

*Amen, I say to you, this poor widow
put in more than all the other contributors
to the treasury. For they have all
contributed from their surplus wealth,
but she, from her poverty, has contributed
all she had, her whole livelihood.*

Mark 12:43-44 (NAB)



Saint Monica Parish

212 Lawrence Street • Methuen, MA 01844
Office: 254 Merrimack St., Methuen, MA 01844

Father William P. Lohan	Pastor
Father John A. Cassani	Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Pierce	Permanent Deacon
Mr. Paul Jernberg	Music Director
Sister Suzanne Fondini, mfc	School Principal
Sharon Tully	School Administrative Assistant
Mr. Karl Jackson	Director of Faith Formation
Samantha Moore	Coordinator Youth Ministry/Confirmation



Mass Schedule

Weekday: Monday - Wednesday - St. Lucy Parish 8:00 A.M.
 Thursday-Friday - St. Monica Parish 7:00 A.M.
 Saturday - St. Monica Parish 8:00 A.M.
 Holy Days: 4:00 P.M. (vigil), 7:00 A.M., 7:00 P.M.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: (978) 683-1193
Fax: (978) 794-0383
School: (978) 686-1801
Director of Faith Formation:
 (978) 686-3311 Ext. 35
Coordinator Youth Ministry/Confirmation
 (978) 686-3311 Ext. 36
Prayer Line: (978) 683-1193 Ext. 41

Parish Offices:

Main Office:
methuencatholic@gmail.com

Director of Faith Formation:
faithformation.stlm@gmail.com

Coordinator Youth Ministry/Confirmation
youth.stlm@gmail.com

School: saintmonicaoffice@verizon.net

Web: www.methuencatholic.org.

Lord's Day: Saturday: 4:00 P.M.
 Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 A.M., & *5:30 P.M.
 * Except during Summer Months

Confessions

Friday: 6:30 - 7:30 P.M.
 Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 P.M.
 and any time by appointment and
 Monday 4:30pm to 5:30pm at St. Lucy

Marriage

Please call the Parish Office at least six months prior to your wedding.

Baptisms

Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.
 Baptisms occur on Saturday @ 12:30 pm and
 on Sunday @ 1:00pm on the first complete weekend
 of the month.

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

The Office is now located at
 254 Merrimack Street, Methuen, MA 01844
 (at St. Lucy Parish)

The Worst Pain Imaginable – God Wants to Heal

This weekend a movie was released in the cinemas called *Spotlight*. It is a dramatic portrayal of a very real and painful scandal in the life of the Church in the Archdiocese of Boston. It depicts the work of *The Boston Globe Spotlight Team* in breaking the story of the sexual abuse of minors by priests in the Archdiocese in January, 2002. The scandal was amplified by the failure of bishops to remove priests from ministry and in some cases moving them to other parishes and even other parts of the country where they abused more children. Though the number of abusive priests was small as a percentage of the total number of priests, sadly many of these priests had a large number of victims. I am aware that St. Monica Parish suffered tremendous pain, particularly at the hands of one notorious priest. It brings me great sadness to know that parishioners, and their families, have suffered such pain. To my knowledge, St. Lucy Parish thankfully did not suffer the same trauma.

My second year in the seminary 2003-2004, a family friend, roughly my age, called me. He knew I had entered the seminary and he trusted me. He told me that he had been abused by a priest as a pre-teen. I did the best I could to convince him that what happened was not his fault, as he seemed to think it was. I knew he needed far more help than I could provide. I convinced him to go to the office the Archdiocese had established in Newton to help victims and I went with him that day. As we met the staff in the lobby and exchanged greetings I thought I'd be merely waiting for him in the lobby. To my surprise, he insisted that I stay in the meeting with them. Of course I complied with his request as the counselors advised whatever would put him most at ease. He then described very vividly what was done to him, in far more detail than when we had spoken before. It remains, even after seven years of priesthood, by far the most painful and difficult pastoral experience I have ever encountered. It is hard to describe his pain which you could see so vividly in his shaking as he spoke. Knowing that some of you, and your loved ones, have experienced the pain that I saw this man enduring is heartbreaking and something of which I am keenly aware.

To be a priest is a tremendous privilege. Particularly having the opportunity to help form children in their relationship with God is a great joy for most priests, I know it's one of the highlights for me. Children help us to stay young, to look at the world with awe and wonder. To see the kids pray, play and smile at church and school is one of the greatest joys of priesthood. To field their beautiful questions asked with such innocence and candor is uplifting. Since the scandal broke over 13 years ago The Archdiocese has done a tremendous amount to ensure the safety of our children. All priests, parish and school staff, and lay ministers and volunteers are required to participate in the *Virtus* training program which teaches us to be aware of red flags in the area of child abuse. In addition we must pass a *Criminal Offender Records Inquiry* (CORI) each and every year. This inconvenience is a very small one to endure to ensure our children are safe. It is a requirement that we cannot skirt and no exceptions to this will be allowed.

