



OCTOBER 20, 2019

29th

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, "There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.' For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.'" The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" *Lk 18:1-8*

ST. MONICA PARISH

212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA

ST. LUCY PARISH

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA

RENEW, REBUILD, AND REACH OUT: DISCIPLES IN HEARTFELT COMMUNION WITH JESUS CHRIST

DAILY MASS **MON, TUE, & WED** 8:00 am St. Lucy **THURS & FRI** 8:15 am St. Monica **SAT** 8:00 am St. Monica
WEEKEND SAT 4:00 pm (Vigil) both parishes **SUN** 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 am St. Monica, 9:00 and 11:00 am St. Lucy

FROM THE PASTOR

Catholic commentator George Weigel recently wrote a column on the two year “synodal journey” of the German Bishop’s Conference that, like the Synod on the Amazon, is presumably being convened to address difficulties for the Catholic Church in areas where the practice of the Faith is strained. Much of his observation applies, as you may imagine, to us here in the Northeast United States. (Edited for length)

This past June I was in the Munich area for four days to give a lecture. My hosts were exceptionally gracious, but it was also obvious that the Catholic Church in what was once Germany’s most intensely Catholic region is in terrible shape. For example, the parish in whose rectory I stayed has some 10,000 parishioners—which is to say, the pastor knows that there are 10,000 people within the parish boundaries who, when paying their federal taxes, tick the box for the *Kirchensteuer*, the “Church tax.” However, average Sunday Mass attendance among those 10,000 parishioners is only 200. And if the pastor asks people politely when he might see them at Mass, he frequently gets the answer, “Look, I pay the Church tax; what else do you want?”

So it was with some interest that I read the recent explanation by Munich’s Cardinal Reinhard Marx as to why he and the majority of the German bishops were defying the Vatican and plowing ahead with their “binding Synodal process,” in order to re-examine “issues” such as the Church’s sexual ethic, its teaching on marriage, and its ancient pattern of ordaining only men to the ministerial priesthood. Cardinal Marx claimed that “Countless believers in Germany consider (these issues) in need of discussion.” The not-so-tacit suggestion was that questions once thought settled by the Church were in fact open.

In light of my recent experience in the cardinal’s archdiocese, some questions immediately occurred: Who are these “countless believers”? Do they participate in the Eucharistic community of the Church or do they just pay the Church tax (and get snarky when asked why worship is not on their Sunday agenda)? And further: How many of them have ever had the truths they question explained to them in charity? Moreover, in what time-warp do these folks live? The Catholic Church has spent an inordinate amount of time and energy over the past 50 years “discussing” the “issues” that Cardinal Marx suggests are at the top of German Catholics’ concerns. Perhaps the actual problem is that Church’s settled answers to these questions are in severe tension with the libertine public moral culture that prevails across western Europe?

The reality is that much of the Catholic Church in Germany is in a de facto state of schism: many of its leaders and intellectuals do not believe what the Catholic Church believes and so do not teach what the Catholic Church teaches. This failure includes more than just moral questions. It also involves the bottom of the bottom line: Is Jesus Christ the unique redeemer of humanity, such that all who are saved are saved through him? Has He given divinely revealed truths, communicated by the Church, that remain binding over time irrespective of what the surrounding culture thinks?

Catholicism is not strained in these lands because friendship with the Lord Jesus Christ and the truths of Gospel have been proclaimed and found incredible or hard, but because they have not been proclaimed with joy, confidence, and zeal. *That is why there is 2 percent Mass attendance in that Munich parish. Recognizing that hard truth is the only path toward a German Catholicism that has something credible to say to the rest of the world Church.*

George Weigel is a Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C., and the author, most recently, of *The Irony of Modern Catholic History: How the Church Rediscovered Itself and Challenged the Modern World to Reform* (Basic Books, 2019).



TRUNK OR TREAT

Still need trunks!!! Please email or call kerrydemattia1@verizon.net (978)729-2926 to reserve

FRIDAY
October 25th
SAINT MONICA'S PARKING LOT
6:30-8:00

INVITE A FRIEND!!

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Join us for a SPOOKTACULAR TIME!

