

# METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

AUG 27

2023



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
YOU ARE PETER, AND UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH.

MATTHEW 16:18

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.



## RCIA - THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is designed for adults who, after hearing the mystery of Christ proclaimed, consciously and freely seek the living God, and enter the way of faith and conversion as the Holy Spirit opens their hearts. By God's help they will be strengthened spiritually during their preparation and at the proper time will receive the sacraments fruitfully. This is how the study text for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults introduces the process of bringing adults into the fullness of the Catholic Church.

And a process it is. Those wishing to formally learn more about the Catholic faith first enter a period of evangelization called the pre-catechumenate. This is the period in which Christ is proclaimed and the candidates are given a suitable explanation of the Gospel. After a short period in the pre-catechumenate and a decision by the candidates that they are committed to joining the Catholic faith, they are accepted into the Order of Catechumens at a Rite of Acceptance. Last year, we were able to perform this Rite of Acceptance during the Sunday liturgy so that all in attendance would be able to meet the candidates, be aware of what they were experiencing, and welcome them into the parish and into the Church based on their election by God.

The next step is called the Rite of Election. The candidates are accepted by God, in whose name the Church acts. This is an archdiocesan event celebrated in the cathedral in Boston by the Cardinal with all the candidates from each parish in the archdiocese attending and having their names called and entered into the Book of the Elect of those who are going to be baptized the following Easter. Some parishes have as many as 20-30 candidates, while many have only 2 or 3. This usually takes place just before Lent.

During Lent, the candidates undergo a period of purification and enlightenment. This customarily coincides with the period of Lent. During this period, three "Scrutinies" are celebrated on consecutive Sunday liturgies. These are celebrated to strengthen the elect in their beliefs and deliver them from the power of sin and Satan.

And then, at the end of Lent, at the Easter Vigil, the elect receive the sacraments, thus becoming full members of the Catholic Church. The period after this is called the Period of Postbaptismal Catechesis or Mystagogy and usually lasts throughout the Easter season. This is a period when the new Catholics are introduced more deeply into the faith they have embraced.

There are also those who have already been baptized (usually as infants) but have never received the Sacraments of Confirmation or the Eucharist. They will basically go through the same process and receive Confirmation and the Eucharist at the Easter Vigil with the other candidates. They will not receive baptism again since this sacrament can only be received once in life.

This is just a short introduction into the RCIA process. There are classes or discussions held just about every week throughout the process for the candidates to learn about the Catholic faith. They are usually about 60 to 90 minutes long and take place before or after a Sunday Mass. And it is a great opportunity, not just for the candidates, but for all who would like to learn more about the faith, including lifetime practicing Catholics. You (and anyone else you would like to bring) are always welcome to come to these classes. In addition to learning more about the faith, you would also be giving witness of your faith and encouragement to those preparing to become Catholic. We can always use help with that. It is also an opportunity to teach what you know about the faith to those who don't yet have this knowledge. Those who are studying to become Catholic must go through the complete process, but those who just want to learn more about their faith can come to one or a few classes or they can come to them all. It is a great opportunity for you to learn, to teach, to encourage, and to practice your own faith. It is the duty of every Catholic to welcome those embracing the faith into our Church, into our parishes, and into our friendship. Please come. See the parish bulletin each week for information on where and when each class will be held. We will begin our program in September.



Are you an **ADULT** with a desire to receive the sacraments  
(*Baptism, Confirmation or Eucharist*) or learn more about your faith?

**CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 10th**

**QUESTIONS, CONTACT KARL AT**  
(978) 683 - 1193 ext. 35  
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

**REGISTRATION FOR FAITH  
FORMATION  
AND SACRAMENT  
PREPARATION  
DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 29TH.**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER.  
**METHUENCATHOLIC.ORG**

CLASSES START AS EARLY AS  
**KINDERGARTEN.**  
FIRST COMMUNION STARTS IN **SECOND  
GRADE.**  
CONFIRMATION PREP LASTS TWO YEARS  
AND BEGINS IN THE **NINTH GRADE**  
(FRESHMAN YEAR).

**QUESTIONS, CONTACT KARL AT**  
(978) 683 - 1193 ext. 35

The images and news reports coming out of the Island of Maui are heartbreaking. Recognizing the immediate and growing need for assistance, Cardinal Sean has asked that a special collection be taken in all parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston to support Church relief efforts in the Diocese of Honolulu.

Next weekend - **September 2 & 3** - our parishes will hold a **SPECIAL COLLECTION** to support the **Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation (HCCF)** relief efforts for local community members affected by the Maui wildfires.

Please address your checks to either St. Monica Parish or St. Lucy Parish, with "Maui Relief" in the memo.



*Fall Fair*

OCTOBER 14, 2023  
9AM-3PM

SODALITY CRAFT FAIR  
MUSIC | GAMES | FOOD



ST. LUCY CHURCH  
254 MERRIMACK ST | METHUEN

Crafters & Vendors....Reserve your table  
Contact Debbie McCall  
978.884.8317  
mccall715@aol.com

**SECOND COLLECTION**

This weekend, our parishes will take up a second collection for the **Missionary Appeal for the Propagation of the Faith of Boston.**

Thank-you for your generosity towards the missions.

