

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

May 08

2022



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish." - Jn 10:27-28a

This Sunday, May 8 is Mother's Day, a day to honor all mothers. I had frequently heard that Mother's Day was an invention of a greeting card corporation to make money, but in researching this article, I found that I was wrong, though not completely.

Mother's Day has a long history in our nation and in our Church. Since the first few centuries of the Church, the fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday) was commemorated as a time to return to our mother church or home parish and leave an offering. This evolved into Mothering Sunday and as a time to honor our natural mother, as well. This has developed into a holiday which is celebrated in different forms and at different times throughout the world.

In the United States, Mother's Day came to exist through the efforts of a woman named Anna Jarvis in 1908. Her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, had died in 1905, and Anna had conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers had made for their children. She gained financial backing, and, in May 1908, she organized the first official Mother's Day Celebration at a Methodist Church in West Virginia. Jarvis then started a letter writing campaign to newspapers and select politicians demanding the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood. She established the Mother's Day International Association to promote the cause. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Jarvis had wanted Mother's Day to be a day of personal remembrance between mothers and their families. She originally planned the day as one where a mother would wear a white carnation as a badge of honor and where a family would visit their mother or attend a Church service in her honor. But, as is often the case, others took advantage of the opportunity to make money off the idea. Florists and greeting card companies and others began capitalizing on the popularity of Mother's Day. Jarvis became disgusted and denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day cards and flowers and candy. She began an open campaign against Mother's Day profiteers and even commenced several lawsuits against groups that had tried to use the concept of Mother's Day simply for profit. By the time of her death in 1948, Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from the American calendar.

Despite its commercialization, Mother's Day remains a day to honor all mothers. We celebrate it every year and, yes, we buy cards, flowers, and all kinds of gifts for our mothers, grandmothers, and wives. But we do it to honor them and to express our love for them.

Motherhood means so much more than a card, flowers, or a gift. Expressing love for their mother is not always easy for some people and cards and gifts can help to communicate it. But express it we must, in words, deeds, or gifts. Our mothers have given us life, so let us love them. They are a gift to us as much as we are a gift to them. For those whose mothers and grandmothers are still alive---cherish them today. For those whose mothers or grandmothers have gone home to the Lord---remember them and pray for them.

Let us also honor Mary, the mother of Our Lord, today. She is the mother of all because she is the mother of Jesus, our brother. The whole month of May is dedicated to her. The Church is also our mother, and we ask our Lord to help us to better understand the great mystery and gift of the Church as our mother.

A PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, pray for all mothers, so that they will be able to fulfill their maternal responsibilities. Help them to be lovers and nurturers of all human life from the moment of conception until natural death, all the while being examples for their own children. Pray for their children, so that they, too, will be faithful followers of Your Son. We offer these prayers in Jesus' name, in union with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Unfortunately, not all have known the love and care from a mother that many have. And not all mothers have known the return of love from their children that they have sought. For them, a Methodist pastor wrote this prayer:

To the Moms who are struggling, to those filled with incandescent joy.

To the Moms who are remembering children who have died, and pregnancies that miscarried.

To the Moms who decided other parents were the best choice for their babies,

To the Moms who adopted those kids and loved them fierce.

To those experiencing frustration or desperation in infertility.

To those who knew they never wanted kids, and the ways they have contributed to our shared world.

To those who mothered colleagues, mentees, neighborhood kids, and anyone who needed it.

To those remembering Moms no longer with us.

To those moving forward from Moms who did not show love, or hurt those they should have cared for.

Today is a day to honor the unyielding love and care for others we call 'Motherhood,' wherever we have found it and in whatever ways we have found to cultivate it within ourselves.

Mary, our heavenly mother, pray for us all.

