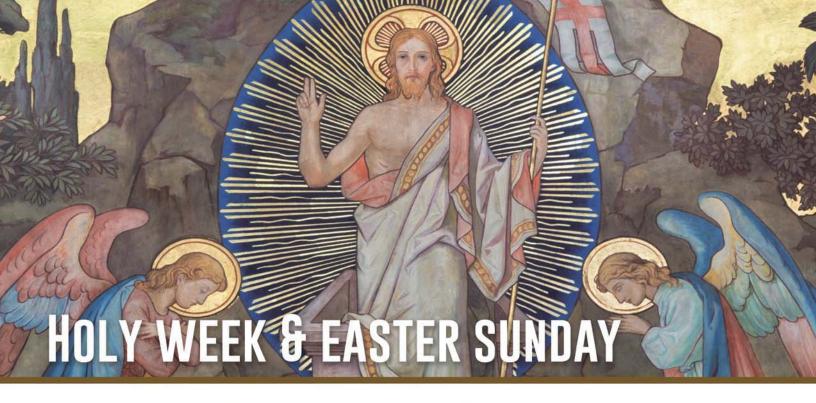


ST. MONICA PARISH

ST. LUCY PARISH

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254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA Renew, Rebuild, and Reach Out: Disciples in Heartfelt Communion with Jesus Christ



Saturday, March 27 (Palm Sunday) (no registration necessary)

4:00pm - Mass (St. Monica and St. Lucy)

Palm Sunday, March 28 (no registration necessary)

9:00am & 11:00am - Mass (St. Monica)

8:00am & 10:00am - Mass (St. Lucy)

Monday, March 29

9:00am - Mass (St. Lucy)

7:00pm - Confessions (Gethsemane Chapel)

Tuesday, March 30

9:00am - Mass (St. Lucy)

7:00pm - Confessions (Gethsemane Chapel)

Holy Thursday, April 1

9:00am - Morning Prayer (St. Lucy)

7:00pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper (St. Monica's)

Good Friday, April 2

*There will be no Stations of the Cross & no Eucharistic Adoration

9:00am - Morning Prayer (St. Lucy)

3:00pm & 7:00pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion (St. Lucy)

Holy Saturday, April 3

9:00am - Morning Prayer (St. Lucy)

10:00am - Confessions (St. Lucy & Gethsemane Chapel)

This is the last opportunity for Confessions before Easter

7:30pm - Easter Vigil (St. Monica and St. Lucy)

Easter Sunday, April 4

8:00am & 10:00am (St. Lucy)

7:00am, 9:00am, & 11:00am (St. Monica)

We request parishioners and visitors to register for the Holy Triduum & Easter Sunday Masses.

Registration will open on Sunday, March 21st at 5 pm and will close on Wednesday, March 31st at 5 pm.

You can register two ways: (a) go to methuencatholic.org or (b) call the office at (978) 683-1193. All Masses will be celebrated in the main churches of both parishes. HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 28, 2021

At the start of Holy Week, Holy Mother Church asks us to accompany Our Lord to Jerusalem, where he goes to die for us and our salvation. Now this great mystery has already been accomplished once for all two thousand years ago, but we have the awesome opportunity to (a) remember this great gift of our Lord and (b) enter into this mystery through the liturgies of Holy Week. Our one job is to be disposed to receive the graces of this holy week. What does that mean? Will we welcome Christ and the gift he brings or will we miss him because we do not notice him or even refuse him because we do not want his gifts?

The first step is prayer. Pray in earnest to be open. Pray to notice. Pray to welcome his presence and gift in the liturgies and in the people with whom we live.

The second step is connected with the first. It requires a bit of imagination, but I find it tremendously helpful. Use your time this week to read the four

passion accounts (Matthew Ch 26-27; Mark Ch 14-15; Luke Ch 22 -23; John Ch 18-19) and then on Holy Saturday read one or all four of the Resurrection accounts (Mt Ch 28; Mk Ch16; Luke Ch 24; and John Ch 20-21). In these stories try to identify with these characters. If we were there, who would we be?

