

# METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

SEPT 01  
2024



## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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.

James 1:27

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

**Happy Labor Day**

Dear Parishioners,

With Labor Day, many of us are preparing to resume some activities that we interrupted during the summer: classes, work activities, catechism, etc. How good it is to be able to take a break during this summertime, and on this long weekend in particular! Let us give thanks to God for making us participants in creation through our work, since God places the rest of creation in our hands to cultivate and care for it (Gen 1:26).

“The conditions surrounding work have made some consider it a punishment, or, through the malice of the human heart when it moves away from God, it has become a mere commodity or instrument of oppression... Other times, work is considered an exclusive means of earning money, which is presented as the sole goal, or as a manifestation of vanity, of self-affirmation, of selfishness... forgetting that work itself is a divine work, because it is collaboration with God and an offering to Him, where human and supernatural virtues are exercised” (Francisco Fernández Carvajal, *Talking to God*, VI). In the person of Jesus, we observe that work is a blessing and a means of salvation. Christ was known as the carpenter's son, and it was certainly because both Saint Joseph and he himself worked with great professionalism; Christ spent most of his life working in silence and anonymity. He taught us that the worker deserves his wages and that he used the image of work on several occasions to speak to us about the kingdom of heaven. Work, “all work is a testimony to the dignity of man, of his dominion over creation. It is an opportunity for the development of one's own personality. It is a bond of union with other beings, a source of resources to support one's family; a means of contributing to the improvement of the society in which one lives, and to the progress of humanity” (Saint José María Escrivá, *Christ is Passing By*, 47).

This weekend when we celebrate Labor Day, let us ask God to bless us with decent jobs for all. On the other hand, as we celebrate Labor Day, let us also remember that we are workers in the Lord's vineyard, let us remember that God has created us to work tirelessly for our own salvation and that of those around us, that the gifts and talents we have received are for the service of others and the construction of the kingdom of God, that it is of no use to accumulate riches in this world if we lose our soul and that if we seek the kingdom of God first, God will give us the other things we need in addition.

Happy Labor Day to all, I wish you all a very good time and I ask God to bless you with all kinds of good things.

Yours in Christ,  
Father Marcos

**THANK YOU!!**

I would like to thank the staff and parishioners of both St. Lucy & St. Monica parishes for the wonderful send off. The hospitality committee along with your generosity and presence made me feel so appreciated for my 3 months of service in Methuen. I thank everyone for their words of appreciation, cards, and gifts. I promise you my prayers as we all remain open to where our journey takes us.

May God continue to bless you and those you love with peace, happiness, & good health.

Enjoy life!  
Sincerely,  
*Fr. Ron Coyne*



**ANNUAL CORI FORMS**

Our CORI Coordinator, Elena Powell, will be available at the main entrance of our churches to help all of our volunteers complete their annual CORI forms. This form needs to be completed each year. Elena will be at St. Lucy's next weekend, September 7/8 and at St. Monica's the following weekend, September 14/15.

If you are a liturgical volunteer (lector, sacristan, eucharistic minister), a catechist (CCD teacher), a member of the Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul, or the Sodality or anyone who makes visits to the sick or works with youth in any capacity in our parishes, stop by her table to complete the CORI form for 2024-2025. All you need is your social security number and a valid photo ID.

Thanks for your cooperation!

**WEDNESDAY MORNING MASS  
AT ST. LUCY CHURCH  
IS RETURNING**

**We are happy to announce  
that beginning September  
18th, Wednesday morning  
Mass at 9am will be added  
back in to the weekday Mass  
schedule.**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION  
&  
CONFESSIONS**

**Beginning September 7th,  
Saturday Adoration at St.  
Monica's Gethsemane Chapel will  
resume it's regular schedule of  
9:30am-2:30pm.**

**Beginning September 4th,  
Wednesday Adoration at St.  
Lucy's Church will resume from  
6-7pm.  
Confessions will resume  
September 18th.**



Start off the school year with a prayer!  
Our parish is praying for all of our students,  
families and teachers.

**PRAYER TO BEGIN A SCHOOL  
YEAR**

Blessed are you, Lord God,  
Creator of body and mind and heart;  
you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge  
to guide your people in all their ways.  
At the beginning of this new school year  
we implore your mercy:  
bless our students, teachers, and staff,  
that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love  
as we learn from you and each other  
how to follow your Son Jesus.  
Expand the horizons of our minds,  
that we may grow in wisdom,  
understanding, and knowledge;  
deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways;  
and enliven our faith to reach out to those in need.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord God,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever.

R/. Amen

Prayer taken from the Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers,  
Revised Edition (Washington, DC: USCCB, 2007), USCCB 300.

