

# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5 February 2012

“Christ Pantocrator”

Icon from Saint Catherine Monastery in Sinai

MASSART'S CLAY FOR CHANGE & HALEY HOUSE BAKERY CAFÉ PRESENT:

# Souper

# BOWL

# IV

An “Empty Bowls” event sampling many soups made from locally sourced ingredients & benefitting the Haley House Soup Kitchen in Boston’s South End.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 • 2-6pm**

**HALEY HOUSE BAKERY CAFÉ | 12 DADE STREET, ROXBURY, MA 02119 | (617) 445-0900**

**TICKETS ARE \$30 & ARE AVAILABLE AT [www.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.com/event/219348](http://www.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.com/event/219348)**

Advance ticket purchase is recommended as tickets are limited.

Each attendee will leave the event with a handcrafted soup bowl made by a member of the MassArt community.

Beer & Wine and non-alcoholic beverages are available for purchase.



# OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday | 5:00 p.m.

*Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, presider*  
*Laura Orrell, lector*

Sunday | 8:00 a.m.

*Rev. George Winchester, SJ, presider*  
*Jim Dougherty, lector*

Sunday | 9:30 a.m.

*Rev. John Unni, presider*  
*Pearse Martin, Mary Kane, & Jim English, lectors*

Sunday | 11:15 a.m.

*Rev. John Unni, presider*  
*Jim Kennedy, Cynthia Wanner, & Nicole Benevenia, lectors*

Sunday | 5:00 p.m.

*Rev. John Unni, presider*  
*Janice Miller & Monica Lundberg, lectors*

## SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 5 | 11:15 a.m.

*Liz Pino, Memorial*

Sunday, February 5 | 5:00 p.m.

*Samuel McGarry, First Anniversary*



## TODAY'S READINGS

Job 7:1-4, 6-7

I Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Mark 1:29-39

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

I Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Mark 1:40-45



## Superbowl Sunday

Today's 6:00 p.m. Mass is being moved to 5:00 for our Superbowl fans. Go Pats!

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# SAINT CECILIA PARISH

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## PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

### Our Deceased

The Order of Christian Funerals was celebrated last week for former Boston mayor **Kevin H. White**, who served the city of Boston for sixteen years and died on Friday, January 27. Please pray for the repose of his soul.

### 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 Riviaccio, 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, Diana Slaton, Leo Garcia, Jean Marino, Joe Ford, Danny Cotter, Natalia Chilcote, Amy Sweetland, Jim Keyes, Michael Zawikowski, Cheryl Proctor, Patricia Macdonald, Elvera Dowsky, 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, Edward Gill, Darlene McLendon, Jeanne Tibbs, Debbie Pace, Peter Schwahn, Deidre Sullivan, Roosevelt Brown, Mary O'Donnell, Ginny L'Abbe, Steve Chamberlain, Matt Penchuk, Carrie Penchuk, Christy**

**Cosgrove, Jacques Romberger, John Scaife, Maureen Sullivan, Alyce Haley, Joe Capizzi, David Walsh, Joe Huenke, Kaylin Marcotte, Avito Pacifici, Charlotte Egan, James Noone, Keith Plaster, Frederick Flather, David & Paula Fillion, Fred Maglero, Sarah Sweeney, Jeanne Boger, Susan Shea, Bill Croke, Ettore Bergamaschi, Ryan Delaney, Anita Cipriani, Cecile Finnerty, Pauline Perry, Manuela Almeida, and Ilda Almeida.**

### Baptisms

Today we celebrate baptism at the nine-thirty liturgy for **Henry Thomas**, son of Tom and Lindsey Kolinski, and **Evelyn Mae**, daughter of Brendan and Alison McCarthy and new sister of big brother Thomas. At eleven-fifteen, we will celebrate baptism for **Conor Driscoll**, son of Steve Kolander and Valerie Cullen. The Christian community welcomes you with great joy, Henry, Evelyn, and Conor!

### World Day for Consecrated Life

In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration occurs on the Sunday following the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (February 2). Today we pray for all those who have consecrated their lives to Christ in the religious life. We pray in a special way for Sr. Ann Marie Cook, SND of the Sisters of Notre Dame, Bro. Jerry Dowsky, FMS of the Marist Brothers, and Bro. Savio McNiece, SA of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement—all members of the parish. We pray also for the Oblates of the Virgin Mary, the Congregation of Holy Cross, and the Society of Jesus, whose members assist us by presiding at our weekend liturgies. May all men and women in consecrated life continue to live their lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ and respond with generosity of heart to the gift of their vocation.

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# SAINT CECILIA PARISH

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## THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

"Is there anyone sick among you?"

This question, found in the New Testament Letter of James, gives the response that the sick should call for the priests of the Church who are to pray over and anoint the sick with oil in the name of the Lord. Never hesitate to call the parish office to ask for prayer and the Sacrament of the Sick prior to surgery or when diagnosed with serious illness. This sacrament is not to be looked upon as the "Last Rites" but rather as a powerful instrument of God's healing presence.

On February 11, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Church observes World Day of the Sick. This celebration is a reminder to pray for all those who are sick and to recognize and honor those who work in healthcare and those who serve as caregivers.

At Saint Cecilia we will observe this day next Sunday, February 12 at the nine-thirty and eleven-fifteen liturgies with a communal Anointing of the Sick and a blessing of healthcare workers and caregivers. If you would like to take part in this special celebration, be sure to attend one of these Masses next Sunday.



## VALENTINE BOOK DRIVE — NEXT SUNDAY

Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps ([www.rfkchildren.org](http://www.rfkchildren.org)) is a leader in child welfare and juvenile justice in Massachusetts. Headquartered on Beacon Hill, each year they help hundreds of children, youths, and their families deal successfully with educational, behavioral and emotional issues at nearly a dozen facilities and community-based programs across the Commonwealth.

