METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

NOV 24 2024

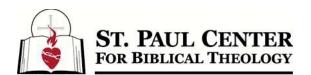
SOLEMNITY OF OUR

LORD JESUS CHRIST

KING OF THE UNIVERSE

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "the one who is and who was and who is to come, the almighty." Revelation 1:8





By Dr. Scott Hahn
A Royal Truth

Christ the King (Year B)

Daniel 7:13-14 Psalm 93:1-2,5 Revelation 1:5-8 John 18:33-37

What's the truth Jesus comes to bear witness to in this last Gospel of the Church's year?

It's the truth that in Jesus, God keeps the promise He made to David - of an everlasting kingdom, of an heir who would be His Son, "the first born, highest of the kings of the earth" (see 2 Samuel 7:12-16; Psalm 89:27-38).

Today's Second Reading, taken from the Book of Revelation, quotes these promises and celebrates Jesus as "the faithful witness." The reading hearkens back to Isaiah's prophecy that the Messiah would "witness to the peoples" that God is renewing His "everlasting covenant" with David (see Isaiah 55:3-5).

But as Jesus tells Pilate, there's far more going on here than the restoration of a temporal monarchy. In the Revelation reading, Jesus calls Himself "the Alpha and the Omega," the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. He's applying to Himself a description that God uses to describe Himself in the Old Testament - the first and the last, the One Who calls forth all generations (see Isaiah 41:4; 44:6; 48:12).

"He has made the world," today's Psalm cries, and His dominion is over all creation (see also John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17). In the vision of Daniel we hear in today's First Reading, He comes on "the clouds of heaven" - another sign of His divinity - to be given "glory and kingship" forever over all nations and peoples.

Christ is King and His Kingdom, while not of this world, exists in this world in the Church. We are a royal people. We know we have been loved by Him and freed by His blood and transformed into "a Kingdom, priests for His God and Father" (see also Exodus 19:6; 1 Peter 2:9).

As a priestly people, we share in His sacrifice and in His witness to God's everlasting covenant. We belong to His truth and listen to His voice, waiting for Him to come again amid the clouds.

A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology www.SalvationHistory.com



Secus is longing for your presence.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & CONFESSIONS

Wednesday Evenings 6-7pm St. Lucy Church Saturdays 9:30am-2:30pm Gethsemane Chapel at St. Monica Church



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

The Parish Offices will be CLOSED

Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th

SECOND COLLECTION - 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 617-746-5637.

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.

We will be distributing bread at our Thanksgiving Day Masses on Thursday, November 28th. 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.



All are welcome!

Tuesday, November 26th 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.

Thanksgiving Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the goodness of our people and for the spirit of justice that fills this nation. We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the land and the challenge of the cities. We thank you for our work and our rest, for one another, and for our homes. We thank you, Lord: accept our thanksgiving on this day. We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



JOIN THE CHRISTMAS CHOIRS

Anyone interested in being part of our Christmas Choirs for our 4:00pm Christmas Eve Masses are encouraged to contact Karl to sign up. We will practice together (Day/Time is TBD), but we will have two choirs: one for each parish's 4:00pm Mass.

All ages are welcome, but we're really hoping to have adults to anchor this effort!

Karl faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS

Please join us for refreshments **Sunday, November 24th** in St. Lucy Lower Church Hall following the 10:30am Mass



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.