What is Trunk or Treat?
It's like trick-or-treat without a house. Families decorate their vehicle's trunks and fill them with candy. Children walk around and receive treats from each trunk. It's a safe, family friendly event.

LET'S CIRCLE UP THE CARS AND TRICK-OR-TREAT FROM TRUNK-TO-TRUNK.

CALLING ALL LITTLE WITCHES, GHOULS, PRINCESSES AND SUPERHEROES!!

We need trunks!!
We want to make this a can't miss night, and we need you and your trunk! Get creative with your themes!! We will have prizes for outstanding trunks! Please contact Kerry DeMattia (kerrydemattia1@verizon.net or (978)729-2926 to reserve your space.

Parishioners can buy tickets the night of the event.

COST IS \$5.00 PER CHILD, OR \$15.00 PER FAMILY (OF 3 OR MORE FOR SIBLINGS)

There will be food trucks available during the event.

RAIN DATE is October 27th from 6:30PM - 8:00PM

St. Lucy's is currently accepting bids for snow removal for the upcoming winter. Please call Kera Mansour at x26 for more information.

RCIA RCIA classes have begun but it's not too late to sign up. Classes are every other Sunday at 10 am in the St. Lucy School House. **The next class is this Sunday, October 20.** We invite all who are interested in our Catholic faith and in becoming a member of the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation to attend. RCIA sessions are also open to anyone who has received these Sacraments but want to come to a deeper appreciation of what they are about. Any questions, please contact Bonnie Bonanno at 978-609-7307 or Kevin Fitzgerald at 978-686-3311.

Lessons & Carols

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DIRECTOR!

We are starting a new tradition: collaborative-wide **Lessons and Carols**, which will take place on Sunday, December 15th at St. Monica's Church. This wonderful event will include the presentation of our children's Christmas Pageant. *We are looking for a volunteer or team of volunteers to direct the pageant, which we hope will include young people from St. Lucy's, St. Monica's, and St. Monica's School.*

If you are interested in helping out, please reach out to Karl as soon as possible at (978) 683-1193 or via email at faithformation.stlm@gmail.com.

St. Monica School is hosting **MUSICAL**



Adults! Please bring your friends and join us for a fun night for CASH PRIZES! The event will be hosted by EJJ Event Entertainment on Friday, November 1st from 7-10PM Methuen VFW, 26 River St., Methuen. Cost is \$30.00 per person. This is a 21+ event.

Tickets are available in the School Office from 7AM to 3PM. If you need to make other arrangements, please call Sharon Tully at 978-686-1801.

19th Annual Project Warm & Fuzzy

Ashley Bolis, a resident of the Merrimack Valley and Corpus Christi parishioner is continuing a project which she started as a student at St. Monica School. The project is called Warm & Fuzzy. From Saturday, October 19 to Sunday, November 10, there will be boxes at the main entrance of both churches where you may drop off new hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and socks (for babies, children, and adults). These articles will be distributed to the needy during the winter months. Any help you can give Ashley with her project will be greatly appreciated.

ST. LUCY/ST. MONICA ULTREYA

Tuesday October 22, 2019

(Every 4th Tuesday of the Month)

7:00 – 8:30 PM St. Lucy Church Hall

Our guest speaker this month is TBA – He/She will 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!

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

Pope John Paul II



"This was a wonderful representation of the life of Pope John Paul II. A beautiful story."

—Ivonne F., Vernon Hills, IL

WATCH ON FORMED.ORG

A Towering Figure Brought to the Big Screen

Jon Voight stars in this epic film that explores Karol Wojtyla's life, which touched millions of people, changed the face of the Church and the world, and how defended the dignity of mankind.

New way to register:

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"
4. Find our parishes by name, zip, or our access code **(9772VM)**
5. Enter your email - and you're in!

We encourage you to extend an invitation to family and friends. **After you register, please email Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com.**

If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie at (978) 270 - 3366 or at the email above.

ST. LUCY'S MEN'S GUILD

Next meeting: Sunday, October 20

Members are invited to gather for the 9:00 am Mass. The meeting will be immediately following the Mass in the church hall. Guest Speaker is Retired Methuen Police Officer **John Earnshaw** offering review of Defibrillator use & CPR Training

Veterans Day

Honoring All Who Served



Saturday, November 9, 2019

1st Annual Veteran's Day Memorial Mass

All Veterans and their families are invited to gather for the 4:00 PM Mass at St. Lucy's.