*Jesus* is longing for your presence.  
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Wednesdays  
6-7pm  
St. Lucy Church



**We are hiring  
COME TEACH WITH US!**


**Have you recently retired from a fulfilling teaching career? Do you find yourself yearning to return to the classroom in some capacity?**

St. Monica School is hiring a **Kindergarten teacher**. Consider being part of our growing program and share your skills and most importantly your faith with our school community. Applicants should be qualified and a practicing Catholic.

Please send resume and references to Mrs. Donna Henderson at [principal@methuencatholic.org](mailto:principal@methuencatholic.org).




Do you have any outside play equipment or houses that your children or grandchildren have grown out of? St. Monica School is looking for gently used preschool equipment for our outside play area. If there is anything you would like to donate, please call the office at 978-686-1801 to arrange a pickup/ drop off. Thank you so much for your consideration!



**THE PASSION OF  
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST  
AUGUST 29TH**

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.”

Helping Minds Grow Beyond The Bell




**Are you looking for a part time job? Retired teachers, high school students, college students—Look no further!**

St. Monica School is looking for caring individuals to work with our students in our afterschool program. Responsibilities include playing games, arts and crafts and general supervision of school-aged children.

Our afterschool program runs Monday thru Friday 2pm – 6pm. Hours and days are flexible.

If interested and would like to learn more about this position, please call the school office at 978-686-1801 or email me at [principal@methuencatholic.org](mailto:principal@methuencatholic.org)

**GOT QUESTIONS**

TRY ALPHA 

Alpha is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life and questions of faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.

No judgment. No pressure. No charge.

Join us Tuesday Evenings.

**First Meeting is Tuesday,  
September 19 | 6pm  
St. Lucy Schoolhouse |  
254 Merrimack St.**

**To register call the office at 978-683-1193 or  
Email [alphacourse.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:alphacourse.stlm@gmail.com)**



In Remembrance of our Unborn Brothers and Sisters  
**National Day of Remembrance  
of Aborted Children**

**Saturday, September 9, 2023 @ 10:00 to 10:30 a.m.**  
Merrimack Valley Memorial Service for Aborted Children



Memorial donated by local Knights of Columbus Council

On September 9, 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.

**WHEN: Saturday, September 9, 2023 @ 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.

Event will be held rain or shine. For more information email [mmsilvey@verizon.net](mailto:mmsilvey@verizon.net)

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

- AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

MONDAY, AUGUST 28

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Confirmation Leaders Meeting 5pm  
St. Lucy School House
- Rosary for Priests 6pm Gethsemane Chapel

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

- Alanon 10am St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St. Lucy Church

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Rosary (Zoom) 6-6:30pm
- AA 6:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- Faith2Fitt 8am Methuen Track & Field
- Mass 9am St. Monica Church
- Eucharistic Adoration 9:30am-2:30pm  
Gethsemane Chapel
- Bettors Anonymous 2pm St. Monica SVDP Hut
- Confessions 3-3:45pm  
Gethsemane Chapel & St. Lucy Church

**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



**OFFERTORY AUGUST 12 & 13**

St. Monica - \$8,678.<sup>00</sup>

St. Lucy - \$5,838.<sup>00</sup>

**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 tuna, peanut butter, canned pasta, canned peas, canned carrots, canned fruit, pasta, and boxed spaghetti. 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/week from morning rush hour until 7pm

**CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE**  
Open Mon-Fri 9am-7pm , Sat & Sun 9am-5pm

**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

**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: M - F 9am - 2pm**



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**  
978.686.9573

**PASTORAL STAFF**

Fr. Darin Colarusso	Pastor
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
Sharon Waning	Music Ministry (St. Lucy)
Kevin Fitzgerald	Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA
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
Pam Silvera	Administrative Assistant
<b>smsoffice@methuencatholic.org</b>	

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON***Ps 86 (85): 1, 2, 3*

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

**ENTRANCE HYMN***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

1. All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate  
 2. Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line Whom Da - vid Lord did  
 3. Crown him, you ho - ly saints of God, Who from his al - tar

1. fall; Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem To  
 2. call, The God in - car - nate, Man di - vine, And  
 3. call; Ex - tol him in whose path you trod, And

1. crown him Lord of all; Bring forth the roy - al  
 2. crown him Lord of all; The God in - car - nate,  
 3. crown him Lord of all; Ex - tol him in whose

1. di - a - dem To crown him Lord of all.  
 2. Man di - vine, And crown him Lord of all.  
 3. path you trod, And crown him Lord of all.

**PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA***Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Is 22: 19-23*

Thus says the LORD to Shebna, master of the palace: "I will thrust you from your office and pull you down from your station. On that day I will summon my servant Eliakim, son of Hilkiah; I will clothe him with your robe, and gird him with your sash, and give over to him your authority. He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder; when he opens, no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open. I will fix him like a peg in a sure spot, to be a place of honor for his family."

