

October 1, 2017

MONTH OF THE
ROSARY

St. Monica Parish

St. Lucy Parish

Renew, Rebuild, and Reach Out: Disciples in Heartfelt Communion with Jesus Christ

St. Monica Parish: 212 Lawrence Street
St. Lucy Parish: 254 Merrimack Street
Methuen, MA

PARISH OFFICES

254 Merrimack St • Methuen, MA 01844
Telephone (978) 683-1193 or (978) 686-3311
methuencatholic@gmail.com
www.methuencatholic.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

PASTORAL STAFF

Father William P. Lohan ext. 992
Pastor
frlohan68@gmail.com

Father Joseph Thomas, BSO (978) 319-7873
Weekend Assistant irenaiosbso2002@cs.com

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Music Director
pfjernberg@gmail.com

Sharon Waning
Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy

Kevin Fitzgerald
Facilities Manager (St. Lucy's) & RCIA Coordinator



Follow us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/methuencatholic/

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Mondays at 10 a.m. Please email all bulletin notices to methuencatholicnews@gmail.com

MARRIAGES. Please call the parish office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date and before booking a reception hall.

ST. MONICA SCHOOL

212 Lawrence St • Methuen, MA 01844
Telephone (978) 686-1801
saintmonicaoffice@verizon.net
www.methuencatholic.org/school

SCHOOL STAFF

Sister Suzanne Fondini, mfc
School Principal

Sharon Tully
Administrative Assistant

PARISH SERVICES

St. Vincent de Paul (978) 686 - 9573

St. Lucy Parish

Daily Mass Schedule:

Monday through Wednesday 8:00 am

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00pm (for Sunday)

Sunday: 8:00am/9:30am/11:30am

Holy Days of Obligation:

8:00 am, 12:30 pm, and 7:00 pm

St. Monica Parish

Daily Mass Schedule:

Thursday and Friday 7:00 am, Saturday 8:00 am

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00 pm (for Sunday)

Sunday: 7:30am/9:30am/11:30am/5:30pm

Holy Days of Obligation:

4:00pm (prior eve)/7:00 am and 10:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Monica Parish

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

St. Lucy Parish

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

and any time by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesdays: 1:30 - 4:30 pm St. Lucy Church

Fridays: 7:30 am - 7:30 pm St. Monica Chapel

For more information on Adoration at St. Monica's, please contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com or (978) 270 - 3366
For St. Lucy's, please contact Ellen Wholley at (978) 682 - 8459. If school is cancelled due to weather, Adoration is also cancelled.

BAPTISMS. Please call the parish office.

St. Monica's Parish: 1st full weekend of the month

Saturday 12:30 pm/Sunday 1:00pm

St. Lucy Parish: 3rd Saturday of the Month 12:30pm



CRAFT FAIR

SPONSORED BY THE BLESSED
VIRGIN MARY SODALITY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 - 9 AM TO 3 PM
ST. LUCY PARISH CHURCH HALL

35 tables displaying a variety of crafts
from local artists

Great food including homemade Italian
sausage

Delicious homemade treats from the
Bakery Sale Table

Grand Prize and Basket Raffles

Come early! Shop! Have Lunch! Bring home
some baked goods and **win one of the
grand prizes or a fabulous basket!**

(You might find great ideas for Christmas
gifts and stocking stuffers.)

Giant Book Sale to support St. Lucy's

Same day and time as the Craft Fair in
the school house. Donate books you've read
that others can enjoy and support the
parish. Books can be left under the stairs at
the school house.

Program for Adults desiring to receive the Sacraments

Sessions will be offered for adults interested in our Catholic faith and in becoming a member of the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation, a program commonly known as RCIA.

Anyone interested in receiving any or all of these sacraments, which they may have not received in their youth, are **encouraged and welcomed** to attend. If YOU know of anyone interested, please let them know and we will gladly welcome them and explain the process offered. Also, these sessions are open to anyone who has received their Sacraments but might want to come to a deeper appreciation of what these Sacraments are about. You too are welcome to join in a very interesting and relaxed atmosphere.

Sessions will begin in the Fall at the St. Lucy Parish Schoolhouse. Any questions please contact Kevin Fitzgerald, at 978-686-3311 or Bonnie Bonanno at 978-609-7307.

