

ST. MONICA PARISH

ST. LUCY PARISH

212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA

Renew, Rebuild, and Reach Out: Disciples in Heartfelt Communion with Jesus Christ

From Fr. Joe's Desk

Happy New Year, Church New Year, that is!

We began the Church calendar year 2021 last Sunday, the first Sunday of the Church Season of Advent. It is a season of preparation and watchfulness. Readings from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah dominate both Holy Mass and the Office of Readings during this Holy Season of Advent. Isaiah offers words of comfort to the people of Israel. They had been forced into exile in Babylon and away from the Holy Land. Isaiah's words offer comfort and the promise of a glorious restoration of the people to the Promised Land. The voice crying out "Prepare the way of the Lord!" points not only to the Israelites but also to the future people of God. In particular, that future people will begin to be formed in a new way with the ultimate fulfillment of the Prophet's words in the coming of the Messiah, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Israelites lost the protection of God and got kicked out of the Land because of their disobedience.

This situation with the Israelites points to us who are the people of God, the New Israel, the Church of Christ today. We find ourselves cast out of our intimate relationship with God because of sin. The restoration of the people to the Land points to how God restores all of us to intimacy with Him through the life and saving work of Jesus Christ, most especially His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Jesus was born for only one purpose, to die for us, to restore the breach caused by our disobedience, our sin. Not by accident, John the Baptist echoes the words of the Prophet Isaiah. John speaks to the people of his own day in the same words, in the same way, to a people who find themselves in a similar exile not only under the rule of the Romans but more importantly under the yoke of slavery to sin.

John is Jesus' cousin, the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, whom we hear about in the Infancy narrative of the Gospel of Luke. But more importantly, John is the last and arguably the greatest of the prophets who point to and prepare the way for God's saving action fulfilled in Jesus' life and saving work. And more important still, John is also the first of the great Martyrs. A martyr is a witness, one who speaks what they know to be true regardless of the consequences. Speaking such truth to worldly power usually results in some form of violence and sometimes even death perpetrated against the prophet/ martyr. Thus, John the Baptist is both the last of the great prophets and the first of the great martyrs. John points to the coming of the Messiah in his teaching and action through a baptism of repentance. He also witnesses to the truth of the faith to the point of suffering a violent death for that witness.

Today, our culture militates against the timeless truths we hold, handed down to us through a succession of popes and bishops beginning from St. Peter himself. We are witnesses today as we continue to embrace the sacramental life of the Church (especially Holy Mass and Holy Confession), as we maintain our friendship with God through conversation with God (prayer) as well as action, drawing others to God in a loving, gentle way.

Offering guidance to draw people away from sin and disobedience to God is an act of love. We don't judge people when we speak about what is right, good, and holy. We simply point out where the culture falls short of God's design. Only God judges the worthiness of a soul for eternal happiness in Heaven. We draw people lovingly and gently back to the truth as witnessed by the prophets and martyrs, the truth that is Jesus Christ. God bless you.



Project Bethlehem

This year because of COVID-19 we will be collecting gift cards for the

Lazarus House. These cards will be distributed to needy families throughout the Merrimack Valley.

The suggestions for these are as follows: Market Basket, Stop & Shop, Walmart, Target, Amazon, or Visa gift cards.

A box will be located inside the front door of St. Lucy Church (foyer area) where you can place your donation.

Please adhere to the following hours that the doors will be open.

Weekdays - 8:30-10:00 a.m. Saturday - 3:00-5:00 p.m. Sunday - 9:00-11:00a.m.

The program will run from November 30th to December 11th.

Realizing these are difficult times for all of us, whatever you can do to brighten another family's holiday will be greatly appreciated.

Any questions, please call Annette Autiello at 508-783-1544.

FEAST OF THE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Tuesday, December 8

Mass Schedule:

- 9:00 am St. Lucy's
- 6:00 pm at St. Monica's

(No Vigil Mass on Dec. 7th)



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Thanksgiving and Christmas Programs

Recognizing the challenges our parish community continues to face in 2020, and the anticipated surge in the

COVID virus, we have had to modify our 2020 Thanksgiving and Christmas programs to ensure the safety of our parishioners and the families we serve.