**NOVENA TO  
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

Patroness of the Americas  
Star of the First and the New Evangelizations  
Patroness of the Unborn

**Nine Tuesdays from  
September 10 - November 5  
Saint Monica Church  
7pm**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
Praying the Rosary  
The Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Reading and Meditation/Reflection  
The Novena Prayers  
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

*“Let not your heart be disturbed. Am I not here? Are you not under my protection? So not grieve or be disturbed by anything.”*

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

We will begin our monthly meetings on Friday, September 13th. After that, meetings will be the 2nd Thursday of the month. All meetings will take place at St. Lucy’s after the 9am Mass. 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](mailto:twigs5mcs@gmail.com) to obtain a copy of the book.



The Knights of Columbus will be leading a Monthly Rosary for St. Monica School Parents in the Chapel on the second Wednesday of each month, beginning September 11th through June. All parents of students are welcome to attend. Just stop in before picking up your children from school. The Rosary will begin at 1:15pm. Rosaries and prayer cards will be provided. Come by and pray for your own personal intentions!

**WELCOME BACK  
HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS**

Please join us for refreshments

**Sunday, September 15th**

St. Monica School Hall  
After the 9am mass  
and

St. Lucy Lower Church Hall  
After the 10:30am mass

Everyone is welcome!

**St. Lucy’s Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality** will hold their recommitment ceremony (during Mass) & first meeting in the Parish Hall next Sunday, September 8th after the 10:30am Mass. This organization welcomes new members at each of our meetings, held on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 11:30am. Anyone is welcome to drop in to see what we are planning to accomplish this year!

**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](mailto:bonnieocds@gmail.com)

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
Wednesdays 6-7pm St. Lucy Church

Thursday evenings 6-6:30pm (ZOOM)  
Rosary for world peace & individual intentions.  
Contact Bonnie Doherty at [bonnieocds@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieocds@gmail.com)

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
Saturdays 9am-12pm Gethsemane Chapel

**SAVE THE DATE**

.....  
**ST. LUCY PARISH  
FALL CRAFT FAIR**  
254 MERRIMACK STREET,  
METHUEN MA

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26,  
2024 | 9:00-3:00**



In Remembrance of our Unborn Brothers and Sisters

## National Day of Remembrance of Aborted Children

Merrimack Valley Memorial Service for Aborted Children

**Saturday, September 14, 2024 | 10:00 to 10:30 a.m.**

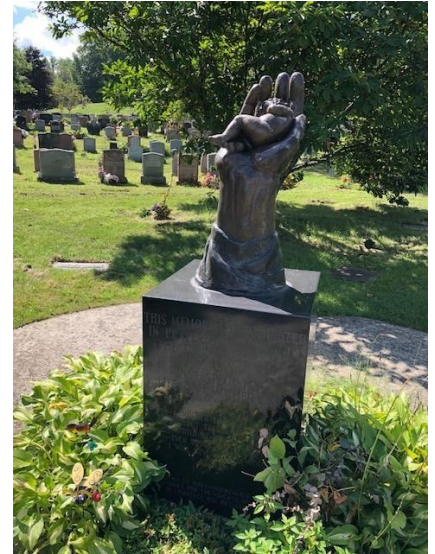
**(Followed by recitation of the Rosary)**

**Knights of Columbus Memorial for the Unborn**

St. Mary's Cemetery

29 Barker Street

Lawrence, MA



On September 14, Pro-Life Americans throughout the country will gather at the gravesites of aborted babies & other memorial sites dedicated in their honor for the annual National Day of Remembrance of Aborted Children. Solemn prayer 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. Event will be held rain or shine.



*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.*

METHUEN CATHOLIC  
THE PARISHES OF ST. LUCY & ST. MONICA

## FAITH FORMATION SACRAMENT PREPARATION



**REGISTRATION  
IS NOW OPEN**

Visit [methuencatholic.org](http://methuencatholic.org) to register  
Classes for Kindergarten through High School meet Sunday mornings  
Interested in volunteering or want more information, contact Karl  
978-683-1193 | [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com)

**AUGUST 17 & 18**

St. Monica - \$8,259.00

St. Lucy - \$4,391.00

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 Canned Spaghetti, Canned Tuna, Canned Beans, Canned Fruit, and Soups. 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.

