

AUGUST 29, 2021



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/THURS/FRI 9 am St. Lucy **FIRST SATURDAY** 9 am St. Monica
WEEKEND SAT 4 pm (Vigil) both parishes **SUN** 9 and 11 am St. Monica, 10 am St. Lucy

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." - Mk 7:14-15

OF MASKS AND RUMORS OF MASKS

Last weekend, when I was on National Guard duty, I had the privilege of meeting a dean of a New England Catholic college, who, interestingly, has a doctorate from Harvard in epidemiology. We were at the base watering hole, not wearing masks, though everyone, including me, in the conversation had been vaccinated.

I had to ask: "Should I make sure that all the kids in our school are masked as the fall semester starts?"

Her: "Yes."

Me: "Why?"

Her: "Because we don't know a lot about how the virus works."

Me: "?????"

The conversation remained very friendly since we were really talking as fellow Catholics, but as you could predict, included the pressing topics of scientific certainty, origins of the virus, and public policy. You know, like the necessity to make sure that the little people of the world... "the public"...don't panic.

Soon the Department of Defense (DoD) will mandate that all personnel must be vaccinated if they expect to serve in the military. As it is, the vast majority of members *are* vaccinated (prioritized right after the medical community in March), yet, after a brief respite, we once more must wear masks in all DoD buildings regardless of vaccination status. The question of that status is beginning to affect everyone from school children, including ours at St. Monica School, to many of you who work for large companies or organizations.

In a similarly interesting twist, as Wing Chaplain on base, one of my jobs is to process the Religious Accommodation requests of service members who seek an exemption from the impending DoD policy on moral grounds. I have a half a dozen requests already and some inquiries from parishioners. My immediate answer to those who have inquired, ironically, has been: "Don't panic, nobody is going to be forcibly sticking a needle in your arm anytime soon. All this needs to be worked out on a legal level first, then a road map determined for those who refuse, and only then will you have some serious decisions to make." My guess is that they will have to leave military service or be vaccinated.

So let me inform you of my philosophy going forward. First, we will follow any protocols that are laid out by whatever relevant authority applies to us, be they Archdiocesan, local or State. Second, I personally will need to be informed of the options that are allowed to make the best pastoral decision possible as we enter into the busy season. Third, my goal will be aimed at allowing the most individual discretion as possible while ensuring the safety of the group at the same time. For example, at Mass we provide protective face masks for those who choose to wear them, but ask those who prefer to not wear masks to charitably give extra space to those who do.

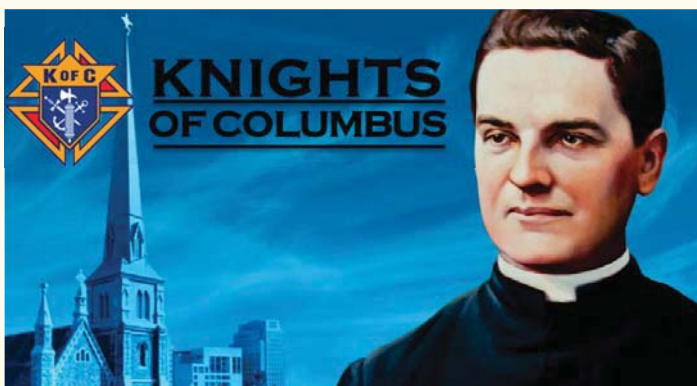
In previous bulletin entries and homilies, I have noted that we all are "the little people." It doesn't matter what degree or job you have, who your friends are, or what opinion you hold: we are on the low rung of the societal power ladder. Decisions are made for us. Nevertheless, the reality is that in a scenario where we finally do have vaccines and therapeutics available and at least some knowledge of how the virus works and who is most at risk, we can use our capacities of faith, reason, and individual discretion to determine a responsible path forward for our parishes and school, even amidst changing circumstances. Another reality is that any of those three capacities that we choose not to exercise will atrophy whether we like it or not. The bottom line, no matter what decisions have to be made in our changing circumstances, is that we should not peddle in fear...or be peddled by it.



