



## 26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



At that time, John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me." - Mk 9:38-39

Jesus establishes and sustains the Holy Roman Catholic Church on the firm foundation of the Apostles, on the works of His holy people. The mission of the Holy Roman Catholic Church is to plant, nurture, and grow the Kingdom of God in the world. The Kingdom of God is a spiritual Kingdom most fully in the hearts of faithful Roman Catholics sustained by the Most Blessed Eucharist as well as in the hearts of our sibling Christians around the world and throughout history. The best way to accomplish the mission is to have more and more people, more and more hearts, participating in the Sacraments of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. In our days, it is imperative that we continue to encourage our Catholic brothers and sisters to return to the active practice of the faith, especially in Holy Mass and Holy Confession.

Over the past week, the Church remembers the great works of some faithful witnesses. We remember the account of how the faith was heard in China and brought to the nation of Korea in the late 18th century. More Europeans followed including clergy to sustain the fledgling Church in Korea. The government began to persecute those bringing such influences from the outside. We remember in a special way those saints of the Church who offered faithful witness to the truth of our Catholic faith even at the cost of their earthly bodily lives.

We also remember this week one of the Twelve Apostles, Levi the Tax Collector, more familiarly known as St. Matthew, author of one of the four Gospels. Whenever we feel unworthy of God choosing us to help build up the Kingdom in our day in our sphere of influence, we are reminded that Jesus didn't pick perfect people who had it all together. Jesus came to call sinners! Levi was a tax collector, a collaborator with the Roman occupiers, who likely grew wealthy as part of that collaboration. He was hated by his Jewish neighbors who were subject to his tax collection. Check out the movie Jesus of Nazareth for one possible way that may have played out. Again, as with all the Apostles and many disciples, note the change in the person as they witness the Resurrection, Ascension, descent of the Holy Spirit, and birth of the Church. Levi goes from a reviled tax collector, through sorrow and contrition for his sins, forgiveness through the Passion and Death of Jesus and the mercy of God, to Matthew, one of the Twelve Apostles, author of a gospel account, and witness to One True God and Jesus Christ His Beloved Son that leads ultimately to a violent death of his body and eternal life for his soul!

Finally, we also remember a modern Saint and mystic of the Church, Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, AKA St. Padre Pio. He was born in 1890, a Franciscan monk ordained priest in 1918, and died in 1968. In his own body, he suffered the wounds of the Crucified in his hands, his feet, and his side for 50 years of priesthood! Priesthood on the model of the Master! Said to have had real visions of the Passion during the Consecration at Holy Mass when Jesus makes His offering of His Body and Blood to our Heavenly Father through the priest. The wounds left his body only moments before he fell asleep for the final time. He spent many hours in the confessional; people came from all over Europe and beyond to the monastery at San Giovanni Rotondo in Italy. He could read souls when needed and remind them of sins they may have "left out" during Confession. He also experienced suffering in ministry, obediently stepping back from public ministry during a time of confusion for Church authorities. He established a hospital to serve the sick free of charge. That hospital stands today, with enough endowment to continue that work of charitable healthcare.

The good and holy works of all these saints build up the Kingdom of God in their day. These works point ultimately to God, the author of all that is right, good, and holy in the world. Our works can likewise do the same in our day. In our remembrance of these saints of the Church, we give God the glory that is His due, for His own sake, because His is God, not for what we can get. And only in God we trust. God bless you.

## FAITH FORMATION | FIRST COMMUNION | CONFIRMATION

**The 2021-2022 Faith Formation Year has begun.** There is still time to Register!

To register, please go to our homepage ([methuencatholic.org](http://methuencatholic.org)), click on the "SIGN UP" link, and follow the instructions OR

call the office for more information: (978) 683 -1193 or (978) 686 -3311 OR reach out to Karl Jackson at [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com).

Due to Covid-19, both parish programs (both St. Monica's and St. Lucy's) will meet at St. Lucy's Campus on Sunday afternoons. Meetings are scheduled to begin at the end of September/beginning of October.



**GETHSEMANE CHAPEL**  
is open from morning rush hour  
until 7:00pm, seven days a week.

### THE CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE

Our chapel & shrine is open weekday mornings as well as weekends during Mass times.



