

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Feast of the Holy Family 26 December 2010

The Flight of the Holy Family Into Egypt

*“Joseph rose and took the child and his mother
by night and departed for Egypt.”*

Matthew 2:14

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Sunday | 8:00 a.m.
Rev. George Winchester, SJ, presider
Mary Burns, lector

Sunday | 9:30 a.m.
Rev. John Unni, presider
James Paradis & Pearse Martin, lectors

Sunday | 11:00 a.m.
Rev. John Unni, presider
Virgen Palermo & Cynthia Wanner, lectors



TODAY'S READINGS

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Colossians 3:12-21
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 26 | 9:30 a.m.
Thomas Ferraro, Memorial

Sunday, December 26 | 11:00 a.m.
Alma Fitzpatrick, Memorial

CHRISTMASTIME

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

On the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, we celebrate a feast in honor of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. This is a modern feast, instituted by Pope Leo XIII in 1893 and extended to the whole Roman Church by Pope Benedict XV in 1921. Strains of family life in those post-war days were enormous. From its inception, this feast was meant to inspire people with an image of family harmony even amidst hardship. At one time this feast was celebrated on the Sunday following Epiphany (now the Baptism of the Lord), but since 1969 the feast is celebrated on the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas. The Gospels chosen back in 1969 all depict stressful times in the family of Jesus: the presentation of the Child Jesus in the temple with its warning of future sorrow, Mary and Joseph's frantic search for their young son in Jerusalem, and the flight into Egypt (today's Gospel for Year A).

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PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially Josephine Parker, John Saulenas, K. Champoux, Patricia Hoggard, Jennifer Serpico, Christine St. Pierre, Jessica Coviello, Harold Williamson, Jessica Rivieccio, Stephanie Brown, Earl Chilcote, Ellen Nora Toombs, Colonel Robert C. Tashjian, Roseanne Borgioli, Rosemary Messina, Kim Murray, Heather LoRe, Rudy Kikel, Herbert Simmons, Peggy Furey, Janice Mascia, Winnie Dyer, Jane Cox, Pamela D'Ambra, Sue Lucas, Suki Coughlin, Roberta Keenan, Bridget Spence, Annette Kulas, Sam Gowan, Rhea Richard, Pil-Yun Son, Mary Yanez, Larry Buckley, M. Frances Driscoll, Father Harry Giroux, Ed Langlais, Bob McLaughlin, Steven Whitkens, Katie Timmons, Kenneth Coppola, Diana Slaton, Leo Garcia, Jean Marino, R.J. Sutherland, Joe Ford, Danny Cotter, Natalia Chilcote, Amy Sweetland, Jim Keyes, Michael Zawikowski, Cheryl Proctor, John Kiernan, Patricia Macdonald, Elvera Dowsky, Orlando Tarud, Frank Ackley, Fred Haslee, Lorraine Haslee, Robert Menson, Paul Flaherty, William Louttit, Lucie Kelly, Bro. Adam Zielonka, O.C.S.O., Amy Duarte, Karen & Rick, Phyllis Porras, Jim Linderman, Mark Amerault, Sr. Nuala Cotter, R.A., Kristen DeFranco Martinez, Michele Crowley Tippens, Sara Lima Santos, Joseph Driscoll, Pete Huttlinger, Anthony Simboli, Lisa Caputo, Bill Croke, Edward Gill, Darlene McLendon, Jeanne Tibbs, Debbie Pace, Peter Schwahn, Bob Buerger, Gary Dantino, Deidre Sullivan, Roosevelt Brown, Don Carrier, Mary O'Donnell, Kevin McCauley, Ginny L'Abbe, Steve Chamberlain, Charles Barbagallo, Matt Penchuk, Carrie Penchuk, and Christy Cosgrove.

Welcome to Our Newest Parishioners

We extend a warm welcome to **David, Helen, Madeleine, & Cecilia Clancy**, and **Patrick McAward**, all of whom recently registered in the parish. We're delighted to have you all with us!

World Day of Prayer for Peace

Saturday, January 1 is designated as the World Day of Prayer for Peace. Pray for peace in all the troubled parts of our world.