Cardinal Sean O'Malley joined Father Darin Colarusso and Father Joseph D'Onofrio for Mass and the dedication of the new Gethsemane Chapel as an adoration chapel.

"It was a wonderful occasion and great joy to be with the parish as they dedicated this special place for adoration during this Year of the Eucharist. "

-Cardinal Sean O'Malley



The St. Monica Council of the Knights of Columbus led the Silver Rose program on Tuesday, August 17 after the 9:00am mass at St. Lucy's Church. The Silver Rose Program which includes the rosary and other prayers honors Our Lady of Guadalupe, promotes the dignity of all human life and demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico.

Father Joe D'Onofrio joined KOC members during The Silver Rose Ceremony.



Join us this coming
Saturday,
September 4th
at 9:00 am at St.
Monica's for our
First Saturday
Mass.



Our second collection this week provides earthquake relief for Haiti. Thank you for your generous support.



FAITH AND FITNESS CLASS
SATURDAYS AT 7:45AM



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By supporting the annual Catholic Appeal, you are helping our Church bring Christ's presence to the world through more than 50 different ministries. St. Lucy's has achieved 57% of its campaign goal and St. Monica's 62%. **If you have not already done so, please consider contributing to the 2021 Catholic Appeal to help ensure these ministries can continue helping our parish and communities throughout our Archdiocese of Boston.** To give now, scan the QR code above or visit bostoncatholicappeal.org.



Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life

Jesus is our savior, our redeemer, our Lord, and our God. Our belief in Jesus is what makes us who we are as Catholics, as Christians, but do we really know him as we should? Is Jesus a part of your life, or is he at the center of your life as he should be?

We invite you to make him the center of your life by joining us for *Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life*, a 10-week video study program that explores the entirety of Jesus' life and what he means for us as Catholics today.

We will begin the *Jesus* study on **September 1 at 6:00pm via Zoom**. For more information or to register, contact Bonnie Doherty, OCDS at 978-270-3366 or bonnieocds@gmail.com. We hope you can join us!



St. Monica School has **PART-TIME OPENINGS** for a Special Education Teacher, STEM Teacher, Technology Teacher & Afterschool Program Staff.

Please contact Donna Henderson at principal@methuencatholic.org or call 978-686-1801 for more information.

To Honor the Gravesites of our Unborn Brothers and Sisters

National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children **Saturday Sept. 18 2021**



On September 18, Pro-Life Americans throughout the country will gather at the gravesites of aborted babies & other memorial sites dedicated in their honor for the 8th annual National Day of Remembrance of Aborted Children. Solemn vigils will be held at these sites to commemorate the more

than 60 million children who have lost their lives to legal abortion since 1973, and to remind our society of the humanity of the unborn child.

WHEN: Saturday, September 18, 2021 @ 10:00 to 10:30a.m. (Followed by recitation of the Rosary)

WHERE: Knights of Columbus Memorial for the Unborn
St. Mary's Cemetery
29 Barker Street
Lawrence, MA

Knights of Columbus councils throughout the Order pay tribute to the millions of children killed by abortion by erecting memorials in Catholic cemeteries, council hall grounds, and on parish grounds throughout the United States.



Memorial donated by local Knights of Columbus Council

SONGS & READINGS FOR THIS WEEKEND

INTROIT

Ps 86 (85): 3, 5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call on you.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

I Sing The Mighty Power Of God



1. I sing the might - y pow'r of God That made the
2. I sing the good-ness of the Lord That filled the
3. There's not a plant or flow'r be - low, But makes thy



1. moun-tains rise, That spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, And
2. earth with food; He formed the crea-tures with his word, And
3. glo - ries known; And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow By



1. built the loft - y skies. I sing the wis - dom
2. then pro-nounced them good. Lord, how thy won - ders
3. or - der from thy throne; While all that bor - rows



1. that or - dained The sun to rule the day; The moon shines
2. are dis - played Wher - e'er I turn my eye; If I sur -
3. life from thee Is ev - er in thy care, And ev - 'ry -



1. full at his com-mand, And all the stars o - bey.
2. vey the ground I tread, Or gaze up - on the sky!
3. where that I can be, Thou, God, are pres - ent there.

