

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

JUN 18

2023



11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

As you go, make this proclamation:

The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Matthew 5:14-15

© Pilot Bulletins

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN...

Just as man is made in the image and likeness of God so also the father of a family is called to be the image and likeness of the Heavenly Father for his own wife and children. No small task. For us fathers—according to the flesh and the spirit—St. Joseph, the Husband of Mary and Foster Father of Jesus, embodies the fullness of the father's vocation in its wonders and trials.

We will look at a few titles of St. Joseph from the Litany of St. Joseph to guide our brief meditation. For a fuller meditation on St. Joseph, I highly recommend the *Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father* by Fr. Donald H. Calloway, MIC.

Chaste Guardian of the Virgin

I'm starting with this title of St. Joseph although it is not the first in the litany because it highlights three things: St. Joseph's Chastity, Our Blessed Mother's Perpetual Virginity, and St. Joseph's attitude toward his wife. If Mary is a perpetual virgin, then so is St. Joseph! In a world that is hyper-sexualized and pornographic, where purity is viewed with disdain, the virginal marriage of Joseph and Mary offer a path for genuine and mutually enriching human relationships, especially between Christian men and women, especially married men and women. That path is *chastity*.

Joseph and Mary lived chastity through perpetual virginity. While virginity is obviously not the normal course for married people, all human beings *ought to live chastity*. How so? Priests and religious men and women live chastity through virginity like Mary and Joseph. Married men and women live chastity through *fidelity to their spouse*, that is, they abstain from sexual relations with all other men and women. Single people are called to live chastity through *abstinence*, which is obviously an excellent preparation for the fidelity required in a healthy marriage. For men (and boys), developing self-control in sexual matters is crucial. Nothing appears in action unless it first appeared in imagination. Learn to control the imagination and a person has a better chance of controlling their actions. With regard to purity, this is accomplished by avoiding impure images. A steady diet of pornography corrupts the imagination, the desires, and eventually relationships. On the other hand, once men and boys learn to safeguard their own purity, then they can safeguard the chastity of their wives and daughters, to love them for their good alone, with the dignity they deserve as daughters of their Father in Heaven!

Zealous Defender of Christ, Guardian of Virgins, Terror of Demons, Protector of the Church

The titles of defender, guardian, protector, and terror highlight the father in his strength. Although it's not politically correct, it is the case that on the whole men are physically stronger than women just as adults are usually physically stronger than children or the elderly. Now, strength is just strength, it can be used for good or for evil, it can be used to dominate others or it can be used to safeguard others. The father is called to do the latter, to live *for others*, particularly his wife and his children. He is called to protect, defend, and spread the truth about Christ and the human person in his home and community. He is called to defend what is pure and good, and oppose whatever is wicked or harmful to the real flourishing of his wife and children.

For this to happen, a father must become spiritually strong, that is, strong in Jesus Christ! He must become confident in the truth and this only happens through prayer and study that increases his own knowledge and faith. He must be the spiritual leader for his family and assist in the parish. He must seek holiness through obedience to the ten commandments, practice of the virtues, self-denial, reception of the sacraments, and hard work. He must seek excellence rather than what is easy.

Comfort of the Afflicted

Finally, a father is a comfort in trials. No father wants to see his wife or children suffer. At the same time, what father doesn't know trials are unavoidable, even necessary.

we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. (Romans 5:3-5)

He must permit sufferings and setbacks or the consequences of a poor decision so that they can learn and mature just as he has done. And so the father is steadfast even in the storms of life. He is a rock on whom the family can rely because his house is built on Christ (Mt 7:24).

Joseph certainly didn't know the end of the story when he married the Blessed Mother. As it happened in real time, I'm sure he felt doubts about his decisions and the financial difficulties under which his family lived. I'm sure he felt unfit for serving as the foster-father of God's Son. At the same time, his entire life and vocation was made secure by the presence of Jesus in his home. It is not hyperbole to say that Joseph's entire fatherhood was spent in the presence of God. It is this above all that makes Joseph the model of fatherhood. And it is this, above all, which will guarantee that we fathers serve as the presence of the Father in our own homes and communities. As our Lord said to Philip at the Last Supper: "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." (John 14:9).