I do plan on seeing the movie. Will it be completely fair to the church? Will subsequent media coverage recognize all that has been implemented since then to make our kids safer? -probably not. The undeniable reality remains that *The Boston Globe* reported what we, the church, had done. The fact that it all was brought to light has made us a better church and undoubtedly has saved more children from being victimized. It has been a catalyst for reform.

I want every parishioner to know that if you have been abused by a priest or any representative of the Catholic Church here in Methuen or elsewhere, It is my highest priority to make sure you can begin the healing that God so much wants you to experience. Know that I am at your service and your pastoral care trumps anything and everything else I am called to do. If you'd prefer to reach out directly and confidentially to the Archdiocese of Boston call the Office of Pastoral Support and Outreach (866-244-9603 or 617-746-5985). If you need me to sit with you and make that phone call with you, or go with you, I will.

God bless you all,

Fr. Bill



**Parish Giving
W/E 11/01/2015**

Offertory: \$11,058.13

All Saints/All Souls Days: \$3,377.00

Thank You for Your Generosity!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

The Methuen Catholic Collaborative's Commission to Assist Our Brothers and Sisters in Need will be conducting a "free will" collection after all the Masses the weekend of November 14 and 15 at both St. Lucy and St. Monica Parishes. Commission members and parishioners of both parishes will be at the doors of both churches to accept your donations. The monies raised from this collection will help with the cost of the Commission's Christmas Prayer Service and Celebration for the families at the Days Inn in Methuen. Any money left over will be used throughout the year to help defray the cost of other outreach projects that the Commission has planned. Whatever you can give will be most appreciated. Remember no amount is too small.

"Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for ME."

Mass Book Is Now Open For 2016

We are now accepting Mass requests for 2016. The only two masses where we accept multiple requests are the 8:00am on Saturday morning and the 9:30am on Sunday. In order to be fair to all requesting weekend Masses we allow only 4 Masses for the year; Weekday masses are not limited. You can either come in to the office (located at St. Lucy Parish, 254 Merrimack St., Methuen or call the office at 978-683-1193.



**Fifteenth Annual
Project Warm & Fuzzy**

Ashley Bolis, a resident of the Merrimack Valley and a Corpus Christi parishioner is continuing a project which she started as a student at St. Monica's Grammar School. The project is called "Warm & Fuzzy. Beginning Saturday, October 10th through November 22nd (the Sunday before Thanksgiving) there will be boxes at the main entrance of the Church where you may drop off **new** hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and socks (for 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.

The 2015 Grand Annual Appeal

My friends you should have received a letter from me this past week or you will be receiving it by the beginning of the coming week, regarding the grand annual collection for this fall. This collection stays in the parish and is an important piece for us to meet our weekly operating expenses. Please watch out for it and prayerfully discern what you are able to contribute. I apologize that the letter is going out a little late. We are doing the mailing in house this year which will yield a savings of \$13,000 dollars.



All are invited to attend the Columbian Squires
**Pancake Breakfast on
Sunday, November 15, 2015 – 8:15AM to 11:15AM**

\$5 for Adults, \$3 for Children,
\$15 for a family of 4 or more,
Veterans eat free

Breakfast includes pancakes,
sausage, juice, fruit and coffee.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 7 - 4:00pm Vigil (Anticipated)
 Philip and Johanna Muhilly and Memorial
 Wendy Gutherie Memorial

Sunday, November 8
7:30am Carol McLaughlin 11th Anniversary

9:30am "Multiple Intentions"
 John H. Burns Jr. and Arthur Burns Anniversary
 Helen Morris Memorial
 Esther Fitzgerald Memorial
 William J. Gobush Memorial

11:30am Peter Gallo 1st Anniversary

5:30pm Frederick Bradley Memorial

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday - 8:00am @ St. Lucy Church

Thursday, November 12- 7am
 Trinidad Escobar Memorial


Friday, November 13 - 8:15am (School Mass)
 Raul Felix Perez Memorial

Saturday, November 14 - 8:00am "Multiple Intentions"
 Joseph O'Neill Memorial
 Barbara Morley Memorial

Saturday, November 14, 4:00pm Vigil (Anticipated)
 Deceased Members of the Bachand Family Memorial

Sunday, November 15
7:30am Andrew and Virginia Sullivan Memorial
9:30am "Multiple Intentions"
 Gene Bourassa 4th Anniversary
 Paul Valliere Memorial
11:30am Deceased Members of the Saint Monica Knights of Columbus Memoria

5:30pm The People of St. Monica & St. Lucy Parishes

 Please pray for Joseph A. Dube Jr., Kathleen McNally, Joseph James Clark, and Olga McDonough who were buried from our parish.

