

## *33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*



“Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her a reward for her labors and let her works praise her at the city gates.”

Prv 31: 30-31

I used to be a sender of greeting cards. Before I went to the seminary, at Christmas I'd send out dozens of Holy Season greetings to friends and family. I mean with handwritten notes on the inside of a variety of cards. A lot of the cards I used were produced by many charitable organizations to which I donated for the Holy Season and prior to the end of the tax year.

That slowed down greatly when I went to the seminary, a little more when I got a Facebook account, and definitively ended when I became a pastor. My greatest achievement in the last few years, in fact, was to send out custom change of address Christmas postcards made at Staples. I was pretty proud of those things. Also, I do donate to a few favorite worthy causes at random throughout the year, but most of my donations go through the parishes, actually. I do practice what I preach when I say that the parish provides all you need to fulfill the mandates of the Gospel as a disciple of Christ.

Related to my lax Christmas card habit is my pathetic Get Well and Thank You card record. Mostly I just make phone calls. That is why I am extra appreciative for all the get well cards and prayers that have been sent my way. So, THANK YOU for all the recent cards, prayers, and best wishes for good health!! This Thanksgiving I am especially grateful to the Lord for the gift of my life, for the people that protected it, and for your support during my recovery.

That three part movement works all the time, too, and for all of us on Thanksgiving both individually and as a nation. Many of us rightly worry about the state of the world and our country. The biggest factor in creating the confusion and conflict all around us is that God has been forgotten by our society and, quite frankly, that Jesus is not honored as Lord in enough places and hearts. Even with all that being said, we should remember to be thankful to God this year for the life, peace, and prosperity of our country; for those who protect us abroad in the military and our first responders down the street from us; and all our family, friends, and even strangers who support the health of our society. Obviously, it's easy to get worried and discouraged about what is going on in the world and in society, but that should never overshadow the immense gratitude we should have to God for every good thing in life.

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES  
THIS THANKSGIVING!!**

*Welcome*





**Thanksgiving Day Mass Times**  
9am - St. Lucy Church  
9am - St. Monica Church

**The Parish Offices will be  
CLOSED**  
**Thursday, November 23rd  
and Friday, November 24th**

**Due to the Thanksgiving holiday,  
we WILL NOT be having  
Adoration on Wednesday  
evening, November 22**

We will be distributing bread at our Thanksgiving Day Masses on Thursday, November 24th. We would like to thank St. Vincent de Paul for providing the bread at St. Monica's and Larry and Eileen Giordano for providing the bread at St. Lucy's.

### *A Prayer for Thanksgiving*

Loving God,  
We turn our hearts to you on this day for giving thanks, mindful of your many gifts.  
For each one, we are grateful.  
For each one, we are blessed.  
For each one we are opened to the abundance of your love.  
May this Thanksgiving Day offer a reminder to be generous with others, as you are with us.  
We praise you.  
We rejoice in you.  
We give you thanks.  
Amen.

## THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION FOR RETIRED RELIGIOUS SISTERS

Today's second collection is used to assist religious communities to provide for the retirement and health care needs of Sisters who have served in the Archdiocese. Please take this opportunity to say thank you to the Sisters who have served the Church of Boston so generously for so many years. Your contribution does make a difference. For more information, please contact the Delegate for Religious at 617-746-4537.



## DEVOTIONS SCHEDULE

Tuesday evenings 6-6:30pm  
Rosary Prayer Group for Priests  
Gethsemane Chapel

Wednesday mornings 9:30-11am (ZOOM)  
Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet & book discussion.

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

Thursday evenings 6-6:30pm (ZOOM)  
Rosary for world peace & individual intentions

## 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)



## SATURDAY ADORATION IS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

### ULTREYA

Tuesday, November 28th 7 - 8:30 PM  
St. Lucy Church Hall  
All Are Welcome!

Ultreya...this Spanish word means "Onward!" "Persevere!" "Hang in There!"...words of encouragement to each other as we travel on life's journey.

Ultreya this month will begin with Prayer Service and singing and includes voluntary sharing in small intimate and confidential groups, fellowship and refreshments that signify Christian hospitality.

Our guest speaker this month, Sondra Lofaro, will offer a personal witness of what life was like before Cursillo and how it is now after the Cursillo experience. Come support our dear friend from St. Mathew's Parish in Windham.

**All parishioners** are invited to come and share in this monthly evening of praise and worship. Please feel free to **invite a friend** to join you!



**CHRISTMAS SHARING  
AT  
METHUEN CATHOLIC**

In support of St. Vincent DePaul Society, our parishes will be collecting gift cards for children and families in need.

We are requesting gift cards from the following:

- Walmart
- Target
- Market Basket

Any denomination will be accepted.

Designated boxes will be on display at the rear of each church from November 26 - December 12th.

Realizing these are difficult times for all of us, whatever you can do to brighten another family with your generosity will be truly appreciated.

God bless you all.