Fun at the
Spring Picnic
 Sunday, June 11th

The weather could not have been more perfect for our annual Spring Picnic! Thank you to everyone who participated and helped to make the day a great success. An enjoyable afternoon was had by all!



On June 11th, the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality concluded this year's work with a Recommitment Ceremony during the 10:30 Mass. Charitable donations were awarded to the following non-profit agencies: **Ruth's House**, which runs a charitable thrift store in Haverhill serving women & children in need of clothing and household items; **Common Ground Ministries**, which serves homeless and clients with food insecurity in Haverhill through many of their community outreach programs; and **Pregnancy Center**, in Lawrence, Lowell & Haverhill, which assists women throughout their pregnancy and provides ongoing support for one year following the births to ensure medical, nutritional and mental health needs are met. The Sodality is proud to have awarded \$500 to each agency during our final meeting. Accepting these donations were Francie Aimone (Pregnancy Center), Ron Mills (Common Ground Ministries) & Amy Smith Boden (Ruth's House).



The Sodality congratulates Danielle Gonsalves, 8th grade student at St. Monica School and recipient of the Sodality's \$500 scholarship. Best wishes for continued success Danielle!



Class of 2023 Graduation

Congratulations to our St. Monica School
8th Grade Graduates!



Of the 19 graduates in this year's class, 14 will be continuing on to Catholic high schools: 12 at Central Catholic, 1 at Lowell Catholic, and 1 at St. John's Prep. Best of luck to you all!



Congratulations also go out to our graduating class of Pre-K 4 students (above) who will be entering Kindergarten, and to our Pre-K 3 students (below) who will be moving up to Pre-K 4. Have a great summer and we will see you in September!



FAREWELL TO FR. JOE

Join us at Hospitality Hour after mass on the following dates:

This Sunday, June 18
11:30am-12:30pm
St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

Next Sunday, June 25
1-2pm
St. Monica School Hall



Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father. Bless all fathers as they care for their families.

Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience; support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to You for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our rock and defender, in union with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.
St. Joseph, Pray for all our Fathers, Amen

Artist's mark

OFFERTORY JUNE 3 & 4

St. Monica - \$7,634.⁰⁰

St. Lucy - \$5,137.⁰⁰

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 cereal, canned spaghetti, canned corn, canned fruit, canned baked beans, pasta, soups and instant rice. 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
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**CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
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BAPTISMS 2nd Sunday of the month, 2:00pm at St. Monica's | 3rd Sunday of the month, 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.

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

3 - 3:45 pm both parishes | Sat
4 - 5pm Gethsemane Chapel | Fri
6 - 7pm St. Lucy Church | Wed

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

2 - 5 pm Friday Gethsemane Chapel
6 - 7 pm Wednesday St. Lucy Church

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: M - F 9am - 2pm



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Fr. Joseph D'Onofrio	Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Pierce	Permanent Deacon
Deacon John Kobrenski	Permanent Deacon
Kera Mansour	Business Manager
methuencatholic@gmail.com	
Karl Jackson	Director of Parish Life
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com	
Brink Bush	Music Director
Sharon Waning	Music Ministry (St. Lucy)
Kevin Fitzgerald	Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA
Christine Ryan	Administrative Assistant
parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com	



