

February 11, 2018



A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere. - Mk 1:40-45

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

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**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 William P. Lohan ext. 992

**Pastor**

frlohan68@gmail.com

Father Joseph C. Marwa, SMA ext. 993

**Temporary Parochial Vicar (Full time)**

chachamarwa2002@yahoo.fr

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Sharon Waning sharon.waning@yahoo.com

**Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy**

Kevin Fitzgerald

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



**Follow us on Facebook at**  
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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. 2

## 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, mfc

**School Principal**

safondini@gmail.com

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: 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

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**St. Monica Parish**

Friday 6:30-7:30 pm

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

**St. Lucy Parish**

Tuesday 4:30-5:30 pm

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm

*and any time by appointment*

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesdays: 1:30 - 4:30 pm St. Lucy Church

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

For more information on Adoration at St. Monica's, please contact Bonnie Doherty at bonnieocds@gmail.com or (978) 270 - 3366  
For St. Lucy's, please contact Ellen Wholley at (978) 682 - 8459. 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

welcome

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

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.

## February 14, 2018 ASH WEDNESDAY

*"Repent and believe in the Gospel"*



### MASS SCHEDULE

*St. Monica Church*

7:00 AM  
10:00 AM  
7:00 PM

*St. Lucy Church*

8:00 am  
12:30 pm  
5:30 pm

## MASS SCHEDULE

### New Mass Schedule

Beginning next Sunday, February 18, our Sunday Mass schedule will be as follows:

#### St. Monica Parish

7:30 a.m.  
9:30 a.m.  
11:30 a.m.

#### St. Lucy Parish

9:00 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

## STATIONS — OF THE — CROSS

Every Friday During Lent  
February 16 - March 23

St. Monica Church: 7:00 p.m.

St. Lucy Church: 5:30 p.m.  
followed by soup or pizza

During Lent, Eucharistic Adoration on Fridays will close with Benediction at 6:45pm for the Station of the Cross at 7:00 pm.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY "YES I CAN" PROGRAM

WE CAN USE... canned fruits, canned baked beans, instant rice, tuna, pancake mix, pancake syrup, cereal, mashed potatoes, peanut butter, and grape jelly. **Donations can be dropped off anytime in the baskets located at the entrances to both churches.**





## Our Pilgrimage to "THE HOLY LAND" with Fr. William Lohan as Spiritual Director

November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
13 days, 11 nights, 3 meals daily

To register or for more information, please contact  
Mr. Claude Langlois, Group Leader at (978) 682 -  
6012. The best gift for a loved one or yourself.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

### St. Monica Knights of Columbus Annual

# PASTA DINNER

### Save The Date!!

When: Saturday, February 17, 2018  
Time: 5:00 P.M.  
Place: St. Monica School Hall

Pasta products donated by Bertucci's.  
Preparation by St. Monica's Knights of Columbus.

Next week's second collection supports the Church in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe. These collections help the Church spread God's Word and train Church leaders of tomorrow, help needy families materially and spiritually, rebuild churches that have fallen into disrepair, and support the sisters and brothers who have suffered for the faith. For more information, please visit [www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving-solidarity-fund-for-africa/collection/index.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving-solidarity-fund-for-africa/collection/index.cfm), and [www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/central-and-eastern-europe/collection/index.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/central-and-eastern-europe/collection/index.cfm)

Bless, Lord Jesus, the newly baptized;

Violet Kathleen DeMaria  
Gabriella Rae Parsons  
Landon Michael Phillips  
Ayveri Lucy Theberge



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.

The Office of Worship of the Archdiocese of Boston, in consultation with local health authorities, continues to encourage the clergy and faithful to observe necessary standard precautions to protect the health of others during this flu season. The best way to prevent the spread of contagious diseases is to practice good hygiene, such as washing your hands frequently with soap and water. In addition, the Cardinal directs the following for the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy and for flu prevention:

- The distribution of the Precious Blood for the faithful is suspended, with the exception of those who must receive from the cup due to medical reasons. The faith of the Church teaches that Christ, whole and entire, is received even under only one species.
- The exchange of the Sign of Peace is to be offered without any physical contact.
- Parishioners should be reminded that if they are ill or suspect they are ill with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation. They should remain at home and return to church when they are well.

See below for the Pick  
of the Week.

If you have any  
questions, please contact  
Bonnie Doherty at  
(978) 270 - 3366 or  
bonnieocds@gmail.com.

To quickly register for  
Formed please go to  
methuencatholic.formed.org

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extend an invitation  
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no matter where they  
live.

