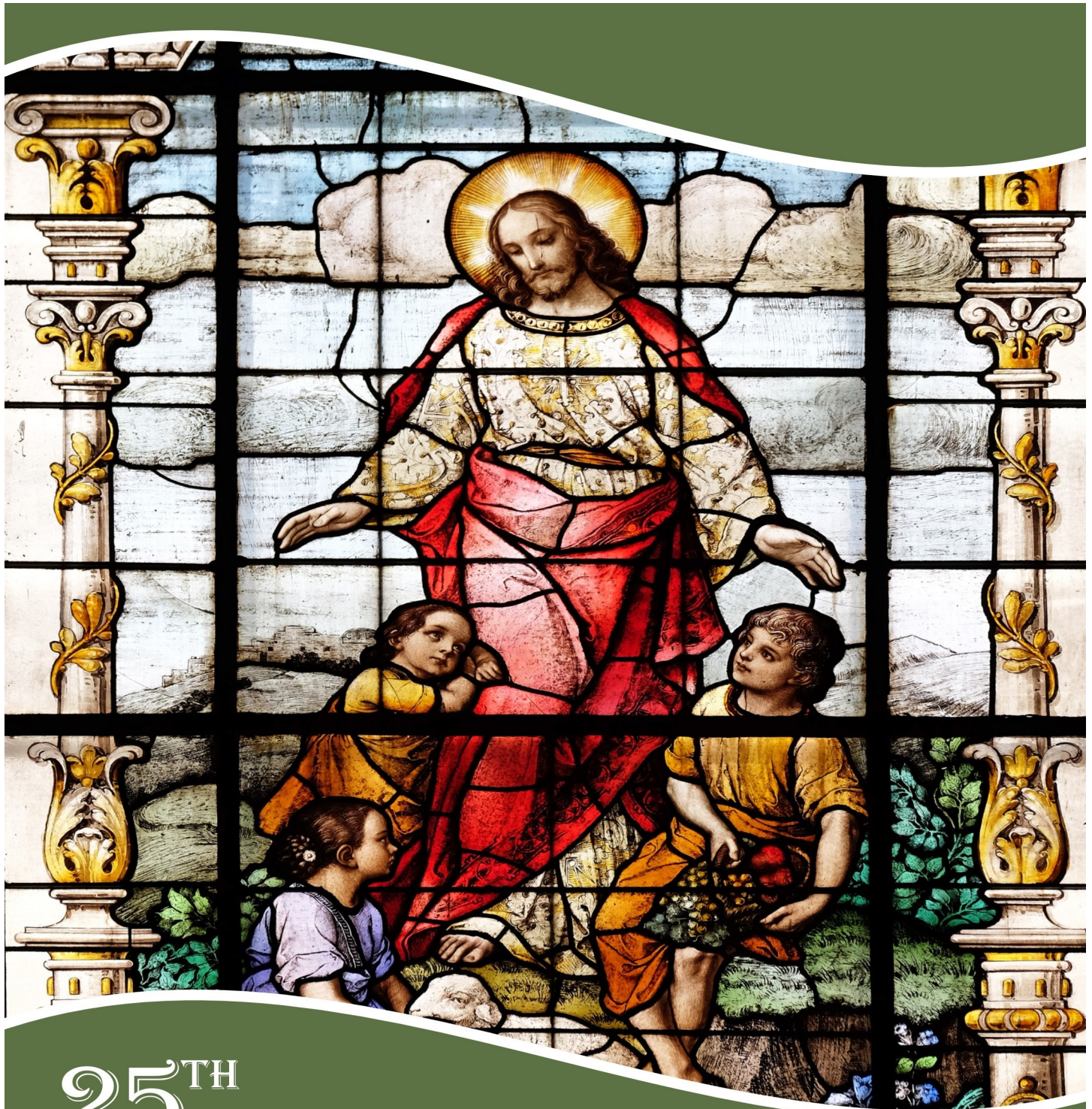


METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

SEPT 22
2024



25TH

SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME

THE GREATEST IN THE KINGDOM

"Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me." Mark 9:37

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

The first reading for today's Mass is taken from the Book of Wisdom in the Old Testament. This book was written about 50 to 100 years before the coming of Christ. It was directed toward the Jews who had dispersed into Egypt and were having difficulties remaining faithful to their Jewish roots and traditions. The surrounding Greek culture threatened Jewish identity and the faithful needed to learn how to live in a pagan world by appropriating what was good and useful in the culture in which they lived while maintaining proper faith and worship of the one true God. Our surrounding culture today, certainly threatens our identity as Christians. The world we live in is pagan in many ways, but it is also, in the words of St John Henry Newman, a "world simply irreligious."