Six O'clock Mass Note

There will be no six o'clock Sunday Mass tonight or next Sunday. The six o'clock Mass will resume on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 9).

R & R for Richard

Richard Clark is enjoying some well-deserved time off this weekend. We are grateful to have Diana Reddick at the piano for the nine-thirty and eleven o'clock liturgies this morning.

Happy Anniversary, Barbara & Raffaele!

Barbara and Raffaele Santoro will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary on Tuesday, December 28. We extend our congratulations, prayers, and warm wishes to them and their family.

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

January 1 is the most ancient Marian feast in the Roman calendar. It honors Mary as *Theotokos* or "Mother of God," the title accorded her at the Council of Ephesus in 431. Normally a holy day of obligation, the obligation is relaxed this year since the solemnity falls on a Saturday. Mass will be celebrated at Saint Cecilia on January 1 at ten o'clock in the morning.

COULD HEAVEN BE ANY SWEETER THAN THIS?

By PEG NEWMAN, M.Ed., BCC

Every Sunday afternoon at 4:15, I preside over a communion service in the assisted living area of the infirmary at the psychiatric prison hospital where I work as a Catholic chaplain. I provide the music (through a CD player), Scripture readings (though prayer books), Communion (bread that has been consecrated/blessed by a priest) and, on occasion, something to make the day special (i.e., donated Bibles or a decoration like an Easter lily or poinsettia). The men who live there provide the genuine encounter of God.

Anywhere between 10 and 16 of us sit in a circle. We open with song and, boy, do we sing. The men chose the songs—"The Old Rugged Cross," "Amazing Grace," "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," "Rock of Ages" and a few more. The men have their favorites and like to stick to the same few songs. An inmate-worker, a man who has transferred from another prison to work at the hospital, volunteers his time to



be part of the community. He attends to the music and helps the men follow along with the service.

The men are all seriously mentally ill. Most suffer from dementia as well as mental illness. I imagine some also have a degree of mental retardation. To me, they are angels—God's angels. They minister to me. They accept my love and they love me in return. They create a very special place for my heart to be nourished and renewed every single week.

To me, they are near-perfect expressions of God's love.

Last Sunday was a typical service. I begin by asking for volunteers to do readings. As usual, there were more volunteers than readings. Peter expressed his hurt feelings and closed his eyes, as if to punish me by going away. When the music started, he put aside his disappointment and heartily joined in the singing.

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The readers are often difficult to understand and many have trouble pronouncing long or uncommon words. Last Sunday was much like any other Sunday. The inmate-worker helped the men with their readings as graciously as he could. Then I read the Gospel story of the workers and the vineyard. I wanted to communicate the idea, drawn from the story, that we should not be resentful of other people's good fortune. Several of the men have trouble listening quietly. As a group, they are far more tolerant of interruptions than any other group I spend time with, but I, on the other hand, often lose my train of thought. With time and great effort, I am slowly getting better. I made my point as best I could. I think one or two of the quieter men got the basic idea.

Then we did some praying and singing and we shook each other's hands as a sign of peace. Then it was time for Communion. I walked from man to man around the circle and placed the Communion host on each person's hand or in his mouth. As I was doing this, one of the men went around the circle behind me, passing out individually wrapped pieces of peppermint candy that he had bought with his very limited funds from the prison canteen.

My first reaction was to think that this was inappropriate. In this solemn moment, I could only see the importance of the sacred Communion hosts, the Body of Christ. Fortunately, before I said anything stupid, I saw that this man was also sharing something sacred and precious. Like the widow who gave her last coins, this man was giving a lovely gift born of his poverty and love. One member of the congregation very thoughtfully held my piece of candy aside until I was finished giving out Communion.

In a prison setting, the corrections officers can seem gruff and detached. On this unit,

I often see the softer side of the officers. They routinely encourage the men to go to church. When they have to interrupt, they are always as respectful about it as they can possibly be. It is a setting where the officers are able to let their humanity show despite the difficult demands of their job. In response, the men regularly pray for the officers, showing genuine concern for their well-being. What a wonderful island of love God has provided us in the middle of the often turbulent ocean of prison life.

