

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

OCT 27
2024



THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Go your way; your faith has saved you."

Mark 10:52

When examining the readings for today's Mass, I found myself focusing on the Responsorial Psalm. What was the relevance of this psalm to today's readings? It obviously was an extension of the message in the first reading. Frequently in the Mass, the responsorial psalm reinforces the message of the first reading and gives it emphasis.

But what about the psalms in general? What are they about? And what are they for?

The psalms were written by various authors. There are 150 psalms in the Book of psalms and almost half are said to have been written by King David – 73 of the 150. Some of the psalms were written as far back as 1400 BC and attributed to Moses. They were all written before 165 BC.

The psalms are written in various styles and encompass a variety of emotions. Thanksgiving, entreaty and supplication, praise, penance and sorrow are only a small example of the emotions and types of prayer encountered in the psalms.

But why do we pray the Book of Psalms? It is the most widely read and prayed book in the Bible, but it is that for a few reasons.

They are the same words that Jesus used to pray to the Father. He learned the psalms as a child and used them throughout his life. He experienced all of the emotions expressed in the psalms and prayed using the words that the psalms used. His last words on the Cross – “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” – are the beginning verse of Psalm 22.

The psalms also teach us how to pray. Just as Jesus learned them and learned to use them to express his emotions to the Father, so can we do that. We can share in the human experience of others even if we are not feeling that emotion at that time. If we know of someone who is suffering sorrow or is entreating the Lord for something, we can join right into their prayer using the words of the psalms. The psalms are also prophetic. They describe scenes and emotions, words and prayers which can be seen as the actual words of Christ, describing what he is going through.

I like to pray the psalms as the actual words of Christ speaking directly to me or to the Father. Take Psalm 1, for instance. The first line – “Blessed indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked” – I take as being spoken directly to me. With the rest of the psalm I do the same and take it as instruction for myself. In some psalms, Christ is directly speaking about what he is going through during his ministry and during his passion and even at his death. He talks of people criticizing him, arguing with him, hypocrisy, etc. He is, at times, directly entreating the Father for help or guidance. The psalms can be very enlightening and comforting as we hear Christ speaking directly to us or to his Father. The reality of his presence in our lives and our circumstances becomes more and more clear.

In some psalms Christ is praying as the Church (i.e., as us) because he is the head of the body, the Church, and prays as its head. He is praying as the “whole Church.” In the psalms, we pray with Christ and to Christ and we pray for the body of Christ which is the Church, sometimes all at the same time.

So, I ask you to pray the psalms. Just take one psalm per day and put aside 10 minutes or so. Put yourself in the position of Christ speaking directly to you in the words of the psalm and then read it slowly. Christ is speaking to you. Take what he says personally. You'll get to know him and yourself better.

You don't have to go in order. You can start with any psalm and go in any order you want. Find some that you like best and go back to them over and over again. There will always be something new. My favorite is Psalm 139. I pray it frequently and have learned much about myself and the mercy of God through this prayer.

**2025 MASS BOOK OPENS ON
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1st**

*Do you love St. Francis?
Are you looking for a community
of faith to help you grow spiritually?*



The Secular Franciscan Order (previously the Third Order of St. Francis) may be your answer!

We are married, single, lay and secular, living a life approved by the Catholic Church in the spirit of St. Francis and Clare of Assisi.

For more information: contact: Francine Gikow, OFS 978-886-9511 or

ffgofs@gmail.com

Peace and all good!

MASS FOR VICTIMS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE

A special Mass will be held on the Feast Day of St. Jude, the Patron Saint of Hope and Impossible causes, this Monday evening, October 28th, 6 PM, at St. Monica Parish. The Mass will be for Parishioners, their families, friends, neighbors, acquaintances, and anybody in the community, living or deceased, who may be suffering or have suffered from substance abuse. A petition box will be located in back of the church and at the Special Mass. You may enter the FIRST NAME ONLY, of anybody you know of, that is suffering or have suffered from any form of substance abuse. The petition box will be included as part of the Special Mass on October 28th.

HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS

Please join us for refreshments

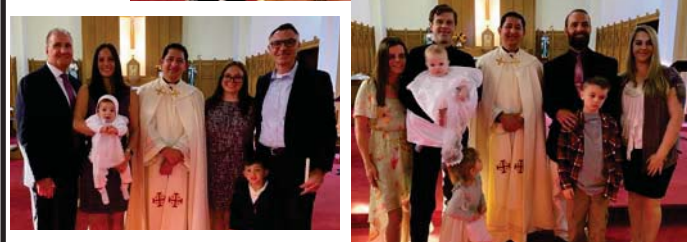
Sunday, November 3rd

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

Everyone is welcome!

