First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016

St. Monica Parish

212 Lawrence St • Methuen, MA

St. Lucy Parish

254 Merrimack St • Methuen, MA

CONTRACTOR THE WAY

St. Lucy Parish

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:00pm (for Sunday)

Sunday

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

St. Monica Parish

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:00pm (for Sunday)

Sunday

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

PARISH OFFICES

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

PASTORAL STAFF

Father William P. Lohan ext. 992

Pastor

Father John A. Cassani ext. 993

Parochial Vicar

Father Joseph Thomas, BSO (978) 319-7873

Weekend Assistant

Father Herb Jones ext. 111

In Residence

Deacon John Pierce ext. 39

Permanent Deacon

Carolyn Leocata ext. 28

Administrative Assistant

Karl Jackson ext. 35

Director of Faith Formation faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Samantha Moore ext. 36

Youth Minister

youth.stlm@gmail.com

Sr. Rina Brunetti, pm ext. 34

Pastoral Associate in the Care of the Sick

Paul Jernberg ext. 27

Music Director

pfjernberg@gmail.com

Sharon Waning

Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy

Kera Mansour ext. 26

Business Manager

Kevin Fitzgerald

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

Isabela Peixoto

Communications Associate

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm Friday - 8:30am—12:30pm

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

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

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, mfic

School Principal

Sharon Tully

Administrative Assistant

PARISH SERVICES

Prayer Line (978) 683-1193 ext. 41

St. Vincent de Paul (978) 686-9573 at St. Monica's Parish

St. Lucy Daily Mass Schedule

Monday through Wednesday 8:00 am

St. Monica Daily Mass Schedule

Thursday and Friday 7:00 am and

Saturday 8:00 am

St. Lucy Holy Days of Obligation

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

St. Monica Holy Days of Obligation

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

Civic Holiday Schedule:

Normal Schedule at both Parishes

St. Monica Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 6:30-7:30 pm Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

St. Lucy Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday 4:30-5:30pm Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

and any time by appointment

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 26

8:00 am (multiple intentions)

Blessed Mother (Special Intention)

4:00 pm

Anthony J. Vittorioso (Memorial)

Sunday, November 27

7:30 am Mafalda D'Attorre (Memorial) & Clare Spanks (1st Anniversary)

9:30 am (multiple intentions)

Mark Foderaro (Birthday Remembrance) Mark McComiskey (Memorial)

Fred Rapisardi (2nd Anniversary)
George W. Lafland (Remembrance)

Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus

Michael Cestrone

Professor Dr. Joseph Aiyeku

Thomas F. Green, Jr. & Albert Perrault

Ruth Cady (Memorial)

11:30 am Leo & Patricia Deschamps (Memorial)

5:30 pm

Maria Faria (Birthday Memorial)

Thurs., December 1

7:00 am Richard McLean (Memorial)

Friday, December 2

7:00 am Pamela DaVeta (Memorial)

Saturday, December 3

8:00 am (multiple intentions)

Madeline Vachon (Memorial)

Margaret O'Donnell

Thomas Greene

4:00 pm

Karen Tardugno & Dora Jones (Memorial)

Sunday, December 4

7:30 am Blanche Fawcett (Memorial)

9:30 am (multiple intentions)

Charlie & Rose Hanafin "living"

Vivian Rozzi (Memorial)

In thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother

Irene Lavin

James Sheehy (15 Year Anniversary)
Tom Greene (Month's Mind)

11:30 am Dalmazia Mesiti (100th Birthday Remembrance)

5:30 pm The People of St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes



St. Vincent de Paul Society "YES I CAN" program

WE CAN USE..... pasta (spaghetti), pasta sauce, cereal, canned beans, rice, Hamburger Helper, strawberry jam, and canned pasta



SVDP Giving Tree

The St. Vincent de Paul giving trees are now up in the Church. Please help us bring a smile to a child in need by taking a tag. Please return the present unwrapped or in a gift bag by December 11th with the original

tag attached to it. There will also be a box at the back of the church to return gift cards. Thank you for helping these children have a Merry Christmas.

Please pray for **Della Marrone** who recently passed away. May her soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.



Roses for Life have been donated...

