

December 9, 2018

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT



**ST. MONICA PARISH    ST. LUCY PARISH**

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





### 2018 Advent Parish Mission and St. Lucy Triduum

December 11 to December 13 7:00 PM at St. Lucy Parish

#### Tuesday, December 11

Penance Service

#### Wednesday, December 12

Evening of Adoration with Guest Speaker Sammie Moore

#### Thursday, December 13

St. Lucy Feast Day Mass followed by refreshments in the lower hall

**Come celebrate with us!**



### Catechism of the Catholic Church

Pillar 1: The Creed

14 week series

Join us on Thursday evenings in the white house at St. Monica Parish from 6-7pm.

Facilitator: Bonnie Doherty

Contact info: [bonnieocds@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieocds@gmail.com) or 978-270-3366

The series is found on Formed.org by the name Echo. You can attend meetings to participate in group discussion or watch at home. Please confirm if you are interested in attending. We will use 2 books: Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Catholic Catechism for Adults (both \$9.95 Kindle edition from Amazon.com).

Or The Catholic Company [www.catholiccompany.com](http://www.catholiccompany.com) has the Catechism for \$9.99 and Catechism for Adults for \$24.95, both paperbacks.

### Christmas Eve Social

#### Not too busy this Christmas?

Join us on Monday, **December 24** immediately following the 4 p.m. Vigil Mass (until about 7 pm). In the St. Monica's School Hall

- \* Pot Luck – Bring an appetizer, entree or dessert to share. (If it's a dish best served warm, please bring your crock pot or hot plate – no Sternos)
- \* Yankee Swap – Bring a wrapped gift to exchange (optional) The gift should be worth approximately \$10. Re-gifting is ok – this is just for fun!
- \* Water and punch will be provided
- \* Christmas Caroling – as time allows until 7pm
- \* Santa's helpers to tidy up would be greatly appreciated!

#### We'd love to have you join us!

Please R.S.V.P. if possible, particularly if you are able to volunteer. Any questions? Please call our Parish Offices at (978) 683 - 1193







FORMED PICK

# 1531: A Story That Is Not Finished Yet

Our Lady of Guadalupe Came to Change the World

1531 shares the history of why millions of Aztecs converted to the Catholic Faith and the little known truth that this incredible story is not finished yet.



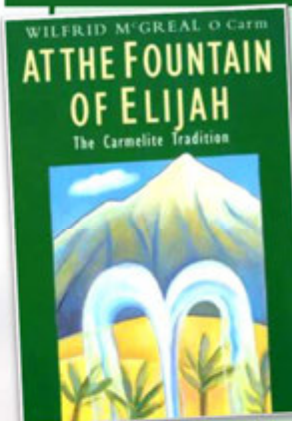
"This is a powerful story. Amazing."

—Constance A., Euclid, OH

Watch on [formed.org](https://www.formed.org)

If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Doherty at (978) 270 - 3366 or [bonnieocds@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieocds@gmail.com). To quickly register for Formed please go to [methuencatholic.formed.org](https://methuencatholic.formed.org). We encourage you to extend an invitation to family and friends. **Access Code for our parishes: 9772VM**

BOOK RECOMMENDATION FOR THE WEEK



Perhaps one of the great contributions that a teacher like John of the Cross could make for people today is that, in pointing to the way to grow in a loving trust of God and in experience of unconditional love, he enables men and women to gain confidence in the possibility of achieving full loving relationships. Mysticism could well be a school for marriage. - Wilfrid McGreal O'Carroll, pg 69, Ch5, an excerpt from *At the Fountain of Elijah* (Publisher: Orbis Books)

This book can be purchased at <https://smile.amazon.com>. If you purchase the book from this link and choose St. Monica School as the organization to support, 0.5% of your purchase will go to our school.

Bless, Lord Jesus, the newly baptized;  
**Eloise Violet Egan**  
**Charlotte Rose Espallat**  
**Aria Kylin Reiss**



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.

*Do you hear what I hear?* Listen to...  
iCatholicRadio | Mobile App  
**1060AM | Boston**  
[thestationofthecross.com](http://thestationofthecross.com)  
*Merry Christmas from Catholic Radio Boston*

The Holidays Bringing You Down?

## Blue Christmas

*You are not alone.*

A gentle, contemplative service for those feeling sad, tired, stressed, or less than joyous during this season of celebration

Wednesday December 12, 2018  
at 4pm

Holy Family Hospital Chapel,  
70 East Street, Methuen MA

The Christmas Wafers for the Traditional Christmas Celebrations (Lithuanian "Kucios" & Polish "Wigilia") are available at the Corpus Christi Parish Office in Lawrence, MA during regular business hours. You may obtain them for a Free Will Donation.

For further information you can contact David Boucher, President of the Knights of Lithuania at 978-337-3737.