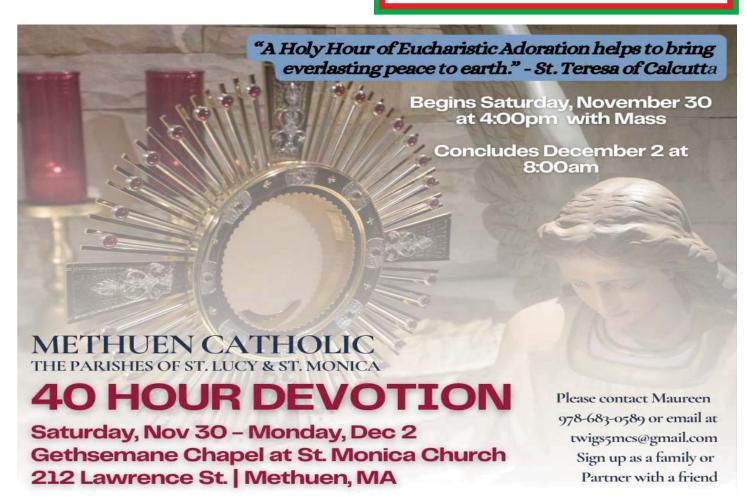
Designated boxes will be on display at the rear of each church from November 23rd- December 10th.

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





I look to the future with hope, and I invite you to do the same...we have an incredible opportunity to build the Kingdom of God by responding to the inspirations of the Holy Spirit for the good of our parish, our community, and ourselves. To become even more vibrant and active in spreading the Gospel and sharing the hope of Christ with others."

...The Grand Annual Appeal represents a crucial step in achieving our goals. For this reason, I thank you for your generous support of the Appeal, and our weekly offertory/online giving. As Saint Paul write to the Corinthians, "Whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully...for God loves a cheerful giver. Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work." (2 Cor 9: 6-8).

As I repeat at the end of every Mass, thank you for your gifts of time, talent, and treasures; and in a special way, thank you for your support of our Grand Annual appeal.

Yours in Christ.

Fr. Marcos









OCTOBER 25 & 26

St. Monica - \$7,149

St. Lucy - \$3,905

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.



As we prepare for our Thanksgiving offering to local families in need, we are asking for whatever support you can offer to help our Society provide a meal so that families can enjoy the blessings of the Thanksgiving holiday. We will be providing a Market Basket gift card to purchase a turkey. Please consider bringing Thanksgiving dinner items to either church & leaving them in the baskets for food

donations. The items we could use are, stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, canned vegetables, quick bread or cake mixes. Once again we thank you for your continued support and generosity to "Help us Help People."

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

frmarcosmethuen@gmail.com

Fr. Michael Harvey
Deacon John Kobrenski
Deacon John Pierce
Kera Mansour
Parochial Vicar
Permanent Deacon
Senior Deacon
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

Revelation 5: 12, 1: 6

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honor.

To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA

Refer to Pew Card

Daniel 7: 13-14

FIRST READING As the visions during the night continued, I saw

one like a Son of man coming.

- - 41 - - 1 - - 1 - - 61 - - - - -

on the clouds of heaven;

when he reached the Ancient One

and was presented before him,

the one like a Son of man received dominion, glory, and kingship;

all peoples, nations, and languages serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion

that shall not be taken away,

his kingship shall not be destroyed.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 93: 1, 1-2, 5



The LORD is king, in splendor robed; robed is the LORD and girt about with strength.

And he has made the world firm, not to be moved. Your throne stands firm from of old; from everlasting you are, O LORD.

Your decrees are worthy of trust indeed; holiness befits your house, O LORD, for length of days.

SECOND READING

Revelation 1: 5-8

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, who has made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father, to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.

Behold, he is coming amid the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him.
All the peoples of the earth will lament him. Yes. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, " says the Lord God, "the one who is and who was and who is to come, the almighty."

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21: 36



Blessed his he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

<u>GOSPEL</u> John 18: 33b-37

Pilate said to Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?" Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here." So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

<u>CREED</u> Refer to Pew Card

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Psalm 29 (28): 10-11

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

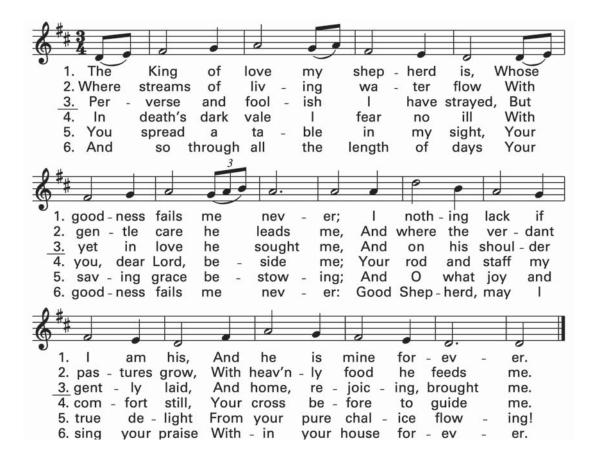
PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

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.