CONFITEOR - KYRIE - GLORIA

Refer to Pew Card

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8

Moses said to the people: “Now, Israel, hear the statutes and decrees which I am teaching you to observe, that you may live, and may enter in and take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. In your observance of the commandments of the LORD, your God, which I enjoin upon you, you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it. Observe them carefully, for thus will you give evidence of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations, who will hear of all these statutes and say, ‘This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people.’ For what great nation is there that has gods so close to it as the LORD, our God, is to us whenever we call upon him? Or what great nation has statutes and decrees that are as just as this whole law which I am setting before you today?”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15: 2-3, 3-4, 4-5



R. The one who does jus-tice will live in the pres-ence of the Lord.

SONGS & READINGS FOR THIS WEEKEND

1. Whoever walks blamelessly and does justice; who thinks the truth in his heart and slanders not with his tongue.

2. Who harms not his fellow man, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor; by whom the reprobate is despised, while he honors those who fear the LORD.

3. Who lends not his money at usury and accepts no bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things shall never be disturbed.

SECOND READING

Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Dearest brothers and sisters: All good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change. He willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls. Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

ALLELUIA

Jas 1:18



☩ The Father willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

When the Pharisees with some scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they observed that some of his disciples ate their meals with unclean, that is, unwashed, hands. For the Pharisees and, in fact, all Jews, do not eat without carefully washing their hands, keeping the tradition of the elders. And on coming from the marketplace they do not eat without purifying themselves. And there are many other things that they have traditionally observed, the purification of cups and jugs and kettles and beds. — So the Pharisees and scribes questioned him, “Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?” He responded, “Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites, as it is written: This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts. You disregard God’s commandment but cling to human tradition.” He summoned the crowd again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile. “From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile.”

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Refer to Pew Card

SANCTUS - MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION - AGNUS DEI

Refer to Pew Card

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 31 (30) 20

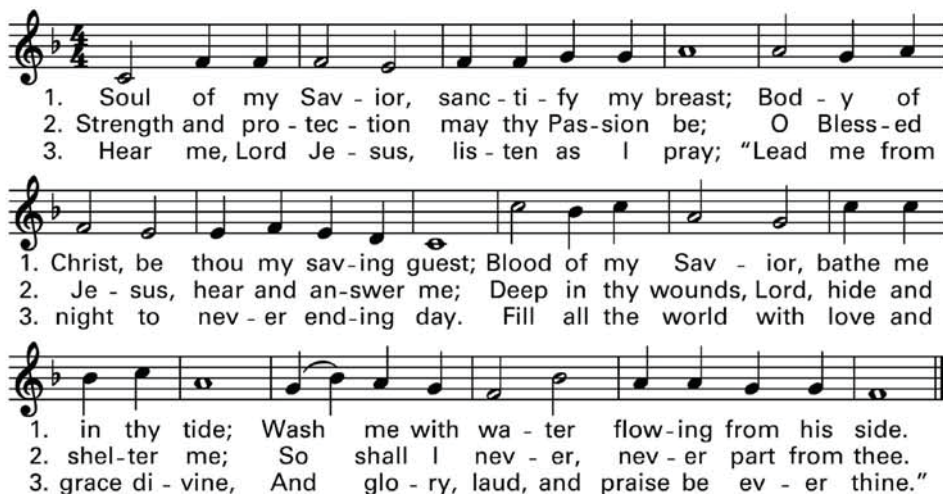
How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.