## 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](http://www.methuencatholic.org)  
Monday - Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm



### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

(978) 686 - 9573

### 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             |
| <a href="mailto:methuencatholic@gmail.com">methuencatholic@gmail.com</a>         |                              |
| Karl Jackson   | Director of Parish Life      |
| <a href="mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com">faithformation.stlm@gmail.com</a> |                              |
| Eric Berthiaume  | Music Director               |
| Sharon Waning  | Music Ministry (St. Lucy)    |
| Kevin Fitzgerald   | Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA |
| Chrissy Cerretani  | Administrative Assistant     |
| <a href="mailto:parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com">parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com</a>     |                              |



### ST. MONICA SCHOOL

212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA 01844  
(978) 686 -1801  
[www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org](http://www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org)

### SCHOOL STAFF

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| Donna Henderson  | Principal                |
| Sharon Tully   | Administrative Assistant |
| <a href="mailto:smsoffice@methuencatholic.org">smsoffice@methuencatholic.org</a> |                          |

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY



The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality have returned to their regular monthly meetings after the 10AM mass. **All women of St. Lucy's and St. Monica's are welcome!** The Sodality strives to lead its members to Jesus through Mary by perpetuating devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary through prayer and charitable works in her name and to assist the Community spirituality, socially, and financially.

To support our charitable giving, the Sodality has planned a **Welcome Back Raffle**. The drawing will take place at our October 10th meeting. We will sell raffle tickets after all masses at both churches on the weekends of **9/25** and **10/3** You can also contact a Sodality member for tickets. Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

**Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
**September 14, 2021 - November 9, 2021**

**Place: St. Monica Church**  
**Time: 7 p.m.**  
**Nine consecutive Tuesdays**

Novena to *Our Lady of Guadalupe*:  
 Patroness of the Americas, Queen of the first and the new evangelization, and Patroness of the unborn.

**The Knights of Columbus** will be having their annual Tootsie Roll drive the weekend of October 9th & 10th. They will be on sale after the Masses at Saint Monica and Saint Lucy's.



**Social Distancing Update**  
 The taped off sections of the left back pews in both parishes are **ONLY** for those who would prefer an extra margin of social distancing while attending Mass. Parishioners must wear masks and be 6 feet apart in these designated pews. As always, you are welcome to wear a mask anywhere in the Church while attending

**Faith Formation begins this Weekend!!**  
 Kindergarten - Eighth Grade Sunday, September 26th from 12:45 - 2:45 at St Lucy Church  
 Confirmation 1 & 2 Sunday, October 3, 12:45pm-2:45pm at St. Lucy Church.

**Men's Guild!!**  
**Sunday, September 26th, 2021**

Members are invited to gather in the church hall immediately following the 10:00 AM Mass. **All men of our Parish are welcome** and invited to learn more about the Men's Guild mission, including new and exciting projects to support our parish, and information about our November Veteran's Event. Bring a friend and join us to offer any new ideas for the coming year. Refreshments will be served. Any Questions -call 978-360-9256



If you are an adult interested in learning more about receiving the sacraments or becoming a Catholic please contact Kevin @ 978-683-1193 or Bonnie at 978-609-7307



**ATTENTION:  
Alpha Course has been  
postponed until  
the Spring of 2022**

We believe everyone should have the opportunity to ask life's big questions, explore faith, and share their story. Sometimes when life's big questions become most pressing, we have nowhere to discuss them. We will offer the Alpha Course next spring to provide space for people to come, share a meal, and discuss life's big questions.  
CONTACT: Karl Jackson (978) 683-1193 or faithformation .stlm@gmail.com if you are interested in attending.



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
St Monica/St Lucy Conference  
is collecting your donations of Clothes, Shoes and  
Linen  
Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> (10-5)  
and Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> (9-12)  
No furniture or household items accepted  
Please help us-help others!  
An SVDP truck will be located  
In the **Parking Lot** of St. Monica's Parish  
212 Lawrence Street  
Methuen, MA 01844

**Scripture Classes on the Book of Revelation with  
Presenter Rachel Voiland**

Mark your Calendar and Come Join Rachel for  
Book of Revelation scripture classes  
in the School House at St. Lucy's  
You can choose to attend on a  
Saturday or Wednesday weekly  
Time: 2 PM in the School House  
Dates: Saturday Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> - Wed. November 24<sup>th</sup>.