<p><b>GETHSEMANE CHAPEL AT ST. MONICA CHURCH</b> Open 7 days per week from morning rush hour until 7pm</p>	<p><b>CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE</b> Open 7 days per week from 9am-5pm</p>
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**BAPTISMS** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, 2:00pm at St. Monica's | 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

<p><b>MASS SCHEDULE</b></p> <p>SAT 4 pm (VIGIL) both parishes SUN 9 am &amp; 12 pm St. Monica 10:30 am St. Lucy MON/TUES/THURS/FRI 9 am St. Lucy SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica</p>	<p><b>CONFESSIONS</b></p> <p>SAT 3-3:45pm at both parishes</p>
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**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. Ron Coyne	Administrator
Fr. Michael Harvey	Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Kobrenski	Permanent Deacon
Deacon John Pierce	Senior Deacon
Kera Mansour	Business Manager
<b>methuencatholic@gmail.com</b>	
Karl Jackson	Director of Parish Life
<b>faithformation.stlm@gmail.com</b>	
Brink Bush	Music Director
Christine Ryan	Administrative Assistant
<b>parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com</b>	



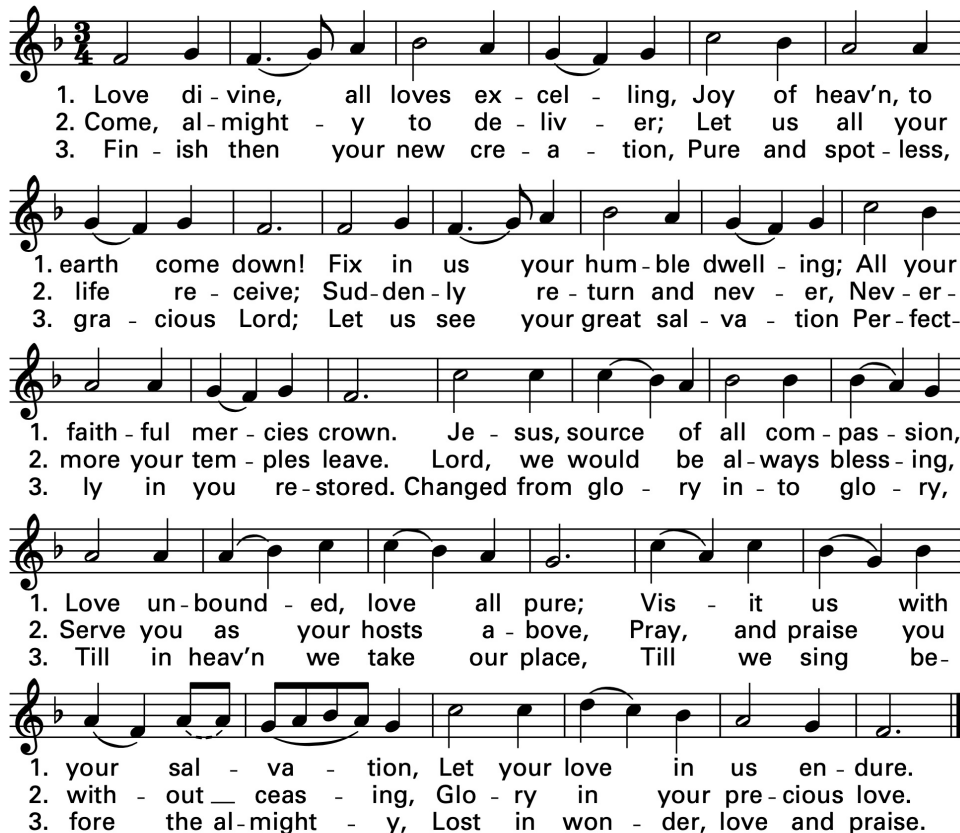
**ST. MONICA SCHOOL**  
212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA 01844  
(978) 686 -1801  
www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org

**SCHOOL STAFF**

Donna Henderson	Principal
Ann Marie Collins	Administrative Assistant
<b>smsoffice@methuencatholic.org</b>	

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*Psalm 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 to you.

ENTRANCE HYMN*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*


1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
2. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er; Let us all your  
3. Fin - ish then your new cre - a - tion, Pure and spot - less,

1. earth come down! Fix in us your hum - ble dwell - ing; All your  
2. life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er, Nev - er -  
3. gra - cious Lord; Let us see your great sal - va - tion Per - fect -

1. faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, source of all com - pas - sion,  
2. more your tem - ples leave. Lord, we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
3. ly in you re - stored. Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

1. Love un - bound - ed, love all pure; Vis - it us with  
2. Serve you as your hosts a - bove, Pray, and praise you  
3. Till in heav'n we take our place, Till we sing be -

1. your sal - va - tion, Let your love in us en - dure.  
2. with - out - ceas - ing, Glo - ry in your pre - cious love.  
3. fore the al - might - y, Lost in won - der, love and praise.

PENITENTIAL ACT - 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.

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

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.