In honor of Veteran's Day, all Veterans deceased and living will be remembered by our own Pastor Darin Colarusso who is actively serving in the Air Force.

The entire community is invited to take part! Collation will be immediately following the Mass in the church hall. Any questions – Call Larry at 978-360-9256 or Jack at 978-373-2376

Readings for the week of October 20, 2019

- Sunday:** Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 2]/2 Tm 3:14—4:2/Lk 18:1-8
- Monday:** Rom 4:20-25/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 [cf. 68]/Lk 12:13-21
- Tuesday:** Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [8a and 9a]/Lk 12:35-38
- Wednesday:** Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8 [8a]/Lk 12:39-48
- Thursday:** Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5]/Lk 12:49-53
- Friday:** Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94 [68b]/Lk 12:54-59
- Saturday:** Rom 8:1-11/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/Lk 13:1-9
- Next Sunday:** Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 [7a]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

ST. MONICA PARISH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

8:00 am Yvette Moran and Don Lavigne
Joseph O'Neil

4:00 pm Donald Stewart

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

7:30 am Paul Valliere
Jamie and Jacob McDaniel

9:30 am Manuel and Fernanda Cordeiro
Virginia Hamel
Joanne Jesmer

11:30 am Maureen Imielkowski

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

8:15 am

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:15 am Dick Doherty

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

8:00 am **Living Mass**
Pablo Hernandez
Robert Nolan
In thanksgiving to St. Joseph
A special intention
In thanksgiving to St. Monica
4:00 pm William and Margaret Collins

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

7:30 am Frances M. Houlihan
9:30 am Mara Kovacevic
Peter and Joza Zelic, Nikola Zelic,
Ante Zelic, Neva Zelic
Nancy Tardif
Jose and Eulalia Aguiar
Joao Costa

11:30 am People of St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes

Observances for the week of October 20, 2019

Sunday: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
World Mission Sunday
Tuesday: St. John Paul II, Pope
Wednesday: St. John of Capistrano, Priest
Thursday: St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop
Next Sunday: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Priesthood Sunday

ST. LUCY PARISH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

4:00 pm People of St. Lucy and St. Monica Parishes

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

9:00 am Nina Coco Robie

11:00 am Pasquale Petralia
Rita Finniss
Vivian Bodary
Rose Vallante
Perez-Garcia Family

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

8:00 am Manny Gianni and Christine Gianni Eldridge

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

8:00 am Gerard and Real Taschereau

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

8:00 am John Mugavero

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

4:00 pm Real Taschereau

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

9:00 am Rocco and Amelia Bonanno and deceased
members of the Bonanno family
11:00 am Salvatore Boragine Jr.
Anthony J. and Josephine Carelli
Mary and Frank Cefalu
Marguerite Moreault
Anthony and Tillie DeAngelis
Linda Sammataro
Janet Dattore

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month

6:00 - 7:00 pm in St. Lucy Church

Fridays beginning after the 8:15 am Mass until 5:30 pm
in St. Monica Chapel

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month

6:00 - 7:00 pm in St. Lucy Church

Fridays 4:30 - 5:30 pm St. Monica Chapel

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45 pm

St. Monica Chapel & St. Lucy Church

GIVE

ST. MONICA PARISH

10/13/19 Regular offertory: \$7,585.00
2nd collection for our school: \$2,427.00

The second collection this weekend is for the Holy Father and Missionary Efforts. The second collection next weekend is for World Mission Sunday.

ST. LUCY PARISH

10/13/19 Regular offertory: \$5,529.00

The second collection this weekend is for the Holy Father and Missionary Efforts. The second collection next weekend is for World Mission Sunday.

