

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 stmonicamethuen.org • stlucymethuen.org www.methuencatholic.org

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

PASTORAL STAFF

Father William P. Lohan ext. 992

Pastor

ext. 993 Father John A. Cassani

Parochial Vicar

Father Joseph Thomas, BSO (978) 319-7873

Weekend Assistant

Father Herb Jones, O. Carm ext. 111

In Residence

Deacon John Pierce ext. 39

Permanent Deacon

Deacon John Kobrenski

Permanent Deacon

Sr. Rina Brunetti, pm ext. 34

Pastoral Associate in the Care of the Sick

ext. 26 Kera Mansour

Business Manager

Carolyn Leocata ext. 28

Administrative Assistant

Isabela Peixoto ext. 29 **Communications Associate**

methuencatholicnews@gmail.com

Karl Jackson ext. 35

Director of Faith Formation faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Samantha Moore ext. 36

Youth Minister

youth.stlm@gmail.com

Paul Jernberg ext. 27

Music Director

pfjernberg@gmail.com

Sharon Waning

Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy

Kevin Fitzgerald

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

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 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

Civic Holiday Schedule:

Normal Schedule at both Parishes

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

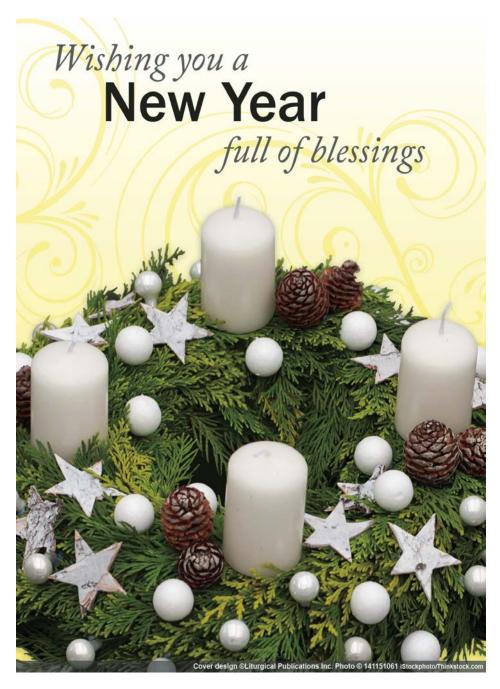


St. Lucy and St. Monica Adoration

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! Late start at 9:30am for St. Monica on January 6, February 3, April 7, and May 5. REMEMBER: If school is cancelled due to weather, adoration is cancelled. There will not be Adoration or Confession on Good Friday, April 14.



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

WELCOME!

We're glad you could join us this weekend.

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.



Check out our new Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ methuencatholic/

Our Parish Office will be closed on January 2nd.

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

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

IT'S HERE!!! IT'S HERE!!! BLANKET AND SOCK DRIVE FOR LAZARUS HOUSE MINISTRIES Sponsored By The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality

WINTER IS AN ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT TIME FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS LIVING IN POVERTY! WON'T YOU HELP? Beginning next weekend, January 7th and 8th and continuing throughout the month of January, St. Lucy and St. Monica Parishes along with St. Monica School will be collecting new and gently used, clean blankets and new adult and children socks. It's going to be a cold and snowy winter. Together let us bring warmth to our brothers and sisters in need.

Look for the BLUE BINS at St. Lucy's main entrance and LARGE BOXES at St. Monica's entrances. Sodality Chairpersons: Elaine Frangente (St. Lucy Parish) and Norma Hernandez (St. Monica Parish)

BULLETIN BOARDS: Please submit all bulletin board postings to Isabela Peixoto at the Parish Office to be approved by Fr. Lohan.

St. Lucy/St. Monica Ultreya

Wednesday, January 4, 2017 7 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 be 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, Marian Maricic, 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!

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.

The Saturday Morning Devotional Prayer Group will celebrate the first Saturday devotion to Our Blessed Mother on Saturday, January 7th. The year 2017 will mark the 13th year in a row that our group celebrates the first Saturday of each month the Blessed Virgin, Mother of God. We celebrate first by attending the 8:00am Mass at St. Monica's, followed with the praying of the Rosary, then a short meeting about Our Mother Mary. All are welcome to join us!

<u>Snow Storms</u> - Please remember that on weekdays there is no Mass on days when school is cancelled or if there is a delay. On days when Mass and school are cancelled the Parish offices will also be closed. On days school is not scheduled, we will not have Mass if the forecast is for 3 or more inches of snow in the hours leading up to the Mass. Masses for Sunday are nearly always held and are cancelled only if there is a major state of emergency.