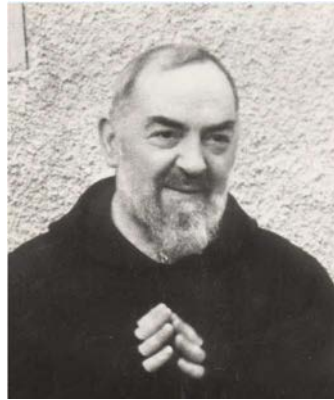
**If you are interested please join us next
Sunday, October 8 at 10:00 am in the
St. Lucy School House.**

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

Just a reminder that Faith Formation is underway at both of our parishes, but there is still room if you'd like to enroll your children. Please contact the parish offices at 978-683-1193 for more information.

Mail for Fr. Cassani can be sent to
RCAB
c/o Clergy Personnel
66 Brooks Dr.
Braintree, MA 02184

Tuesday and **Friday** Confessions are suspended until we are assigned a new parochial vicar.
The 3pm Saturday Confessions will continue at both parishes.



The St. Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday, October 3 from 6:30-8:30pm in the chapel of St. Monica's Church. In addition to the recitation of the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the evening's topic of discussion will include miracles attributed to Padre Pio's intercession. A

St. Padre Pio relic is available for veneration. All interested are welcome.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

"YES I CAN" Program

WE CAN USE... baked beans, rice sides, pancake mix, pancake syrup, peanut butter, cereal, spaghetti sauce, and strawberry jam.

Donations can be dropped off anytime in the baskets located at the entrances to both churches.

Forgiven

A Course on the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Beginning on Thursday, October 12 at 6:00 pm
St. Monica rectory 1st floor sunroom

Each video is about 40 minutes or less followed by discussion. Contact Bonnie Doherty for more information. (978) 270 - 3366 or bonnieocds@gmail.com

The Archdiocese of Boston is working to encourage all parishes in the Archdiocese to participate in Formed.org which is also known as the Catholic Netflix. Formed.org offers much in the area of Programs, Studies, Audios, and eBooks. (Also, once you download an eBook, it is yours to keep, even after the free offer ends!) The Archdiocese is working with Formed.org to offer free access to all of their material until October 27 so please take a look at this wealth of Catholic information before the offer ends. You can watch Formed.org on your desktop computer or on a mobile device using the Formed app if you have an iPhone or iPad. (There is currently no Android app.) If anyone has any questions, they can contact Bonnie Doherty at 978-270-3366 or bonnieocds@gmail.com. To access this material: Go to: <https://formed.org/>, Click on Login and enter email address: boston@formed.org and password: [formed17](https://formed.org/).

**St. Monica 100th Anniversary
Dinner Dance**

Come join the fun at Lenzi's restaurant in Dracut on Saturday, October 28, 2017. Tickets are going fast. Get yours now by calling Jane & Bill Shawcross at 978-794-8681 or 978-273-8830. Tickets are \$50.00 each.

Members of the Catholic Daughters and the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas will be meeting On October 7th in St. Lucy's lower church hall to share information on forming a Court at our parishes.

Girls aged 6-18 are encouraged to attend (families welcome) to learn more about this unique opportunity to embrace Message, Service, and Community with the JCDA.

There is information on the parish website and on the bulletin boards at both St. Lucy's and St. Monica's. Please contact Charlene Langenfeld 978-659-0009 for more information.

**NOVENA TO
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

**PLACE: ST. MONICA CHURCH
TIME: 7 P.M.**

**NINE CONSECUTIVE MONDAYS FROM
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 - NOVEMBER 6, 2017**

This year our annual novena will be to Our Lady of Guadalupe: Patroness of the Americas, Queen of the first and the new evangelization, and Patroness of the unborn.

- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
- praying the Rosary
- the Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary
- reading the The Nican Mopohua, the account of the Guadalupan apparitions of 1531 written in 1548 by Antonio Valeriano
- a meditation/reflection
- the Novena prayers
- Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

**PRAYER VIGIL FOR UNITY
AND PEACE**

Thursday, October 12 at 7:00 pm

ST. MONICA CHURCH

*Following the service is a light reception
in the school hall. Please join us.*

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ST. LUCY PARISH

MEN'S GUILD



The St. Lucy's Men's Guild was honored to welcome Massachusetts Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Francisco Urena to their meeting on Sunday, Sept. 24th.

Sec. Urena, originally from Lawrence, addressed several issues that are of concern to veterans both in our Merrimack Valley area and throughout the State and Country.