In Loving Memory of

Michael & Linda Giarrusso Cecile and Peter Checovich

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 26

4:00 pm Helene Giordano

(Memorial)

Sunday, November 27

8:00 am The People of St. Lucy & St. Monica Parishes

9:30 am John & Anna D'Agata

11:30 am (multiple intentions)

Maria L. DiFruscia (Memorial)
Alyce Innis (7th Anniversary)
Amanda DaSilva (1 Year Anniversary)
Sharon Forgetta (Memorial)
Frank Doda & Doda Family (Memorial)

Mr. Spada

John & Jennie Blatti Walter & Ella Gebala

Therese Maher

Eugenio & Paulina Azucena

Monday, November 28

8:00 am Sarah & Sam Privitera

(Memorial)

Tuesday, November 29

8:00 am

Wednesday, November 30

8:00 am Joseph & Mary Augeri

(Memorial)

Saturday, December 3

4:00 pm Yannalfo, Nardone, Conlin Family (Memorial)

Sunday, December 4

8:00 am Wilfred & Mary Despres (Memorial)

9:30 am Domenic & Mary Rotonnelli, Guiseppi & Francesca

Bevilacqua, Rev. Charles Sgueglia,

Antonio & Philomena Sgueglia (Memorial)

11:30 am (multiple intentions)

Albert DeSantis & Family

Warren Finniss

Walter Cheltowski (Memorial)

Margaret Nicolosi (Memorial)

Henry Bruno (Memorial)

Ana Lydia Mendez & Felicita Azucena

Theresa Maher

Mr. & Mrs. Walenty & Apolina Gebala

STEWARDSHIP

November 20, 2016

OFFERTORY: \$4,667

2nd collection for religious sisters: \$2,475

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



"When You Sing You Pray Twice"

We are looking for volunteers to join a small choir for the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass in the Church hall. You don't have to worry about carrying a tune. If interested, please call Kevin Fitzgerald at 978-686-3311.

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY NEWS

Christmas visits to members who are in nursing homes and homebound...... Please contact Eileen Breglia, Sunshine Chairperson, at 978-688-2978, with the names of members who would enjoy a visit from Eileen and her committee.

Sodality Christmas Dinner And Party

Sunday, December 11th at noon in the Church hall Yankee Swap!!! \$10.00 Gift!!! Be creative!!! Contact: Ursula Maggio at 978-886-0915 to reserve your place.



Advent Tree of Light. Once again St. Lucy's Parish will partner with Lazarus House in assisting families over the Christmas Holiday. The Advent Tree of Light will be

located at the main entrance to the Church on the weekend of November 19 to December 10. Tags will be placed on the tree for specific requests. If you are able, please make another family's Christmas brighter by taking a tag and purchasing the item requested. *PLEASE DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS.* Place the gift in a gift bag and place the tag on the outside of the bag. Leave the gift bags in the rear of the Church or in the Penance Room. All gifts must be returned by December 12th. Please call Annette Autiello at 978-683-5159 with any questions.

ST. LUCY PARISH Continued





SHARE THE
NATIVITY... This
year during Advent
and leading up to
Christmas, we would
like to place on
display different

nativity scenes. The size doesn't matter and pictures or banners are also welcome. All items will be returned after the holidays. The scenes will be displayed in the lower church hall and will be available for viewing from now through January 8th. If you would like to have your nativity scene displayed here at St. Lucy, please drop it off at the office during the week or give it to one of the ushers before Mass. Please use the form below so that we have your contact info so each display can be returned. Let's truly celebrate together the "Reason for the Season" and begin a new tradition here at St. Lucy. Forms are also available in the magazine rack at the front doors of the church.

Name:		
Phone:		
Address:		



St. Lucy Baptisms Last Weekend

Bless, Lord Jesus, the newly baptized;

Gianni Luis Acevedo
Frank Anthony Brown
Jesse Michael Corricelli-Gauthier
Jordyn Nicole Corricelli-Gauthier
Lex DeLeon
Nikolas Jose Marte

Miscellaneous Information

Coping with Grief During the Holidays

The holiday season can be extremely stressful for those who have lost a loved one. If you are dreading the upcoming holiday and feel overwhelmed with your emotions, come join our 2-week session and develop coping strategies in а supportive, confidential environment. The group sessions will be held on Dec. 14, and 21st, 2016 from 6:00-7:30 pm in the beige house located on the campus. St. Monica Registration required. Please call Lu Bonanno at 978-837-3333. The sessions are offered as a free service to the public.

WELCOME!

We're glad you could join us this weekend.

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NEW TO OUR COMMUNITY?

We're so happy you joined us this weekend and we'd love to have you worship with us regularly. Come discover the peace that comes from following our Lord Jesus. Contact us at the parish offices so we can get to know each other better. (978) 683-1193 or (978) 686-3311.

EVENTS

St. Lucy/St. Monica Utreya

Wednesday, November 30, 2016 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM St. Lucy's Church Hall

All St. Lucy and St. Monica parishioners are invited to take part in a monthly Ultreya. This Spanish word means "Onward!" "Persevere!" "Hang in There!" Words of encouragement to each other as we travel on life's journey.

Ultreya this month will begin with Liturgy and includes voluntary sharing in small intimate and confidential groups, fellowship and refreshments that signify Christian hospitality. Our guest speaker, one of our own St. Monica parishioners, Mary Ann Boucher, has been invited to offer a personal witness of what life was like before Cursillo and how it is now after the Cursillo experience. Come support our dear friend!