HERE ON EARTH WORSHIP BAND PRESENTS  
**REJOICE**  
AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND REFRESHMENTS WITH SPECIAL GUESTS  
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL CHAMBER SINGERS  
SUNDAY DEC. 16TH  
6:30PM  
ST. MICHAEL PARISH  
EXETER, NH



## FROM THE PASTOR

You may have noticed something missing from the Mass of the First Sunday of Advent. The most noticeable would be that we do not sing the Gloria during Advent. We wait until Christmas to sing that along with the Angels. Also, the decor is meant to be fairly simple: the violet color of the season tones down the sense of celebration. Advent, as we know, is a time of **preparation for the Coming of the Lord**.

We really shouldn't think of it as a month long countdown to Christmas; even less, a month of parties at the office or with groups of friends culminating in the Big Party on the 25th. Interestingly and oddly, all the work that we put into preparing for Christmas...the cards, the shopping for presents, the decorations...all the stuff that can be kind of frustrating and laborious, that **does** capture the correct feel in a way. Doing the hard work of preparing for something important, or rather, preparing for **someone** important to arrive.

That difficult preparation evokes the meaning of the first half of Advent, which is that we must always be preparing for the Coming of the Lord. His second Coming in Glory, that is. "Do not be caught drowsy...by carousing or anxiety," as the Lord admonished in last week's Gospel. However, in all things having to do with discipleship, we must also keep in mind that we can only cooperate with the grace of the Lord. It's ultimately not what we do, strictly speaking, but how we open ourselves to allow Christ to work in us. It is His work of preparation that we seek to not thwart.

Advent simplicity should set the tone in our preparation for Christmas. That's why you may have noticed one more thing missing from Mass during Advent. After the Communion hymn we will observe a time of silence in church. It won't be too long; just enough to clean the sacred vessels used at Mass and maybe a little silent prayer for the priest. It's an opportunity to sit in silence with Christ, whom we have just received, and to ask Him to change **in us** that which only He knows we need.



### Infant Jesus Figurine blessing on Bambinelli Sunday

We would like to celebrate the **third Sunday of Advent** with more than just a pink candle this year.

We will adopt the Vatican tradition of blessing Nativity scene figurines of the infant Jesus.

**Parishioners can bring their figurines to Mass next week for a blessing after the general intercessions.**

Known as "Bambinelli Sunday" ("Bambinelli" is the Italian name for the figurines), the tradition was started by Pope Paul VI in 1969. Since then, the blessing has been given by the pope during the Angelus in St. Peter's Square on the third Sunday of Advent.





## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 8

**8:00 am Holy Day Mass**  
**4:00 pm** Anthony J. Vittorioso

### Sunday, December 9

**7:30 am** People of St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes  
**9:30 am Family Mass** (*multiple intentions*)  
 Virginia and Andrew Sullivan  
 John Keenan  
 Paul Bulmer  
 Joanne Nyhan  
 Helen Giarrusso  
 Alice Franz  
 Timothy Jackson  
 In thanksgiving to St. Anthony  
**11:30 am** Joseph J. Gilmore

### Thursday, December 13

**7:00 am** Christine Ferguson

### Friday, December 14

**7:00 am** Ronald Fitzgerald

### Saturday, December 15

**8:00 am** Amy Waterworth  
 Richard T. Muraco  
**4:00 pm** Mr. and Mrs. Dominic & Dorothy Ferraro

### Sunday, December 16

**7:30 am** Charles Booth Jr., Charles and Margaret Booth Sr., James and Dorothy McCarthy, Robert O'Connor, and Howard Hart  
**9:30 am** (*multiple intentions*)  
 Eulalia Aguiar  
 Robert Ouellette Sr.  
 Virginia and Andrew Sullivan  
 Theresa and William Leach  
 Sully LaTorre  
 Helen Giarrusso  
 The DiBartolo, Ragonese, and Michaud Families  
 Riccardo Lonardo  
 Richard Fairbanks  
 Michael Ricupero  
**11:30 am** Maria Ortiz Laird



### The Saint Vincent de Paul Annual Giving Tree is up.

The tree helps to enable our parish community to assist families in need and bring the light and love of Our Lord into this special time of year. Tags listing specific gift requests

are placed on the tree and we encourage you, if you are able, to take one or more tags and purchase the item(s) listed. *The gifts should be returned unwrapped, or in a gift bag, and placed under the tree no later than this Sunday, December 9.* If you have any questions, please direct them to Pat Wilkens, Nativity Program Coordinator, at 978-686- 9573. Thank you.