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Ps 138 (137): 1-2, 2-3, 6, 8*

R. Lord, your love is e - ter - nal; do  
 not for - sake the work of your hands.

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart, for you have heard the words of my mouth;  
In the presence of the angels I will sing your praise; I will worship at your holy temple.

I will give thanks to your name, because of your kindness and your truth:  
When I called, you answered me; you built up strength within me.

The LORD is exalted, yet the lowly he sees, and the proud he knows from afar.  
Your kindness, O LORD, endures forever; forsake not the work of your hands.

SECOND READING*Rom 11: 33-36*

On the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his judgements and how unsearchable his ways! *For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been his counselor? Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?* For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be glory forever Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

☩. You are Peter and upon this rock I will build *my Church* \*  
and the gates of the netherworld shall not *prevail against* it.

GOSPEL*Mt 16: 13-20*

Jesus went to the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is? They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter said in reply, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

CREED*Refer to Pew Card*COMMUNION ANTIPHON*Ps 104 (103): 13-15*

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;  
You bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

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*Be Thou My Vision*

1. Be Thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be Thou my wis - dom, and Thou my true word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, or man's emp - ty praise,
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



1. Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art:
2. I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord:
3. Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
4. May I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!



1. Thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
2. Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son,
3. Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,
4. Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



1. Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
2. Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee one.
3. High King of heav - en, my trea - sure Thou art.
4. Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

POSTLUDE AT ST. MONICA*Mr. Bush*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, August 26

9:00am Robert Gagne, Girard Gagne,  
Irene Richard, Theresa Lajoie  
and Claire Nawrocki

4:00pm Meridith Johnson

Sunday, August 27

9:00am Vincent Dolan  
Sr. Kathleen Walsh, SND  
Deceased Members of the  
Belizaire & Fidelus Families  
Delio Areias

12:00pm Michael & Rose Arcidiacono

Saturday, September 2

9:00am FIRST SATURDAY MASS  
No Intentions

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

Sunday, September 3

9:00am Joseph O'Neil  
Robert Roche

12:00pm Otilia Gonzalez

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	08/27/23	Fr. Brian Manning	Alexander Charow
Mon	08/28/23	All Augustinians	Thomas Rashid
Tues	08/29/23	Cardinal Sean (ordained 1970)	Johnathan Saniuk
Wed	08/30/23	Fr. Richard Visbisky	Aaron Arbizo
Thurs	08/31/23	Fr. Richard Donahue	Michael Castellon
Fri	09/01/23	Fr. Paul Coughlin	Gerson Garcia
Sat	09/02/23	Fr. Harry Kaufman	Rafael Milla

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, August 26

4:00pm Battistina Iannuccilli  
Maria Pasquale Broscco

Sunday, August 27

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

Monday, August 28

9:00am Robert & Annie Loughlin

Tuesday, August 29

9:00am Real Taschereau  
Gerard Taschereau  
Bertrand LeBlanc

Thursday, August 31

9:00am Deceased Members of the  
Autiello/Torrisi Family

Friday, September 1

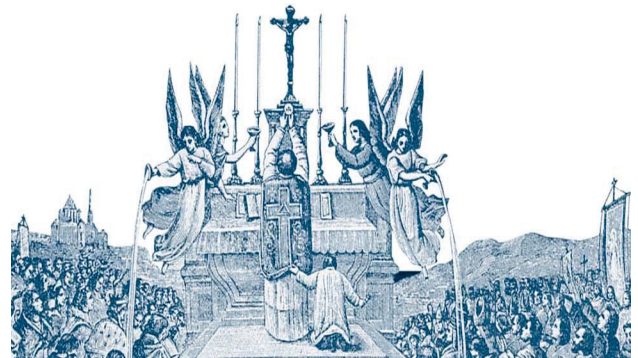
9:00am Bruce Beverley

Saturday, September 2

4:00pm Deceased Members of the  
Marcello, Conte & Mugavero Families

Sunday, September 3

10:30am Deceased Members of the  
Belizaire & Fidelus Families  
Jim Gablosky  
Fiorenza Alla  
John Pehl  
John E. D'Angelo



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Carlos S., Paul C., Meg C., Jesus L., Kevin W., Bill R., Patrice K., SJT, Erin C. & Matt W.

Please pray for Thomas D. Salafia, Sr., Marguerite Jordan & Rodgers M. Still whose funerals we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



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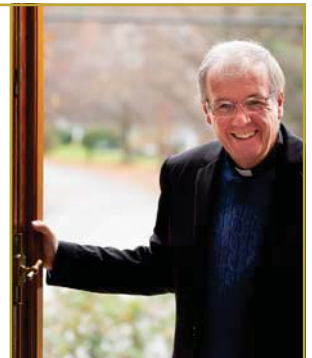
\*Requires purchase of annual plan. Special price is for first Lawn application only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Additional restrictions may apply. Consumer responsible for all sales tax. †Purchase of annual lawn plan required for TruGreen Lawn Assessment, which is performed at the first visit. \*Guarantee applies to annual plan customers only. BBB accredited since 07/01/2012. ©2023 TruGreen Limited Partnership. All rights reserved. In Connecticut, B-0153, B-1380, B-0127, B-0200, B-0151.

"Be a Servant" Matthew 20:26

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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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