



## 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion?  
... In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.” - Lk 14:28, 33

# Welcome

To our newest parishioners.  
May God Bless you!



## U.S. CATHOLIC CATECHISM FOR ADULTS

Zoom classes will be held on Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm starting September 29th and will run for 13 weeks (with the exception of Thanksgiving). We will use the United States Catechism for Adults, as well as the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

If interested, please contact Bonnie Doherty at [bonnieocds@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieocds@gmail.com).

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are still in need of Money Counters at St. Monica's. **Money Counting** takes place every-other-Monday morning at St. Monica's. Please reach out to Kera to volunteer or for information.

[methuencatholic@gmail.com](mailto:methuencatholic@gmail.com)  
or 978-683-1193 ext. 26

## A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer. Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year. Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy. Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Dear Parishioners,

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the conclusion of my work as Director of Music at St. Monica and St. Lucy parishes. It has been an absolute blessing serving these parishes for the last five years and I am eternally grateful for all of your hospitality and support during my time here. To all who have served in the music ministries in one way or another, I thank you for all your time, dedication and effort in serving Christ and His Church through song.

Many thanks to Fr. Colarusso and Fr. D'Onofrio for your unwavering support and for allowing me to share my gifts to make our liturgical celebrations as reverent and holy as possible. Sharon Waning for being a wonderful colleague, collaborator, and friend. The entire parish and school staff, both past and present, for all your support and assistance.

After much prayer and discernment, I recently accepted an offer to serve at another parish starting at the end of September. While it does pain me to leave Methuen, I believe this is a better (and physically closer) fit for myself and family at this time. I wish everyone in our collaborative community nothing but the best and look forward to hearing about the wonderful things Methuen has in store in the future.

Peace and blessings,  
Eric



## St. Monica School

Afterschool Care Positions Available

Perfect for recent retiree, graduate or college student.

- Up to 20 hours a week.
- Competitive wages.
- Holidays and school vacation weeks off!

Seeking reliable, creative, and energetic individuals to round out of afterschool program.

Candidates should enjoy working with children, be able to problem solve, and think outside the box!

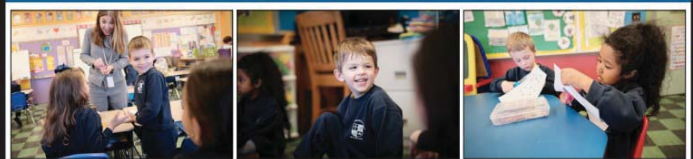


Program begins September 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Please call 978-686-1801 for more information or email your inquiry to [smsoffice@methuencatholic.org](mailto:smsoffice@methuencatholic.org)



## St. Monica School

Serving our community for over 60 years



**Now accepting applications for our PK 3 Program. Students must be 3 by September 1.**

*We offer a 3 or 5-day schedule.*

*Each day our students come to learn, play and pray in a safe, faith filled environment.*

Please call 978-686-1801 or visit [www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org](http://www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org) to learn more about our program, the admission process or schedule a tour.

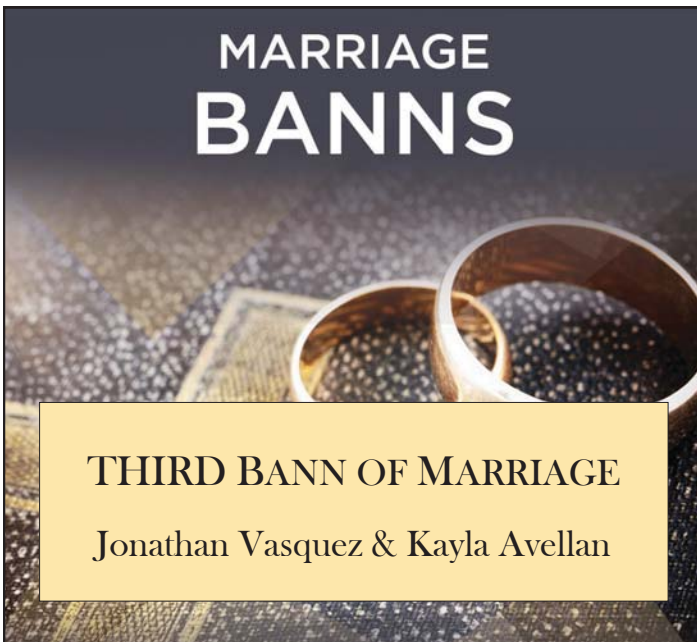
We also have a few openings in other grades. Please call for availability.



