

*Seventeenth Sunday  
in  
Ordinary Time*

*Thus it will be at the end of  
the age. The angels will go  
out and separate the wicked  
from the righteous and throw  
them into the fiery furnace,  
where there will be wailing  
and grinding of teeth.*

*Matthew 13:49-50*

## Treasures of the Kingdom

What is your new life in Christ worth to you?

Do you love His words more than gold and silver, as we sing in today's Psalm? Would you, like the characters in the Gospel today, sell all that you have in order to possess the kingdom He promises to us? If God were to grant any wish, would you follow Solomon's example in today's First Reading—asking not for a long life or riches, but for wisdom to know God's ways and to desire His will?

The background for today's Gospel, as it has been for the past several weeks, is the rejection of Jesus' preaching by Israel. The kingdom of heaven has come into their midst, yet many cannot see that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promises, a gift of divine compassion given that they—and we, too—might live.

We too must ever discover the kingdom anew, to find it as a treasure - a pearl of great price. By comparison with the kingdom, we must count all else as rubbish (see Philippians 3:8). And we must be willing to give up all that we have—all our priorities and plans—in order to gain it.

Jesus' Gospel discloses what Paul, in today's Epistle, calls the purpose of God's plan (see Ephesians 1:4). That purpose is that Jesus be the firstborn of many brothers.

His words give understanding to the simple, the childlike. As Solomon does today, we must humble ourselves before God, giving ourselves to His service. Let our prayer be for an understanding heart, one that desires only to do His will.

We are called to love God, to delight in His law, and to forsake every false way. And we are to conform ourselves daily ever more closely to the image of His Son.

If we do this, we can approach His altar as a pleasing sacrifice, confident that all things work for the good—that we whom He has justified, will also one day be glorified.



**ST. PAUL CENTER**  
FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

*A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology*  
[www.SalvationHistory.com](http://www.SalvationHistory.com)

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

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER. [METHUENCATHOLIC.ORG](http://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).

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

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

## STEUBENVILLE EAST CONFERENCE

Several of our high school students attended the conference which was held in Springfield, MA from July 21-23. It was a great opportunity for them to grow their Catholic faith by sharing in music, guest speakers, Mass, confessions & Adoration with thousands of their peers.

Thank you to everyone who gave a donation. Nearly \$1,800 was raised to help our group attend the conference.

Finally....a special thanks goes out to all our chaperones!



*Jesus* is longing for your presence.

Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions will **RESUME** on **Wednesday, August 16th at 6PM at St. Lucy's.**

In place of Friday Adoration, **beginning August 19th**, we will start holding Eucharistic Adoration in **Gethsemane Chapel immediately following 9am Mass until 2:30pm.** Confessions will be available following the 9am Mass until 10am.

We are looking for volunteers to coordinate adorers. If interested, please contact Karl at 978-683-1193 ext. 35 or at [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com)

**DEALING WITH GRIEF AFTER LOSS**

Are you having difficulty dealing with grief after the loss of a loved one?

A six-week bereavement support group will meet at St. Monica House on Tuesdays, August 22 - September 26 from 6-7:30pm. The group is offered as a free service to the community.

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

**HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS**

Sunday, August 13th  
10-11am  
St. Monica School Hall

Sunday, August 20th  
11:30am-12:30pm  
St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

**SAVE THE DATE**

**FALL FAIR**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023  
9AM-3PM



**ST. LUCY'S CHURCH HALL**  
**Crafters & Vendors...reserve your table**  
**Contact Debbie McCall**  
**978.884.8317**  
**mccall715@aol.com**



**PROJECT RACHEL  
POST-ABORTION  
HEALING RETREATS**

“Project Rachel led me to a place of forgiveness and mercy. During the retreat, I realized the lasting impact of forgiveness. I knew God had forgiven me, and now I needed to forgive myself.”

The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a “Come to the Waters of Healing” one-day retreat. Upcoming dates are September 23 and November 11 from 9 AM to 5 PM. Locations are confidential. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

**Need to Declutter - Here's Your Chance**

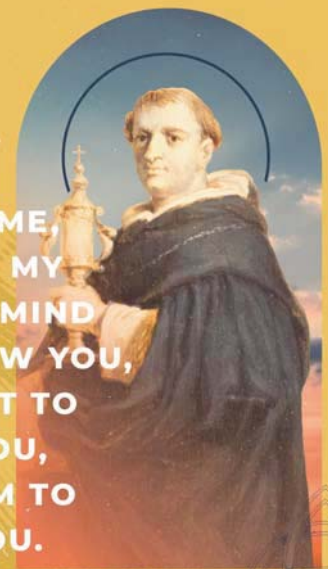
Holy Rosary Shrine Center  
34 Common Street  
Lawrence, MA  
**Monday's Only** from 6-8pm  
Starting July 17th thru August 21st



Holy Rosary Shrine Annual Fair is accepting donations for our white elephant table, crafts, Christmas, jewelry, handbags, unopened perfume, toys, games, books, religious articles, and **new items** you might not have any use for.