Since the time of Christ, the Church has contended with people's beliefs in false gods, superstitions, and heresies. And we still do today. What is new, however, is more and more people believe that there is no power but man, and that man can create his own happiness and a just society on his own. Man has become his own god. The wars and tragedies of the last century have only demonstrated how wrong and dangerous these beliefs are, but more and more people and societies are embracing them and rejecting some of society's deepest cultural roots.

Rejection of Christ and the Christian model, sometimes rapidly and violently, and sometimes gradually and gently by small steps, has left our society with little upon which to base the idea of truth. Many believe that truth is whatever they want to believe it is and that morality is an individual point of view rather than something that can be explained objectively.

As was true of the Jews in Egypt at the time of the writing of the Book of Wisdom, we need someone to show us the way to remain faithful to our Christian faith while remaining in our society. There is no one to show us this way other than Jesus.

Our society has made a conscious decision to reject him and his teachings. In the reading from the Book of Wisdom for this Sunday, we hear about the "just one," a reference to the future Messiah, Jesus. The wicked feel he is "obnoxious because he sets himself against our doings" and "charges us with violations of our training." They want to "condemn him to a shameful death" and see if "God will take care of him." This seems just how the world feels about Christ today. His teachings seem obnoxious to many and are seen as against their own goals. They reject the training they have been given, their ancestors' view of reality, and the moral code our society has practiced for thousands of years.

But we have Christ to teach us, not only what to believe, but how to live our lives. We must accept him and his teachings with our whole heart. In him we will find the truth and the truth will set us free. In a world confused and travelling in many directions in its search for truth, we are blessed to have Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life.

Deacon John Kobrenski



All are welcome!

Tuesday, Sept. 24th
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.

**WELCOME BACK
HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS**

Please join us for refreshments

Sunday, September 22nd

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

Everyone is welcome!

MARRIAGE BANNS



Third and Final Banns of Marriage

Benjamin Murphy & Katelyn Hulme



Jesus is longing for
your presence.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
&
CONFESSIONS**

Wednesday Evenings
6-7pm
St. Lucy Church

Saturdays
9:30am-2:30pm
Gethsemane Chapel at St. Monica 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)



FILL IN THE GAPS

The sentences below are missing key words. Can you find the correct ones? (They are all in today's readings.)

1. With _____ and _____ let us put the just one to the _____ that we may have proof of his gentleness.
2. For the _____ have risen up against me, the _____ seek my life; they set not _____ before their eyes.
3. And the fruit of _____ is sown in _____ for those who _____ peace.
4. The Son of Man is to be _____ over to men and they will _____ him, and _____ days after his death the Son of Man will rise.
5. If anyone wishes to be _____, he shall be the _____ of all and the _____ of all.

ANSWERS

1. revilement, torture, test 2. haughty, ruthless, God three 3. first, last, servant 4. handed, death, 5. righteousness, peace, cultivate

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."

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!



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!



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

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

SODALITY CELEBRATES THEIR RECOMMITMENT CEREMONY

On September 8th more than 40 Sodality members made their recommitment to the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality and to support their parish and community in service and spirituality. Much gratitude to Father Gianni for conducting this special annual ceremony.

To kick off the Sodality’s charitable giving program, members generously donated canned and packaged goods to Methuen Public Schools which sponsors a program to assist students with food insecurity at home. Much appreciation to Debbie Carelli for transporting all the donations to Methuen’s Administrative offices. We filled 2 flatbeds with these items! Donations will be delivered to a school with students identified as having food insecurity. Students select food items to take home to help sustain them on non-school days.