Deacon John Kobrenski

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS

ST. LUCY PARISH

ST. MONICA PARISH

Carmella Antonetti	Ebermi Hernandez
Ashton Bastinelli	Miberka Hernandez
Roland Berthel	Adele Lasonde
Raegan Cieslik	Alex Nunez Munoz
Rocco Cieslik	Viviana Pagano
Gabriella Cushman	Kataleena Reed
Emma Desaulniers	Gabriel Rivas
Dominick Faccadio	Blake Royston
Giavanna Faccadio	Jonathan Tarquinio
Olivia Fitzsimmons	

Emersyn Apperti	Myles Hamman
Beatriz Botelho	Sean Hellman
Gianna Bucu	Kori Hibbard
Mason Butterworth	Isabel Latulippe
Jathan Charpentier	Tyler Lavoie
Connor Cristoforetti	Salvatore Megna
Avery D'Hondt	Ivette Melendez
Brooke Donaghey	Ismael Montero
Lucy Duffy	Maximilian Perdomo
Hunter Ferdinand	Milena Perdomo
Oliver Gilmore	Kyle Rapisardi
Jonathan Gravito	Dante Riccio
Maya Guerrero	Vincent Riccio
Max Hamman	Mason Sweeney
Mia Hamman	Summer Spitalere

MAY GOD KEEP YOU & YOUR FAMILIES CLOSE TO HIS CHURCH THROUGH THE SACRAMENT OF HIS BODY AND BLOOD. AMEN.

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA | Holy Rosary Shrine is cordially inviting St Monica and St Lucy Parishes to participate in their St Anthony's Novena that has been ongoing every Tuesday until June 7th, 2022. For details visit <https://www.hrslawrence.org/events/> or call the office 978.685.1711

**CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS! WE ARE LOOKING FOR NOMINATIONS
MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!**

We are starting the process of choosing **two more statues** for The Chapel of the Immaculate Conception | St. Lucy Candle Shrine. We are asking you to nominate two saints that you'd like to see on the final ballot. This ballot will include the top five nominated saints. We will publish these selections at the end of the month. After that, we will have a vote for the final two saints.

- Step 1: Cut out this ballot.
- Step 2: Write out the name of the two saints you'd like to nominate for our shrine.
- Step 3: Place your ballot in the box located on the pedestal in the shrine.

Only one ballot per person please. Do NOT nominate any of the following saints since these are already represented in the shrine: Our Lord ; Our Lady ; St. Joseph ; St. Lucy ; St. Anthony of Padua

First Nomination: _____

Second Nomination: _____

Say NO to Physician Assisted Suicide in Massachusetts

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD NOW!

The Massachusetts State Legislature is considering passing into law two deeply troubling bills this session which would legalize Physician Assisted Suicide. The bills, House 2381 and Senate 1384, are identical in text and titled “*An Act relative to end of life options.*”

“The Catholic Bishops of Massachusetts stand united in our strong opposition to Physician Assisted Suicide. It is an affront to life and a dangerous precedent for determining end of life issues. Physicians are trained to care for the ill, not to hasten death.”¹

Here are some troubling facts to consider before you act:

- 1) The bills would allow a physician to provide a deadly drug mixture to an individual diagnosed with less than 6 months to live that, when consumed, would cause death.
NOTE: The diagnosis could be wrong. Countless individuals have outlived that 6-month diagnosis and enjoyed many more precious months and years with family and friends.
- 2) No Real Safeguards – A vulnerable individual who is physically disabled, depressed, or fears being a “burden” may be subject to undue influence by others to take the drug mixture, especially if there is a financial benefit as an incentive.
- 3) The primary focus of elected officials should be dedicated to legislation providing quality health care, mental health care and palliative care to the sick and dying – particularly in the underserved, poor and minority communities that suffer the most at the time of need.

How can your voice be heard?

Call or email your legislators, let them know you are a Massachusetts voter, and say NO to Physician Assisted Suicide! Log on to www.macatholic.org and follow the links to find contact information for:

- Members of the legislative Joint Committee on Health Care Finance who will be considering these bills.
- Your individual State Senator and Representative via address and zip code link.