Are we Peter, courageously accompanying our Lord confidently proclaiming our fidelity to the Master only to abandon him in fear when questioned by other people in the world about our Lord? ('And again he denied it with an oath: "I do not know the man".' Mt 26:72)

Are we Judas, who accompanies him every day but secretly disbelieving Our Lord and his promises, looking for an opportunity to betray him? ("and from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him." Mt 26:16)

Are we Mary, silently pondering the mystery of her son Jesus united to him and his suffering with a deep devotion and love despite the difficulties of daily life? ("...but standing by the cross, were his mother and his mother's sister." Jn 19:25)

Are we the Pharisees, decrying Christ on the cross and putting conditions on the signs they will accept from God and the type of Savior they will follow? ("If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." Mt 27:40)

Are we the good thief, who in the midst of his own sinfulness and suffering recognizes the persecuted Christ and is somehow ready and willing to put his faith in him. (" 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' And he said to him, 'Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise'." (Lk 23:42-43)

What is our response to Christ? That is the question I would invite us to ask this week. Even more, let us pray for ourselves and each other--that we will follow our Lord to Calvary with Mary and so celebrate our new life in him. Amen.

Karl Jackson

Parishioners will notice that the pews have been re-taped and the individual tape in the available pews has been removed. You will also notice that the chairs have been replaced around the perimeter of St. Monica's. These changes are in keeping with the new protocols and an attempt to begin the

slow process of returning to normal. When seated in the pews, households (of however many people) are asked to socially distance two arms lengths apart from neighboring households. The protocols for masking remain the same.

Thank-you.



Blessed palms will be available at all of the Palm Sunday Masses this weekend.

If you'd like to pick up palms during the week, please contact the office. (978) 683-1193.



Divine Mercy Novena

The Novena begins on Good Friday and continues to Divine Mercy Sunday. Pamphlets are available in the magazine racks in both churches.

Divine Mercy Sunday Sunday, April 11 Celebrate with us with a service at St. Monica Church beginning at 2:15 pm.

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- · Recitation of the Rosary
- The Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- Confessions
- · Veneration of the image of Divine Mercy

TRIDUUM

Offertory

Holy Thursday - collection will benefit our local chapter of St. Vincent de Paul (this is the only collection that St. Vincent de Paul has had all year)

Good Friday - collection will benefit the Holy Land

Easter - collection will benefit the Clergy Trust which cares for the health and well-being of our active and senior priests

Are you worried about what your child's public school will look like in the fall?

Consider this... St. Monica School students have been in school, in-person, five days per week since September 1, 2020.



We invite you to start your child's journey here at St. Monica's in our Kindergarten class for the 2021-2022 school year.

Please join us on Wednesday, March 31st at 7:00 PM for a Zoom panel with the principal, kindergarten teachers and current parents and hear what our kindergarten class is like!



Please call (978-686-

1801) or email(smsoffice@methuencatholic.org) the school office for the Zoom meeting code. We look forward to seeing you on Zoom.



ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, March 27 (Palm Sunday Liturgy)

4:00pm Evelyn Fitzpatrick

Palm Sunday, March 28

9:00am Multiple Intentions

Nancy Tardif

Deceased Members of Stella

and Corsaro Families

11:00am Maurice Lariviere, Sr. and

Maurice Lariviere, Jr.

All Triduum and Easter Masses are Pro Populo.

Holy Thursday, April 1

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday

No services

Holy Saturday, April 3

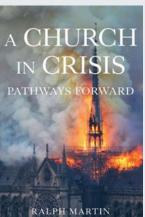
No First Saturday Mass

7:30pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday, April 4

7:00am The Resurrection of Our Lord 9:00am The Resurrection of Our Lord 11:00am The Resurrection of Our Lord

A Way to Increase Your Prayer Life



Prayer Group: Under Our Lady's Mantle

This is a weekly group that meets on Zoom for prayer and a book discussion. On March 24 we began reading A Church in Crisis: Pathways Forward by Ralph Martin. The reading of this book ends on June 23.