The next meeting of Sodality will be held on October 13th following the 10:30 mass. We welcome our six new members: Debbie Blood; Colleen Childs; Doris Cote; Maureen Fritch; Tricia Knightly; and Millie Stumpe. All women are invited to join our Sodality at any of our meetings held on the 2nd Sunday of each month!

We would like to extend our appreciation to parishioners who are purchasing our Grand Prize Raffle tickets next weekend (9/28 & 29) following masses on Saturday and Sunday at St. Lucy and St. Monica Churches. Monies raised from this event and our Craft Fair on October 26th go to support our Parish community.



**SAINT
VINCENT DE PAUL**
Feast Day September 27

**Faith
2
FIT**
SATURDAYS 8AM

**St.
Lucy's Lower
Church Hall
254 Merrimack
St. Methuen**

SOUTHERN ITALY'S ISLAND OF SICILY

led by Fr. Patrick Armano

11 NIGHT ESCORTED GROUP TOUR
MARCH 9th – 20th 2025

\$4,695 - Cost per person, based on double occupancy

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return Flights from USA to Sicily – Boston to Palermo (via Rome)
- 5 nights in 4* Mercure Palermo Centro (or similar) in Palermo
- 2 nights in 4* Alba Palace Hotel (or similar) in Favara
- 3 nights in 4* Ibis Styles (or similar) in Catania
- Breakfast & Evening meal every night
- Guided tour of the town of Orvieto
- Guided tour of Palermo
- Entrance to the Segesta Archaeological park
- Boat ride to island of Mothia
- Guided walking tour of Agrigento & Temples
- Guided walking tour of Catania
- Visits to Selinunte archaeological park
- Luxury air conditioned coach throughout
- Mass each day
- Porterage
- Services of Marian Pilgrimage Representative throughout
- Gratuities

Not included:

- Single supplement: \$1015 (limited availability)
- Travel Insurance, if required please request a brochure

It is strongly suggested that all pilgrims be covered by Travel Insurance

last day to register is December 20th, 2024

For additional information please contact
Melissa at Marian Pilgrimages
melissa@marianusa.com

MARIAN PILGRIMAGES
781-331-2444 | 877-545-2444 | mary@marianusa.com
WWW.MARIANUSA.COM

Proud member of
NTA

SEPTEMBER 7 & 8

St. Monica - \$7,849.00

St. Lucy - \$4,149.00

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 Mashed Potatoes, Canned Spaghetti, Canned Tuna, Canned Beans, Canned Fruit, Peanut Butter, Pancake Mix 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.

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
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. Marcos Peña	Administrator
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	



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
smsoffice@methuencatholic.org	

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord forever.

ENTRANCE HYMN*Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven*

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To his
2. Praise him for his grace and fa - vor To his
3. Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; Well our
4. An - gels, help us to a - dore him; You be -



1. feet thy trib - ute bring; Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for -
2. chil - dren in dis - tress; Praise him still the same as
3. fee - ble frame he knows; In his hands he gen - tly
4. hold him face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be -



1. giv - en, Ev - er - more his prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia!
2. ev - er, Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia!
3. bears us, Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia!
4. fore him, In his ho - ly dwell - ing place. Al - le - lu - ia!



1. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
2. Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
3. Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.
4. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA*Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Wisdom 2 12, 17-20*

The wicked say:

Let us beset the just one, because he is obnoxious to us; he sets himself against our doings, reproaches us for transgressions of the law and charges us with violations of our training. Let us see whether his words be true; let us find out what will happen to him. For if the just one be the son of God, God will defend him and deliver him from the hand of his foes. With revilement and torture let us put the just one to the test that we may have proof of his gentleness and try his patience. Let us condemn him to a shameful death; for according to his own words, God will take care of him.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 54: 3-4, 5, 6 & 8*

R. The Lord up - holds my life.

O God, by your name, save me, and by your might defend my cause.
O God, hear my prayer; hearken to the words of my mouth.

For the haughty have risen up against me, the ruthless seek my life;
they set not God before their eyes.

Behold, God is my helper; the Lord sustains my life.
Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O LORD, for its goodness.

SECOND READING*James 3: 16-4: 3*

Beloved:

Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.