This presentation was the first in a series of informative guest speakers who will be part of the Men's Guild agenda for the coming year along with our mission of service to our parish.

ST. MONICA PARISH

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus will be having a "Public Square Rosary Rally" on the Parish Grounds of St. Monica on Saturday, October 14, at noon. Please join us as we gather to recite the Rosary to Our Blessed Mother for the Spiritual well being of America. "America Needs Fatima" is the sponsor of this Rally, and about 20,000 other Rosary Rallies, that will be taking place at the same time throughout the Country!

There also be will be a Prayer Vigil, led by the Knights, after Eucharistic Adoration, on Friday evening, October 13, in Honor of the 6th Apparition of Our Lady at Fatima.

Saint Monica Council 14725 will be holding a Pancake Breakfast this Sunday, October 1 in the School Hall after the 7:30am and 9:30am Masses! All are invited to attend! Cost is \$5/person! Coffee, Juice, Pancakes and Sausages!

Roses for Life have been donated
In loving memory of

Michael and Linda Giarrusso
Cecile and Peter Checovich

If you would like to honor a loved one and support our activities, for a donation of \$10, we'll purchase a rose and place it in the vase before the statue of the Blessed Mother for a week. Please contact the parish office at (978) 683-1193.

The **Sanctuary Candle** for the month of October is given in loving memory of
Donald Stewart.

Offertory September 24, 2017: \$9,857.00

There is only one collection this weekend, our regular Sunday offering. The second collection next weekend is for our school.

Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.



Saturday, September 30

8:00 am (*multiple intentions*)

Therese Rousseau
Arthur Hamel
Manuel Peixoto

4:00 pm

Stanislaw Arabudzki and Todd Tisdale

Sunday, October 1

7:30 am

Catherine Sullivan

9:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Charlie and Rose Hanafin **(Living)**
Violet Sayer
Mercedes Melendez
Angela Hyatt
Lillian Scott
Mrs. Rachel Caron Torres
Jake Lamotta
Peter LaTorre

11:30 am

5:30 pm

Thursday, October 5

7:00 am

Christine Ferguson

Friday, October 6

8:15 am (*school Mass*) Colombe Zucchi

Saturday, October 7

8:00 am (*multiple intentions*)

Geraldine Fillipon
Kevin Waterworth
Jean Caron

4:00 pm

Joseph Drelick

Sunday, October 8

7:30 am

Elizabeth and John Buonanno, and
Modeste (Mody) and Michael Ryan

9:30 am (*multiple intentions*)

Mary and Harold Morley Jr. and
deceased members of the Morley and
Stanavich Family
Patricia Leslie
Joseph R. Stanley
Joseph McGravey
Patricia Wright and Walter Witkos
Parishioners of St. Monica and
St. Lucy Parishes

11:30 am

5:30 pm

ST. LUCY PARISH



Saturday, September 30

4:00 pm M. Janet Szostak

Sunday, October 1

8:00 am Josephine and Michael Carelli

9:30 am Yvonne Soucy

11:30 am *(multiple intentions)*

Anthony, Fr. Patrick and
Benedetto Maccarone
John Piazza
Giuseppe Currao
Celine Bresnahan
Anne Calderone
Joseph and
Connie Pappalardo

Monday, October 2

8:00 am Margaret J. Covey

Tuesday, October 3

8:00 am Peter Maciariello

Wednesday, October 4

8:00 am Walter Tuminowski

Saturday, October 7

4:00 pm Deceased members of the
Wholley Family

Sunday, October 8

8:00 am Flora and Jim Llorca

9:30 am Deceased members of
the Sodality

11:30 am *(multiple intentions)*

John Rovinski
Lucille Guimond
Joseph DiCenzo
Pamela Saluski **(Living)**
Genovena Aguiar,
Carlos Medeiros,
Cremipde Pimentel,
Daniel Craveiro, and
Jorgina Aguiaz

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY

Next Sodality Meeting: Next Sunday, October 8th after the 9:30 Mass and the praying of the rosary. This will be an important meeting to finalize our Craft Fair.

In anticipation of the Craft Fair, members of the Sodality will be selling **GRAND PRIZE Raffle tickets** at both St. Lucy's and St. Monica's at the rear of the churches next weekend, October 7/8 and the weekend of October 14/15.

