

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

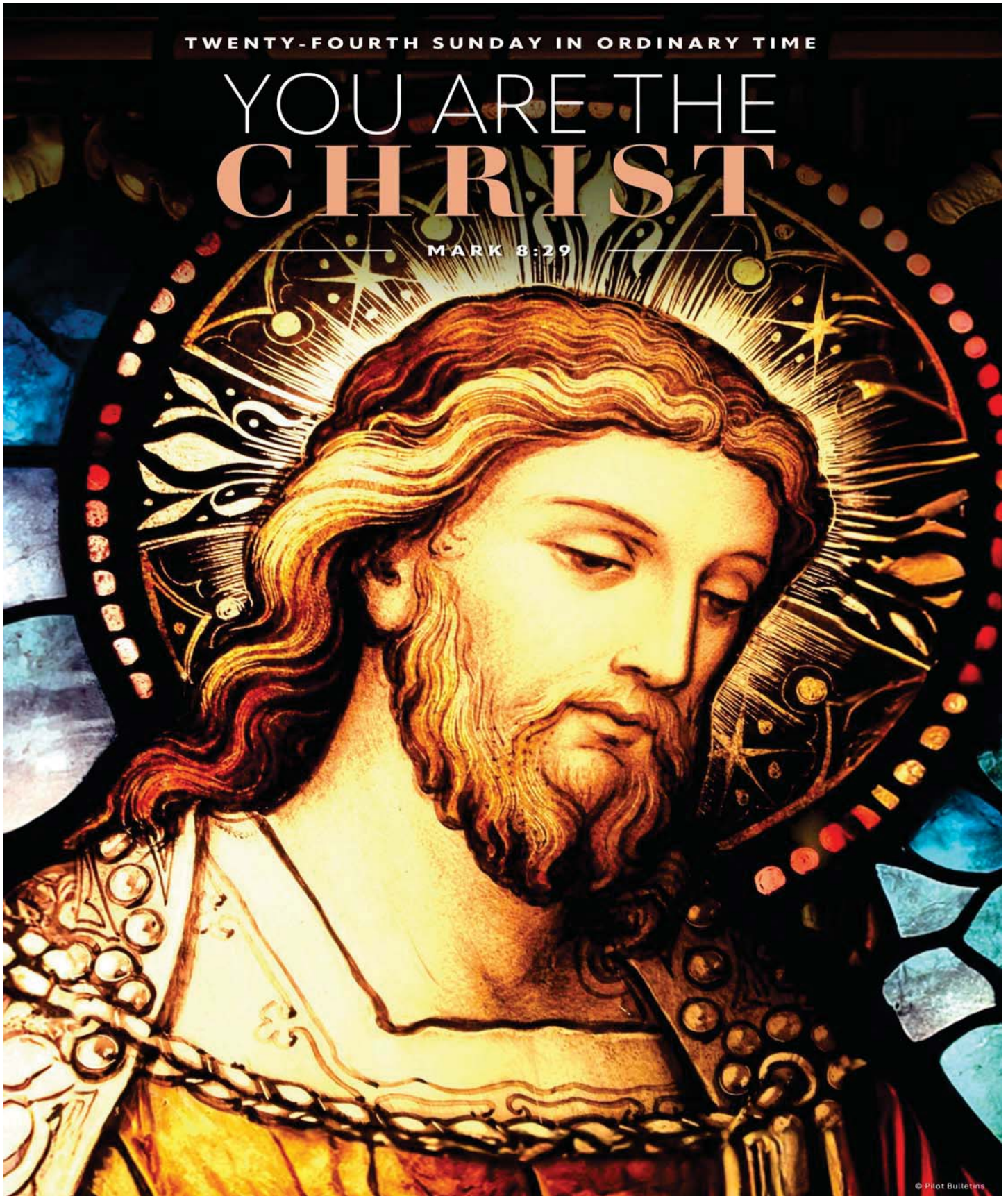
SEPT 15

2024

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YOU ARE THE CHRIST

MARK 8:29



© Pilot Bulletin

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

“Who do you say that I am?” A pivotal question in our life.

If I went out this upcoming winter to go pond skating with some friends and told them I was a world class skater, my inability to lace my skates would belie my words. If I told Fr. Marcos that before I became a priest I had previously worked as a chef at a high-end restaurant, but couldn't crack an egg, he would rightly call me a liar. I just might not be who I say I am when I tell you I can play eight musical instruments but don't know the difference between the brass, woodwind, or percussion sections of a band. However, everything that Jesus did and everything that Jesus said proved who He is - “the Christ, the Son of Man, the Messiah, the only Begotten Son of God.” Everything He said and did manifested the reality of who He is - Jesus Christ, True God & True Man, the Christ!