Middle School and High School Youth Group

Middle School Youth and High School Youth groups are a come when you can, as you are kind of groups. NO expectations, NO judgments. Just a safe place to hang out, make friends, talk about faith, play games and pray together. This is not a program that you have to come to every time although you are welcome to! Lots of food, fun, games and laughter as well!!

The Middle school youth group meets on Thursdays, and the High School youth group meets on Tuesdays. For the Middle School and/or High School youth group schedules please contact Sammie Moore at youth.stlm@gmail.com, or call her at the office at (978) 686-3311. We'd love to see you there. All are welcome!

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Mary Kay - Pat McElhiney (978) 376 - 2181 patmcel@verizon.net www.marykay.com/pmcelhiney

Christmas is not over, and thanks to all who made the first day so beautiful

The Feast of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) is not simply one day, as the secular world sadly marks it. Did you notice on December 26th the Christmas music on radio was gone? For us, we begin with the eight-day Octave of Christmas, a fancy way of saying that because Christmas is so special we celebrate the first day of Christmas for eight days. We also know that Christmas is a season lasting until the Baptism of the Lord, which falls on January 9th this year. So when we wish each other a Merry Christmas, it's not because we may not have seen one another on December 25th, but rather to highlight the seasonal nature of the Feast of the Nativity.

Christmas is always such an important time. Coupled with Holy Week, the Incarnation is key part of our salvation. God indeed took on our flesh to give His life for us on the cross, to rise again and take our humanity to the right hand of the Father. It is so much more than a mere sentimental seasonal holiday for special gifts and food.

Considering the critical nature of Christmas for us, it is proper that it be marked in special ways. Perhaps the most prominent way that we mark it is the decoration of our churches, many hands at both churches did so much to make them beautiful. The beautiful flowers and other decorations highlight the importance of this feast visually. Thank you to all at both churches who made the feast so beautiful. A tremendous amount of work went into making the St. Monica School Hall, Saint Lucy Hall and the Methuen Memorial Music Hall all beautiful liturgical spaces to accommodate five 4pm Masses.

The Squires once again provided the beautiful outdoor nativity at St. Monica.

Much was done to provide beautiful music for the masses and many others stepped forward to provide support with greeting, collecting, serving and assisting with distribution of Holy Communion.

We also celebrated three beautiful events outside the masses in the days leading to Christmas. The School hosted two beautiful concerts with nativity dramas, one for the lower grades and for the <u>first time</u> a beautiful evening was hosted by the upper grades at the school. Thank you to the teachers, especially our music teacher Nadia Castagna, who prepared the children so beautifully.

On Christmas Eve at St. Monica, Carol Noucher once again faithfully and beautifully had our children presenting St. Luke's account of the Nativity of the Lord with Mary, Joseph, shepherds and angels -- even the star over Bethlehem was there!

Thank you to all who participated in our giving trees. Pope Francis on Christmas preached powerfully of our need to keep providing for the poor. The St. Vincent DePaul society stepped up, providing gifts and food to a constant stream of the needy, even in the middle of a snow storm!

We would be remiss if we also did not gave a big thank you to the Methuen Police Department, our civic guardian angels, who watched over all our churches throughout the city in a special way. Their presence, just as the heroic work of the Methuen Fire Department in responding to the fire at Ashton Place, reminds us how blessed we are to be protected by such dedicated men and women.

May the blessings of Christmas remain with you, the incarnation is a reality everyday, just as is the fact that Christ is truly risen. Don't let the abandonment of the feast by the secular world rob you of joy this season. Sit with this beautiful reality, He loved us enough to become one of us. That reality is life-changing today and everyday.



Saturday, December 31

8:00 am (multiple intentions)

Jovita & Benigno Cunanan

4:00 pm Robert Putnam

Sunday, January 1

7:30 am William (Bill) Eskel 9:30 am (multiple intentions)

Charlie & Rose Hanafin (Living)

Kay Eisenhower

11:30 am Antoinette and Nemetallah Khalife

5:30 pm William (Bill) Eskel

Thurs., January 5

7:00 am Christine Ferguson

Friday, January 6

8:15 am Carol Maggio

Saturday, January 7

8:00 am (multiple intentions)

Rose Begin

Thomas W. Sheehy

4:00 pm Thomas O'Brien

Sunday, January 8

7:30 am Lionel Bedard 9:30 am (multiple intentions)

Martin Miller, Mary & Anton Miller

11:30 am Eileen Webb, Sr. Catherine Webb,

Michael Foley

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



Come and learn about the approved apparition of **Our Lady of Beauraing**. The talk will be given by Irene Tremblay on Wednesday, January, 25, at 10:30 am at the ranch at St. Monica Parish. Please call Kathy Garon, 978-683-1193 ext. 119, to register for this presentation.