For Thanksgiving this year, your ongoing generosity has made it possible for us to provide each of our families with a grocery store gift card and bag of holiday related food items.

In place of an Advent Tree with tags and gift requests, we are going to offer Target or Wal-Mart gift cards to the children we serve in our ministry. If you would like to participate in our Nativity Program for 2020, we will have designated boxes as you enter the church each week where you can leave a gift card in any denomination you choose. You may also mail gift cards directly to the Parish Office, SVDP Nativity Program, 254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844.

We plan to provide our families with a supermarket gift card to help with their Christmas meal.

As always, thank you for your generosity and support of our programs. The families we serve truly appreciate the assistance your donations provide. God bless you.

RCIA Program

Are you interested in taking steps to enter the Catholic Church or complete your Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist)? If so, please contact Bonnie at 978-609-7307 for more information.

Because we had new fundraisers this fall that have been so successful we have moved out the holiday calendar raffle to February rather than January. People have approached us from the parish and school wanting to use them as gifts/stocking stuffers for Christmas so we are putting the calendar out now even though calendar raffles will not be pulled until February this year. We hope you will support St. Monica School! Thank you!

Saint Monica School

WINTER CALENDAR RAFFLE

February 2021

(If your name is picked on the day, you win that amount)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
	\$150	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$100
7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
\$100	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$100
14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
\$100	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$100
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
\$100	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$100
28.						
\$150						

We must sell 195 tickets. If we do not sell 195 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 mid-March.

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

St. Monica School Calendar Raffle \$10 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$50

Checks made out to St. Monica School by 1/31/21

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).

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, December 5

4:00pm - Arthur & Emilda Gagne,

Rose and Salvatore Filetti

Sunday, December 6

9:00am - Multiple Intentions

Chouinard Family Donna Garland Antoinette &

Nemetallah Khalife

11:00am - Thomas & Velma Fortune

Thursday, December 10

9:00am - Ronald Fitzgerald

Friday, December 11

9:00am - Ludwik Szablowska

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, December 5

4:00pm - Michelangelo Iuvara, Salvatore,

Maria, & Silvana Campailla

Sunday, December 6

10:00am - Multiple Intentions

Real & Gerard Taschereau Henry & Elizabeth Bruno Domenic & Margaret Nicolosi

George Baker, Jr. Dana DeLorey

Monday, December 7

9:00am - Yvonne Soucy

Tuesday, December 8

9:00am - Feast of the Immaculate

Conception

UPDATED SCHEDULE September 6, 2020

PLEASE USE MAIN ENTRANCE ONLY

SATURDAYS

CONFESSIONS 3:00 - 3:45 PM ST. MONICA CHURCH & ST. LUCY CHURCH VIGIL MASS 4:00 - 5:00 PM ST. MONICA CHURCH & ST. LUCY CHURCH

SUNDAYS

SUNDAY MASS

9:00 & <u>11:00 AM</u> ST. MONICA CHURCH 10:00 AM ST. LUCY CHURCH

MONDAY/TUESDAY

DAILY MASS

9:00 AM ST. LUCY CHURCH

THURSDAY/FRIDAY

DAILY MASS

9:00 AM ST. MONICA CHURCH

FRIDAY

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

12:00 - 3:00 PM GETHSEMANE CHAPEL CONFESSIONS 2:00 - 3:00 PM GETHSEMANE CHAPEL



CHRISTMAS AT ST. MONICA & ST. LUCY

ST. MONICA CHURCH

Thursday, December 24th

4:00pm Mass

6:00pm Mass

8:00pm Mass

Friday, December 25th

10:00am Mass

ST. LUCY CHURCH

Thursday, December 24th

3:00pm Mass

5:00pm Mass

7:00pm Mass

Friday, December 25th 9:00am Mass



We request that parishioners and visitors register for Mass no later than December 15th. You can register two ways: (a) by going to our website methuencatholic.org or (b) calling the office at (978) 683-1193.

All Masses will be celebrated in the main churches of each parish.

Observances for this week

2nd Sunday of Advent Sunday:

Monday: St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the

Church

Tuesday: The Immaculate Conception of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

St. Damasus I, Pope Friday: **Saturday:** Our Lady of Guadalupe Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent



Yes I Can Program

We are in need of canned spaghetti, canned carrots, peas and corn.