All are welcome to join at anytime. Contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com or 978-270-3366 for the Zoom link and more information. It's best to email her so she can send you the link.

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, March 27 (Palm Sunday Liturgy)

4:00pm Agatina LaCarubba

Palm Sunday, March 28

8:00am Those who have died in service to the

common good

10:00am Multiple Intentions

Walter Charles Robert Maurais Margaret LoPiano Vincenzo Minicucci

Gerardo & Mattia D'Andrea

Monday, March 29

9:00am Gloria Royer, Ruth Cady, & Alice

Indoccio

Tuesday, March 30

9:00am Ryan Matthew Thistle

All Triduum and Easter Masses are Pro Populo.

Holy Thursday, April 1

9:00am Morning Prayer (no Mass)

Good Friday, April 2

9:00am Morning Prayer (no Mass)

3:00 & 7:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday, April 3

9:00am Morning Prayer (no Mass)

7:30pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, April 4

8:00am Resurrection of our Lord 10:00am Resurrection of our Lord

Catholic Appeal

The support of the ministries of the Archdiocese of Boston help our parishes continue serving the faithful in this community.

Consider making a gift to this year's

Catholic Appeal to help ensure these ministries can continue helping our parishes, and all parishes, schools, and communities throughout our Archdiocese of Boston.

Visit **bostoncatholicappeal.org** or scan **the QR code on the right** to learn more or make a donation.





Virtual Baby Bottle Campaign for the **Pregnancy Care Center**

The Pregnancy Care Center (PCC) offers, loving, confidential support to those facing an unplanned pregnancy. The goal of

the PCC is to journey alongside women to let them know they are not alone. Additionally, they provide sexual integrity education, post abortion counseling and material assistance (baby items, food, etc.). The services are free, thanks to support from individuals and local churches. The PCC has locations in Haverhill, Lawrence and Lowell.

If you would like to participate, please scan the code to the right on your phone, visit pccfriends.org, or mail a **check** to the Pregnancy Care Center at 158 Mammoth Road, Lowell, MA 01845. If sending a check, please write either St. Monica or St. Lucy in the memo line.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Yes I Can Program

We are in need of canned fruits and canned spaghetti.

We have placed food collection baskets in both churches. You may also drop off food at the side door of Gethsemane Chapel during the week, but please do not leave food donations at the main door or entranceway of the chapel. Thank you for your generosity!

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Ashley Ward, Frank Manzer, Matthew W., Marco Bezeredy, Josephine Cuttsinger, and Roger and Carol Branchaud.

Please pray for Madone Lavoie, Victor H Baillargeon, and Paul F Shannon whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our parishes. May their soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

Please pray for our priests, seminarians, and vocations daily. Pick up a Pray for Our Priests calendar and a seminarian prayer card at the back of the church or use this list each day. Our priests and seminarians need our prayers!

Day	Priest	Seminarian
Sunday	Fr. David Lewis	Marcelo Ferrari
Monday	Fr. Brian O'Hanlon	David Joanis
Tuesday	Fr. Richard Shmaruk	Chris Letizia
Wednesday	Fr. John McElroy	Thuy Nguyen
Thursday	Fr. William McLaughlin	Holy Thursday: All Seminarians & Priests
Friday	Fr. Paul Soper	Good Friday
Saturday	Fr. Charles Madi Okin	Holy Saturday: All Seminarians & Priests

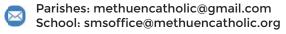
IN LOVING MEMORY

Roses for Life for this week

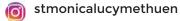
Theresa A. Rickley

Parish Offices: 254 Merrimack Street, Methuen Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm St. Monica School: 212 Lawrence St., Methuen











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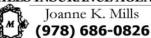


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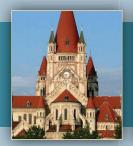
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