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## Daily Lenten Reflections

### Experience the Catholic Faith in a whole new way this Lent!

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- ▶ Read an inspiring passage from the *Catechism*
- ▶ Reflect on how God's truth applies to your daily life

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- 2 Click "Register," then enter your name, email address, and desired password.
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- 4 Click **DAILY LENTEN REFLECTIONS** to sign up for daily reflections from Bishop Hying

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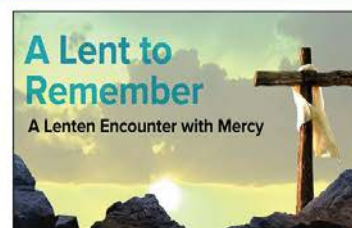
### FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

## A Lent to Remember

### A Lenten Encounter with Mercy

*A Lent to Remember* is a beautiful presentation of the transforming power of mercy in the Sacrament of Confession, using the Augustine Institute productions *Symbolon* and *Forgiven*. No matter what you have done, no matter how long you have been away, Jesus is waiting for you with open arms this Lent!

Watch on [formed.org](http://formed.org)



"This presentation on forgiveness is about as good a lesson as any I have ever heard. The final lines closed the deal for me: 'One of the most powerful things that could happen to any of us is that moment when we know we do not deserve to be loved, and despite that, we are loved anyway.'"

- Mike M, Port Neches, TX



### The Powerful intercession of Saints for Ordinary People in Ordinary Places

In my first few days here in Methuen in 2013 we celebrated the feast of St. Lucy with a special mass as we do each year on December 13<sup>th</sup>. After mass I was introduced to a young woman, a native of Iraq, who was in the habit of making a pilgrimage all the way from Norwood each year for that special mass. She told me her story of being born in Iraq, coming to the United States, and having a very severe eye condition that was threatening her sight. She heard about our church back in 2010 and came to pray here before a badly needed eye operation. She was not given a tremendous amount of encouragement by the doctors heading into the operation. It turned out to be successful well beyond the doctor's expectations. I offer a couple of other facts that make the story even better. The operation, without any manipulation of schedules at all, took place on December 13<sup>th</sup>, the feast of St. Lucy. Even better, do you want to take a guess at this young lady's name, her given name from birth in Iraq,...you guessed it, her name is Lucy! Most years on the feast she has returned to Saint Lucy to give thanks for her vision and to ask God to continue to protect her eyesight. The last two years she was not here and the Lucy parishioners who come to that mass missed her very much. Last week before the 11:30 am mass Lucy approached me to say hello with her husband Evan and her beautiful little son, Lucas.

Lucy now lives in Marlborough, which is also a fair distance from St. Lucy, but she had come once again with a large group including her mom, sister and other relatives to spend an hour in prayer in our little parish. The beautiful message for me of Lucy's visits to us is that any place, however ordinary, can be a special place of

pilgrimage. Any place can be a place where we feel God hears us and answers our prayers. If we wholeheartedly present ourselves before God anywhere can be special. We are so blessed to have two beautiful patrons, St. Lucy, for diseases of the eyes, and St. Monica the patron of parents, especially moms, who pray for their children. Let us who pray here all the time not overlook the gift of these patrons in our own holy places. Perhaps for us other places, a roadside Marian shrine we visited with grandparents, or busy urban shrines where parents took us for confessions when we were little, can be places that hold tremendous spiritual value. Lourdes and Medjugorje are wonderful, but even if you can't go there remember Lucy and her story and find that place that speaks to your heart. Go there and pray.



**Lucy Solaqa with her husband Evan and son Lucas making a pilgrimage to St. Lucy Parish.**

**MASS**

# INTENTIONS

## **Saturday, February 10**

**8:00 am** (*multiple intentions*)

Joseph Begin

**4:00 pm**

Raymond J. McAlea

## **Sunday, February 11**

**7:30 am**

Parishioners of St. Monica  
and St. Lucy Parishes

**9:30 am**

Chanel, Claire, Judy, Paul,  
and Diane Michaud  
Angelo, Frank, & Antonette Ragonese  
Deceased members of the  
DiBartolo Family  
Manuel and Fernanda Cordeira  
John K. Foster Jr.

James Kenyon

Colleen Carney

Yvonne Costa

**11:30 am**

Polydore Bergeron

**5:30 pm**

Anthony Mesiti

## **Wednesday, February 14**

**7:00 am**

**10:00 am**

**7:00 pm**

## **Thursday, February 15**

**7:00 am**

Joseph Klufts

## **Friday, February 16**

**7:00 am**

Alfred Fitzpatrick

## **Saturday, February 17**

**8:00 am** (*multiple intentions*)

Yvette Moran and Don Lavigne

Joseph O'Neil

Patricia Ferguson

(Living)

**4:00 pm**

Myrna G. Nolan

## **Sunday, February 18**

**7:30 am**

Eric Kenneth Sullivan

**9:30 am**

James Slattery

Sr. Julie Frances Gildea

Claire Kammerdiener

**11:30 am**

Paula Caruso

## ROSES FOR LIFE

### Roses for Life

have been donated in loving memory of

**Michael and Linda Giarrusso**

**Eugene Cusack**

**Cecile and Peter Checovich**

**John K. Foster Jr.**

**Jeanne Brown**

**Maria Arasi**



If you would like to honor a loved one and support our activities, for a donation of \$10, we'll purchase a rose and place it in the vase before the statue of the Blessed Mother for a week. Please contact the parish office at (978) 683-1193.