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

- **Men's Guild Meeting** 9:00 am St. Lucy Church Hall
- **Faith Formation at St. Monica's**
- **Alpha** 10:30 am St. Monica School
- **RCIA** 10:00 am St. Lucy School House
- **Confirmation 2 Mtg.** 12:45-2:15pm Monica School Hall
- **Baptisms** 1:00 pm St. Lucy Church

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

- **Commission to Assist our Brothers & Sisters in Need** 9:30 - 11:00am St. Monica House
- **Tea and Treasure** 11:30 am St. Monica House
- **8th Grade Faith Formation** 4 - 5 pm St. Monica House
- **Rosary Prayer Group** 6 - 6:30 pm St. Monica Church
- **Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe** 7 pm St. Monica

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

- **Alpha Night Session** 6:15 pm St. Lucy Church Hall

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

- **Prayer and Study** - Join us in reading "A Story of a Soul, Autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux" 10 am - 12 pm St. Monica House
- **Friendship Club** 1:00 - 4:30 pm St. Monica House
- **Knights of Columbus Meeting** 6:30 - 10:00 pm St. Monica School Hall

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

- **Adoration** after the 8:15am Mass until 5:30pm St. Monica Church
- **Trunk or Treat** 4:00 - 9:00 pm St. Monica Parking Lot
- **Confessions** 4:00 - 5:00 pm St. Monica Church

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

- **Faith2fitt** 8 am St. Lucy School House
- **Choir Rehearsal** 2:30 - 3:30 pm St. Monica Church
- **Confessions** 3-3:45pm Monica Church & Lucy Church
- **Choir Rehearsal** 3:15 pm St. Lucy Church
- **Signature Drive** after the 4 pm Mass St. Lucy Church

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

- **Signature Drive after all the Masses** St. Lucy Church
- **Faith Formation at St. Lucy's**
- **Confirmation 2 Mtg.** 12:45-2:15pm Monica School Hall

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for **Kari N., Tina P., Sylvia H., Justin N., Joanne, Gaetan C., and P & G Family**

Please pray for **Aileen Neve** whose Funeral Mass was recently celebrated at St. Lucy Parish. May her soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Roses for Life for this week

St. Monica Parish: **Donald Stewart, Theresa A. Rickley, and Evelyn Wildes**

Bulletin Sponsor of the Week

St. Mary-Immaculate Conception Cemeteries and Chapel Mausoleum (978) 682 - 8181

MISCELLANEOUS



Retired Teacher with 10 lb. well-behaved, housebroken, non-barker female Shih Tzu, presently living with the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, wishes to rent a room with a family in the Methuen area. Please call Linda at 978 895 6024. Thank you and God bless!

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Methuen Senior Activity Center, 77 Lowell St. Methuen
Saturday, November 2, 2019, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Assorted crafts, jewelry table, gift shop table, hourly drawings, luncheon snack bar, and a giant raffle! Enter for your chance to win! Dozens of fabulous prizes to choose from including gift certificates, cash prizes and great gift items. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. You don't need to be present to win. The public is invited and admission is free!



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Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
St. Monica School: 212 Lawrence St., Methuen



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Parishes: methuencatholic@gmail.com
School: smsoffice@methuencatholic.org



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Fr. Darin Colarusso
Fr. Joseph D'Onofrio
Deacon John Pierce
Deacon John Kobrenski
Kera Mansour
Carolyn Leocata
Isabela Peixoto
Donna Henderson
Sharon Tully
Karl Jackson
Eric Berthiaume
Sharon Waning
Dan Bolster
Kevin Fitzgerald

Pastor
Parochial Vicar
Permanent Deacon
Permanent Deacon
Business Manager
Administrative Assistant
Communications Associate
St. Monica School Principal
St. Monica School Administrative Assistant
Director of Faith Formation
Music Director - St. Monica
Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy
Weekend Organist - St. Lucy
Facilities Manager (St. Lucy) & RCIA Coordinator

BAPTISMS Please call the parish office. St. Monica: 2nd Sun. of the month @ 1pm | St. Lucy: 3rd Sun. of the Month @ 1pm

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

BULLETIN DEADLINE Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to methuencatholicnews@gmail.com

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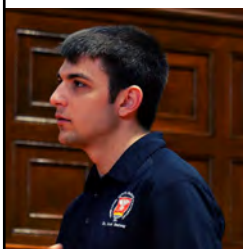
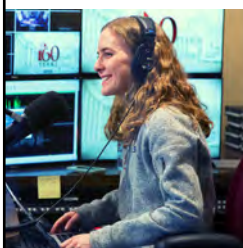
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