On the way to Caesarea Philippi, St. Peter did acknowledge Jesus as the Christ, but later on in the Garden of Gethsemane and in the courtyard outside the trial, St. Peter's words and actions betrayed his claim of being a disciple of Jesus. He ran from the Cross, the Sacrifice, the discomfort. But years later as Pope, he proved his faith by laying down his life for Christ and for the sake of the Gospel.

Do my actions, my thoughts, my words, betray who I think Jesus is, and who I claim to be - a Christian? Do I betray my Christian character and betray and deny Christ by settling for human respect and human rewards and a life of ease? Rather than instructing the ignorant, admonishing the sinner, bearing wrongs patiently, forgiving offenses, counseling the doubtful...taking up my cross? As St. Peter worked as “the slave of the blacks forever” in Columbia, dressing, feeding, consoling, caring and catechizing them, he wrote in a letter, “This is how we spoke to them, not with words, but with our hands & our actions.”

This weekend the Catholic Church traditionally celebrates both the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and also Our Lady of Sorrows. With Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows by our side, we will not run from the Cross.

Who is Christ for me? A man of history, a wise prophet, a man to be shunned and kept at a distance? Or, is He my friend, my help, my brother, my Lord and God, the Christ? In every waking moment we answer that question through all our actions and all our words; in what we do and in what we fail to do.

Pope St. John Paul II said, “In our case also, in order to make a more conscious profession of faith in Jesus Christ, we must, like Peter, listen attentively and carefully. We must follow in the school of the first disciples, who had become His witnesses and our teachers. At the same time we must accept the experience and testimony of no less than twenty centuries of history marked by the Master's question and enriched by the immense chorus of responses of the faithful of all times and places.”

Let's remember to go to Our Lady for encouragement. She was the ultimate disciple who would *hear the word of God and do it*. (Luke 8: 21, cf Mark 3: 35). She is the model for all Jesus' disciples...for all peoples. May the intercession of all the saints before us, and the example of all the saints among us, help us all to gladly deny ourselves, courageously take up our cross, and faithfully follow wherever Jesus leads.

WEDNESDAY MORNING MASS AT ST. LUCY CHURCH IS RETURNING

We are happy to announce that beginning September 18th, Wednesday morning Mass at 9am will be added back in to the weekday Mass schedule.

ANNUAL CORI FORMS

Our CORI Coordinator, Elena Powell, will be available at the main entrance of our churches to help all of our volunteers complete their annual CORI forms. This form needs to be completed each year. Elena will be at St. Monica's this weekend, September 14/15.

If you are a liturgical volunteer (lector, sacristan, eucharistic minister), a catechist (CCD teacher), a member of the Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul, or the Sodality or anyone who makes visits to the sick or works with youth in any capacity in our parishes, stop by her table to complete the CORI form for 2024-2025. All you need is your social security number and a valid photo ID.

Thanks for your cooperation!

**SECOND COLLECTION
CLERGY TRUST**

This week's second collection supports the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests in good standing throughout the Archdiocese of Boston. These priests have given their lives to faithfully serve Christ, the Church, and you. Please be generous to this important collection. For more information, please visit www.clergytrust.org

MARRIAGE BANNS



Second Banns of Marriage

Benjamin Murphy & Katelyn Hulme

**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)



Jesus is longing for
your presence.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
&
CONFESSIONS**

Wednesday Evenings
6-7pm
St. Lucy Church

**Confessions will resume
September 18th**

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

**St. Monica Knights of Columbus
Council 14725 Fundraiser**

Wednesday, September 18, 2023
The Irish Cottage - 17 Branch St., Methuen
4-10pm
For both dine-in and take-out

Bring this flier and give to your server when cashing out and The Irish Cottage will donate 20% of your total bill (excluding alcohol) to St. Monica Knights of Columbus Council 14725. In addition, for those in attendance at the fundraiser, The Irish Cottage will donate an additional \$1 per guest for those in attendance for the fundraiser.

Come by and help support
KofC Council 14725
THANK YOU!!