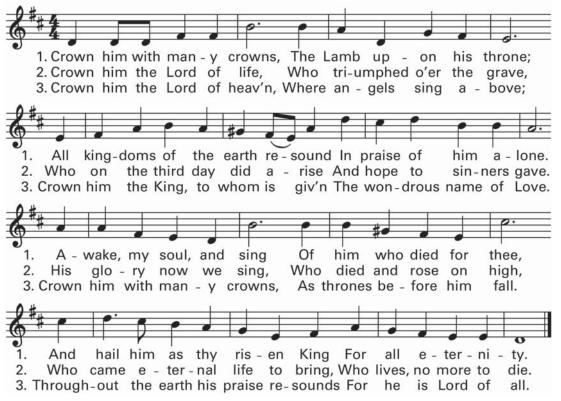
COMMUNION HYMN

The King of Love My Shepherd Is



RECESSIONAL HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns



ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, November 23

9:00am Souls in Purgatory

4:00pm Mr. Alphonse Sammataro

Mrs. Linda Marie Porter

Sunday, November 24

9:00am Neil Perry

George & Gloria Baker

Joan E. Chase

Mrs. Concetta D. Bella Dan Traficante III Jose Roman Alexandra Torres

12:00pm For the Parishioners of

St. Monica & St. Lucy

Saturday, November 30

9:00am George LaFland

Fred J. Rapisardi Mary Rapisardi

4:00pm Ann Thomas

Eva Vieweg

Sunday, December 1

9:00am Arthur & Emilda Gagne

Fred J. & Jenny Bonaccorsi Joseph F. Bonaccorsi

Sally McCafferty

Charles & Jenny Bonaccorsi Eleanor Bonaccorsi Marchman

12:00pm Gregory L'Heureux

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	11/24/24	Fr. Stephen Donohoe	Br. Joseph-Teresa Steger OCD
Mon	11/25/24	Fr. Anthony Medairos	Jay Zizza SJS Providence
Tues	11/26/24	Fr. John E. Kelly	David Bardales SJS Providence
Wed	11/27/24	Fr. James Laughlin	Alden Bronson SJS Boston
Thurs	11/28/24	Fr. Phillip Earley	Happy Thanksgiving
Fri	11/29/24	Fr. David Mullen	Alexander DeTirado RMS Boston
Sat	11/30/24	Fr. John Swencki	Joseph Jasinski SJS Boston

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, November 23

4:00pm Ana Lydia Mendes

Sunday, November 24

10:30am Maria Arasi

Anna & John D'Agata John McDermott Peter J. Torrisi Susan Livingston

Lawrence & Miriam Livingston
Patrick Joseph Livingston

Monday, November 25

9:00am Helen Giordano

Tuesday, November 26

9:00am Dorothy Berryman

Wednesday, November 27

9:00am Giovanni Privitera and

Deceased Members of the Privitera Family

Thursday, November 28

9:00am Alice Beverley

Friday, November 29

9:00am Bertrand LeBlanc

Real Taschereau Gerard Taschereau

Saturday, November 30

4:00pm For the Parishioners of

St. Monica & St. Lucy

Sunday, December 1

10:30am Angelo Maimone

Rev. Charles Squeglia Maria DiFruscia Rocco DiFruscia

Maria Giuseppa DiFruscia

Sharon Forgetta

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PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Eileen F., Robert L., Madelyn, Buddy B., Maria P., Phyllis T. & Patrice K.

Please pray for Arthur D'Hondt and Dorothy Arivella whose funerals we recently offered. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35



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