*Your child's educational journey can start here at St. Monica School.  
We look forward to meeting you!*

**St. Monica School**  
212 Lawrence St., Methuen

# MARRIAGE BANNS



**THIRD BANN OF MARRIAGE**  
Jonathan Vasquez & Kayla Avellan

The Blessed Virgin  
Mary Sodality

WELCOMES all

women to join our  
organization! If you



are interested in Community Outreach opportunities to help the needy and less fortunate and in participating in spiritual activities, please consider joining the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality at St. Lucy Church. Our next meeting is on September 11th at 11:30 (following the 10am mass) in the church hall. Hope to see many new faces! If you have questions please contact Judi at 978-314-8353.

**SAVE THE DATE**

The **Craft Fair**, sponsored by the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality, will be held on **Saturday, October 22 from 9am-3pm.**

**25+ Vendors/Crafters...Raffles...Baked Goods, and more!**

In Remembrance of our Unborn Brothers and Sisters  
**National Day of Remembrance  
for Aborted Children**

**Saturday, September 10, 2022 @ 10:00 to 10:30 a.m.**  
Merrimack Valley Memorial Service for Aborted Children



Memorial donated by local Knights of Columbus Council

On September 10, Pro-Life Americans throughout the country will gather at the gravesites of aborted babies & other memorial sites dedicated in their honor for the 8<sup>th</sup> annual National Day of Remembrance of Aborted Children. Solemn vigils will be held at these sites to commemorate the more than 60 million children who have lost their lives to legal abortion since 1973, and to remind our society of the humanity of the unborn child.

WHEN: **Saturday, September 10, 2022 @ 10:00 to 10:30a.m.**  
*(Followed by recitation of the Rosary)*  
WHERE: **Knights of Columbus Memorial for the Unborn**  
St. Mary's Cemetery | 29 Barker Street | Lawrence, MA

Knights of Columbus councils throughout the Order pay tribute to the millions of children killed by abortion by erecting memorials in Catholic cemeteries, council hall grounds, and on parish grounds throughout the United States.

*Pray the Rosary  
Rezen el Rosario*

Come and join us as we pray the rosary  
*Acompáñenos a rezar el rosario*

**Saturday / Sábado**  
**11:00 AM**  
**September 10 de Septiembre**  
**2022**



**Intention**

*We will be praying for **peace** in our families, city, nation, and the whole world.  
Please join us if you are able.*

**Intención**

*Estaremos orando por la **paz** en nuestras familias, ciudad, nación y el mundo entero.  
Únase a nosotros si puede.*

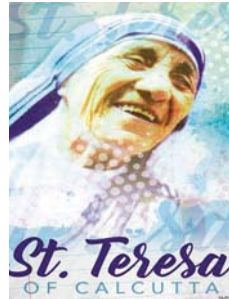
**Campagnone Common**  
**Lawrence's historic park**  
*across the street from*  
*the Lawrence Public Library*  
(Intersection of  
Lowell St. and Lawrence St.)

**El parque histórico**  
**Campagnone**  
**Common de Lawrence**  
*al otro lado de la calle de*  
*la Biblioteca Pública de Lawrence*  
(Intersección de las  
Calles Lowell y Lawrence)



## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

What is the cornerstone of discipleship? Love. Jesus preached about it, lived it, and summarized his greatest commandment featuring it. Love is in our DNA. To follow Jesus, then, is to follow the path of love. While this may appear to be an attractive and easy option, it most assuredly is not. Authentic love always comes with sacrifice. It is the complete giving of oneself to another. The sacrificial character of love always requires that we leave something aside and pursue something else. This is at the heart of self-denial. Love asks us to make choices that are often difficult.



There is a reason Jesus asks that the love of God come first. “Charity is the right attitude of mind which prefers nothing to the knowledge of God. If a man possesses any strong attachment to the things of this earth, he cannot possess true charity (St. Maximus the Confessor).” “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.” A devoted disciple must be single minded in her quest for God. She cannot allow anyone or anything to have more power over her soul than God. When any earthly attachments become more important than Love, we can get ourselves into trouble.

The Gospel calls us to walk boldly into the darkness, confusion, and emptiness of the world clothed in the mantle of love. We are asked to walk with others on their journey, offering a supportive, healing, challenging, and faithful presence. Ours is not to judge. To walk this sacrificial journey means that I must put myself aside and focus on the needs of others. “A sacrifice to be real must cost, must hurt and must empty ourselves (ST. Theresa of Calcutta).” Love helps us walk straight and focus to see things more clearly and help others to do so as well. Many folks struggle to find joy and meaning in life. People may simply need someone with the freedom to sit with them in their pain, so they don’t feel so alone. Through acts of kindness, gestures of acceptance, and words of compassion, burdens can be lightened. Believe in God’s love and seek it above all other things!