We will have food collection baskets available in both churches in the usual locations. You may also drop off food at the side door of Gethsemane Chapel during the week, but food donations are not to be left at the main door or entranceway of the chapel. Thank you for your generosity!

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Snow Removal Methuen Area 978-557-1029 (Alex)

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Pat, Dick Lynch, Joyce C., Joseph V. for healing of his eyes, Justice C., Tom C., and Sarah Wilkens.

Please pray for **George W. Pierog** and **Marie Pellerin** whose Funeral Masses were recently celebrated at our parishes. May their soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.

Please pray for our priests/seminarians/ vocations daily. Pick up a Pray for Our Priests calendar and a seminarian prayer card at the back of the church or just use this list each day. Our priests and seminarians need our prayers!

Date	Pr	iest	Seminarian	
12/06/2020		Fr. Daniel Hennessey	Gustavo Neitzke	
12/07/2020		Fr. David Callahan	Michael Castellon	
12/08/2020		Fr. Peter Stamm	Ulises Diaz	
12/09/2	2020	Cardinal Sean O'Malley	Aaron Sanz	
12/10/2020		Fr. Richard Fitzgerald	Edward Rodriguez	
12/11/2020		Fr. Oscar Pratt	Julio Flores	
12/12/2020		Fr. Ixon Chateau	Bertrand Proulx	

IN LOVING MEMORY

Roses for Life for this week

Theresa A. Rickley

	Parish Offices: 254 Merrimack Street, Methuen
e	Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
•	St. Monica School: 212 Lawrence St., Methuen



St. Vincent de Paul Society: (978) 686 - 9573



methuencatholic.org

stmonicalucymethuen

🚹 facebook.com/methuencatholic/ 🔼 YouTube



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**

Isabela Peixoto **Communications Associate Donna Henderson** St. Monica School Principal

Sharon Tully St. Monica School Administrative Assistant

Director of Faith Formation Karl Jackson Eric Berthiaume Music Director - St. Monica

Sharon Waning Choir Director/Lead Cantor - St. Lucy

Dan Bolster Weekend Organist - St. Lucy

Kevin Fitzgerald 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.

Brand New Luxury Senior Living Apartments





Proudly Announcing ZERO Confirmed Covid-19 Cases*

Now Touring By Appointment!

Schedule your tour of our brand new community and ask about our move-in specials!

(619) 210-0163

THE WOODS AT MERRIMACK RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

*At the time of placing this advertisement. We cannot guarantee that there are not asymptomatic cases in residents or employees.

197 Howe Street | Methuen, MA 01844 | WoodsAtMerrimack.com

len Hamilton Your Friend In Real Estate

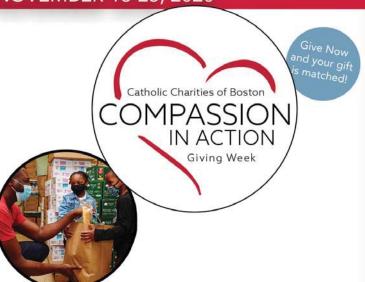
Platinum

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE MARKET ANALYSIS! Celebrating 36 Years in Real Estate! 508-954-7941

AD SPACE **AVAILABLE**

617-779-3771

Catholic Charities of Boston Giving Week Compassion in Action NOVEMBER 18-25, 2020



Providing Life's Basic Necessities to our Communities

givingweek.ccab.org



"God is Love" 1 John 4:8



Michael Arserio 978-494-3424

- Spring & Fall Clean Ups
- Weekly Lawn Moving
- Mulching & Edging
- Overseeding & Aeration
- Retaining Walls
- Walkways & Patios
- Seed & Sod Lawns
- Annuals & Perrenials
- Planting
- Shrub Pruning

Over 30 Years Experience Servicing the Merrimack Valley









Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship of The Sea of the United States of America

Catholic Cruises and Tours to Worldwide Destinations

Mass is included with all of our tours!

