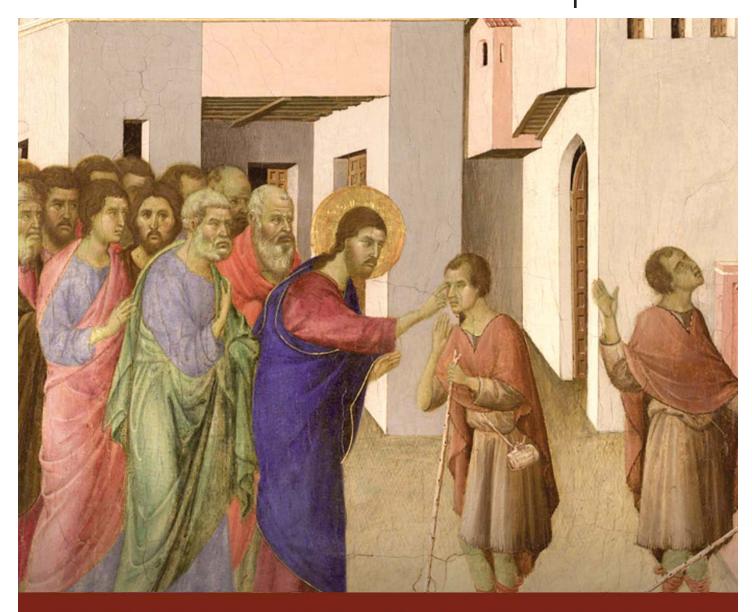
METHUEN CATHOLICSEPT 5THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY2021



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

-0 Î O -

And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:32-34

ST. LUCY CHURCH | 254 MERRIMACK ST.

ST. MONICA CHURCH | 212 LAWRENCE ST.

THE BISHOPS OF COLORADO ON COVID-19 VACCINE MANDATES

We, the Catholic bishops of Colorado, consistent with our previous letters on COVID-19 vaccines, affirm that the use of some COVID-19 vaccines is morally acceptable under certain circumstances. Throughout the pandemic we have cooperated with the various secular authorities and encouraged Catholics to help each other, and the broader society, remain healthy and safe during this challenging time. We understand that some individuals have well-founded convictions that lead them to discern they should not get vaccinated. We always remain vigilant when any bureaucracy seeks to impose uniform and sweeping requirements on a group of people in areas of personal conscience. Throughout history, human rights violations and a loss of respect for each person's God-given dignity often begin with government mandates that fail to respect the freedom of conscience.

We have been asked several questions by the Faithful about relevant Catholic teaching applicable to this issue. The Catholic Church teaches that a person may refuse a medical intervention, including a vaccination, if his or her conscience leads them to that decision. Here are relevant points for this personal decision:

- Vaccination is not morally obligatory and so must be voluntary.
- There is a moral duty to refuse the use of medical products, including certain vaccines, that are created using human cells lines derived from abortion; however, it is permissible to use such vaccines only under case-specific conditions—if there are no other alternatives available and the intent is to preserve life.

• A person's assessment of whether the benefits of a medical intervention outweigh the undesirable side-effects are to be respected unless they contradict authoritative Catholic moral teachings.

- A person is morally required to obey his or her conscience.
- Taken as a whole, these points mean a Catholic may judge it right or wrong to receive certain vaccines for a variety of reasons, and there is no Church law or rule that obligates a Catholic to receive a vaccine–including COVID-19 vaccines.

The three Colorado Catholic dioceses remain committed to working with public health and other secular authorities to protect the wellbeing of our communities, at the same time urging that personal freedoms of conscience and expression be fully supported, and the integrity and autonomy of religious institutions be respected. The vaccination question is a deeply personal issue, and we continue to support religious exemptions from any and all vaccine mandates. If any person comes to an informed judgment that he or she should receive or not receive a vaccine, that person should follow their conscience, and they should not be penalized for doing so.

Sincerely,

Most Reverend Samuel J. Aquila Archbishop of Denver

Most Reverend Stephen J. Berg Bishop of Pueblo Most Reverend Jorge Rodriguez Auxiliary Bishop of Denver

Most Reverend James R. Golka Bishop of Colorado Springs

HIGHLIGHTS

SEPT 5, 2021

FAITH FORMATION | FIRST COMMUNION | CONFIRMATION

Registration for the 2021-2022 Faith Formation Year has begun. Please spread the word.