If you have any questions, please call:

- St. Lucy's - Annette Autiello - 508-783-1544
- St. Monica's - Mary Jo Farelli - 978-265-9923

**HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS**

Please join us for refreshments

**Sunday, November 19th**

St. Monica School Hall  
after the 9am mass.

**Sunday, November 26th**

St. Lucy Church Hall  
after the 10:30am mass.

Everyone is welcome!

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Karl at the office, extension 35 or email [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com)

**BEREAVEMENT HOLIDAY WORKSHOP**

We are offering a two-part workshop dealing with the challenges faced by individuals who have lost a loved one and are facing the Christmas Holiday feeling alone.

The workshops will be held on December 4 & 11 from 6-7:30pm at St. Monica House. The group is offered as a free service to the community.

Contact Christine at the Parish Offices to register, 978-683-1193.

**CODE -  
BREAKER!**

The sentence below is to be found in one of today's readings. Can you break the code and write in the sentence?

Here are two clues:  
H = O and X = E.



MH HGX AX ZTOX

YBOX MTEXGML; MH

TGHMAXK, MPH; MH

T MABKW, HGX

ANSWER To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one.



**JOIN THE  
CHRISTMAS CHOIR**

Anyone interested in singing Christmas carols for Lessons & Carols and Christmas Eve are encouraged to join our Christmas Choir.

All ages are welcome!

Starting this week, we will be rehearsing at St. Monica's on Saturdays at 3:30pm.

Musical Blessings,  
Brink Bush, Director of Music  
[brinkbush@gmail.com](mailto:brinkbush@gmail.com)

**OFFERTORY NOVEMBER 4 & 5**

St. Monica - \$9,327.<sup>00</sup>

St. Lucy - \$5,586.<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 soups, cereal, rice sides, peanut butter, jelly, canned pasta, canned beans, tuna, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit & pancake syrup. 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

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254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844  
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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 Silveira	Administrative Assistant
<b>smsoffice@methuencatholic.org</b>	

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON***Jer 29: 11, 12, 14*

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.  
You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**ENTRANCE HYMN***We Gather Together*


1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing; He  
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing, Whose  
3. We all do ex - tol you, our lead - er tri - um - phant, And

1. chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known; The  
2. king - dom calls all to the love which en - dures. So  
3. pray that you still our de - fend - er will be. Let

1. wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing: Sing  
2. from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning: You,  
3. your con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion: Your

1. prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.  
2. Lord, were at our side; all glo - ry be yours!  
3. name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

**PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA***Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Prov 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31*

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life. She obtains wool and flax and works with loving hands. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle. She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy. Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her a reward for her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Ps 128 (127): 1-2, 3, 4-5*


**R.** Bless - ed are those who fear the Lord.

Blessed are you who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways!  
For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home;  
Your children like olive plants around your table.

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.  
The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

**SECOND READING***1 Thes 5: 1-6*

Concerning times and seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need for anything to be written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night. When people are saying, "Peace and security," then sudden disaster comes upon them, like labor pains upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to overtake you like a thief. For all of you are children of the light and children of the day. We are not of the night or of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Mt 24: 42a, 44*

Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me bears much fruit.

**GOSPEL***Mt 25: 14-30*

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one - to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five. Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money.

"After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' Then the one who had received two talents also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said, 'Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.' His master said to him in reply, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter? Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return? Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.'"

**CREED***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Ps 73 (72): 28*

To be near God is my happiness,  
to place my hope in God the Lord.

**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*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

Verses




1. I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to  
 2. I want to see the bright-ness of God; I want to  
 3. I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ; I want to