SONGS & READINGS FOR THIS WEEKEND

COMMUNION HYMN

Soul of My Savior



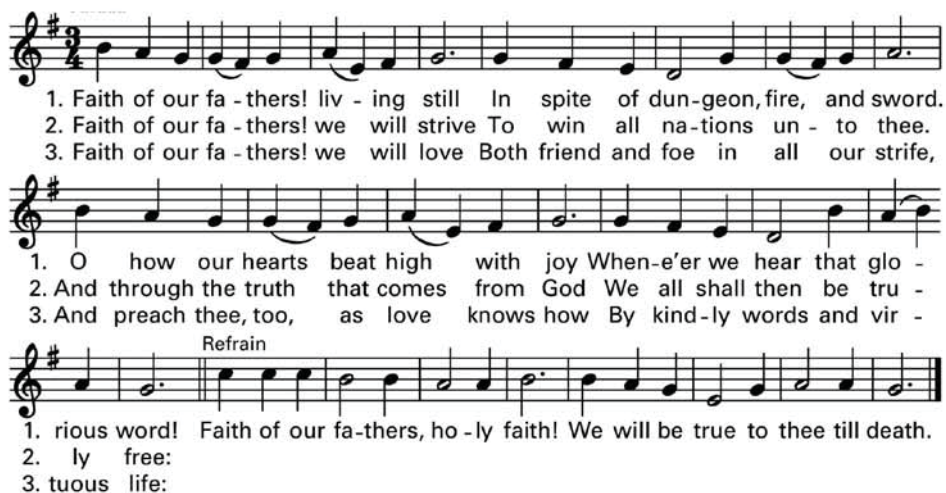
1. Soul of my Sav - ior, sanc - ti - fy my breast; Bod - y of
2. Strength and pro - tec - tion may thy Pas - sion be; O Bless - ed
3. Hear me, Lord Je - sus, lis - ten as I pray; "Lead me from

1. Christ, be thou my sav - ing guest; Blood of my Sav - ior, bathe me
2. Je - sus, hear and an - swer me; Deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and
3. night to nev - er end - ing day. Fill all the world with love and

1. in thy tide; Wash me with wa - ter flow - ing from his side.
2. shel - ter me; So shall I nev - er, nev - er part from thee.
3. grace di - vine, And glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine."

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Faith of Our Fathers



1. Faith of our fa - thers! liv - ing still In spite of dun - geon, fire, and sword.
2. Faith of our fa - thers! we will strive To win all na - tions un - to thee.
3. Faith of our fa - thers! we will love Both friend and foe in all our strife,

1. O how our hearts beat high with joy When - e'er we hear that glo -
2. And through the truth that comes from God We all shall then be tru -
3. And preach thee, too, as love knows how By kind - ly words and vir -

Refrain

1. rious word! Faith of our fa - thers, ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death.
2. ly free:
3. tuous life:



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MASS INTENTIONS

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, August 28

4:00pm Arthur & Emilda Gagne

Sunday, August 29

9:00am *Multiple Intentions*
 Nancy Tardif
 Margaret Nimerowski
 Norma Ouellette
 Jean Marie McAndrew
 Evelina and Jose Freitas

11:00am Peter & Johan Maclsaac
 Johanna Maclsaac
 Sarah Maclsaac

Saturday, September 4th

9:00am First Saturday Mass
 4:00pm Paul R. Dionne, Sr.