To register, please go to our homepage (methuencatholic.org), click on the "SIGN UP" link, and follow the instructions OR

call the office for more information: (978) 683 -1193 or (978) 686 -3311 OR reach out to Karl Jackson at faithformation.stlm@gmail.com.

Due to Covid-19, both parish programs (both St. Monica's and St. Lucy's) will meet at St. Lucy's Campus on Sunday afternoons. Meetings are scheduled to begin at the end of September/beginning of October.



GETHSEMANE CHAPEL is open from morning rush hour until 7:00pm, seven days a week.

THE CHAPEL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ST. LUCY CANDLE SHRINE

Our chapel & shrine is open weekday mornings as well as weekends during mass times.

METHUEN CATHOLIC

THE PARISHES OF ST. MONICA AND ST. LUCY

PARISH OFFICES

254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844 (978) 683 - 1193 or (978) 686 - 3311 www.methuencatholic.org Monday - Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (978) 686 - 9573

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Darin Colarusso Pastor Parochial Vicar Fr. Joseph D'Onofrio Deacon John Pierce Permanent Deacon Deacon John Kobrenski Permanent Deacon Karl Jackson Director of Parish Life faithformation.stlm@gmail.com Kera Mansour **Business Manager** methuencatholic@gmail.com Eric Berthiaume Music Director Sharon Waning Music Ministry (St. Lucy) Kevin Fitzgerald Facilities (St. Lucy) / RCIA Chrissy Cerretani Administrative Assistant parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com



ST. MONICA SCHOOL

212 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA 01844 (978) 686 - 1801 www.saintmonicaschoolmethuen.org

SCHOOL STAFF

Donna Henderson Principal Sharon Tully Administrative Assistant smsoffice@methuencatholic.org

CONNECT, GROW, & SERVE

SEPT 5, 2021

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY



The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality will be returning to their regular monthly meetings after the 10AM mass beginning Sunday, September 12th. *All women of St. Lucy's and St. Monica's are welcome!* The Sodality strives to lead its members to Jesus through Mary by perpetuating devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary through prayer and charitable works in her name and to assist the Community spirituality, socially and financially.

To support our charitable giving, the Sodality has planned a **Welcome Back Raffle**. The drawing will take place at our October 10th meeting. We will sell raffle tickets after all masses at both churches on the weekends of **9/25** and **10/3** You can also contact a Sodality member for tickets. Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe September 14, 2021 - November 9, 2021

Place: St. Monica Church Time: 7 p.m. Nine consecutive Tuesdays

Novena to *Our Lady of Guadalupe*: Patroness of the Americas, Queen of the first and the new evangelization, and Patroness of the unborn.

- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Praying the Rosary
- The Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Readings from scripture and other sources concerning the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Meditation/reflection
- The Novena prayers
- Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament





GRAZIE MILLE!!!

The Lawrence Ladies' Lodge #2026, Sons and Daughters of Italy, would like to thank the parishioners of St. Lucy's and St. Monica's parishes for their donations to our food drive for the Lawrence YMCA'S Food Pantry. Our donations arrived at just the right time! Their shelves were almost bare. Your generosity helped us make a difference.

CONNECT, GROW, & SERVE

SEPT 5, 2021



Free Online Membership*

For new online membership applications submitted through Dec. 31, 2021 *regular dues are \$30/year

> Visit kofc.org/joinus Enter Code MCGIVNEY2020

ATTENTION ALL GROUPS!

In-person meetings have resumed. If you would like to resume your meetings, please contact Karl to secure your space for the year and to set-up a starting date/time. You can reach Karl at **faithformation.stlm@gmail.com** or **978-683-1193**.