**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."

**WELCOME BACK
HOSPITALITY/REFRESHMENTS**

Please join us for refreshments

Sunday, September 15th

St. Monica School Hall
After the 9am mass

Sunday, September 22nd

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

Everyone is welcome!

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!

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



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!

SODALITY CRAFT FAIR NEWS UPDATE

WANTED...Homemade Bakery Goods

The Sodality will be hosting a bake table during the Fall Fair on October 26th. All parishioners are invited to support our bake sale. Please drop off any donated bakery items on Friday, October 25th from 12-6pm in St. Lucy's Parish Hall. Your support is much appreciated!

FEELING LUCKY??


Sodality Grand Prize Raffle Tickets will go on sale on September 28 & 29 following all masses at both St. Lucy & St. Monica Churches. Don't miss your chance to win a \$500 VISA Card, a \$300 VISA Card or a \$100 Market Basket Gift Card. Get your tickets early - last year we sold out! Ticket prices: 1 - \$2; 6 - \$5; 15 - \$10

AVAILABLE TABLES

We only have 2 tables left for any interested vendors. It's the best \$45 investment for a place in our highly successful Craft Fair. If interested, call the Parish Office or email Bvmsodality85@gmail.com.

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:
D = L and A = I.



A KZSDD OSDC

TWXGJW LZW DGJV

AF LZW DSFV

GX LZW DANAFY

ANSWER *I shall walk before the Lord in the land of the living.*



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.

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
- Portorage
- 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

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AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1

St. Monica - \$8,220.00

St. Lucy - \$4,925.00

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
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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*Sirach 36: 18*

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

ENTRANCE 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.

PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA*Refer to Pew Card*FIRST READING*Isaiah 50: 4c-9a*

The Lord GOD opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. He is near who upholds my right; if anyone wishes to oppose me, let us appear together. Who disputes my right? Let that man confront me. See, the Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong?

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 116: 1-2, 3-4 5-6, 8-9*

℟. I will walk be - fore the Lord, in the land of the liv - ing.

I love the LORD because he has heard my voice in supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called.

The cords of death encompassed me; the snares of the netherworld seized upon me;
I fell into distress and sorrow, and I called upon the name of the LORD, "O LORD, save my life!"

Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful.
The LORD keeps the little ones; I was brought low, and he saved me.

For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.
I shall walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

SECOND READING*James 2: 14-18*

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord
through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

GOSPEL*Mark 8: 27-35*

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

CREED*Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Psalm 36 (35): 8*

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

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*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

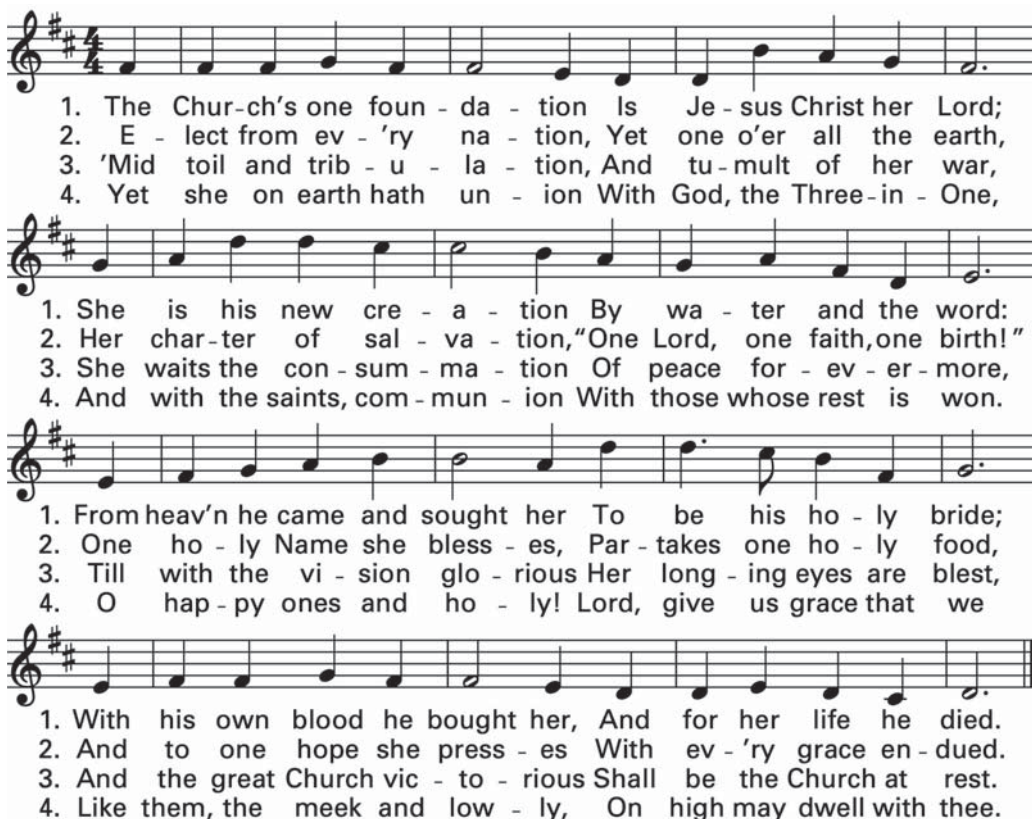
Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father
 There is no shadow of turning with thee
 Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not
 As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