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY!

“So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God, through faith, for all you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ” (Galatians 3:26-27)



All are welcome!

**Tuesday, October 29th
St. Lucy Church Hall
7-8:30pm**



Ultreya Invite!

A Catholic gathering with prayer, music and sharing about our faith journey walking with Jesus.

There will be a featured speaker and small group confidential sharing & light refreshments.

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

**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**

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



As we prepare for our Thanksgiving offering to local families in need, we are asking for whatever support you can offer to help our Society provide a meal so that families can enjoy the blessings of the Thanksgiving holiday. We will be providing a Market Basket gift card to purchase a turkey. Please consider bringing Thanksgiving dinner items to either church & leaving them in the baskets for food donations. The items we could use are, stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, canned vegetables, quick bread or cake mixes. Once again we thank you for your continued support and generosity to “Help us Help People.”



MARRIAGE BANNS

**First, Second, Third and
 Final Banns of Marriage**

*Joseph Ruth
 & Lauren Demars*

**GENTLY USED SECOND HAND
 ITEMS**

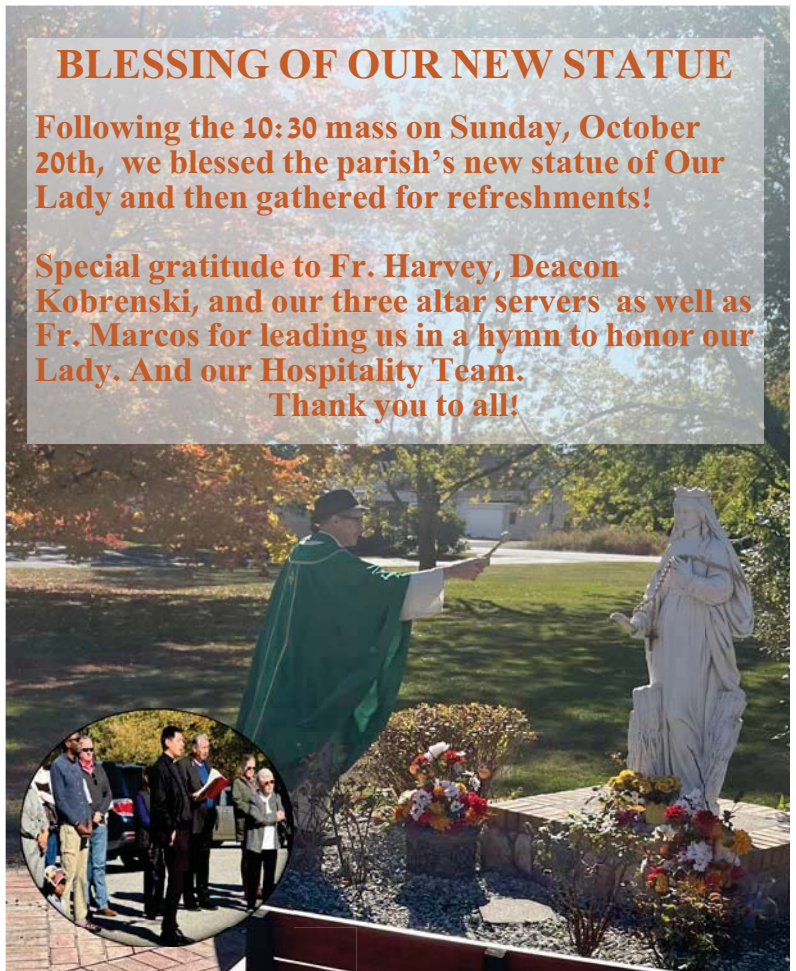
A parishioner has volunteered to collect gently used second hand items and sell them at his flea market with all proceeds going to our parishes. This gentleman has a history of success in this area and has done this type of ongoing fundraiser for other organizations and churches in the past. If you are 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!

BLESSING OF OUR NEW STATUE

Following the 10:30 mass on Sunday, October 20th, we blessed the parish’s new statue of Our Lady and then gathered for refreshments!