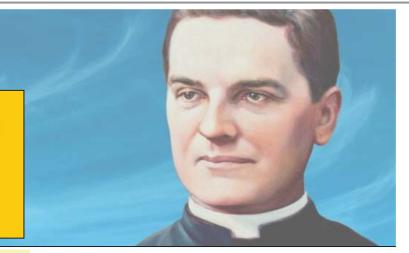
On September 18, Pro-Life Americans throughout the country will gather at the gravesites of aborted babies & other memorial sites dedicated in their honor for the 8th annual National Day of Remembrance of Aborted Children. Solemn vigils will be held at these sites to commemorate the

more than 60 million children who have lost their lives to legal abortion since 1973, and to remind our society of the humanity of the unborn child.

WHEN:Saturday, September 18, 2021 @ 10:00 to10:30a.m.(Followed by recitation of the Rosary)

 WHERE: Knights of Columbus Memorial for the Unborn St. Mary's Cemetery
 29 Barker Street
 Lawrence, MA

Knights of Columbus councils throughout the Order pay tribute to the millions of children killed by abortion by erecting memorials in Catholic cemeteries, council hall grounds, and on parish grounds throughout the United States.



THE WEEK AHEAD

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- First Saturday Mass 9 am St. Monica Church
- Confessions 3-3:45pm Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

• AA 7pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 (LABOR DAY)

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- Parish Offices Closed

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- PMA Associates 9:30am St. Lucy Schoolhouse
- Rosary Prayer Group 6 pm Gethsemane
 Chapel

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

• Al-Anon 10 am St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- Baptism Prep Class 6pm St. Lucy Schoolhouse
- AA 6:30pm St. Lucy Lower Church Hall

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- Mass 9 am St. Lucy Church followed by Rosary
- AA 10am St. Lucy Lower Church Hall
- Eucharistic Adoration 2 5 pm Gethsemane Chapel
- Confessions 4 5 pm Gethsemane Chapel

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

• Confessions 3-3:45pm Gethsemane Chapel and St. Lucy Church

CONNECT, GROW, & SERVE

SEPT 5, 2021

ST. MONICA SCHOOL has part-time openings for:

- **Special Education Teacher**
- STEM Teacher
- Technology Teacher
- Afterschool Program Staff

Please contact Donna Henderson at 978-686 - 1801 or principal@methuencatholic.org for more information.





THE STATE CONTINUES TO ADVISE UNVACCINATED INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR MASKS IN INDOOR PUBLIC SPACES

YES, I CAN PROGRAM WE CAN USE... Canned Tuna, Beans and Carrots, Grape and Strawberry Jelly, and Peanut Butter.





DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT RCIA, FIRST COMMUNION, FAITH FORMATION (CCD), BAPTISM, OR OTHER SACRAMENTS? contact Karl Jackson at (978) 683 - 1193 ext. 35 | faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

ROSES FOR LIFE FOR THIS WEEK Theresa A. Rickley

ALTAR BREAD FOR SEPTEMBER St. Monica Parish - Rita Conroy

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Mondays @ 10 am. Please email all bulletin notices to parishoffice.stlm@gmail.com.

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Dick's TV and Appliances | 978-683-9000 284 Main Street- Rt 97 Salem, NH 03079

MASS SCHEDULE	SAT 4 pm (VIGIL) both parishes	CONFESSIONS
	SUN 9 am & 11 am St. Monica 10 am St. Lucy	3 - 3:45 pm both parishes
	MON/TUES/THURS/FRI 9:00 am St. Lucy	4 - 5pm Gethsemane Chapel
	FIRST SATURDAY 9 am St. Monica	EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
		2 - 5 pm Gethsemane Chapel

BAPTISMS 2nd Sunday of the month at 1:00pm St. Monica's | 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:00pm at St. Lucy's

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

INTROIT

Ps 119 (118):137, 124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



CONFITEOR - KYRIE - GLORIA

Refer to Pew Card

FIRST READING

Thus says the LORD: Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing. Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the steppe. The burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 146: 6-7, 8-9, 9-10



Isaiah 35: 4-7a

1. The God of Jacob keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets captives free. 2. The LORD gives sight to the blind; the LORD raises up those who were bowed down. The LORD loves the just; the LORD protects strangers. 3. The fatherless and the widow the LORD sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The LORD shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia.