Saint Monica Parish Community extends our sympathy to their family and friends.
 Please remember them in your prayers.



St. Vincent de Paul Society

Yes I CAN – one CAN at a Time
WE CAN USE.....

Strawberry Jelly, Pancake Syrup,
 Canned Pasta and Cereal

" The Lord hears the cry of the Poor"

November 8-Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time:
 In today's Gospel Jesus tells us: "I want you to observe that this poor widow contributed more than all the others who donated to the treasury. They gave from their surplus wealth, but she gave from her want, all that she had to live on."
Ask yourself "Am I only giving from my surplus wealth?" and then put your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul poor box so that those who are suffering will be able to know God's love and care.

Program for Adults
desiring to receive the Sacraments
 Sessions are just beginning for any adults interested in our Catholic faith and in becoming a member of the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation, a program commonly known as RCIA. Anyone interested in receiving any or all of these sacraments, which they may have not received in their youth, are **encouraged and welcomed** to attend. Sessions began on October 25th at 11:00am at the St Lucy Parish Schoolhouse. Sessions will last 90 minutes and are held on Sunday mornings. Any questions please contact Kevin Fitzgerald, at 978-686-3311 or Bonnie Bonanno at 978-609-7307. If any adult would like to prepare to receive these Sacraments but is unable to attend on Sunday mornings, please contact Fr. Bill Lohan at the parish offices.



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS GIFT

you can give to a family member, friend,
loved one, or yourself is a trip to
MEDJUGORJE.

September 6th to the 14th, 2016

with **FR. WILLIAM LOHAN**

Pastor at St. Monica and St. Lucy as
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR, and with Claude Langlois
as Group Leader. Stay at the beautiful
Wojtyla Hotel, dedicated to Pope St. John Paul II,
and only seconds from St. James Church in
the heart of Medjugorje.

9 days, 7 nights, 2 meals per day, experienced
guide every day. Total Cost: \$2,399 per person.

No Money Now. Contact Mr. Langlois
at 978-682-6012

Eucharistic Adoration located at St. Monica's Chapel

Adoration is held every Friday at St. Monica Parish
in the chapel from 7:30am (after 7am Mass) until
7:30pm with benediction. Adoration will begin later
when there is an 8:15am school mass on the
following dates: February 5, 2016, March 4, 2016,
April 1, 2016, and June 3, 2016. Also there will be
no adoration on the following **Fridays: Nov 26,**
Dec. 25, and Jan 1.

**There is a great need for more committed
adorers at various hours.** Please prayerfully
consider and call me!

Contact information: Bonnie Doherty, 978-270-3366
or bonnieocds@gmail.com. Also see our website,
www.methuencatholic.org/adoration, for
information about adoration in other parishes and
an updated newsletter.

Praise and Worship Night!

Come join us on the second Tuesday of
each month at 6:30pm in the St. Monica
lower rectory for Eucharistic adoration and
worship music. We always meet together
afterward for fellowship. I hope you'll join us.
Our next worship night is on Tuesday,
November 10th. All ages are welcome!
Please contact Sammie Moore with any
questions at youth.stlm@gmail.com or (978)
686-1801.



Mass and Healing Service -

Father Albert MacPherson,
O.S.A., of the Augustinian Healing
Ministry located at Our Mother of
Consolation Friary, Lawrence,
MA, will be conducting a Mass and
Healing session at Saint Monica Parish
on **Thursday, November 19th, 2015.**
Mass will begin at **6:30 PM** in the Church
on both days, followed by the healing
service. All are welcome!

St. Monica's Christmas Pageant



The Annual St. Monica's
Christmas Pageant will be held on
December 24th at 3 PM in the
Church. There will be fittings for
those who would like to participate on
Saturday, November 14th at 2 PM in the
Church Chapel. We hope to see many familiar
faces as well as new participants. For more
information contact Carol Noucher 978-587-5333



Bible Study ***Bible Study.....*** on Tuesday
evenings at 6:30pm in the St. Monica
chapel. Please consider joining us on any
Tuesday night. All are always welcome!