We **don't accept** suitcases, computers, TVs, Christmas trees, furniture, electronics, typewriters, clothing or encyclopedias.

“GRANT ME,  
O LORD MY  
GOD, A MIND  
TO KNOW YOU,  
A HEART TO  
SEEK YOU,  
WISDOM TO  
FIND YOU.”



DOMINICAN THEOLOGIAN

- ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

 **PUZZLE**

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

- |          |        |        |
|----------|--------|--------|
| KINGDOM  | HIDDEN | PEARLS |
| HEAVEN   | FIELD  | SOLD   |
| TREASURE | FOUND  | BOUGHT |

T N F H D E O K M I O  
 H B O U G H T E F A V  
 E I U S E L R A I K T  
**K** R N A H S E U E D R  
 I E D I P E A R L S N  
 N A H F N I S E D O W  
 G M D A T O U H N L E  
 D I N G E A R S I D N  
 O J H I D D E N O W Y  
**M** E D N S T O A L N D  
 A H L H E A V E N T A

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

SUNDAY, JULY 30

- AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

MONDAY, JULY 31

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Rosary Prayer Group for Priests 6pm Gethsemane Chapel

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Rosary (Zoom) 6-6:30pm
- Baptism Preparation Class 6-7:30pm St. Lucy School House
- AA 6:30-8:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

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

**Understand Your Catholic Faith with  
 The Catechism in a Year Podcast  
 with Fr. Mike Schmitz!**

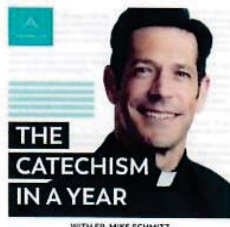
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**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION**

*"Every movement of Mary's Immaculate Heart is directed to believing in God, adoring God, hoping in God, praising God and loving God and pleasing God by doing His holy will."*

To keep the First Saturday Devotion, attend Mass, pray rosary, meditate on the mysteries for 15 minutes. Go to confession within eight days.

9am Mass  
 Saturday, August 5th  
 St. Monica Church  
 Rosary to follow in Gethsemane Chapel

Classes are held outside at Methuen Track & Field  
 40 Pleasant View St.



**OFFERTORY JULY 15 & 16**

St. Monica - \$6,760.<sup>00</sup>

St. Lucy - \$4,351.<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 mashed potatoes, tuna, peanut butter, canned beans, canned carrots, canned peas, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, pasta, and jelly. 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**

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**PARISH OFFICES**

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844  
978.683.1193

www.methuencatholic.org

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



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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 Silvera                          | Administrative Assistant |
| <b>smsoffice@methuencatholic.org</b> |                          |

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON***Ps 68 (67): 6, 7, 36*

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; He himself gives might and strength to his people.

**ENTRANCE 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.

**PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA***Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***1 Kgs 3: 5, 7-12*

The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." Solomon answered: "O LORD, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed my father David; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act. I serve you in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?"

The LORD was pleased that Solomon made this request. So God said to him: "Because you have asked for this - not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies, but for understanding so that you may know what is right - I do as you requested. I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you there will come no one to equal you."

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Ps 119 (118): 57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130*


R. Lord, I love your com - mands.

I have said, O LORD, that my part is to keep your words.  
 The law of your mouth is to me more precious than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Let your kindness comfort me according to your promise to your servants.  
 Let your compassion come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight.

For I love your command more than gold, however fine.  
 For in all your precepts I go forward; every false way I hate.

Wonderful are your decrees; therefore I observe them.  
 The revelation of your words sheds light, giving understanding to the simple.

SECOND READING*Rom 8: 28-30*

Brothers and sisters: We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined he also called; and those he called he also justified; and those he justified he also glorified.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ÿ. Blessed are you Father, Lord of heaven *and earth*; \*  
for you have revealed to little ones the mysteries *of the Kingdom*.

GOSPEL*Mt 13: 44-52*

Jesus said to his disciples: “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.

“Do you understand all these things?” They answered, “Yes.” And he replied, “Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old.”