STEWARDSHIP

December 25, 2016

Grand Annual: \$36,794.00 (total to date)

Clergy Benefit Trust: \$11,186.00

Thank you for your generous contribution to the

mission of our parish.

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

WE CAN USE..... pasta sauce, cereal, canned beans, rice, strawberry jam, and mac & cheese.



Roses for Life have been donated...

In Loving Memory of

Michael & Linda Giarrusso Carole Ann Battye Cecile and Peter Checovich

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Mini Retreat in the St. Monica School Hall following the 8 AM Mass on Saturday, January 21st. The retreat will include a discussion regarding Divine Mercy, Marian Consecration, Pope John Paul II, and Our Lady of Fatima as related in Fr. Michael Gaitley's book "The Second Greatest Story Ever Told". This is open to all Parishioners and their guests. Contact Bob Beaudry at ERBeaudry@aol.com, or, at 978-685-4746 for more details and to register for this event.





Saturday, December 31

4:00 pm The People of St. Lucy & St. Monica Parishes

Sunday, January 1

8:00 am

9:30 am Corinne Coolidge 11:30 am (multiple intentions)

Monday, January 2

8:00 am Alfio Branchina

Tuesday, January 3

8:00 am Paul Burke

Wednesday, January 4

8:00am Tony Longo

Saturday, January 7

4:00 pm Vincent Rizzo

Sunday, January 8

8:00 am Richard Hall

9:30 am Deceased Members of the Sodality

11:30 am (multiple intentions)

Theresa Rickley John Chmielecki Angelina Perillo

Marie C. (Hamel) Lanouette

Rita, Tony, Maria & Fidelfo Ciofolo

Domenic Bertolone

Prayer for the Newly Baptized

Bless, Lord Jesus, the newly baptized;

Rafaela Nicole Haro Tiyamikile Jere Dallas McEachern Melody Rose Landry



Immerse them in the waters of your life and love. Seal them with the oil of gladness and strength. Illuminate their path with the light of your hope. Clothe them with goodness, kindness, and compassion. May their celebration be just the beginning of a long and fruitful journey with you. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP

December 25, 2016

Grand Annual: \$27,660.00 (total to date)

Clergy Benefit Trust: \$6,744.00

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

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY NEWS

If you have been thinking about joining the Sodality, please come to our January 8th meeting after the 9:30 Mass and the praying of the Rosary. Our plans for 2017 will be planned. You are always welcome!

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

Music Update for St. Lucy Masses

We are blessed at St. Lucy's with a wonderful team of both volunteer and paid musicians who lead us in singing the Mass! Those of you who attend the 8am Sunday Mass have noticed that we have not had an organist for most of the summer and fall. Due to a variety of reasons, we have decided to continue this particular Mass as one that is sung — led by our gifted cantor Kasia Sokalla - but without organ accompaniment. For all three other weekend Masses, one of our organists will normally be accompanying the cantor, congregation and choir (Saturday Vigil Mass.) Many thanks also to our head cantor and choir director Sharon Waning, and to our choir, for their beautiful and faithful ministry throughout the year!





SAINT MONICA SCHOOL NEWS

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
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.

Please return this portion of ticket with payment to Sharon Tully in the School Office.

St. Monica School Calendar Raffle

\$10 per ticket – checks made out to St. Monica School

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.

ST. MONICA SCHOOL CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP - Again this year, St. Monica School will be sponsoring a Christmas Tree Pick-Up. For a donation of \$10, our parents will come and pick up your Christmas Tree for you! Christmas Trees will be picked up on the following days Sunday 1/1, Saturday and Sunday, January 7 & 8 and 14 & 15. Please have your tree by the curb on your scheduled pick-up day and an envelope with the \$10 taped to your front door (checks should be made out to St. Monica School). All pick-ups must be scheduled. To schedule a pick-up, please email stmonicatreepickup@comcast.net. Thank you for your support. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from St. Monica School!

Happy New Year!

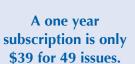
The beginning of a new calendar year brings us a special joy and hope. It is a reminder that time is a gift of God, given to us from His eternity, for us to use to prepare for eternity. The passing of each year and each day is meant to be an exchange with God: He gives us time, and we give our days and years back to Him in service and love, bringing as much good as possible into the world and into the lives of others. The New Year is an opportunity to resolve, above all, to serve God faithfully: to believe more firmly, to hope more ardently, to love more generously. That is what makes a new year "happy," and that is what leads us to the happiness that never ends.



Get the Catholic perspective and be fully informed.

Your subscription to The Pilot gives you...