For individuals without internet access, please call the Massachusetts Catholic Conference at 617-746-5630 for legislative contact information.



BVM SODALITY MEETING has been combined with the Morning of Reflection scheduled for May 14th. There will be NO MEETING THIS SUNDAY, MAY 8 after the 10am Mass.

SATURDAY, MAY 14TH
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY
MORNING OF REFLECTION

SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH OUR LOVED ONES
W / LIGHT BRUNCH – \$5
ALL WOMEN WELCOME

Volunteers Needed

To count the weekly offertory. Volunteers will be assigned to a team of counters for alternating weeks. Training will be provided. To volunteer or get more details please contact Kera at 978-683-1193 ext. 26

*Beacon Hospice in collaboration with
Holy Family Hospital
Presents*

Pathways Through Grief
a six-week Bereavement Group

If you are struggling with life changes after the loss of your loved one or feeling lonely, sad and uncertain of your future,


COME JOIN OUR BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP AND BEGIN YOUR PATH TOWARD HOPE AND HEALING

Held at
Holy Family Hospital
70 East Street
Methuen, MA

Dates: Thursday Evenings
May 5, 12, 19, 26, 2022
June 2 and June 9, 2022
Time: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Please call Lucille Bonanno or Jacquie Marchand, Bereavement Coordinators, Beacon Hospice at Tel. 978-837-3333 for information/registration.

Group is offered as a free service to the community



THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, MAY 8

- Baptisms 1pm St. Monica Church
- AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

MONDAY, MAY 9

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church
- Boy Scouts 7-8:30 pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

TUESDAY, MAY 10

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church
- Rosary For Priests Prayer Group 6 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Baptism Preparation Meeting 6pm St. Lucy

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

- Prayer and Study 10 am - 12 pm (Zoom)
- Alanon 10-11:15 am St. Lucy Lower Church
- Peter Kreeft Study 6 pm (Zoom)
- Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St. Lucy Church

THURSDAY, MAY 12

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church
- School Mass 1pm St. Monica Church
- Rosary for Peace 6pm (Zoom)
- AA 6:30 pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- SVdP Meeting 6:30-8pm St. Monica House

FRIDAY, MAY 13

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church
- School Mass 1pm St. Monica Church
- Eucharistic Adoration 2-5 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Retreat Set up 1-4pm St. Lucy Lower Church
- Confessions 4-5 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Wedding 4pm St. Lucy Church

SATURDAY, MAY 14

- Faith to Fitt 8 am St Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Women's Retreat beginning with Mass 8am St. Lucy Church/Lower Church Hall
- Bettor's Anonymous 2 pm St. Monica SVDP Hut
- Confessions 3-3:45 pm Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church

**GROW IN FAITH
GROW IN UNDERSTANDING**

Beginning May 11, Wednesday evenings at 6pm, there will be a series of Peter Kreeft videos offered on Zoom. Peter Kreeft is a down to earth philosophy teacher at Boston College. The three videos offered will be about the culture, angels and demons, and Peter Kreeft's conversion to Catholicism. Email Bonnie Doherty bonnieoocds@gmail.com if interested in joining the group and she will then send you the zoom link and schedule of talks.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

MARY IS THE MOTHER WHO WATCHES OVER US, HER CHILDREN, ON OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE, OFTEN WEARY AND IN NEED, ANXIOUS THAT THE LIGHT OF HOPE NOT FAIL.

CHRISTUS VIVIT, NO. 48



OFFERTORY | APR 23 & 24

St. Monica - \$8,458.⁰⁰

St. Lucy - \$6,099.⁰⁰

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 soups, canned spaghetti, canned pork & beans, jelly, canned fruit, pancake mix, syrup, and peanut butter. Donations can be dropped off anytime at the entrances to St. Lucy and the side door of Gethsemane Chapel at St. Monica Church.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to faithformation.stlm@gmail.com.