CREED*Refer to Pew Card*COMMUNION ANTIPHON*Ps 103 (102): 2*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

**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*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry,
2. All thy works with joy sur - round thee, Earth and heav'n re -
3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing,



1. Lord of love; Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee,
2. flect thy rays, Stars and an - gels sing a - round thee,
3. ev - er blest. Well - spring of the ioy of liv - ing.



1. O - p'ning to the sun a - bove. Melt the clouds of
2. Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise; Field and for - est,
3. O - cean depth of hap - py rest! Thou our Fa - ther.



1. sin and sad - ness; Drive the dark of doubt a - way;
2. vale and moun - tain, Flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
3. Christ our broth - er. All who live in love are thine:



1. Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day.
2. Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, Call us to re - joice in thee.
3. Teach us how to love each oth - er, Lift us to the joy di - vine.

## ST. MONICA PARISH

### Saturday, July 29

9:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory  
John & Rose Torla  
Deceased Members of the Torla Family  
Laura Mary Chmielecki

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

### Sunday, July 30

9:00am Jim Drelick  
Ludovick Extreme  
Avelina  
Cathy Olson  
Carl Olson

12:00pm Maria & Cheryl Laird

### Saturday, August 5

9:00am FIRST SATURDAY MASS  
OF REPARATION

4:00pm Joseph Elia

### Sunday, August 6

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

12:00pm Norma Ouellette

## BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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cataudellafh.com

## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

| DAY   | DATE     | PRIEST             | SEMINARIAN                  |
|-------|----------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sun   | 07/30/23 | Fr. Paul Ring      | Deacon Barry Mongeon        |
| Mon   | 07/31/23 | All Jesuits        | Gustavo Neitzke             |
| Tues  | 08/01/23 | All Redemptorists  | Thuy Nguyễn                 |
| Wed   | 08/02/23 | Fr. James Moran    | Deacon David Pineda         |
| Thurs | 08/03/23 | Fr. Thomas Donohoe | Deacon John Tanyi           |
| Fri   | 08/04/23 | All Parish Priests | All Seminarians and priests |
| Sat   | 08/05/23 | Fr. Ronald Gomes   | Deacon Hung Tran            |

## ST. LUCY PARISH

### Saturday, July 29

4:00pm Angelo Maimone

### Sunday, July 30

10:30am Wendy A. Mattheson  
Holy Souls in Purgatory  
Frances Maxi Nabydowski  
Pedro Alanya  
Genoveva Cabezas Yopez  
Maria Arasi

### Monday, July 31

9:00am Sarah & John Agacaoili

### Tuesday, August 1

9:00am Bruce Beverley

### Thursday, August 3

9:00am George, Christine & Richard Ferguson

### Friday, August 4

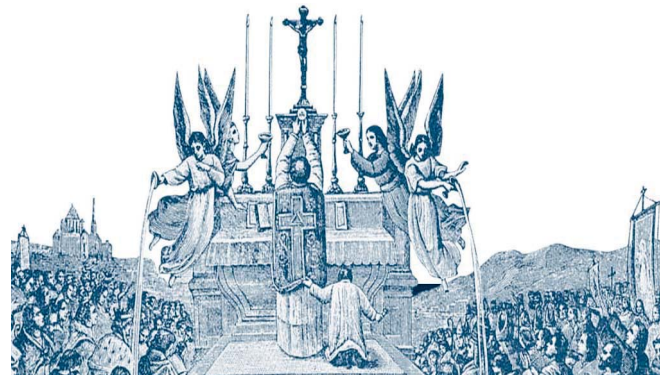
9:00am Timothy Mulligan

### Saturday, August 5

4:00pm Andrew & Isabel Mulvaney

### Sunday, August 6

10:30am Yvonne & Rene Lacoste  
Albert Argenziano  
Dennis Sullivan  
Rose & James Drelick  
Dorothy & Frank Verdolotti



## PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Bill R., Alberto G., Cheryl G., Ellen W., P.K., Patrice K., SJT, Erin C. & Matt W.

Please pray for Georgette R. Abdulla & Brian Sheehy whose funerals we recently celebrated. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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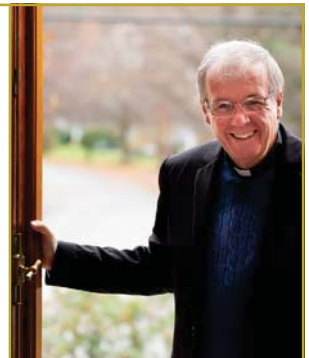
\*Requires purchase of annual plan. Special price is for first Lawn application only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction 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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