

St. Lucy Parish
Methuen, MA

4th Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2015

Shepherd



From Your Pastor

Let Us Renew Once Again Our Commitment to Child Protection

I write to you today with the message that I bring to you every April. The biggest heartbreak that I have experienced in my forty-one years of priesthood has been the sexual abuse of children by members of the clergy. I cannot imagine an evil or sin that is more abominable or unspeakable. These words of the Lord Jesus are strong, unequivocal and perfectly apt: "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and be drowned in the depth of the sea" (Mt 18:6).



abuse of a child is a wound that one carries right into adulthood and throughout the rest of life on earth.

Evil is a mystery, but it has a name and its name is Satan. Evil becomes part of human life by our choice to have a "friendship" with Satan. Satan, the Evil One from whom we ask to be delivered every time we say the Our Father (Mt 6:13), invites man to sin. In our freedom, which is God's great gift to us, we are able to accept or reject Satan's invitation. We are never forced to do evil or to sin. We freely choose it, as did Adam and Eve, and Judas - and so many others. Even those who are very near to God never lose their freedom to choose evil and to reject God.

I am ashamed and angry that some brother priests allied themselves with Satan, betrayed the priesthood of Jesus Christ, and did the unspeakable. The sins of these bad priests have caused so much harm to such innocent members of the Church. I am ashamed and angry as well that some bishops, even after they had come to know better in recent years, chose to reassign priests who had abused. All of us in the Church, the body of Christ, have suffered because of these sins.

But the pain I feel pales in comparison to the pain that is experienced by the survivors of abuse themselves - and by their loved ones. It is impossible to describe fully or to calculate the devastation experienced by a child who has been sexually abused by a priest. The physical, emotional and spiritual violence, the utter disrespect and disregard, and the betrayal of God and neighbor that constitute the act of sexual abuse by a priest leave every survivor crippled, belittled, and alone. Not only that, the sexual

I want to speak several words today, words that you have heard me use before. It is not only appropriate, but also necessary that the Church and I speak these words again and again. First, I apologize from my heart and I express my heartfelt sorrow to any one of you who was abused as a child by a priest or by anyone acting in the name of the Church. What happened to you was wrong. I am deeply sorry. I ask your forgiveness.

Second, if any one of you was abused as a child by a representative of the Church and have not yet reported that fact, even if the abuse happened a very long time ago, please report it now to the civil authorities. If you would like to speak with me, I am always available to you. You may also wish to call our Office for Pastoral Support and Outreach at 866-244-9603. You will find very good people there.

Third, I am very grateful that God has sent Cardinal Seán O'Malley to Boston to be our shepherd. The experience, the compassion and the determination that Cardinal Seán brings to the work of child protection and to the ministry of healing in our Archdiocese has been a great blessing from the Lord. I am also grateful for the ministry of Pope Francis. Within days of his election, the Holy Father instructed the Vatican to continue its strong work on cases of sexual abuse, first of all by promoting measures for the protection of minors, as well as in offering assistance to those who have suffered abuse; by carrying out due proceedings against the guilty; and in the commitment of bishops' conferences to formulate and implement the necessary directives in this area that is so important for the Church's witness and credibility. The Holy Father also assured the victims of abuse that they are present in a special way in his prayers for those who are suffering.

May the Lord Jesus draw us to healing and forgiveness; may he strengthen us in our determination and in our efforts to protect children; and may he lead us to a greater communion with God our Father and with one another.

God bless each of you.

Msr. Fay

Saint Lucy Parish

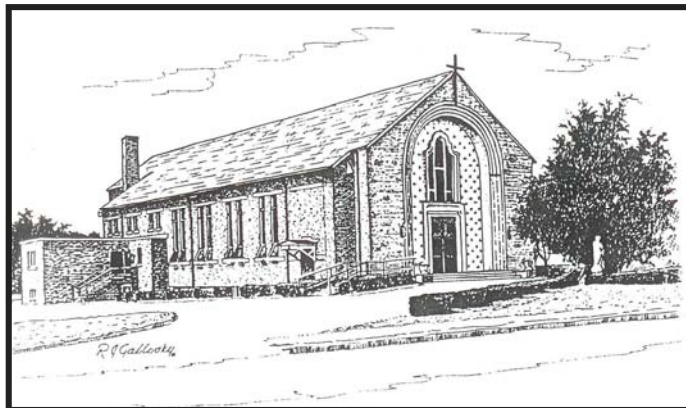
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9AM-4:30PM**



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PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS ~