**Special gratitude to Fr. Harvey, Deacon Kobrenski, and our three altar servers as well as Fr. Marcos for leading us in a hymn to honor our Lady. And our Hospitality Team.
 Thank you to all!**

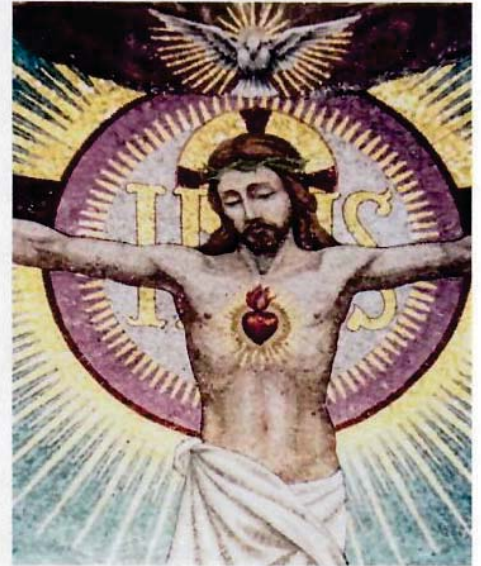


FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST
IS
ALL SAINTS DAY
A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Please join us for Mass
9:00am Mass (SL)
1:00pm Mass (SM)
(School Mass - Parishioners Welcome)
6:00pm Mass (SM)



**FORMING A
EUCCHARISTIC HEART:
50 YEARS OF HOPE AND HEALING**



**INSTITUTE ON RELIGIOUS LIFE
NORTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING**

Saturday, November 9, 2024
Holy Rosary Shrine
Lawrence, Massachusetts

Religious, Priests, Consecrated Persons,
Laity, and Students Invited

8:00am-4:00pm

“...TO SERVE THE POOR
IS TO GO TO GOD...”

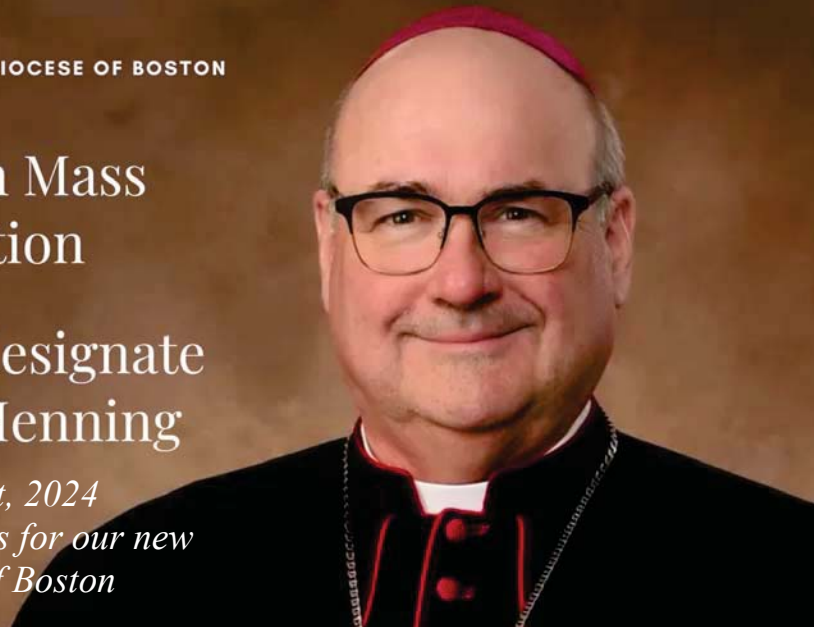
St. Vincent de Paul



ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON

Installation Mass
& Reception
for
Archbishop-designate
Richard G. Henning

*October 31st, 2024
Please pray with us for our new
Archbishop of Boston*



OCTOBER 12 & 13

St. Monica - \$7,424

St. Lucy - \$5,269

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.



THANKSGIVING DINNER ITEMS. We could use Thanksgiving items such as stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, canned vegetables, quick bread or cake mixes. Once again we thank you for your continued support and generosity!