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 LABOR DAY

- Parish Offices Closed
- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- First Day of School (Half Day)
- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Rosary For Priests 6pm Gethsemane Chapel

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- First Day of School (Pre-K/K)
- Prayer and Study 9:30-11am (Zoom)
- Alanon 10-11:15am St. Lucy Lower Church
- Eucharistic Adoration 6-7pm St. Lucy Church

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Rosary 6pm (Zoom)
- AA 6:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- Mass 9am St. Lucy Church
- Eucharistic Adoration 2-5pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Confessions 4-5pm Gethsemane Chapel

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- Faith2Fitt 8am Methuen Track
- Mass 9am St. Monica Church
- National Day of Remembrance 11am-12pm (St. Mary’s Cemetery)
- Bettor’s Anonymous 2pm St. Monica SVDP Hut
- Confessions 3-3:45pm Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church

## REGISTRATION FOR FAITH FORMATION AND SACRAMENT PREPARATION IS NOW OPEN.

DEADLINE IS SEPT 30

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER.

**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).

QUESTIONS, CONTACT KARL AT  
(978) 683 - 1193 ext. 35 |

faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

**OFFERTORY | AUGUST 20 & 21**

St. Monica - \$9,620.<sup>00</sup>

St. Lucy - \$4,031.<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 soups, canned spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, cereal, canned fruit, canned tuna, baked beans, canned carrots, canned peas, mashed potatoes. 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 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 Monday-Friday 9am-7pm & Sunday 9am-5pm

**BAPTISMS** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 1:00pm St. Monica's | 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 am St. Lucy

SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica

**CONFESSIONS**

3 - 3:45 pm both parishes | Sat

4 - 5pm Gethsemane Chapel | Fri

6 - 7pm St. Lucy Church | Wed

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

2 - 5 pm Friday Gethsemane Chapel

6 - 7 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

Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am - 2pm

**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

Christine Ryan Administrative Assistant

parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com



**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**

Ps 86 (85): 3, 5

You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN***All Creatures Of Our God And King*


1. All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voic - es,  
2. Great rush - ing winds who are so strong, You clouds a - bove that

1. let us sing: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing sun with  
2. sail a - long, O\_\_ praise him! Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing morn, with

1. gold - en beams, Soft sil - ver moon that gent - ly gleams, O praise him!  
2. praise re - joice, Stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice, O praise him!

1-7. O praise him! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**PENITENTIAL ACT - GLORIA***Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Wis 9: 13-18b*

Who can know God's counsel, or who can conceive what the LORD intends? For the deliberations of mortals are timid, and unsure are our plans. For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns. And scarce do we guess the things on earth, and what is within our grasp we find with difficulty; but when things are in heaven, who can search them out? Or who ever knew your counsel, except you had given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high? And thus were the paths of those on earth made straight.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Ps 90 (89): 1; ¶ 3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 · L*


**R.** In ev - 'ry age, O Lord, you have been our ref - uge.

*You turn man back to dust,  
saying, "Return, O children of men."  
For a thousand years in your sight  
are as yesterday, now that it is past,  
or as a watch of the night.*

*You make an end of them in their sleep; the next  
morning they are like the changing grass,  
Which at dawn springs up anew,  
but by evening wilts and fades.*

*Teach us to number our days aright,  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Return, O LORD! How long?  
Have pity on your servants!*

*Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,  
that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days.  
And may the gracious care of the Lord our God be ours;  
prosper the work of our hands for us!  
Prosper the work of our hands!*

**SECOND READING***Phlm 1: 9-10, 12-17*

I, Paul, an old man, and now also a prisoner for Christ Jesus, urge you on behalf of my child Onesimus, whose father I have become in my imprisonment; I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I should have liked to retain him for myself, so that he might serve me on your behalf in my imprisonment for the gospel, but I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that the good you do might not be forced but voluntary. Perhaps this is why he was away from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a brother, beloved especially to me, but even more so to you, as a man and in the Lord. So if you regard me as a partner, welcome him as you would me.

**ALLELUIA***Ps 119 (118): 135 · L*

☩ *Let your face shine upon your servant; and teach me your laws.*

**GOSPEL***Lk 14: 25-33*

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, ‘This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.’ Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.”