Lord Jesus Christ, Savior of the world, show forth, we beseech Thee, in Thy Church the Holy Spirit with whose power the apostles were so abundantly filled. We thank Thee for the blessings bestowed upon the work of priests and religious; and we pray that Thou wilt add to the number of those who now pray, labor, and sacrifice themselves for Thy glory and the salvation of souls. Give them unselfish zeal for Thy glory. O good Jesus, give us more priests and religious after Thine own Heart! Amen.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil

4pm

Sundays

8, 9:30, 11 AM

Daily

8 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Monday from 4:30 -5:30 pm,
and Saturday from 3:15 - 3:45 pm
or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism
Second and Fourth Sundays of the
month at 12:30PM

Sacrament of Matrimony
Contact the Pastor at least 6 months
prior to the celebration

Pastoral Care of the Sick,
Homebound, or Elderly
Contact Sr. Rina at rectory offices
978-794-0383

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Although the *SYMBOLON* sessions have begun, you may still join the group if you haven't done so already. We'll be meeting every Wednesday morning at 9:00 o'clock in the St. Lucy Schoolhouse, through June 17th. Join us for coffee after the 8:00 a.m. Mass if you'd like.



Collection for W/E 4/05/15

Offertory: \$5,981.67

Thank you for your continued generosity.

St. Lucy/St. Monica Adoration located at St. Monica's Church Chapel

Please Note: Important adoration meeting will be held on Saturday, May 16, after the 8am Mass in the St. Monica School cafeteria. There will be coffee and pastries. Please contact Bonnie Doherty if you plan to attend. Thanks!

Adoration is held every Friday at St. Monica Parish in the church chapel from 7:30am (after 7am Mass) until 7:30pm with benediction. There is a great need for more committed adorers. 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.



Thank you to all who have participated in the 2015 Catholic Appeal campaign.

Your support is the most effective way our parish community can join together in the Church's universal work to care for our neighbors. If you have yet to participate in the 2015 Catholic Appeal, please visit www.bostoncatholicappeal.org or pick up a pledge form available in the back of the church. Thank you for your prayers and support.

33 Days to Morning Glory, a program written by Fr. Michael Gaitley, is being offered for those who would like to deepen their knowledge of Our Lady, and grow in holiness. We will meet for six consecutive Monday's at the cream colored house, beginning on May 11th, from 10:30 AM to Noon. We will watch a brief video, discuss what we have learned, and end with another video. On Saturday, June 13th, the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary all who choose to, will consecrate themselves to Our Blessed Mother. The book and workbook can be purchased for \$33.00. (Scholarships are available.). Please call Kathy Garon at 978-683-1193, ext 119, to register or for more information.

Pre-registration is required. Please call as soon as possible so that materials can be ordered.



We're Going Back to the Beautiful Holy Land

November 6th-17th, 2015

Via Deloroso—Way of the Cross

Total Cost \$3,095.00 per person, double occupancy

This will be the 3rd year in a row visiting the Birthplace of Our Lord and Our Blessed Mother; standing on the very grounds Our Lord lived and walking the actual Way of the Cross.

For more details contact Claude Langlois at 978-682-6012.

Sign up now so we know how many are interested.
No Money at this Time



Please pray for peace in the Holy Land and in the Middle East.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 25, 2015 -

8:00AM Lee Privitera Memorial
4:00PM Gerardo & Mattia D'Andrea Memorial

Sunday, April 26, 2015

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Lucy & St. Monica Parishes
9:30 AM Aurora Ilagan Memorial
11:00 AM Community Intentions Mass:
 Vincenzo and Rosetta Galvagno Memorial
 Louie and Josie Amore Memorial
 Giuseppe Sangiorgio Memorial
 Myles Coates 1st Anniversary
 Dolores Marie Arcidiacono 1st Anniversary

Monday, April 27, 2015

8:00 AM Richard T. Muraco Birthday Memorial

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

8:00 AM Frances and Mary Cronin Memorial

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

8:00 AM Kayla Bertolami & Joseph Belluardo Memorial

Thursday, April 30, 2015

8:00 AM Larry Giordano (Birthday, Living)

Friday, May 1, 2015

8:00AM Ida DeLucca Memorial

Saturday, May 2, 2015


8:00AM
4:00PM Perry, Clara, Steven and Beverly Autiello Memorial

Sunday, May 3, 2015

8:00 AM Gloria Marcoux Memorial
9:30 AM Living and Deceased Members of the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality

11:00 AM Community Intentions Mass:

Marilyn McCarthy Months Mind
 Francis R. Covey Sr. Memorial
 Joseph J. Novello 1st Anniversary
 Debra Vlahos Memorial
 Diane Farelli Memorial



"It is good and holy to pray for the dead."
 Margaret Flaganan
 Fred C. Leocata
 May their souls and the souls of all our beloved dead rest in peace. Amen.



BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SODALITY NEWS

CROWNING OF THE BLESSED MOTHER

The Sodality is pleased to announce that St. Lucy altar server, Noelle, the granddaughter of Sodality member, Lorraine Fradkin, will be crowning the Blessed Mother at the 9:30 Mass on Sunday, May 3rd.

ALL SODALITY MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO MEET AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH BEFORE MASS SO THAT WE MAY PROCESS IN TOGETHER.

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RECOMMITMENT CEREMONY AND JUNE BRUNCH

On Sunday, June 14th, at the 9:30 Mass, the members of the Sodality will recommit to the Blessed Virgin Mary. After the Mass there will be a short meeting followed by Brunch at Jules by the Water in Methuen. The total cost is \$25 and will be collected at the short June meeting.

AGAIN, WE ASK ALL SODALITY MEMBERS TO MEET AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH BEFORE MASS SO THAT WE MAY PROCESS IN TOGETHER.

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COMING IN SEPTEMBER: Annual CRAFT FAIR, Angela Medici, Chairperson....

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NEXT SODALITY MEETING: SUNDAY, MAY 3rd, after the 9:30 Mass and the praying of the Rosary. You are always welcome! Please join us!

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We are a Sodality dedicated to the Blessed Mother in service to our parish and to our community.



"CPR Training will be conducted in the Saint Monica school hall on Tuesday Evening, June 9, from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM. The session includes Training, a CPR handbook, and a 2 Year Certification. Contact Bob Beaudry at 978-685-4746 or email him at ERBeaudry@aol.com to learn more about the course and the registration fee"



Save the Date!!!
 Second annual SVdP fundraiser.
 June 13. 6-10 at St. Monica School
 Fr. Lohan returning as our DJ!
 Fabulous Fifties!



NEW! Tea & Treasure for YOUNG MOMS!

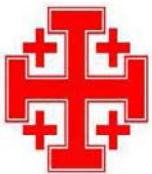
We have been offering Tea & Treasure for women for several years now at St. Monica Parish. It consists of a light lunch, a short spiritual reading, and then we pray the Holy Rosary together. Up until now, most of the ladies who attend are senior citizens. Recently some moms with young children have expressed an interest in having a group where they can meet other women in their age group. So, we have started offering the luncheons for them. The next luncheons will take place on Friday, May 15th and Friday, June 12th, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the cream colored house directly across the parking lot from St. Monica Church. So far we have 7 people who have signed up. If you are interested in attending, or for further information, please call Kathy Garon at 978-683-1193 ext. 119. Please leave your name and phone number. Please be sure to RSVP so we can plan the amount of food needed.

NOTE: Rosary Instruction Pamphlets will be passed out at the luncheon for anyone who would like one.



50's Sock Hop- Save the date! Guest DJ's Fr. Bill Lohan and Larry Giordano will spin tunes (if you can still say spin in 2015!) at 50's sock hop on the evening of Saturday, June 6th at the

St. Lucy Parish Hall. Proceeds will benefit our Youth Ministry Program. Save the date and bring a cherry Coke!



DeColores Cursillistas!

On Thursday, May 7 @ 7:00 PM all parishioners of St. Monica's and St. Lucy's parish families, who have lived their Cursillo, are invited to gather together at St. Lucy's CCD building in planning a monthly Ultreya for both parishes. Ultreya is faith sharing by praising God with words, song, and prayer. Please set aside the time to attend and join in on helping to further our amazing spiritual experience of Cursillo through Ultreya. '



Save the Date!!!

Second annual SVdP fundraiser.
June 13 ~ 6-10pm
at St. Monica School

Fr. Lohan returning as our DJ!

Fabulous Fifties!

Samaritans of Merrimack Valley Volunteer Training

The Samaritans of Merrimack Valley, a program of Family Services of the Merrimack Valley, is looking for caring people who are willing to help others by answering our suicide crisis help line. Most people who call our line are not suicidal; they need someone to listen to them. We offer emotional support for those who are dealing with life stressors and need befriending. Our next volunteer training will take place of May 2nd and 9th from 9am-3pm, at Family Services of the Merrimack Valley, 430 North Canal Street in Lawrence. Attendance at both sessions is required.

For more information and a volunteer packet, please email Debbie at dhelms@fsmv.org. or call 978-327-6671.



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, May 28th beginning at 7:00 PM in the Church. All are welcome!



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

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