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
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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	
Brink Bush	Music Director
Christine Ryan	Administrative Assistant
parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com	



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www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org

SCHOOL STAFF

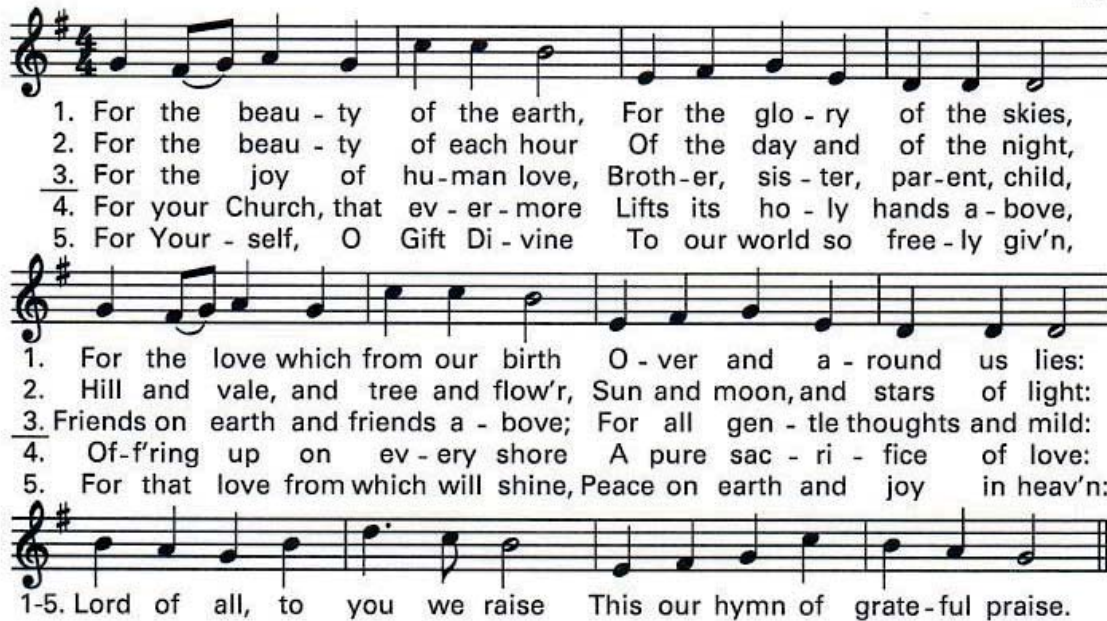
Donna Henderson	Principal
Ann Marie Collins	Administrative Assistant
smsoffice@methuencatholic.org	

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*Psalm 105 (104): 3-4*

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

ENTRANCE HYMN*For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIA



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*Jeremiah 31: 7-9*

Thus says the LORD:

Shout with joy for Jacob, exult at the head of the nations; proclaim your praise and say: The LORD has delivered his people, the remnant of Israel. Behold, I will bring them back from the land of the north; I will gather them from the ends of the world, with the blind and the lame in their midst, the mothers and those with child; they shall return as an immense throng. They departed in tears, but I will console them and guide them; I will lead them to brooks of water, on a level road, so that none shall stumble. For I am a father to Israel, Ephraim is my first-born.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 126: 1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6*

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming.
Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing.

Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."
The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the torrents in the southern desert.
Those that sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown,
they shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves.

SECOND READING*Hebrews 5: 1-6*

Brothers and sisters: Every high priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring, for he himself is beset by weakness and so, for this reason, must make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honor upon himself but only when called by God, just as Aaron was. In the same way, it was not Christ who glorified himself in becoming high priest, but rather the one who said to him:

*You are my son:
This day I have begotten you;
Just as he says in another place:
You are a priest forever*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*Mark 10: 45*

Our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed death
and brought life to light through the Gospel.

GOSPEL*Mark 10: 46-52*

As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me." And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he kept calling out all the more, "Son of David, have pity on me." Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

CREED*Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Ephesians 5: 2*

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, as a fragrant offering to God.