In addition to being a parishioner of Saint Cecilia, Peg Newman is a prison chaplain for the Massachusetts Department of Corrections. She currently divides her time between Bridgewater State Hospital and Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center in southeastern Massachusetts. She also works, every other weekend, as a per diem chaplain at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.



SAINT CECILIA PARISH

PARISH RESOURCES

Parish Office & Mailing Address

Saint Cecilia Parish Offices
116 Huntington Avenue, 8th Floor, Boston, MA 02116
Hours | Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Phone | 617 536 4548
Fax | 617 536 1781
E-mail | stceciliaparish@gmail.com
Website | www.stceciliaboston.org

Parish Staff

Richard J. Clark, Director of Music and Organist, rclark@stceciliaboston.org
Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate for Administration, mdonohoe@stceciliaboston.org
Genevieve Fiorente, Office Administrative Assistant
Scott J. MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation and Leadership Development, smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org
Kathleen McCabe, Pastoral Associate, kmccabe@stceciliaboston.org
Maureen Sullivan, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor, msullivan@stceciliaboston.org
Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor, junni@stceciliaboston.org

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Charles Connolly, SJ
Rev. Thomas Garipey, CSC
Rev. Peter Grover, OMV
Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ
Rev. George Winchester, SJ

In Residence

Rev. Thomas A. Mahoney

Schedule for Liturgy

Lord's Day | Sat 5:00 p.m.; Sun 8:00, 9:30, 11:00, and 6:00 p.m.
Holy Days | 7:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Reconciliation

By appointment at any time and Wednesday evenings from 6:30–8:00 during Advent and Lent.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the communal process through which non-baptized men and women become members of the Catholic Church. It is also suitable for those baptized in different faith traditions who are interested in becoming Catholic, or, for those who were baptized Catholic, but have yet to receive the sacraments of eucharist and confirmation.

Baptism for Infants

Infant baptism is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. For more information, please contact Kathleen McCabe.

Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for our Faith Formation Program, please contact Scott MacDonald in the parish office.

Marriage

Couples who wish to prepare for marriage should contact Mark Donohoe in the parish office at least six months in advance.

Care of the Sick

To arrange for the Sacrament of the Sick, for Holy Communion to be brought to those unable to attend the Sunday celebration, or for Viaticum for the Dying (Holy Communion for those in danger of death), please contact the parish office. It is always possible to anoint the sick during regularly scheduled liturgies.

Order of Christian Funerals

The parish is prepared to celebrate the Vigil (wake) in the church. Please contact the parish office for more information.

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team

The CAP Team is responsible for training all parish staff and volunteers in mandated reporting laws and the Protecting God's Children program (VIRTUS). They also provide consultation and support to anyone in the parish who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Lois Flaherty (loisflaherty@gmail.com), Ginny DiSanto (gin250boston@yahoo.com) or Peg Quilty (nursepeg@aol.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

The Archdiocese of Boston has in place a vigorous program to protect children from harm and to educate its ministers and faithful about the nature of abuse, with a goal of increasing knowledge, creating a safe environment for children, and recognizing and reporting potentially dangerous situations. The full text of the policy is also available in the vestibule and parish office, as well as on our website.

For Those with Celiac Disease

If you have celiac disease, please let us know. We have a supply of low-gluten altar bread available for those who cannot tolerate gluten.

Hearing Assistance in Church

The church is equipped with an FM listening device. Small receivers are available for anyone who may have trouble hearing the sound system. Simply request a receiver from any one of our greeters before Mass.

Access for the Disabled

Due to construction, access for the disabled is currently limited. Please call the parish office in advance of your visit.

Parking

Reduced-rate parking (maximum of three hours) is available Sundays at the Prudential Center parking garage, LAZ Parking (53 Belvidere Street), and at the Hilton Boston Back Bay. Please bring your parking ticket to church for validation before returning to the garage.

Joining Our Community

We're happy that you're with us! Our community offers a warm, spiritual home for a diverse group of Catholics. We come from many neighborhoods in and around Boston but also have parishioners from as far afield as Marlborough, Newburyport, and Stow. Please introduce yourself to a staff member, drop in for coffee on Sunday, or fill out a new parishioner form in the gathering space. No matter what your background, please know that you are always welcome at Saint Cecilia.