Sunday, September 5th

9:00am *Multiple Intentions*
 Charles and Rose Hanafin
 Emily Jones
 Elizabeth Pierce

11:00am Parishioners of St Monica and
 St Lucy Parishes

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, August 28

4:00pm Antonio & Battastina Iannucilli
 Pasquale & Maria Brosco

Sunday, August 29

10:00am *Multiple Intentions*
 Dorothy Boragine
 Lucy Boragine
 Alan M. Roderick
 Allan R. Roderick
 Maria C. Longo
 Doris Dailey

Monday, August 30

9:00am Leo Joseph Berthold

Tuesday, August 31

9:00am Arlene Potenza

Thursday, September 2nd

9:00am Carlos Hayon

Friday, September 3rd

9:00am Christine Ferguson

Saturday, September 4th

4:00pm James M. Mahoney

Sunday, September 5th

Multiple Intentions
 Evelina Mollica
 Louis Polizotti
 Bruce Beverley



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

O Lord Jesus, since I am unable at this time to receive you in

the Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist, I beg you to come spiritually into my heart in the spirit of your holiness, in the truth of your goodness, in the fullness of your power, in the communion of your mysteries and in the perfection of your ways. O Lord, I believe, I trust, I glorify you. I am sorry for all my sins. O Sacrament most Holy, O Sacrament divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine.

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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This week at our parish

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

- **Mass** 9 and 11 am St. Monica Church
- **Mass** 10 am St. Lucy Church
- **AA** 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

MONDAY, AUGUST 30

- **Mass** 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- **Baptism Preparation Class** 6pm St. Lucy Schoolhouse

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

- **Mass** 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- **Rosary Prayer Group** 6 pm Gethsemane Chapel

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- **Al-Anon** 10am St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- **Mass** 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

- **Mass** 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- **AA** 10am St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- **Eucharistic Adoration** 2 - 5 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- **Confessions** 4 - 5 pm Gethsemane Chapel

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- **First Saturday Mass** 9am St. Monica Church
- **Confessions** 3-3:45pm Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church
- **Mass** 4 pm both churches

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- **Mass** 9 and 11 am St. Monica Church
- **Mass** 10 am St. Lucy Church
- **AA** 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for **Tom and Justine C., Nicole C., Phyllis F., Susan F., Elizabeth P., Daniel V., and Daniel R.**

Please pray for **Jeffrey Hyatt, Maryanne McCaffrey, and Betty Pierce** whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our parishes. May they rest in peace.

Please pray for a priest and a seminarian each day as they need our prayers!

Day	Date	Priest	Seminarian
Sunday	08/29/2021	Cardinal Sean ordained (1970)	Deacon Francis Trewin
Monday	08/30/2021	Fr. Albert Sallese	Deacon Nathaniel Sanders
Tuesday	08/31/2021	Fr. Paul Kilroy	Deacon Nicholas Stano
Wednesday	09/01/2021	Fr. Brian Clary	Deacon Maxwell Chukwudiebere
Thursday	09/02/2021	Fr. Gerald Osterman	Joseph Ferme
Friday	09/03/2021	Fr. Gregory Mercurio	Saul Quechol
Saturday	09/04/2021	Fr. Thomas Walsh	Diego Mendoza

Roses for Life for this week

Theresa A. Rickley

Altar Bread for August

St. Monica Parish - Laura and Michael Cote

Bulletin Deadline

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

Parish Offices

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844
 (978) 683-1193 or (978) 686-3311
methuencatholic@gmail.com
 Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm



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St. Vincent de Paul Society: (978) 686 - 9573

STAFF

Fr. Darin Colarusso	Pastor
Fr. Joseph D'Onofrio	Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Pierce	Permanent Deacon
Deacon John Kobrenski	Permanent Deacon
Kera Mansour	Business Manager
Karl Jackson	Director of Mission and Formation
Eric Berthiaume	Music Director
Sharon Waning	Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy
Kevin Fitzgerald	Facilities Manager (St. Lucy)/RCIA Coordinator
Donna Henderson	St. Monica School Principal
Sharon Tully	St. Monica School Administrative Assistant

BAPTISMS 2nd Sunday of the month at 1:00pm at St. Monica's and 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:00pm at St. Lucy's

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

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Pictured: Msgr. Frank Kelley and Lyndia Downey, President, Pine Street Inn



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