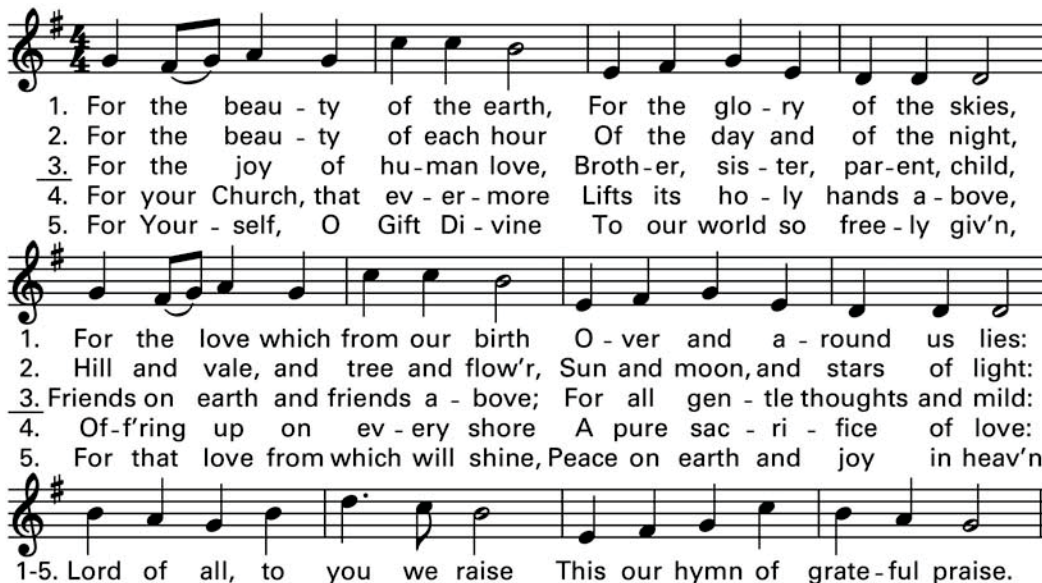
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SCHOOL STAFF

Donna Henderson	Principal
Sharon Tully	Administrative Assistant
smsoffice@methuencatholic.org	

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*Ps 27 (26): 7, 9*

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help.
Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Savior!

ENTRANCE HYMN*For the Beauty of the Earth*


1. For the beau - ty of the earth, For the glo - ry of the skies,
2. For the beau - ty of each hour Of the day and of the night,
3. For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
4. For your Church, that ev - er - more Lifts its ho - ly hands a - bove,
5. For Your - self, O Gift Di - vine To our world so free - ly giv'n,

1. For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies:
2. Hill and vale, and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon, and stars of light:
3. Friends on earth and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
4. Of - f'ring up on ev - ery shore A pure sac - ri - fice of love:
5. For that love from which will shine, Peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

1-5. Lord of all, to you we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.

PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA*Refer to Pew Card*FIRST READING*Ex 19: 2-6a*

In those days, the Israelites came to the desert of Sinai and pitched camp. While Israel was encamped here in front of the mountain, Moses went up the mountain to God. Then the LORD called to him and said, "Thus shall you say to the house of Jacob; tell the Israelites: You have seen for yourselves how I treated the Egyptians and how I bore you up on eagle wings and brought you here to myself. Therefore, if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people, though all the earth is mine. You shall be to me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Ps 100 (99): 1b-2, 3, 5*


℣. We are his peo - ple: the sheep of his flock.

Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful song.

Know that the LORD is God; he made us, his we are;
his people, the flock he tends.

The LORD is good:
his kindness endures forever, and his faithfulness, to all generations.

SECOND READING*Rom 5: 6-11*

Brothers and sisters: Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Mk 1: 15*

☩. The kingdom of God is *at hand*. *
Repent and believe *in the Gospel*.

GOSPEL*Mt 9: 36-10: 8*

At the sight of the crowds, Jesus' heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest."

Then he summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness. The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew, Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James, the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddeus; Simon from Cana, and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him.

Jesus sent out these twelve after instructing them thus, "Do not go into pagan territory or enter a Samaritan town. Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give."

CREED*Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Ps 27 (26): 4*

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

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*Shepherd of Souls*

1. Shep-herd of souls, re-fresh and bless Your cho-sen pil-grim flock
2. We would not live by bread a-lone, But by your word of grace,
3. Be known to us in break-ing bread, But do not then de-part;
4. Lord, sup with us in love di-vine; Your bod-y and your blood,



1. With man-na in the wil-der-ness, With wa-ter from the rock.
2. In strength of which we trav-el on To our a-bid-ing place.
3. Sav-ior, a-bide with us, and spread Your ta-ble in our heart.
4. That liv-ing bread, that heav'n-ly wine, Be our im-mor-tal food.