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

- Sodality Raffle Ticket Sales after Wknd Masses
- Men's Guild 11:00am St. Lucy Lower Church
- Faith Formation K-8 12:45pm - 2:45pm St Lucy Church, Lower Church, & School House
- Baptisms 12:00pm St. Lucy Church
- AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- Rosary For Priests Prayer Group 6 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe 7:00pm St. Monica Church

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

- Al-Anon 10 am St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Prayer and Study 10am - 12 pm St. Monica Ranch House
- Knights of Columbus 6pm St Lucy Lower Church

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- Baptism Preparation Class 6pm St. Lucy School House
- AA 6:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

FRIDAY, October 1

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- AA 10am St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Eucharistic Adoration 2 - 5 pm Gethsem. Chapel
- Confessions 4 - 5 pm Gethsemane Chapel

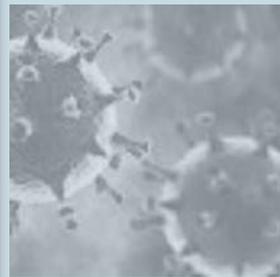
SATURDAY, October 2

- First Saturday Mass in Honor of the Blessed Mother 9am St Monica's
- Faith 2 Fitt 8am St Lucy School House
- Sodality Raffle Ticket Sales after Wknd Masses
- Bettor's Anonymous 2pm St. Monica SVDP Hut
- Confessions 3-3:45pm Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church

ST. MONICA SCHOOL has **part-time openings** for:

- Special Education Teacher
- STEM Teacher
- Technology Teacher
- Afterschool Program Staff

Please contact Donna Henderson at 978-686-1801 or [principal@methuencatholic.org](mailto:principal@methuencatholic.org) for more information.



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contact Karl Jackson at (978) 683 - 1193 ext. 35 | [faithformation.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.stlm@gmail.com)

### ROSES FOR LIFE FOR THIS WEEK

Theresa A. Rickley

### BULLETIN DEADLINE

Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to [parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com](mailto:parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com).

### ALTAR BREAD FOR SEPTEMBER

St. Monica Parish - Rita Conroy

### BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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#### MASS SCHEDULE

SAT 4 pm (VIGIL) both parishes  
SUN 9 am & 11 am St. Monica | 10 am St. Lucy  
MON/TUES/THURS/FRI 9:00 am St. Lucy  
FIRST SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica

#### CONFESSIONS

3 - 3:45 pm both parishes  
4 - 5pm Gethsemane Chapel  
**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
2 - 5 pm Gethsemane Chapel

**BAPTISMS** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 1:00pm St. Monica's | 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 12:00pm 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.

**INTROIT***Dan 3:31, 29, 30 43, 42*

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN***We Gather Together*


1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing; He  
 2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing, Whose  
 3. We all do ex - tol you, our lead - er tri - um - phant, And

1. chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known; The  
 2. king - dom calls all to the love which en - dures. So  
 3. pray that you still our de - fend - er will be. Let

1. wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing: Sing  
 2. from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning: You,  
 3. your con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion: Your

1. prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.  
 2. Lord, were at our side; all glo - ry be yours!  
 3. name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

**CONFITEOR - KYRIE - GLORIA***Refer to Pew Card***FIRST READING***Numbers 11:25-29*

The LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. Taking some of the spirit that was on Moses, the LORD bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied. Now two men, one named Eldad and the other Medad, were not in the gathering but had been left in the camp. They too had been on the list, but had not gone out to the tent; yet the spirit came to rest on them also, and they prophesied in the camp. So, when a young man quickly told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp,' Joshua, son of Nun, who from his youth had been Moses' aide, said, 'Moses, my lord, stop them.' But Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets! Would that the LORD might bestow his spirit on them all!'

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Psalm 19: 8, 10, 12-13, 14*


**R. The pre - cepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

1. The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; the decrees of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.
2. The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just.
3. Though your servant is careful of them, very diligent in keeping them, Yet who can detect failings? Cleanse me from my unknown faults!
4. From wanton sin especially, restrain your servant; let it not rule over me. Then shall I be blameless and innocent of serious sin.