TEMPORARY OFFICE HOURS

*Monday-Thursday | 11:30am-4:30pm
Fridays | 9:00am-12:00pm*

BAPTISMS 2nd Sunday of the month at 1:00pm St. Monica's | 3rd Sunday of the month at 11:30am 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 & 11 am St. Monica | 10 am St. Lucy
MON/TUES/THURS/FRI 9:00 am St. Lucy
FIRST SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica

CONFESSIONS

3 - 3:45 pm both parishes Sat
4 - 5pm Gethsemane Chapel
6 - 7pm St. Lucy Church

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

2 - 5 pm Friday Gethsemane Chapel
6:00 - 7:00 pm Wednesday St. Lucy Church

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

PARISH OFFICES

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844
(978) 683 - 1193 or (978) 686 - 3311
www.methuencatholic.org
Temporary Hours Mon-Thurs, 11:30am-4:30pm
Friday 9:00am-2:00pm

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Darin Colarusso	Pastor
Fr. Joseph D'Onofrio	Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Pierce	Permanent Deacon
Deacon John Kobrenski	Permanent Deacon
Kera Mansour	Business Manager
methuencatholic@gmail.com	
Karl Jackson	Director of Parish Life
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com	
Eric Berthiaume	Music Director
Sharon Waning	Music Ministry (St. Lucy)
Kevin Fitzgerald	Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

(978) 686 - 9573



ST. MONICA SCHOOL


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

SCHOOL STAFF

Donna Henderson	Principal
Sharon Tully	Administrative Assistant
smsoffice@methuencatholic.org	

INTROIT*Cf. Ps 33 (32): 5-6*

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

PROCESSIONAL 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 My
 3. Con - fused and fool - ish oft I strayed, But

1. good - ness fails me nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 2. ran - somed soul he's lead - ing, And where the ver - dant
 3. yet in love he sought me, And on his shoul - der

1. I am his, And he is mine for ev - er.
 2. pas - tures grow With food ce - les - tial feed - ing.
 3. gent - ly laid, And home, re - joic - ing, brought me.

PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA*Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Acts 13: 14, 43-52*

Paul and Barnabas continued on from Perga and reached Antioch in Pisidia. On the sabbath they entered the synagogue and took their seats. Many Jews and worshipers who were converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to remain faithful to the grace of God. On the following sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and with violent abuse contradicted what Paul said. Both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first, but since you reject it and condemn yourselves as unworthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth." The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this and glorified the word of the Lord. All who were destined for eternal life came to believe, and the word of the Lord continued to spread through the whole region. The Jews, however, incited the women of prominence who were worshipers and the leading men of the city, stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in protest against them, and went to Iconium. The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Ps 100 (99): 3c; ¶ 1b-2, 3, 5*


¶. We are his peo - ple: the sheep of his flock.

Sing joyfully to the LORD,
 all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness;
 come before him with joyful song.

Know that the LORD is God;
 he made us, his we are;
 his people, the flock he tends.

The LORD is good:
 his kindness endures forever,
 and his faithfulness, to all generations.

SECOND READING

Rev 7: 9, 14b-17

I, John, had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. Then one of the elders said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." For this reason they stand before God's throne / and worship him day and night in his temple. / The one who sits on the throne will shelter them. / They will not hunger or thirst anymore, / nor will the sun or any heat strike them. / For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne / will shepherd them / and lead them to springs of life-giving water, / and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

ALLELUIA

Jn 10: 14



℣. I am the good shepherd says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

GOSPEL

Jn 21: 1-19

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 10: 14

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

COMMUNION HYMN*Gift of Finest Wheat*

Refrain

You sat-is-ty the hun-gry heart With gift of fin-est wheat;

Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, The bread of life to eat.

Verses

1. As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, They
2. With joy - ful lips we sing to you Our
3. Is not the cup we bless and share The

know and heed his voice; So when you call your
praise and grat - i - tude, That you should count us
blood of Christ out - poured? Do not one cup, one

D.C.

fam - 'ly, Lord, We fol - low and re - jice.
wor - thy, Lord, To share this heav'n - ly food.
loaf, de - clare Our one - ness in the Lord?