RSVP: Bonnie Doherty,
ellen10bonnie@gmail.com or 978-270-3366.



SAINT MONICA SCHOOL NEWS

Saint Michael Award 2015

First Recipient

Sergeant Carlos Camacho



Carlos Camacho is a Lieutenant with the Nashua Police Department, currently assigned to the Professional Standards Bureau (Hiring and Recruiting). He is a native of South Texas and a U.S. Coast Guard veteran. After his military service, he became a police officer in Houston, Texas, and shortly after was hired at the Nashua Police Department, where he has worked since 1999.

Lieutenant Camacho is an active volunteer at St. Monica's School in Methuen, MA, where he teaches Junior Achievement each spring and coaches the girls' basketball team. He also coaches the Hudson United Soccer Club U-14 girls' soccer team. He is a member of the Saint Monica Knights of Columbus Council 14725, serving as Lecturer. He is Chair of the RED (Racial and Ethnic Disparities) committee in Nashua, and serves as police representative on the Nashua Cultural Connections committee and Nashua Community Conversation on Race and Justice.

Lieutenant Camacho is the first recipient of the Saint Michael Award.

MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Monica School is a distinctively Catholic School, a faith community of the Catholic Church. Our mission is that of the Church; to spread the Gospel and prepare students for their state in life. In our striving for academic excellence, we keep in focus that this is a Catholic School where religious and moral formation are the first in the hierarchy of values. In fostering leadership in our students, we prepare them to take their place in the Church and Society as leaders who will be prepared to serve all with respect, dignity, and justice.



Pro-Life Corner

~To be Catholic is to be Pro-Life ~

~ A Rose for Life ~

If you would like to honor a loved one and support our activities in support of life at the same time, 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 Ann Collins at the parish office (978) 683-1193.



Roses for Life
have been donated:



In Loving Memory of Michael Giaruso
(Donated by his Mother)

For a Special Intention
(Donated Anonymously)

We will be sponsoring a Protecting God's Children class on the following date:

Thursday, November 12 at 6:30 PM

All are in the School Hall and anyone wishing to register should contact Sharon Tulley (978)686-1801 at the school office.

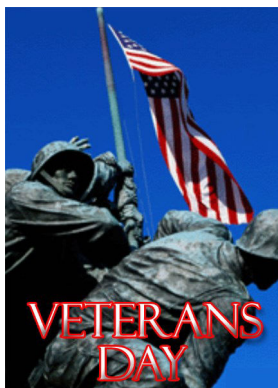
NOTE: This is a 1 time required class for anyone working or volunteering in the parish!



Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Novena

ends this Monday, November 9th beginning at 7:00pm with a Holy Hour. during which the Rosary and Novena Prayers will be said.

The Holy Hour will end with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please join us for this last Novena Service in honor of Our Blessed Mother.



This coming Wednesday, November 11th we celebrate the Veteran's Day Holiday. The Mass will be celebrated at St. Lucy Parish at 8:00am. The Parish Offices will be closed on Veteran's Day.

PRAYER FOR OUR SOLDIERS

During these difficult times, we remember those family members and friends in far away places. Let us lift in prayer the many women and men serving overseas in our Armed Forces. May they know of our respect and gratitude and be kept safe in the Lord's love. Amen

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



**Kenneth H. Pollard
Funeral Home, Inc.**

Family Owned and Operated



233 Lawrence Street

978-687-7300

www.pollardfuneralhome.com

SUNDAY FUNDAY

TRUE or FALSE ?

1. Elijah went to Zarephath.
2. He met the widow in the city center.
3. The widow was gathering sticks.
4. Elijah asked her for a glass of wine.
5. The widow was able to eat for a year.
6. Christ entered into a man-made sanctuary.
7. The rich did not put much into the treasury.
8. A poor wife put in two small coins.
9. The two coins were worth just a few cents.
10. Jesus criticized the widow for not giving enough.

ANSWERS

1. true; 2. false; 3. true; 4. false; 5. true; 6. false; 7. false; 8. false (she was a widow); 9. true; 10. false.