RECESSIONAL HYMN*Let All Things Now Living*

1. Let all things now liv-ing A song of thanks-giv-ing To
Who fash-ioned and made us, Pro-tect-ed and stayed us, By
2. His law he en-forc-es, The stars in their cours-es, The
The hills and the moun-tains, The riv-ers and foun-tains, The



1. God our Cre-a-tor tri-um-phantly raise;
guid-ing us on to the end of our days. God's ban-ners are
2. sun in its or-bit o-be-dient-ly shine,
depths of the o-cean pro-claim God di-vine. We, too, should be



1. o'er us, Pure light goes be-fore us, A pil-lar of fire shin-ing
2. voic-ing Our love and re-joic-ing With glad ad-o-ra-tion, a



1. forth in the night: Till shad-ows have van-ish-ed And dark-ness is
2. song let us raise: Till all things now liv-ing U-nite in thanks-



1. ban-ish-ed, As for-ward we trav-el from light in-to Light.
2. giv-ing, To God in the high-est, ho-san-na and praise.

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, June 17

9:00am Joseph Lavigne
Yvette Moran
Mike Milnes

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

Sunday, June 18

9:00am Joseph Indoccio
Albert Zampelli
Kevin Waterworth
Marianna Zielinski
Diane Margosian

12:00pm Walter Witkos

Saturday, June 24

9:00am Arthur Mahoney

4:00pm Julie Morley

Sunday, June 25

9:00am For the Parishioners of
St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes

12:00pm Giuseppe Novello
Giuseppina Cannata
Giovanni Novello

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, June 17

4:00pm Helen Piskaldo

Sunday, June 18

10:30am Dennis Miele
Isidore Trovato
Jim Gablosky

Monday, June 19

9:00am Arthur Royer
Anthony Makovitch
Andre Serpa

Tuesday, June 20

9:00am Manny Gianni
Christine Gianni Eldridge

Thursday, June 22

9:00am Catherine Petralia

Friday, June 23

9:00am William Collins

Saturday, June 24

4:00pm Joseph Boyden

Sunday, June 25

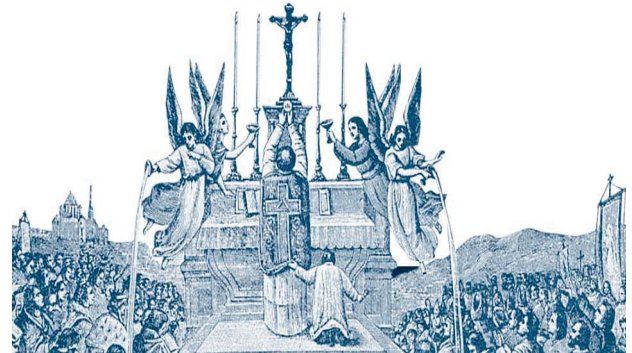
10:30am Susan McGee
Mary Rotonelli
Francesca Bevilacqua
Rene Lacoste
Salvatore R. Boragine, Jr.

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DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	06/18/23	Fr. Thomas F. Powers	Rafael Stefano Rubio
Mon	06/19/23	Fr. Phillip Earley	Deacon Jose Ignacio Montero Burgos
Tues	06/20/23	Archbishop Russell (ordained 1987)	Matteus Martin
Wed	06/21/23	Fr. David Mullen	Rafael Milla
Thurs	06/22/23	Fr. John Swencki	Javier Padilla
Fri	06/23/23	Fr. Paul Clifford	Dong Pham
Sat	06/24/23	Fr. Richard Clancy	Jonathan Saniuk



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Cheryl G., Ellen W., P.K., Patrice K., & Matt W.

Please pray for Sandra Pauta & Robert Lannan whose funerals we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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“Be a Servant” *Matthew 20:26*

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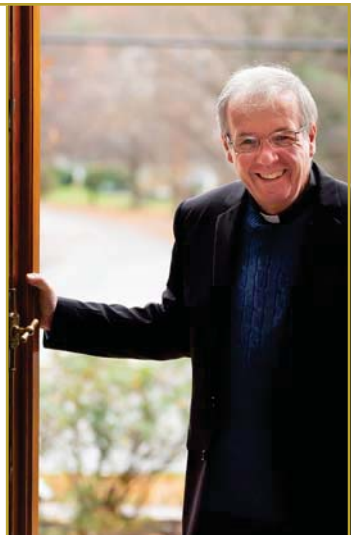
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Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

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Artist's rendering

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