James 2:1-5

SECOND READING

My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. For if a man with gold rings and fine clothes comes into your assembly, and a poor person in shabby clothes also comes in, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Sit here, please, " while you say to the poor one, "Stand there, " or "Sit at my feet, " have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil designs? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?

ALLELUIA



ÿ Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people.

GOSPEL

Again Jesus left the district of Tyre and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, into the district of the Decapolis. And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"— that is, "Be opened!" — And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. He ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

PROFESSION OF FAITH

SANCTUS - MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION - AGNUS DEI

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

COMMUNION HYMN



Matthew 4:23

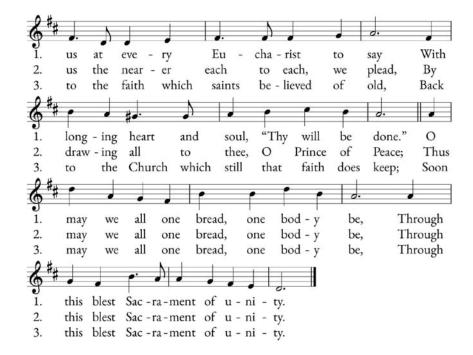
Mark 7:31-37

Refer to Pew Card

Refer to Pew Card

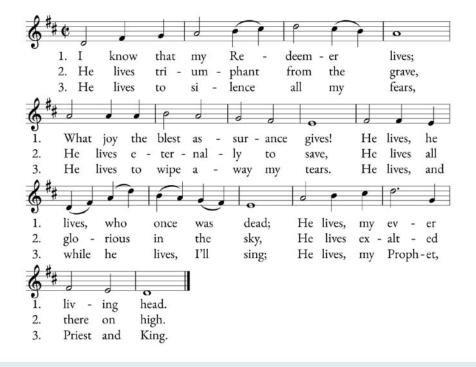
Ps 42 (41): 2-3

Lord, Who at Thy First Eucharist



RECESSIONAL HYMN

I Know That My Redeemer Lives



PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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MASS & PRAYER INTENTIONS

ST. MONICA PARISH

Saturday, September 4

4:00pm Paul R. Dionne, Sr.

Sunday, September 5

- 9:00am *Multiple Intentions* Charles & Rose Hanafin Emily Jones Elizabeth Pierce
- 11:00am For the Parishioners of St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes

Saturday, September 11

4:00pm Mary Ann Andrews

Sunday, September 12

- 9:00am *Multiple Intentions* Evelina & Jose Freitas Ryan Cochran Jean Andrew Deceased Members of the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality
- 11:00am Dalmazia Mesiti Antoinetta DeCicco

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

DAY	DATE	PRIEST	SEMINAR.
Sun	09/5	Msgr. Charles Bourque	Moises Franchi
Mon	09/6	Fr. Jeffrey Archer	Alexander Deltirado
Tues	09/7	Fr. John Ahern	Christopher Barton
Wed	09/8	Pope Francis	Alden Bronson
Thurs	09/9	Fr. Edmond Derosier	Joseph Jasinski
Fri	09/10	Fr. William Leonard	Jake Livingstone
Sat	09/11	Fr. R. Michael Guarino	Timothy Walsh

ST. LUCY PARISH

Saturday, September 4 4:00pm James M. Mahoney

Sunday, September 5

10:00am *Multiple Intentions* Evelina Mollica Louis Polizotti Bruce Beverley

Monday, September 6

9:00am *Living Intentions* Marilyn, Elizabeth, & Joseph Mugavero Susan McGee

Tuesday, September 7 9:00am Yvonne Soucy

Thursday, September 99:00amLuisa and Pia Rea

Friday, September 10 9:00am Dorothy Fortune

Saturday, September 11 4:00pm Joseph Moreau

Sunday, September 12

10:00am *Multiple Intentions* Deceased Members of Despres & Paris Families Antonio DiFruscia Michael Kenny, Jr. Kelly Martin Jeanette Luciano Dominick (Rex) Campone William DeSantis

PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for Matt W., Grace P., Elizabeth P., Daniel V., and Daniel R.

Please pray for **Elaine Gaudet** whose Funeral Mass was recently celebrated at our parishes. May her soul and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace.



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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35