CROSSWORD

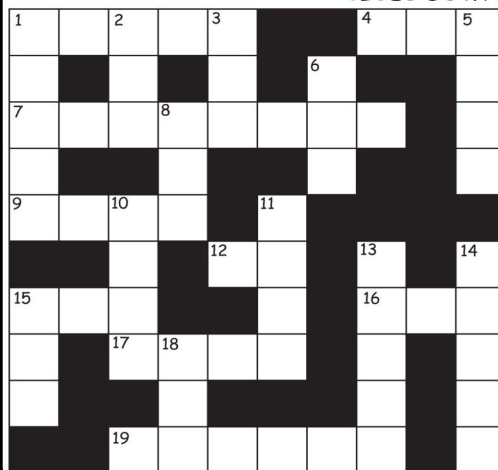
(The answers are in today's readings)

CLUES ACROSS

1. Elijah met one
4. The number of coins
7. Where Jesus was watching
9. Not poor
12. The widow of Zarephath had this much hope
15. Jesus did this opposite the treasury
16. The jar of this did not run out
17. No rain for this time
19. She was gathering these

CLUES DOWN

1. Elijah asked for some
2. The woman expected to do this
3. Not is
5. Describes her son
6. Not wet
8. The burned sticks would leave this
10. Elijah met her at the entrance to this
11. not rich
13. She put in two of these
14. She needed it for bread
15. Jesus overcame this
18. Elijah made this possible

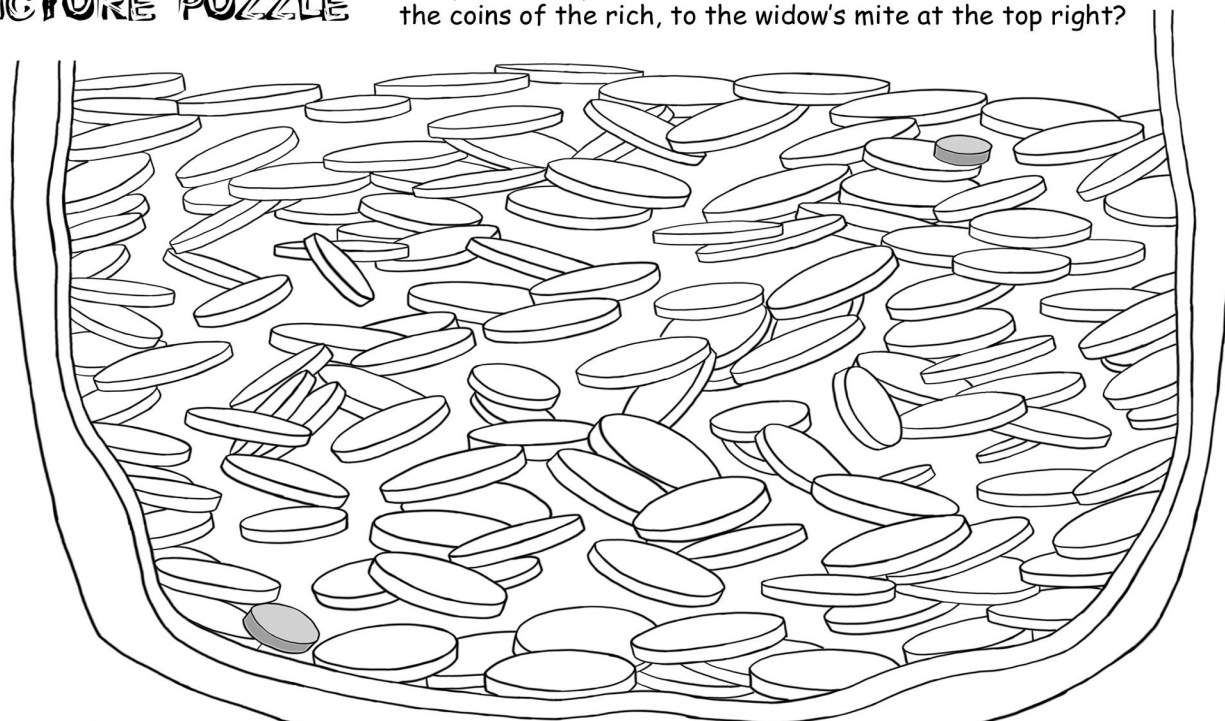


Last week's wordsearch

Z	W	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	S	
X	R	I	S	R	A	E	L	A	W	F	G
G	O	D	L	M	R	H	O	N	E	V	F
A	C	A	L	K	S	S	W	O	X	E	O
B	K	G	Z	K	O	F	H	Z	Y	E	T
C	F	H	K	H	P	T	N	Z	N	E	R
B	L	E	S	S	E	D	G	T	Z	C	R
D	E	I	J	O	B	S	F	R	V	B	
S	T	A	T	U	T	E	S	U	A	B	S
C	O	M	M	A	N	D	M	E	N	T	S

PICTURE PUZZLE

Can you find a path from the widow's mite at the bottom left, through the coins of the rich, to the widow's mite at the top right?



David Fielding