All parishioners are invited to come and share in this monthly evening of praise and worship. Please feel free to invite a friend to join you!

A Special Thanks

My sincere appreciation for all of those who have contributed to the building project of St. Sharbel in Raleigh, North Carolina. Your kind and generous donations have reached over \$3,000. In the love of the Lord,

Fr. Joe

Holy Hour for our Parishioners Monday Nights at 7:00pm at St. Lucy Church

An hour dedicated to praying for an out pouring of the Holy Spirit for a rebirth of faith in our parishes, for a renewed energy in all of us who are here and for the touching of our hearts to become more active as we draw in the lost.

Advent Parish Mission

Join Saint Lucy and Saint Monica Parishes for a three day parish mission to prepare our hearts for Christmas.

Sunday, December 11: Penance Service

Monday, December 12: Join us for an evening of worship. Liz Cotrupi Pfunder is a Catholic speaker and musician who travels nationally to spread the love of Christ. She will be sharing her incredible witness story, and leading the parish in worship during Eucharistic Adoration.

Tuesday, December 13:

Mass to celebrate the feast day of Saint Lucy

Where: Saint Lucy Parish Time: 7pm (all three nights)



St. Lucy and St. Monica Adoration Eucharistic Adoration takes place at St. Lucy's Church and St. Monica's Chapel. Please contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com or 978-270-3366 for more information about adoration at St. Monica's and the parish

office for information about adoration at St. Lucy's.

Tuesdays (St. Lucy) 1:30-4:30pm *Fridays (St. Monica) 7:30am-7:30pm

*PLEASE NOTE! No late starts for November and December. However, there is no adoration or confession on Dec. 23 and Dec. 30 due to Holiday weekends.



SAINT MONICA SCHOOL NEWS

Saint Monica School

Holiday Raffle

January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
\$150	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
\$150	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.
\$150	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
•	·			·		
22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.
\$150	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
Ψ					Ψ σ σ	
29.	30.	31.				
_						
\$150	\$50	\$150				

We must sell 215 tickets or all monies will be returned. All payments will be sent to winners at the beginning of February.

Place raturn this	nortion of ticket wit	navment to Sharon	Tully in the School Office
i icase return tins	portion of ticket wit	i payment to onaron	Tully in the School Office.

St. Monica School Calendar Raffle

\$10 per ticket – checks made out to St. Monica School by 12/22/16

Name	Phone (REQUIRED)	
Address (REQUIRED)		_
		_

St. Monica Student who sold ticket:__

Names of St. Monica School children who sell winning tickets will be put in a raffle for a prize.

FROM FR. Cassani

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving! It's hard for me to believe that we have once again reached the beginning of a new year in the Church. This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent, which means that it is once again time to prepare for the coming of Our Lord. It is important that we make a conscious effort to prepare ourselves, even while we perform that extremely important civic duty: Christmas shopping.

It is a pity that the world views Christmas primarily as a shopping season that ends the day after Christmas. This view may cause one to miss out on undertaking a prayerful preparation for what is coming.

What are we preparing for? Of course, the answer is Jesus. We prepare for his coming by heeding the message of repentance preached by all of the prophets, most eloquently proclaimed by John the Baptist. We prepare most obviously to celebrate again the first coming of Jesus in the manger in Bethlehem. As astounded as we are at the Lord's resurrection, is it not more astounding that the Son of God, through Whom all things were made, saw fit to become one of us, his lowly creatures, strictly out of love? No one could have ever made up something that is so outlandish, but God's love is completely beyond our understanding. It is altogether fitting that we celebrate Christmas with great joy.

During Advent, we also prepare for the second coming of Christ. He will come again at the end of time. This time, he will not come as a helpless baby, but will be on the throne of judgment. No one will be able to deny His majesty, or escape His justice. Every wrong that has ever been committed will be set right. All the dead will see their souls reunited with their bodies. We do not know when this will happen, but does it not provide a sense of urgency as we strive for holiness in our lives?

St. Bernard of Clairvaux speaks to us of a third coming of Christ. This coming of the Lord is different from the other two in that it is invisible, but it may be the most important in the everyday life of the Christian. This is the coming of the Lord into the hearts of those who are in the state of grace. Jesus says: "If a man loves me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." (John 14:23) Jesus promises to truly dwell in those with a living faith in him. This is a gift that can't be bought, so let us get to confession so that we may all obtain what Jesus is dying to give us.

SAVE THE DATE

ST. MONICA PARISH 100th ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE

COME CELEBRATE WITH YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2017

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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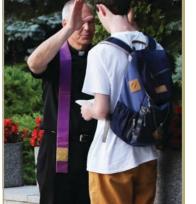


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Snow Removal





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