## ROSES FOR LIFE

Roses for Life have been donated in loving memory of

**Theresa A. Rickley**  
**Michael & Linda Giarrusso**  
**Helen Giarrusso**  
**Maria Laird**

### Last Sunday, (12/02):

Regular Sunday Offering:

\$ 10,470.00

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:

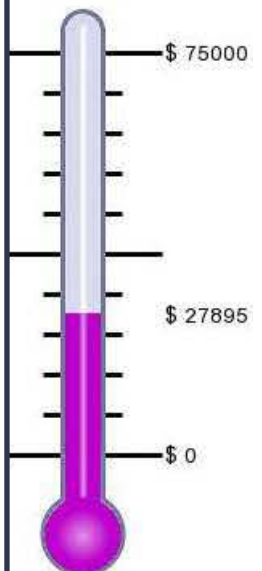
\$ 2,451.00

OFFERTORY

There is only one collection this weekend and next weekend, our regular Sunday offering.

**Please remember to send in your Grand Annual envelopes. Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.**

Grand Annual to date



**Join us for Tea & Treasure** at 11:30 am in the St. Monica House on the following days:

### Thursday, December 13

For more information, please call Millie Stumpo at (978) 686 - 0339

### Monday, December 17

For more information, please call Ann Carson at (978) 682 - 5663







## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, December 8**

4:00 pm Thursday Girardi

**Sunday, December 9**

9:00 am John and Anna Dagata and deceased members of the BVM Sodality

11:00 am Dominick "Rex" Campone  
 Thomas and Ann Campone  
 Adrianna and Tomas Campone  
 Rose and John Monaco  
 Marian Miller and George DiRuzza  
 Anthony Longo  
 Walter Cheltowski  
 Joseph J. Gilmore

**Monday, December 10**

8:00 am Richard and Janine Lebel

**Tuesday, December 11**

8:00 am Judy Ferraro

**Wednesday, December 12**

8:00 am Joseph Coco

**Thursday, December 13**7:00 pm **St. Lucy Feast Day Mass****Saturday, December 15**7:00 pm Angelo, Jack and Jennie Maimone  
 Grace Riccio and Betty Parson**Sunday, December 16**9:00 am **Family Mass**

11:00 am Lee Privitera and Salvatore Privitera  
 People of St. Lucy & St. Monica Parishes  
 Charles Piro  
 Gerardo and Mattia D'Andrea  
 Richard Guertin  
 William Vlahos  
 Erma Sarkesian  
 Sabastino LaSpina  
 Filomena and Raphaelae Tammaro  
 Vincent Minicucci

**ADVENT TREE OF LIGHT  
Reminder:**

Please place all gifts in a gift bag under the tree and place the tag on the outside of the bag.

**PLEASE DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS**

**Last day to return gifts: December 11**

**All gifts will be going to Lazarus House on December 12.**

Please call Annette Autiello at 978-683-5159 or 508 783 1544 with any questions.

**Share the Nativity**

This year during Advent and leading up to Christmas; we would like to put on display different Nativity Scenes.

They can be of any size 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 Dec. 15 through Jan. 6. 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 each 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 continue this tradition at St. Lucy.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

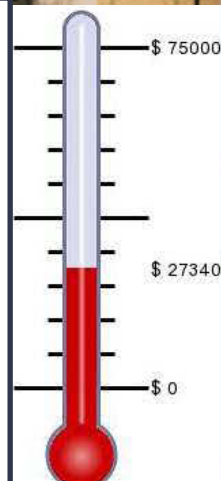
**Last Sunday, (12/02/18):**

Regular Sunday Offering:  
 \$ 6,321.00

There is only one collection this weekend and next weekend, our regular Sunday offering.

**Please remember to send in your Grand Annual envelopes. Thank you for your generous contribution to the mission of our parish.**

Grand Annual to date



The next Sodality Mass will be at 11:00 am this Sunday, December 9 followed by our Annual Christmas Party in the church hall.



**Saint Monica School**  
 Holiday Raffle  
*January 2019*

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

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

We must sell 215 tickets. If we do not sell 215 tickets, we will have a 50/50 raffle and one winner will be drawn and the winner will receive 50% of the monies collected and the school will receive the other 50%.

(This raffle has always sold enough tickets to be held!)

All payments will be sent to winner/winners at the beginning of February.

**St. Monica School Calendar Raffle**

\$10 per ticket – checks made out to St. Monica School by 12/20/18

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

St. Monica Student who sold ticket: \_\_\_\_\_ (if purchased through a school child)

Names of St. Monica School children who sell winning tickets will be put in a raffle for a prize. If there is only one winner due to 50/50, that child will win a prize (if a St. Monica Child sold ticket).



**Alumni Open House**

What a great night! So many came out to visit at our Alumni Open House. All had a great time traveling down memory lane, while laughs filled the room!