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

**SECOND READING***James 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.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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.

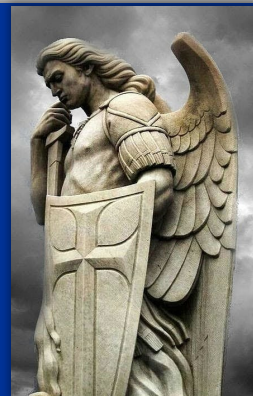
"From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile."

**CREED***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Matthew 5: 9-10*


Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

**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*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*



1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the  
 2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the  
 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, The pain and  
 4. Were ev - 'ry realm of na - ture mine, My gift would




1. Prince of glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I  
 2. death of Christ, my Lord; The vain things that now  
 3. love flow min - gled down; Did e'er such love and  
 4. still be far too small: Love so a - maz - ing,



1. count but loss, And pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 2. tempt me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 3. sor - row meet, Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 4. so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all.

RECESSIONAL HYMN*At the Name of Jesus*


1. At the Name of Je - sus Ev - 'ry knee shall bow,  
 2. Hum - bled for a sea - son, To re - ceive a Name  
 3. Bore it up tri - um - phant, With its hu - man light,  
 4. In your hearts en - throne him; There let him sub - due  
 5. Je - sus, Lord and Sav - ior, Shall re - turn a - gain,



1. Ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;  
 2. From the lips of sin - ners, Un - to whom he came,  
 3. Through all ranks of crea - tures, To the cen - tral height,  
 4. All that is not ho - ly, All that is not true:  
 5. With his Fa - ther's glo - ry O'er the earth to reign;



1. 'Tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure We should call him Lord,  
 2. Faith - ful - ly he bore it Spot - less to the last,  
 3. To the throne of God - head, To the Fa - ther's breast;  
 4. Crown him as your Cap - tain In temp - ta - tion's hour;  
 5. For all wreaths of em - pire Meet up - on his brow,



1. Who from the be - gin - ning Was the might - y Word.  
 2. Brought it back vic - to - rious, When through death he passed.  
 3. Filled it with the glo - ry Of that per - fect rest.  
 4. Let his will en - fold you In its light and power.  
 5. And our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

ST. MONICA PARISH

**Saturday, August 31**

9:00am Angela Fazio  
4:00pm For the Parishioners of St. Monica & St. Lucy

**Sunday, September 1**

9:00am Jean Guy Dulac  
Otilia Gonzalez  
Luis Dubois  
  
12:00pm Humberto & Elvia Noguera  
Graciela Noguera  
Anarosa Osorio  
Peter & Joza Zelic and the Deceased Members of their family

**Saturday, September 7**

9:00am FIRST SATURDAY MASS  
4:00pm Joseph Moreau  
Marion and Harry Cunha  
Deceased Members of the Bonanno & Coughlin Families  
Madeline Leazes  
Leo & Margaret Beaudoin

**Sunday, September 8**

9:00am For the Parishioners of St. Lucy & St. Monica  
  
12:00pm Mary & Richard Viano

ST. LUCY PARISH

**Saturday, August 31**

4:00pm Maureen Milne  
Rosalie Crowley (Milne)

**Sunday, September 1**

10:30am Joseph & Lillian Rapazzo  
Dominick Delgavio

**Monday, September 2**

9:00am Carlos Hayon

**Tuesday, September 3**

9:00am Jill M. Stevens

**Thursday, September 5**

9:00am Diane Stackhouse

**Friday, September 6**

9:00am Rose Jacobs and Deceased Members of her Family

**Saturday, September 7**

4:00pm Charles Rimas

**Sunday, September 8**

10:30am Dominick (Rex) Campone  
Deceased Members of the BVM Sodality  
Concetta & Francesco Bellia  
Berthier Dube

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Methuen Co-operative Bank  
243 Broadway - Methuen | 978-682-5271  
www.methuencoop.com

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	09/01/24	Msgr. Francis Kelley	Deacon Edward Rodriguez
Mon	09/02/24	Fr. Joseph Raeke	Labor Day
Tues	09/03/24	Fr. Thomas Kelly	Daniel Waldron
Wed	09/04/24	Fr. Edward Malone	Ulises Diaz
Thurs	09/05/24	Fr. David Campo	Deacon Mateus Martin
Fri	09/06/24	Fr. Michael Harrington	Gustavo Neitzke
Sat	09/07/24	Fr. Timothy Kearney	Javier Padilla



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Barbara S., Leo M., Janet C., Taylor, Dirk D., Claire M., & Patrice K.

Please pray for Beverly Gagnon, Mary Anzaldi & Richard Olefirowicz whose funerals we recently offered. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.