- **♦** Words of wisdom from Pope Francis
- ◆ Full local coverage of news and events throughout the archdiocese
- ◆ National and international Church-related news
- ◆ Analysis relating the teachings of the Church to current events
- Faith related articles by locally and nationally acclaimed authors
- Stories about the Faith & Good Works of the archdiocese



Mail along with payment to: The Pilot • Subscriptions PO Box 425 Congers, NY 10920-0425

Or subscribe online at www.thebostonpilot.com

Advertising 617.779.3788

News Desk 617.779.3782 **Subscriptions 617.779.3792**





Accepts all HMO's, Medicare and Commercial Insurance

TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE FOR OVER 25 YEARS!

 Skilled Nursing Respite Care
 Subacute Care Longterm Care
 Extended Rehabilitation & Restorative Care 126 Monument Street, Haverhill, MA (978) 373-1747 • whittierhealth.com



AD SPACE AVAILABLE 617-779-3771





IWANTYOU

617-779-3770 For more information

We serve over 100 Parishes and have available space in those bulletins to serve you better.







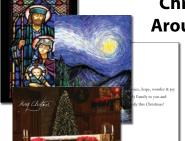


SAVE UP TO 50% ON PRINTING

Banners, Bookmarks, Business Cards, Flyers/Brochures, Greeting Cards, Magnets, Notepads, Posters and much more.



AD SPACE AVAILABLE 617-779-3771



MONTESSORI

400 South Main St., Andover, MA www.andovermontessori.org

Accredited Pre-k through grade 8

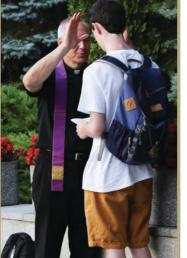
Christmas is Just Around the Corner

Order These Beautiful Christmas Cards Today

617-779-3777









Boston Priests. There for us.



FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP For applicants to grades 6, 7, and 8 Students must have strong academic standing and excellent citizenship SCHOOL OF







PLEASANT VALLEY GARDENS Join Our CSA Program Fresh Vegetables Every Week



www.pleasantvalleygardens.com

KENNETH H. POLLARD



Our Family Helping Your Family

978-687-7300 pollardfuneralhome.com

233 Lawrence St., Methuen

978-682-9901 UNLIMITED

Joel Begin over 15 years experience Interior & Exterior · Power Washing **Painting Deck Refinishing** Carpentry



978-686-1872

Piro's Italian Bakery Fax: 978-686-1878 300 Merrimack St. • Methuen



AD SPACE AVAILABLE



Your Full Service Realtor



June D'Urso 978-360-5889 C21 McLennan & Co. St. Lucy Parishioner





3 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

AudigyCertified

Newburyport Georgetown Bradford 978.378.3207

DigitalHearingHealthcare.com

JOHN G. PIRROTTA CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

- Accounting & Auditing
- Tax Planning / Preparation
- Business & Individual

978-794-0224

5 Pitman Street, Methuen

"God is Love" 1 John 4:8



Inpatient Psychiatric Care 76 Summer Street, Haverhill 978-373-8222 • Referrals: 800-215-8003 www.whittierhealth.com



BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY

www.zannipescelaw.com Free Consultation | 978-557-9700

The Catholic Cemetery Association

ur ministry includes assisting families before a death occurs. Call today for your free pre-planning kit including: our free booklet, money saving certificate, information on payment plans and specific information on our Haverhill Catholic cemeteries.

Shouldn't your family be protected?

Call Today • 339-226-1271



Because of the increased demand among area Catholics, making cemetery plans for their family on a PRE-NEED basis, we have completed construction on the new Our Lady of Good Counsel Chapel Mausoleum addition.

ST. MARY-IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CEMETERIES AND CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM

Jim Jacobs will put you at ease, help you plan and bring you peace of mind. To receive more information, contact Jim Jacobs at

CALL (978) 682-8181 TODAY

The Military Connection, Inc. 256 North Main St., Building K7, Andover, MA

978-273-9255 Staff Sgt. Eugene Smith (Ret.)

Providing services to all men and women who have served or are serving in the US Armed Forces. The Military Connection, Inc. is a registered MA Non-Profit Organization



Donations may be sent to The Military Connection c/o Bank of America of Massachusetts

23 Main St. Andover MA

DELUCA FAMILY OF DEALERSHIPS WWW.BILLDELUCA.COM

BILL DELUCA'S WOODWORTH CHEVROLET CADILLAC 978-475-6200 ANDOVER, MA BILL DELUCA CHEVROLET BUICK GMC 978-373-7700 HAVERHILL, MA BILL DELUCA CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE RAM 978-373-9500 HAVERHILL, MA





Jeep