**Voting Day** - Pre-K - Gr. 7 rocked the vote at Extended Day on November 6, voting day! Pre-K and K students voted on whether they like cake or cookies more. Students in Gr. 1-3 discussed and debated the pros and cons of a school uniform. They then voted on their choice. Students in Gr. 3-8 were offered an opportunity to run for a mock Extended Day Representative. They had to design a poster, write a speech, and answer questions. We especially thank our Preschool and Kindergarten students for designing our Ballot Box! Great job done by all. #everyvotecounts

**Veterans Day Program** - Thank you to all of the Veterans who were able to join us. We were so glad to be able to honor you and your service to our country. Our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students performed a wonderful program. Thank you to Ms. Lumb and Mrs. O'Neil for working so hard to prepare these students. We also thank our Pastor, and Serviceman, Fr. Colarusso for giving a special blessing.

Immediately following the program, the Methuen Exchange Club had a dedication of the Freedom Shine. This Shrine has been gifted to the school for students to use as a resource for years to come.





**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  
www.methuencatholic.org  
**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

## PASTORAL STAFF

Father Darin Colarusso ext. 24  
**Pastor**  
frcolarusso@verizon.net

Father Joseph D'Onofrio ext. 23  
**Parochial Vicar**  
frjoedo@gmail.com

Father Joseph Thomas, BSO (978) 319-7873  
**Weekend Assistant** irenaiosbso2002@cs.com

Deacon John Pierce ext. 39  
**Permanent Deacon**  
dnjbpierce@gmail.com

Deacon John Kobrenski jpk500@verizon.net  
**Permanent Deacon**

Kera Mansour ext. 26 methuencatholic@gmail.com  
**Business Manager**

Carolyn Leocata ext. 28 carolyn.leocata@gmail.com  
**Administrative Assistant**

Isabela Peixoto ext. 29  
**Communications Associate**  
methuencatholicnews@gmail.com

Karl Jackson ext. 35  
**Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry**  
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Mark Forrester youth.stlm@gmail.com  
**Confirmation Coordinator**

Eric Berthiaume eberthiaume1@gmail.com  
**Music Director - St. Monica**

Sharon Waning sharon.waning@yahoo.com  
**Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy**

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



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

**MARRIAGES.** Please call the parish office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date and before booking a reception hall. 9

## ST. MONICA SCHOOL

212 Lawrence St • Methuen, MA 01844  
Telephone (978) 686-1801  
smsoffice@methuencatholic.org  
www.methuencatholic.org/school

## SCHOOL STAFF

Mrs. Donna Henderson  
**School Principal**  
principal@methuencatholic.org

Sharon Tully  
**Administrative Assistant**

## PARISH SERVICES

St. Vincent de Paul (978) 686 - 9573

### St. Lucy Parish

#### Daily Mass Schedule:

Monday through Wednesday 8:00 am

#### Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00pm (for Sunday)

Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am

### 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: 7:30 am/9:30 am/11:30 am

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

### St. Monica Parish

Friday 4:30-5:30 pm and Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

### St. Lucy Parish

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month 6:00 - 7:00 pm.

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

*and any time by appointment*

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

*Fridays:* 7:30 am - 5:30 pm St. Monica Chapel

*1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month:* 6:00 - 7:00 pm

St. Lucy Church

For more information on Adoration at St. Monica's, please contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com or (978) 270 - 3366  
If school is cancelled due to weather, Adoration is also cancelled.

## BAPTISMS.

 Please call the parish office.

St. Monica's Parish: 1<sup>st</sup> full weekend of the month

Saturday 12:30 pm/Sunday 1:00pm

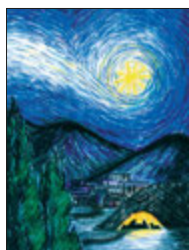
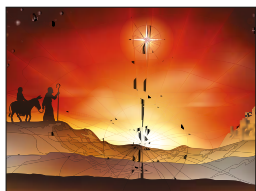
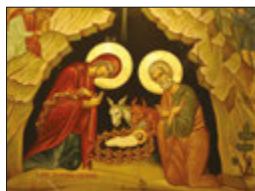
St. Lucy Parish: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month 12:30pm



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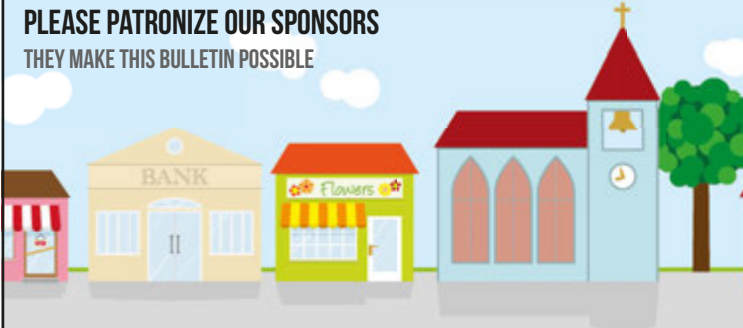
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