**SECOND READING***James 5:1-6*

Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries. Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have become moth-eaten, your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire. You have stored up treasure for the last days. Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts for the day of slaughter. You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous one; he offers you no resistance.

**ALLELUIA***John 17:17b, 17a*

‡ Your word, O Lord, is truth; consecrate us in the truth.

**GOSPEL***Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48*

At that time, John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward. "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life crippled than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. Better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna, where 'their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.'"

**PROFESSION OF FAITH***Refer to Pew Card***SANCTUS - MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION - AGNUS DEI***Refer to Pew Card***COMMUNION ANTIPHON***Psalm 119 (118): 49-50*

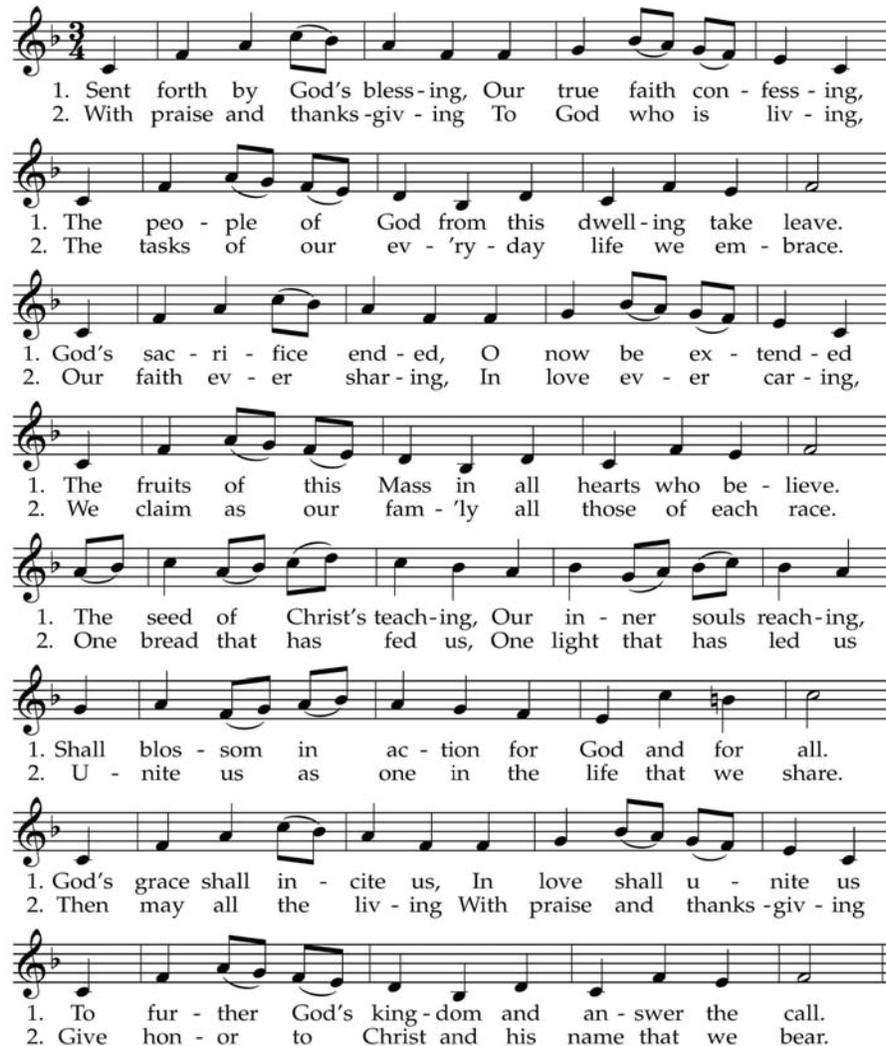
Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope.  
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

**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.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN***Sent Forth by God's Blessing*


1. Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,  
2. With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God who is liv-ing,

1. The peo-ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave.  
2. The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we em-brace.

1. God's sac-ri-fice end-ed, O now be ex-tend-ed  
2. Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,

1. The fruits of this Mass in all hearts who be-lieve.  
2. We claim as our fam-'ly all those of each race.

1. The seed of Christ's teach-ing, Our in-ner souls reach-ing,  
2. One bread that has fed us, One light that has led us

1. Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.  
2. U-nite us as one in the life that we share.