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 Wondrous Love Is This*

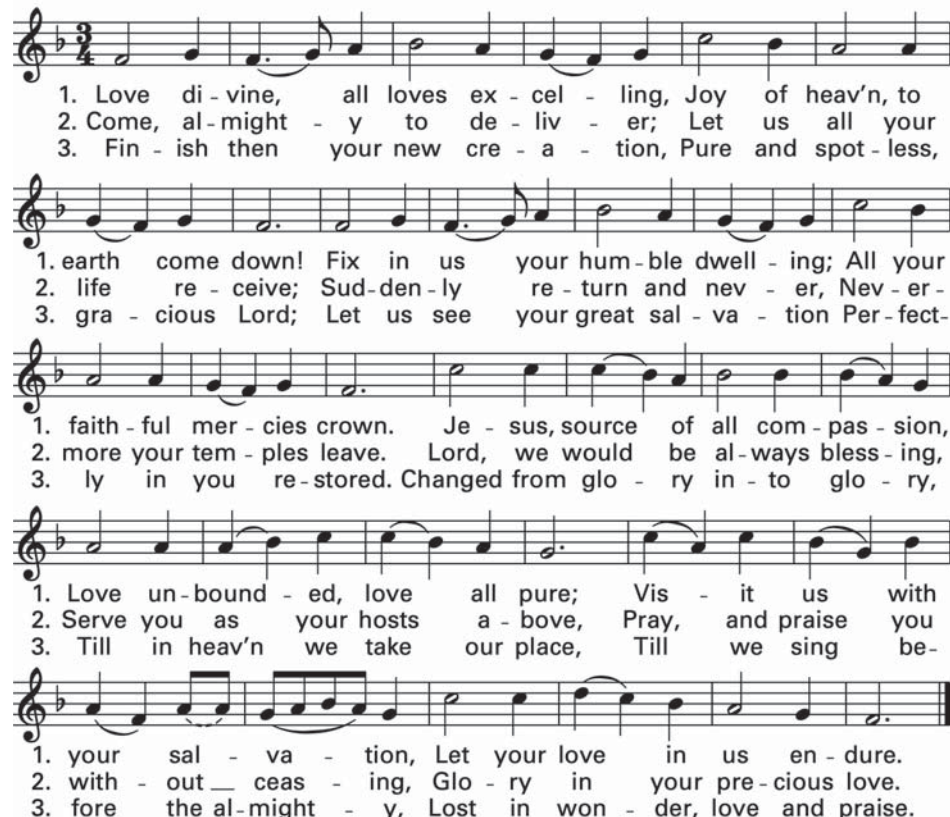

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will
 3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing

1. soul? What won-drous love is this, O my soul? What
 2. sing; To God and to the Lamb, I will sing; To
 3. on; And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; And

1. won-drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 2. God and to the Lamb, who is the great I
 3. when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy-ful

1. bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul, for my
 2. AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 3. be, And through e-ter-ni-ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing

1. soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 2. sing; While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
 3. on! And through e-ter-ni-ty, I'll sing on.

RECESSIONAL 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.

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, October 26

9:00am William & Margaret Collins
4:00pm Elaine Marie Gaudet

Sunday, October 27

9:00am Alice Beverley
Michael Anzalone
Francis Faucher
James & Paulette DeLeo

12:00pm Melissa Reynolds Balke

Friday, November 1 - ALL SAINTS DAY

1:00pm HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
6:00pm HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Saturday, November 2 - ALL SOULS DAY

9:00am HOLY MASS
4:00pm HOLY MASS

Sunday, November 3

9:00am Yvonne Lacoste
Ron & Irene Silva
Donald C. MacMillan
Ronald P. MacMillan
Fred J & Jenny Bonaccorsi
Joseph Bonaccorsi

12:00pm Benjamin LaTorre
Helen Lariviere

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	10/27/24	Fr. Robert Doherty	Deacon Dong Huy Pham
Mon	10/25/24	Fr. William Kelly	Deacon Edward Rodriguez
Tues	10/29/24	Fr. Baldemar Garza	Deacon Mateus Martin
Wed	10/30/24	Fr. Eric Velasquez	Daniel Waldron
Thurs	10/31/24	Fr. Paul Flammia	Ulises Diaz
Fri	11/1/24	Fr. Robert O'Grady	Deacon George Bastedo SJS Rochester, NY
Sat	11/2/24	All Deceased Priests	Deacon Vincenzo Caruso RMS Boston

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, October 26

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

Sunday, October 27

10:30am Alan R. Roderick
Ronnie Landry
Bertrand LeBlanc
Real Taschereau
Gerard Taschereau
Vivian Bodary

Monday, October 28

9:00am Mariano & Carmela Erna

Tuesday, October 29

9:00am Mike Quintana

Wednesday, October 30

9:00am John Thomas
Joseph & Lucy Sardella
Teo & Ida Thomas

Thursday, October 31

9:00am David DuShane

Friday, November 1 - ALL SAINTS DAY

9:00am HOLY MASS

Saturday, November 2 - ALL SOULS DAY

4:00pm HOLY MASS

Sunday, November 3

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

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Maria P., Phyllis T., Dan M., Kristin M., Barbara S., Family of Leo M., Janet C., Taylor, Dirk D., Claire M., & Patrice K.

Please pray for Mario Messina, Bill James & Concetta Bertolone whose funerals we recently offered. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

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"Be a Servant" Matthew 20:26

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