Holy Land Discovery • Fatima, Lourdes and Shrines of Spain • Grand Catholic Italy • Footsteps of Apostle Paul • Shrines of Alpine Europe

- Pilgrimage to Lourdes
 Scottish Highlands
 - Camino, a walking journey for the soul

Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email Janet@CatholicCruisesandTours.com

www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com



KENNETH H. POLLARD



Our Family Helping Your Family

978-687-7300 pollardfuneralhome.com

233 Lawrence St., Methuen



24/7 Towing & Recovery (603) 898-9077 www.RGATIRE.com (603) 505-7671





978-686-1872

Piro's Italian Bakery

Fax: 978-686-1878 300 Merrimack St. • Methuen



Skilled Nursing Respite Care
 Subacute Care Longterm Care
 Extended Rehabilitation

& Restorative Care

Accepts all HMO's, Medicare and Commercial Insurance

* * RATED 4 STARS BY THE CMS



480 Jackson St. Methuen, MA 01844 978-686-3906

CedarViewRehab.com

A New & Proud Member of MARQUIS HEALTH SERVICES

F. GALLO LAWN & (

- BACKHOE & DUMP TRUCK SERVICE, SPRING CLEAN-UPS -WEEKLY LAWN MAINTENANCE • WALLS • WALKWAYS • DRAINAGE

> CALL PARISHIONER FRANK GALLO (978) 687-3113

FULLY INSURED

GET A JUMP ON SPRING PROJECTS WITHOUT SPREADING YOUR BUDGET TOO THIN.

INQUIRE TODAY ABOUT OUR LOW RATE

APPLY ONLINE AT WWW.METHUENCREDITUNION.COM
OR CALL US (978) 686-1471
FOR MORE DETAILS.





Acute Care • Rehabilitation Services **Long Term Care**

Licensed by Department of Public Health for Alzheimers Memory Care

150 Water St., Haverhill 978-374-0707

603-894-6328 (MEAT) 236 N. Broadway • Salem, NH Come Visit our Website at: www.ShopMcKinnons.com



54 Cummings Park Drive, Woburn, Ma 01801 Phone: (978) 242-4658 • Phone: (781) 541-0074 Email: contact@barodhomecare.com

Snow Removal

Driveways & Walkways On-Call Service Available



978-557-1029

Parishioner | Methuen Area



Monument Sales • Cemetery Lettering

COLIZZI MEMORIALS, INC.

978-674-7<u>0</u>35

AD SPACE

AVAILABLE

617-779-3771

SALES & SERVICE

284 Main Street - Rte 97

Salem NH 03079

978-683-9000

Rick Dube

Certified Nursing Assistant & Home Health Aide - CNA, HHA

Looking to take care of your loved one

Call Maureen @ 978-685-1916 Leave a message.

12 yrs of experience | Excellent References \$15/hour Mon-Thu | days, evenings and overnight



BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY

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

Personal Injury | Estate Planning | Workman's Family Law | Criminal Defense | Comp

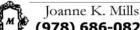


Call us Today 978-687-1777

www.difruscialaw.com

Serving Clients in Massachusetts and New Hampshire for 50 years

MILLS INSURANCE AGENCY



(978) 686-0826 joanne@jksmillsins.com

www.jkmillsins.com 156 Haverhill St., Methuen Merrimac Pla

- By Appointment -

(978) 686-7791

76 Woodland Street • Methuen, MA



Joe Freitas, 978-790-6826 Joe@JFreitasRealty.com



FreitasRealtyTeam.com

Office locations in Lowell, Milford Sandra Freitas, 978-376-7309 North Andover & Cambridge

sandrafreitas613@gmail.com



Certified Nursing Assistant & Home Health Aide - CNA, HHA

Looking to take care of your loved one

Call Maureen @ 978-685-1916 Leave a message. 12 yrs of experience | Excellent References

\$15/hour Mon-Thu | days, evenings and overnight

"Important family decisions become far more difficult for family members left behind to make them."