1. God's grace shall in-cite us, In love shall u-nite us  
2. Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing

1. To fur-ther God's king-dom and an-swer the call.  
2. Give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

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**PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL**

Saint 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.

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## ST. MONICA PARISH

### Saturday, September 25

4:00pm Betty Pierce

### Sunday, September 26

9:00am *Multiple Intentions*

Ann Humlak  
Deceased Members of the  
Waterworth Family  
Nancy Tardif  
Howie & Norma Hart  
Ann Thomas

11:00 AM Michael Foley

### Saturday, October 2

4:00pm Ann Gallant

### Sunday, October 3

9:00am *Multiple Intentions*

Charlie & Rose Hanafin  
Virginia Barry  
Jeffrey & Anthony Waters  
Kathleen Wilson  
Helen Dobec

11:00 AM Stanislaw Arabudzki  
Todd Tisdale  
Marie Bisson

## ST. LUCY PARISH

### Saturday, September 25

4:00pm Janet Szostak

### Sunday, September 26

10:00am *Multiple Intentions*

Bertrand LeBlanc & Real Taschereau  
Sid & Nancy Demarco  
Roger & Grace Barbin  
Joe & Marie Querol  
Francis J & Frances S Kobrenski  
Dora Giuffrida

### Monday, September 27

9:00am James M. Mahoney

### Tuesday, September 28

9:00am Josephine & Michael Carelli

### Thursday, September 30

9:00am Ruth Chaisson

### Friday, October 1

9:00am Margaret Collins

### Saturday, October 2

4:00pm Sandi Shea

### Sunday, October 3

10:00am *Multiple Intentions*

Margaret J Covey  
Helen Roderick  
Paula Nichols  
Francis R. Manzer  
Therese V. Angelone  
Bruce Beverley  
Anthony & Tillie DeAngelis



## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

| DAY       | DATE       | PRIEST                 | SEMINAR.         |
|-----------|------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Sunday    | 09/26/2021 | Fr. Edward Malone      | Edward Rodriguez |
| Monday    | 09/27/2021 | Fr. Vincent Gianni     | Aaron Arbizo     |
| Tuesday   | 09/28/2021 | Fr. Michael Harrington | Jeremy Wagner    |
| Wednesday | 09/29/2021 | Fr. Michael Nolan      | David Pineda     |
| Thursday  | 09/30/2021 | Fr. Timothy Kearney    | Alexander Charow |
| Friday    | 10/01/2021 | Fr. Robert O'Grady     | Lucas daCosta    |
| Saturday  | 10/02/2021 | Fr. David Campo        | Aaron Yohe       |

### PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for **Matt W., Grace P., Elizabeth P., Daniel V., Nicole,** and **Daniel R.**

Please pray for **Emily J. Rastello**, whose Funeral Mass was recently celebrated at our parishes. May her soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

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**Congratulations** to Msgr. Frank Kelley, co-founder of Pine Street Inn, on 40 years of service. We are grateful that he continues to serve in the Archdiocese as a senior priest.

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Pictured: Msgr. Frank Kelley and Lyndia Downey, President, Pine Street Inn



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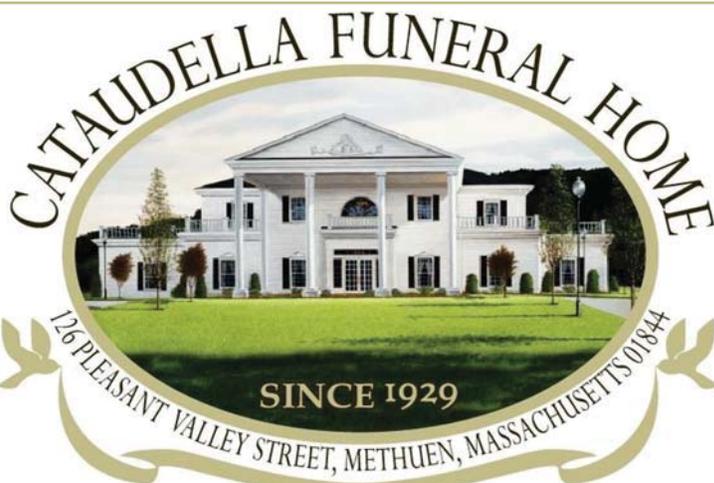
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