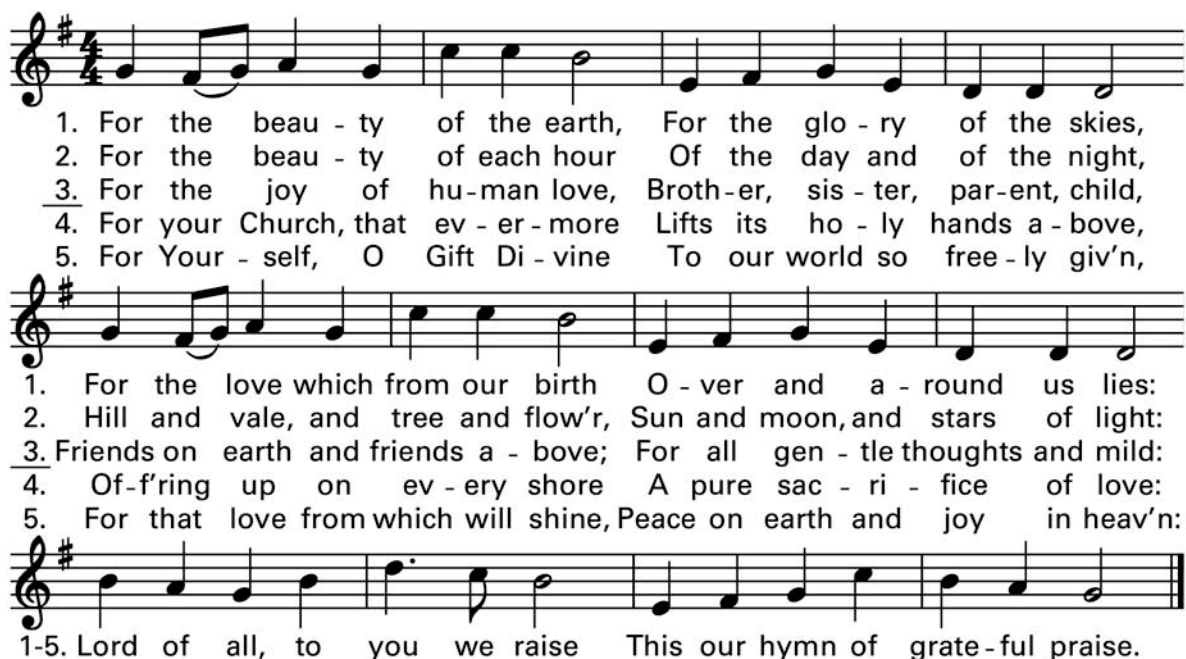
1. fol-low Je-sus. God set the stars to give  
 2. look at Je-sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness,  
 3. be with Je-sus. When we have run with

1. light to the world; the star of my life is Je-sus.  
 2. shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa-ther.  
 3. pa-tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je-sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all; the night and the  
 day are both a-like. The Lamb is the light of the  
 cit-y of God: Shine in my heart, Lord Je-sus.

POSTLUDE AT ST. MONICA*Mr. Bush*RECESSIONAL 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.

ST. MONICA PARISH

**Saturday, November 18**

9:00am Joseph Lavigne  
Yvette Moran  
Mike Milnes

4:00pm Charles & Helen Dobeck

**Sunday, November 19**

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

12:00pm Deceased Members of the  
Knights of Columbus

**Thursday, November 23**

9:00am Thanksgiving Day Mass

**Saturday, November 25**

9:00am David Bradstreet

4:00pm Alphonse Sammataro  
Linda Porter

**Sunday, November 26**

9:00am Georgette Gagnon  
Betty Pollard  
John Michael DelMonico  
Richy Gallagher  
Elaine Parrino

12:00pm Samuel A. & Catherine (Goff) Gigliotti

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**PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS**

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	11/19/23	Fr. Thomas Macdonald	Deacon Gabriel Hanley
Mon	11/20/23	Fr. Sean McCarthy	Deacon Matthew Harrington
Tues	11/21/23	Fr. Walter Carreiro	Deacon David Joanis
Wed	11/22/23	Fr. Joseph Hennessey	Deacon Christopher Letizia
Thurs	11/23/23	Fr. Jean Pierre Aubin	Thanksgiving Day
Fri	11/24/23	Fr. Andrew Grelak	Deacon Barry Mongeon
Sat	11/25/23	Fr. Richard Santerre	Deacon David Pineda

ST. LUCY PARISH

**Saturday, November 18**

4:00pm James Jessick

**Sunday, November 19**

10:30am William Ward  
Domenic & Guiseppi Rotonelli  
Carol Arkley  
Deceased Members of the Hamil Family  
Raymond A. Latulippe  
John J. Raineri  
Concetta D. Bella

**Monday, November 20**

9:00am Antonio & Evelina Mollica

**Tuesday, November 21**

9:00am Manny Gianni  
Christine Gianni Eldridge

**Thursday, November 23**

9:00am Thanksgiving Day Mass

**Friday, November 24**

9:00am Rita Doherty

**Saturday, November 25**

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

**Sunday, November 26**

10:30am Sharon Forgetta  
Sid & Nancy DeMarco  
Joe & Marie Querol  
Roger & Grace Barbin  
Joseph Boren  
Mary Gallo  
Maria Arasi  
Nina Berryman



**PRAYER CORNER**

Please pray for Michelle O., Nora N., Brian J., Bill R., Patrice K., Jason & Matt W.

Please pray for Angelo DiFruscia & Marguerite Rochette whose funerals we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

# STAND UP TO YOUR SCIATIC PAIN!

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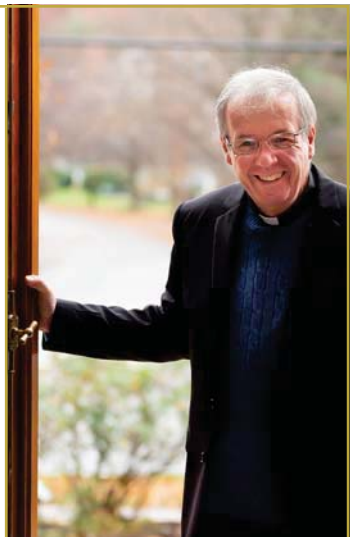


Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community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

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