*Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Isaiah 60: 1-6*

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13*

R. Lord, ev - 'ry na - tion on earth will a - dore you.

O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment.

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts; the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.
All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save.

SECOND READING*Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6*

Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Matthew 2: 2***Alleluia, alleluia**

We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.

Alleluia, alleluia**GOSPEL***Matthew 2: 1-12*

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: *And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.*" Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

CREED*Refer to Pew Card***SANCTUS - MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION - AGNUS DEI***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Matthew 2: 2*

We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



COMMUNION HYMN*What Child Is This*

Verses



1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma-ry's lap is
2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, Come peas - ant, king, to



1. sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While
2. feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for sin - ners here The
3. own him; The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let

Refrain



1. shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is Christ the
2. si - lent Word is plead - ing.
3. lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing; Haste,



haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Ma - ry.

RECESSIONAL HYMN*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Verses



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry to the
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er -
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of



1. new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild,
2. last - ing Lord; Late in time, be - hold him come,
3. Righ - teous - ness! Light and life to all he brings,



1. God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all ye
2. Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the
3. Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his



1. na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies; With an -
2. God - head see! Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty! Pleased as
3. glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die, Born to



1. gel - ic hosts pro - claim: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
2. man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
3. raise us from the earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King."

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, January 4

9:00am FIRST SATURDAY MASS
 4:00pm Mark McComiskey
 Michael Cestrone
 Connie Cestrone

Sunday, January 5

9:00am Charles & Rose Hanafin
 For the victims of human trafficking
 especially children
 Victims of hurricane Helene
 12:00pm Fides Caprario
 Noreen Kiely (living)
 Josie Piazza
 Susan Iacono

Saturday, January 11

9:00am Michael M. Mansour
 4:00pm Claire McCarthy

Sunday, January 12

9:00am Ida & Teo Thomas
 Joseph & Lucy Sardella
 Wendy Guthrie
 12:00pm Valorie Duncan
 Rhonda & Jack Calligandes (living)
 Mark Duncan (living)
 Richard Duncan (living)
 Michael LaCroix (living)

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, January 4

4:00pm For the Parishioners of
 St. Lucy & St. Monica

Sunday, January 5

10:30am Robert & Brenda Maurais
 Phyllis Baddour
 Deceased Members of the Pisano,
 Spampinato, DiLavore & Saitta Families
 Joseph Moreau

Monday, January 6

9:00am The Holy Souls in Purgatory
 Marilyn Mugavero (living)
 Elizabeth Mugavero (living)
 Joseph Mugavero (living)

Tuesday, January 7

9:00am Catherine Goff

Wednesday, January 8

9:00am Sarah Wilkens

Thursday, January 9

9:00am Albert, Russel & Roland Raza
 Joan Raza
 Kenneth Duncan
 Dale Duncan

Friday, January 10

9:00am Anna McAndrews

Saturday, January 11

4:00pm Robert Koralishn
 Lorraine Malignaggi
 Vincenza Pelliccione
 For the victims of human trafficking
 especially children
 Victims of hurricane Helene

Sunday, January 12

10:30am For the Parishioners of
 St. Lucy & St. Monica

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	01/05/25	All Bishops	Edward Fantuazzo SJS Rochester, NY
Mon	01/06/25	Fr. Thomas Stanton	Samuel Neumann SJS Boston
Tues	01/07/25	Fr. Joseph Neville	Duoc Ngo SJS Hanoi
Wed	01/08/25	Fr. Jiwon Yoon	Anthony Nicolosi SJS Rochester, NY
Thurs	01/09/25	Fr. Gabriel Hanley	Kennedy Ogojiuba SJS Boston
Fri	01/10/25	Msgr. Paul McInerny	Juan Ortega Bran SJS Boston
Sat	01/11/25	Fr. Allan Butler	Michael Castellon RMS Boston

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Louie C., Sarah W., Eileen F., Robert L., Madelyn, Buddy B., Maria P., Phyllis T. & Patrice K.

Please pray for those whose funerals we recently offered. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.



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