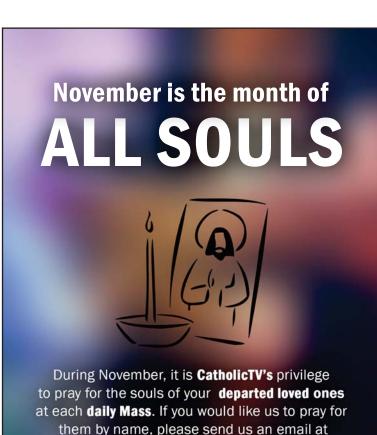
Because of the increased demand among area Catholics, making cemetery plans for their family on a PRE-NEED basis. we have completed construction on the new **Our Lady of Good Counsel** Chapel Mausoleum

901

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











Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship of The Sea of the United States of America

Catholic Cruises and Tours to Worldwide Destinations Mass is included with all of our tours!

Holy Land Discovery • Fatima, Lourdes and Shrines of Spain • Grand Catholic Italy • Footsteps of Apostle Paul • Shrines of Alpine Europe

- Pilgrimage to Lourdes Scottish Highlands
 - Camino, a walking journey for the soul

Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email Janet@CatholicCruisesandTours.com

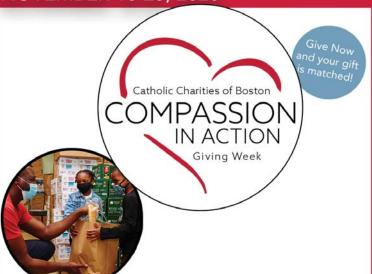
www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com



"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

AllSoulsRemembrance@CatholicTV.org.

Catholic Charities of Boston Giving Week Compassion in Action NOVEMBER 18-25, 2020



Providing Life's Basic Necessities to our Communities

givingweek.ccab.org



When patronizing our Sponsors Please let them know you saw them in the Church Bulletin.

THEY MAKE THIS BULLETIN POSSIBLE Support your Community.



APPLY ONLINE AT OR CALL US (978) 686-1471 FOR MORE DETAILS.



METHUEN 248 Broadway,
MCU UNION Tel: (978) 686-1471



Healthier Priests. Stronger Communities.

The strength of our communities depends on the well-being of our priests who tirelessly serve others.

SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS AT CHRISTMAS

DONATE AT CLERGYTRUST.ORG — OR —

SCAN HERE for Venmo, Google/ Apple Pay, PayPal



900

KENNETH H. POLLARD



Our Family Helping Your Family

978-687-7300 pollardfuneralhome.com

233 Lawrence St., Methuen

ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES

BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY

www.zannipescelaw.com

Free Consultation | 978-557-9700

St. Lucy Parishioners 235 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA





978-686-1872

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



Penacook Place A Member of Covenant Hea

Acute Care • Rehabilitation Services **Long Term Care**

Licensed by Department of Public Health for Álzheimers Memory Care

150 Water St., Haverhill 978-374-0707

"Feed My Sheep" John 21:17

Any Size Big Or Small | Any Condition We Buy Them All

- Downsizing
- Life Transition
- House Needs Repairs
 - ✓ No Home Inspection
- ✓ Inherited Property
 ✓ Close In as Few as 5 Days

Call NOW for a FREE Evaluation of Your Home





781-819-5100 www.GarmourGroup.com

Ak Forest Landscaping oakforestlandscapes@gmail.com

Michael Arserio 978-494-3424

- Spring & Fall Clean Ups
- Weekly Lawn Moving
- Mulching & Edging
- Overseeding & Aeration
- Retaining Walls
- Walkways & Patios
- Seed & Sod Lawns
- Annuals & Perrenials
- Planting
- Shrub Pruning

Over 30 Years Experience Servicing the Merrimack Valley

Snow Removal

Driveways & Walkways On-Call Service Available



978-557-1029

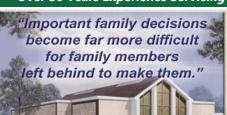
Parishioner | Methuen Area

PLEASANT VALLEY GARDENS Join Our CSA Program



255 Merrimack Street • Methuen www.pleasantvalleygardens.com

AD SPACE AVAILABLE



BILL DELUCA CHEVROLET CADILLAC 978-475-6200 ANDOVER, MA

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





BILL DELUCA CHEVROLET BUICK GMC 978-373-7700 HAVERHILL, MA BILL DELUCA CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE RAM 978-373-9500 HAVERHILL, MA





For Advertising call 617-779-3771 Pilot Bulletins Saint Lucy, Methuen, MA