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Cf. Ps 42 (41): 2-3; ☩ 3b-12 · RM*

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God;  
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

**COMMUNION HYMN***Gift Of Finest Wheat*

Refrain

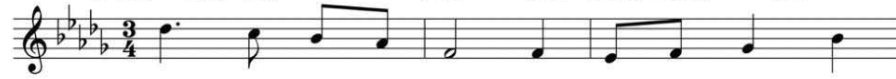
You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart With  
gift of fin - est wheat; Come give to us, O  
sav - ing Lord, The bread of life to eat.



## 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  
 4. The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, No



- 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  
 mor - tal tongue can tell: Whom all the world can -  
 D.C.



- fam - 'ly, Lord, We fol - low and re - joice.  
 wor - thy, Lord, To share this heav'n - ly food.  
 loaf, de - clare Our one - ness in the Lord?  
 not con - tain Comes in our hearts to dwell.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN***Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*

1. Ho - ly God, we praise thy name; Lord of  
 2. Hark! the loud ce - les - tial hymn An - gel



1. all, we bow be - fore thee! All on earth thy  
 2. choirs a - bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and



1. scep - ter claim, All in heav'n a - bove a - dore thee;  
 2. Ser - a - phim, In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing;



1. In - fi - nite, thy vast do - main, Ev - er -  
 2. Fill the heav'ns with sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly,



1. last - ing is thy reign. In - fi - nite, thy  
 2. ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!" Fill the heav'ns with



1. vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is thy reign.  
 2. sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"

**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...

## ST. MONICA PARISH

### Saturday, September 3

9:00am First Saturday Mass  
 4:00pm Paul Valliere  
 Jamie & Jacob McDaniel

### Sunday, September 4

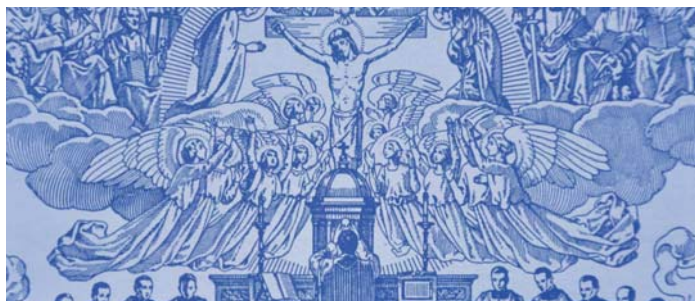
9:00am Paul & Josephine Amato  
 Cecile and Carole Locke  
 Veronique Esperance  
 11:00 am Joan S. Mansour

### Saturday, September 10

9:00am Marilyn St. Onge  
 4:00pm Robert Higgins

### Sunday, September 11

9:00am Jose Freitas  
 Helen Berthold Peters  
 Eric Lewandowski  
 Stanley & Anna Lewandowski  
 Florence Regan  
 11:00 am For the Parishioners of  
 St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes



## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINARIAN
Sun	09/04/22	Fr. Robert Labrie	Deacon Rodrigo Martinez
Mon	09/05/22	Fr. John Mulloy	Saul Quechol
Tues	09/06/22	Fr. Christopher Boyle	Tim Walsh
Wed	09/07/22	Fr. Robert Milling	Jose Ignazio Montero
Thurs	09/08/22	Pope Francis	Brian Daley
Fri	09/09/22	Msgr. Peter Conley	Brian Delaney
Sat	09/10/22	Fr. William Palardy	Aaron Yohe

## ST. LUCY PARISH

### Saturday, September 3

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

### Sunday, September 4

10:00am Despres & Paris Families  
 Bruce Beverley  
 Mary & William Auriemma  
 Stephen J. Colella

### Monday, September 5

9:00am Richard Greene

### Tuesday, September 6

9:00am Roland & Yvonne Soucy

### Thursday, September 8

9:00am Catherine Olson  
 Carl Olson

### Friday, September 9

9:00am Luisa & Pia Rea

### Saturday, September 10

4:00pm Cortese & Rizzo Families

### Sunday, September 11

10:00am Michael Kenny, Jr.  
 Paul Meli, Sr. & Family  
 Bruno & Stephanie Torla  
 Michael & Helen Torla  
 Barbara Stella

## BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Colizzi Memorials, Inc. | 978-674-7035  
 217 Merrimack St. | Methuen, MA 01844  
 colizzimemorials.com



## PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Kelsey D., Joe V., Margarida S., L.J. & Malcolm G.

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

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## GENERAC

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