## OFFERTORY

**February 5, 2018:**

**Regular Sunday Offering:** \$10,950.00

There is only one collection this weekend, our regular Sunday offering. The second collection next weekend is for the Church in Africa and Central and Eastern Europe.

There will be one collection on February 14, Ash Wednesday.

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

### Scheduled School Masses:

When the school mass is at 8:15am (on the following Fridays) there will be no 7:00 AM mass and Adoration will begin following the school mass.

**March 2, 2018**

**April 6, 2018**

**NO Friday mass in May 2018**

**June 8, 2018**

**REMEMBER:** If school is closed due to weather, there will be no Adoration.



# MASS INTENTIONS

## Saturday, February 10

4:00 pm Giuseppe Sangiorgio

## Sunday, February 11

8:00 am A special intention

9:30 am Janine Lebel

11:30 am Casimiro Alvarado

Alan Roderick

## Monday, February 12

8:00 am

## Tuesday, February 13

8:00 am

## Wednesday, February 14

8:00 am

12:30 pm

5:30 pm

## Saturday, February 17

4:00 pm Anthony and Lucille Bonanno

## Sunday, February 18

9:00 am Deceased members  
of the Sodality

11:00 am Maria Campailla  
Michael Arcidiacono

*60th*  
*Anniversary*  
of St. Lucy Parish

There will be a meeting of the **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee** on Wed., Feb. 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the schoolhouse. New members are welcome.

## BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY NEWS

### New time

Our next Sodality meeting is next Sunday, **February 18<sup>th</sup>**, after the **9:00 AM** Mass and the praying of the Rosary.

Prior to the meeting at 10:00 am we will draw the winner for our Valentine Jackpot Raffle.

We begin our Lenten Suppers (pizza or soup) in the Church hall on Friday evening February 16<sup>th</sup> immediately following the Stations of the Cross at 5:30pm.

Our first evening will be soup. Please join us every week during the weeks of Lent.

## OFFERTORY

February 5, 2018:

**Regular Sunday Offering:** \$7,357.00

There is only one collection this weekend, our regular Sunday offering. The second collection next weekend is for the Church in Africa and Central and Eastern Europe.

There will be one collection on February 14, Ash Wednesday.

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

**Please remember the poor when leaving Mass today.** Donation boxes are located at the entrances to the church. Thank you for your generous contribution.



## St. Monica School Calendar Raffle Winners

### January

- 1 Julie Caron
- 2 Mike Borkush
- 3 Diane Murad
- 4 David Gachanja
- 5 Cheryl McCurley
- 6 Bob & Linda Ruggiero
- 7 Robin Kalil
- 8 John & Sharon Walsh
- 9 Olga Klufts
- 10 Pat Smith
- 11 Jean & Ken Lumb
- 12 Eva Benigno
- 13 Katia Cabrera
- 14 Donna Sanzo
- 15 Mary Tufts
- 16 Julie Caron
- 17 Dave & Maryjean Aucoin
- 18 Debra Rogers
- 19 Richard LaPointe
- 20 Beth Willwerth
- 21 Connie Cunha
- 22 Carmela Cutuli
- 23 Julie Morley
- 24 Phong Phan/Van Nguyen
- 25 Shelly Jankowski
- 26 John & Sharon Walsh
- 27 Tony Simons
- 28 Katia Cabrera
- 29 John Patturelli
- 30 T. Carole LaChance
- 31 Susan Wangari Kihara



Eight students from St. Monica School participated in the Merrimack Valley Catholic Schools Spelling Bee on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Congratulations to our four FIRST PLACE winners, Gr. 1 - Brian Nguyen-Phan, Gr. 2 – Elias Francis, Gr. 3 – Aida Njuguna and Gr. 6 - Sara Johnston.

Thank you to all of the students who participated!

**We are accepting applications for the 2018/19 school year.**

We welcome students from Preschool (3 years old by September 1<sup>st</sup>) through Grade 8. Application forms are online at [www.methuencatholic.org](http://www.methuencatholic.org) under the school link. Preschool applications are under the Preschool tab and Grades K-8 applications are under the Admissions tab. You may call Sharon Tully at 978-686-1801 at any time for information or to book a tour with our Student Ambassadors. We look forward to hearing from you!

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1 John 4:8

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