RECESSIONAL HYMN*At The Lamb's High Feast*


1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing
 2. Where the Pas - chal Blood is poured,
 3. East - er tri - umph, East - er joy,

1. Praise to our vic - to - rious King, Who hath washed us
 2. Death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword; Is - rael's hosts tri -
 3. Sin a - lone can this de - stroy; From sin's pow'r do

1. in the tide Flow - ing from his pier - cèd side;
 2. um - phant go Through the wave that drowns the foe.
 3. thou set free Souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.

1. Praise we him, whose love di - vine, Gives his sa - cred
 2. Praise we Christ, whose Blood was shed, Pas - chal Vic - tim,
 3. Hymns of glo - ry and of praise, Ris - en Lord, to

1. Blood for wine, Gives his Bod - y for the feast,
 2. Pas - chal Bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love
 3. thee we raise; Ho - ly Fa - ther, praise to thee,

1. Christ the Vic - tim, Christ the Priest.
 2. Eat we man - na from a - bove.
 3. With the Spir - it, ev - er be.

PRAYER FOR PASTORAL PLANNING

Almighty Father, give us the grace to follow where your Son leads.

Make our priests holy and effective ministers of the Gospel.

Make our staff and parishioners dedicated and enthusiastic disciples.

May we all be docile to the Holy Spirit and obedient to your will.

Help us make our parishes a light for those seeking you

And a safe harbor for those who hope in you.

We entrust ourselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary as we pray: Hail Mary, full of grace...

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ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, May 7

9:00am First Saturday Mass
4:00pm Patricia Hackney

Sunday, May 8

9:00am *Multiple Intentions*
Vance DeRisi
Jill DeRisi
Brian Kirkpatrick
Jason Lounsbury
Connie Zampelli
Alice Indoccio
Gloria Royer
Ruth Cady
Mary Serpa

11:00 am Joseph Norton

Saturday, May 14

4:00pm Henry Ronald Berthold

Sunday, May 15

9:00am *Multiple Intentions*
Robert Higgins
Richard Ferland
Manuel & Fernanda Coredeiro
Evelyn & Jose Freitas
Joseph O'Neil
Robert Roche
Grace Medina
Claire Waterworth

11:00 am Ann & Thomas Thornton

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, May 7

4:00pm Yvonne Soucy

Sunday, May 8

10:00am For the Parishioners
of St. Monica & St. Lucy

Monday, May 9

9:00am Frank Wholley

Tuesday, May 10

9:00am Dick Doherty

Thursday, May 12

9:00am Sue Murszewski

Friday, May 13

9:00am Maria Arloro

Saturday, May 14

4:00pm William G. Klier

Sunday, May 15

10:00am *Multiple Intentions*
Francis R. Covey, Sr.
Jamie Legere
Karen Hovanasian
Emily DiMaggio
Raymond Cummings
Lisa Tiberio-MacLean

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINAR.
Sunday	05/08/22	Fr. Edward McCabe	Edward Rodriguez
Mon	05/09/22	Fr. John MacInnis	Aaron Arbizo
Tues	05/10/22	Fr. Daniel Zinger	Alexander Charon
Wed	05/11/22	Fr. David Michael	Gerson Garcia
Thurs	05/12/22	All Oblates of the Virgin Mary	Rafael Milla
Friday	05/13/22	Fr. Mario Orrigo	Johnathan Saniuk
Sat	05/14/22	Fr. Matthew Norwood	Deacon Patrick O'Connor

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Febles Law Office | 978-241-7245
240 Pleasant St. Unit 8 | Methuen, MA 01844



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Patrice K., Mary E., Joseph V., Tom V., Nick K., Anthony, & Shaindy W.

Please pray for Edith Gormley whose funeral we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



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