REFRAIN

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
 Morning by morning new mercies I see
 All I have needed thy hand hath provided
 Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
 Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
 Join with all nature in manifold witness
 To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **REFRAIN**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
 Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
 Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **REFRAIN**

RECESSIONAL HYMN*The Church's One Foundation*


1. The Chur-ch's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
 2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth,
 3. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, And tu - mult of her war,
 4. Yet she on earth hath un - ion With God, the Three-in - One,

1. She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the word:
 2. Her char - ter of sal - va - tion, "One Lord, one faith, one birth!"
 3. She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more,
 4. And with the saints, com - mun - ion With those whose rest is won.

1. From heav'n he came and sought her To be his ho - ly bride;
 2. One ho - ly Name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
 3. Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,
 4. O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

1. With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.
 2. And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 3. And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
 4. Like them, the meek and low - ly, On high may dwell with thee.

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, September 14

9:00am Connie & Albert Zampelli
 4:00pm Aline Duncan
 Valorie Duncan
 Mr. & Mrs. Mecleor Raza

Sunday, September 15

9:00am Dan Traficante
 Donna Comerford
 Jack Moore
 James Champey
 Paul Reardon

 12:00pm For the Parishioners of
 St. Monica & St. Lucy

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

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	09/15/24	Fr. Brian Mahoney	Matthew Thoni
Mon	09/16/24	Fr. Joseph McCarthy	Giovanni Trimboli
Tues	09/17/24	Fr. Robert Butler	Sean McKeowen
Wed	09/18/24	Fr. Bertrand Proulx	Connor Rocket
Thurs	09/19/24	Fr. John Schatzel	Paulo Carvalho
Fri	09/20/24	Fr. Robert Thomas	Nicholas Colon
Sat	09/21/24	Fr. John Graham	Ryan Henderson

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, September 14

4:00pm Michael Kenny, Jr.
 Jeannette Luciano

Sunday, September 15

10:30am Margaret J. Covey
 Antonio DiFruscia
 Orsola M. Savastano
 Anna Lavoie

Monday, September 16

9:00am Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Harvey

Tuesday, September 17

9:00am Frank Doherty

Wednesday, September 18

9:00am Elizabeth Leonard

Thursday, September 19

9:00am Antonio & Evelina Mollica

Friday, September 20

9:00am Martin J. McGowan, Jr.

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



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for 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.



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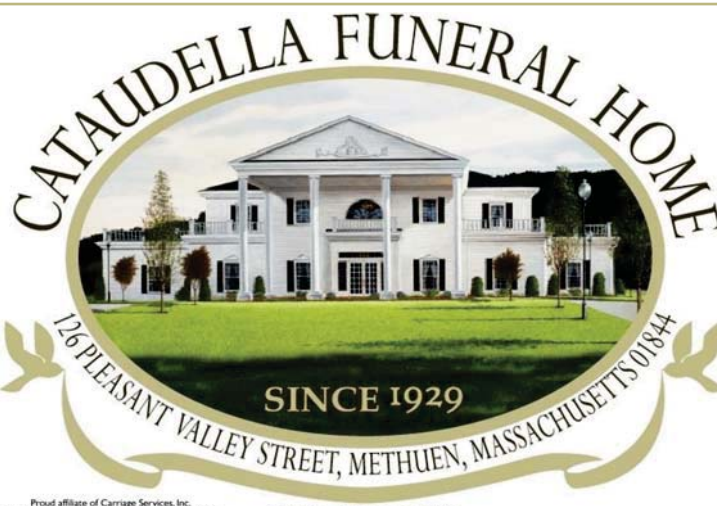
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