PRIZES:

2 - \$200.00 CERTIFICATES to Market Basket

4 - \$100.00 VISA Gift Cards

Ticket Price: 3 for \$5.00 / \$2.00 each

The drawing will be held at the Craft Fair.

You do not need to be there to win.

Sponsored by St. Lucy Blessed Virgin Sodality.

We are a Sodality dedicated to the Blessed Mother in service to our parish and our community.

A very special thank you to all dear parishioners and friends that helped to make of my so-called retirement an unforgettable event for days to come. A special note of gratitude to all members of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Sodality for organizing that day...especially to Angela Rizzo, President and all her devoted helpers. The atmosphere in St. Lucy's Hall was one of joy, peace, happiness as we reminisced past family visits and also shared delicious appetizers and coffee. You will always be remembered in my prayers! May God bless you and the Blessed Mother watch over you and guide you.

In His Love & Peace,
Sister Rina p.m.

Offertory September 24, 2017: \$5,129.00

There is only one collection this weekend and next weekend, our regular Sunday offering.

Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.

The church stays open until 4 pm every day.

ST. MONICA SCHOOL

St. Monica School students were busy last weekend!
The following students walked and raised money for the St. Vincent de Paul walk on Saturday morning.

- Susan and Kenneth Snay
- Kianna and Ava Landon
- Ally and Luke Armano
- Gavin Boucher
- Danielle Gonsalves



On Saturday afternoon and Sunday after all of the Masses at St. Monica, the following students helped with a bake sale that raised \$600 for the school.

Saturday:

- Susan and Kenneth Snay
- Kianna and Ava Landon
- Ernesto Jaquez
- Daniel Perez
- Alison Scuderi
- Emma and Sarah Cotnoir

Sunday:

- Gavin and Gemma Boucher
- Susan and Kenneth Snay
- Kianna and Ava Landon
- Abby and Gracie Courtemanche
- Bradley Pelletier
- Julia and Dominic Alaimo
- Danielle Gonsalves



Fuddruckers Fundraiser
September 16



Students at St. Monica School thanking those who keep us safe.

Conversion to Christ one person at a time, little by little, must be celebrated

Over the past few decades as we have lamented a stark decline in modesty in dress and behavior. We often note the negative role that many in Hollywood and in the music industry play in this decline.

Lady Gaga has become for this decade what Madonna had been in the 1980' s. A Catholic, educated in a Catholic school, but using Catholic symbols in videos in sacrilegious ways while wearing outfits that would often cause my mom to say, with a touch of sarcasm, "that poor girl is going to catch Pneumonia!" I often thought the best thing about the Patriots comeback in the Super Bowl vs Atlanta was that it helped us to forget the Lady Gaga half-time performance.

Happily lately, Lady Gaga was photographed with a Catholic priest after a Mass. She posted that picture on line with a quote praising his homily on Eucharist as medicine for sinners. She has posted a picture of herself devoutly praying with a rosary and went to church with her boyfriend beautifully and modestly dressed and after the service took the time to lift up the church musician complementing the music. Lady Gaga was criticized on line after posting the picture with the priest, as just another Hollywood star following a popular trend of quoting Jesus, or religion in general, while still living immorally. Lady Gaga responded with this note on line:

Dear Becky,

"Mary Magdalene washed the feet of Christ and was protected and loved by him. A prostitute, someone society shamed, as if she and her body was a man' s trash can. He loved her and did not judge. He let her cry over him and dry his feet with the hair of a harlot. We are not just "celebrities" we are humans and sinners, children, and our lives are not void of values because we struggle. We are as equally forgiven as our neighbor. God is never a trend no matter who the believer." – Lady Gaga.

It would be impossible for God not to be at work in the heart of a person capable of penning such a profoundly beautiful note. How important to remember that in God' s eyes Lady Gaga always was, and still is, Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta. Sometimes we forget that "celebrities" are real people, real people that live in a world where temptation is perhaps much stronger than it is in the lives of us "normal" people. In the end, Stefani is a "normal" person, a beloved and precious daughter of God. Her past does not change that. May she continue to come to a deeper knowledge of that reality as she grows, even if it' s little-by-little, into the image of Christ. Perhaps we know someone who has forgotten who they are, even if they never changed their name. Maybe you will be the one to offer an invite or a kind word that will be the spark to remember who they are.

"Where Sin increased, grace abounded all the more" Romans 5:20

-Fr. Bill

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