Where do the wars and where do the conflicts among you come from? Is it not from your passions that make war within your members? You covet but do not possess. You kill and envy but you cannot obtain; you fight and wage war. You do not possess because you do not ask. You ask but do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

God has called us through the Gospel
to possess the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL*Mark 9: 30-37*

Jesus and his disciples left from there and began a journey through Galilee, but he did not wish anyone to know about it. He was teaching his disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise." But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to question him.

They came to Capernaum and, once inside the house, he began to ask them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they remained silent. They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest. Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me."

CREED*Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***John 10: 14*

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

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*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

1. The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose
2. Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow With
3. Per - verse and fool - ish I have strayed, But
4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill With
5. You spread a ta - ble in my sight, Your
6. And so through all the length of days Your



1. good - ness fails me nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
2. gen - tle care he leads me, And where the ver - dant
3. yet in love he sought me, And on his shoul - der
4. you, dear Lord, be - side me; Your rod and staff my
5. sav - ing grace be - stow - ing; And O what joy and
6. good - ness fails me nev - er: Good Shep - herd, may I



1. I am his, And he is mine for - ev - er.
2. pas - tures grow, With heav'n - ly food he feeds me.
3. gent - ly laid, And home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
4. com - fort still, Your cross be - fore to guide me.
5. true de - light From your pure chal - ice flow - ing!
6. sing your praise With - in your house for - ev - er.

RECESSIONAL HYMN*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy Like the wide-ness
2. For the love of God is broad-er Than the mea-sures
3. Trou-bled souls, why will you scat-ter Like a crowd of



1. of the sea; There's a kind-ness in his jus - tice
2. of our mind, And the heart of the E - ter - nal
3. fright - ened sheep? Fool - ish hearts, why will you wan - der



1. Which is more than lib - er - ty. There is plen - ti - ful re -
2. Is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more
3. From a love so true and deep? There is wel - come for the



1. demp-tion In the blood that has been shed; There is
2. sim - ple We should take him at his word, And our
3. sin - ner And more grac - es for the good; There is



1. joy for all the mem-bers In the sor - rows of the Head.
2. lives would be thanks - giv - ing For the good-ness of our Lord.
3. mer - cy with the Sav - ior, There is heal - ing in his blood.

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, September 21

9:00am Joseph Lavigne
Yvette Moran
Mike Milnes

4:00pm Richy Gallagher

Sunday, September 22

9:00am Deceased Members of the
Waterworth Family
John & Alice Langley
Iris Castro
Margaret Collins

12:00pm Hans Juergen Suscka

Saturday, September 28

9:00am Katherine O'Brien

4:00pm Dorothy Foley

Sunday, September 29

9:00am Stephen Campagnone

12:00pm Richard G. Ferguson

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Colizzi Memorials
217 Merrimack St - Methuen, MA
978-674-7035

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, September 21

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

Sunday, September 22

10:30am Eileen Lannon
Barbara Hevey
Marty Long
Frank & Dorothy Verdolotti
Dora Giuffrida
Iracema Leal
Izilda Silva
Joseph DiCenzo

Monday, September 23

9:00am Manny Gianni
Christine Gianni Eldridge

Tuesday, September 24

9:00am Bertrand LeBlanc
Real Taschereau
Gerard Taschereau

Wednesday, September 25

9:00am Dorothy "Dottie" Johnson

Thursday, September 26

9:00am Alice Beverly

Friday, September 27

9:00am Janer Szostak

Saturday, September 28

4:00pm Paula Nichols

Sunday, September 29

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

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	09/22/24	Fr. Paul O'Brien	Jake Livingstone
Mon	09/23/24	Fr. Robert Carr	Christian Ortez
Tues	09/24/24	Fr. John Ronaghan	Rafael Rubio
Wed	09/25/24	Fr. Martin Dzengelski	Christopher Şilebi
Thurs	09/26/24	Fr. Thomas Keyes	Isaac Velazquez
Fri	09/27/24	Fr. Vincent Gianni	Liam Warner
Sat	09/28/24	Fr. Stephen Rock	Luca Azzani



PRAYER CORNER

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

Please pray for those whose funerals we recently offered. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.