In honor of Valentine's Day, and in our fifth year of doing so, our parish will be holding a book drive for the children at RFK in grades 1 through 12. Brand new books are preferred, but we will also take used books in excellent condition. The books will be collected at all liturgies on the weekend of February 11/12. A list of requested books is available in the narthex. The list also includes magazine subscriptions.

If you would like to purchase books through Amazon.com or another on-line bookseller, you may wish to have the books delivered to:

Letitia Howland  
Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps  
11 Beacon Street, Suite 820  
Boston, MA 02108

If you have any questions, please contact Letitia Howland at [lhowland@rfkchildren.org](mailto:lhowland@rfkchildren.org). You can also speak with Letitia or Mark Lippolt at the back of church.

Thank you for your generosity.

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## NATIVITY SPIRIT AWARD DINNER

As you may have seen recently in the bulletin, Saint Cecilia parishioners will begin volunteering next month at Nativity Prep School in Jamaica Plain. Nativity is a tuition-free middle school dedicated to providing a quality education to boys of all faiths from low-income families residing in Boston's inner-city neighborhoods. We would also like to support Nativity by putting together a Saint Cecilia table for their annual fundraiser, the Nativity Spirit Service Award Dinner. The event will be held at B.C. High School on Wednesday, March 7, with cocktails at 6:00 and dinner at 6:45. Individual tickets are \$150 each. If you are interested in the event, please contact Mark Lippolt at [mlippolt@hammondre.com](mailto:mlippolt@hammondre.com).



## GREETERS WANTED

We are trying to expand our small team of Greeters and need your help. Your commitment as a Greeter would be to arrive about thirty minutes early at one Sunday liturgy (your choice) one time per month. If you can help with this important "Ministry of Welcoming," please contact Ann Faldetta at [anntenfou@yahoo.com](mailto:anntenfou@yahoo.com). Thank you.

## PRISON & AFTER COMMITTEE

### MEETING NEXT SUNDAY FOLLOWING THE 11:15 MASS

The Prison and After Committee is always eager for new members to join the group as they work on developing a program to support men and women as they are released from prison and are adjusting to new challenges in the community. If you would like additional information, you can contact Peg Newman at [peg\\_newman@msn.com](mailto:peg_newman@msn.com).

## THE NEXT PINE STREET WOMEN'S INN DINNER

On Monday, February 13, the Favreau-Penrice, Kuan-Rauch, and Dubuque families in the Faith Formation Program will cook and serve dinner at the Pine Street Women's Inn. These three families will supply a hot entrée accompanied by potatoes, rice or pasta, a hot vegetable and a green salad. The Inn supplies the bread.

The Saint Cecilia Food Group invites other parishioners to donate desserts, especially Valentine's Day cookies and cupcakes, as well as fresh fruit—or you can make a financial contribution toward the dinner. The Saint Cecilia Food Group will collect the donations next Sunday, February 12 between the morning liturgies. Please look for the Faith Formation/Pine Street Women's Inn poster and donation baskets in the narthex.

If any Faith Formation families would like to help cook and serve a meal at Pine Street Women's Inn, please contact E. Jane Smith via e-mail at [ejsmith@rcn.com](mailto:ejsmith@rcn.com).

## BOSTON SOUPER BOWL— NEXT SUNDAY

### **A Fundraiser for the Haley House Soup Kitchen—Presented by MassArt’s Clay for Change and Haley House Bakery Cafe**

What could be better than entering a warm café on a cold Sunday afternoon in February, selecting a handmade ceramic bowl, and taking comfort in a dozen warm soups?

For the fourth year, Haley House Bakery Café is host to the Souper Bowl, a winter festival of local soups, supporting the Haley House Soup Kitchen, presented in partnership with Mass Art’s Clay for Change program.

Upon entering, attendees will receive a handcrafted ceramic bowl, made by MassArt students participating in its Clay for Change program. They will then make their way from station to station, sampling the soups produced with locally sourced ingredients in the middle of February. After sampling a variety of soups, people realize that eating locally doesn’t just have to be a summer/fall phenomenon; with a little creativity, folks can eat locally all year round. At the end of the event, the attendees are invited to take their bowls home with them.

So, make plans to take part in the Souper Bowl next Sunday, February 12, from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Haley House Bakery Café in Roxbury’s Dudley Square (12 Dade Street). Admission will occur at 15-minute intervals between 2:00 and 5:00. Tickets for this event cost \$30 and are available online at: [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/219348](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/219348). Bring a friend, pick a bowl, sample some delicious soups, and know that you are helping support one of Boston’s finest nonprofit organizations.

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Flannery O’Connor knew that not everyone would or could understand her work. She once received a letter from someone who told her that her book left a bad taste in her mouth. O’Connor wrote back, “You weren’t supposed to eat it.” And it is true that her fiction takes a great deal of time, attention and effort to understand. But she also knew that her vocation would not allow her to dumb down her art.

O’Connor wasn’t out to write “Catholic novels and stories” as much as she was about writing stories and novels that were Catholic—to the core—stories that all dealt on the deepest level with the problem of Original Sin and our need for a Savior. Her stories flowed out of her Catholic living. They grew out of her active liturgical life, her personal prayer life, and her daily disciplines. Her writing was the fruit of her fidelity to her vocation.

Flannery O’Connor was not a theologian, but she was theological. She was no philosopher, but she was philosophical. She was, however, a faithful, disciplined, well-read, hard-working, good-humored, confident, humble and gifted Catholic. She answered her primary vocation of holiness, and she also answered her particular vocation as a writer, and the Church and the world are better for it.

Today, atheists, agnostics and believers alike hail O’Connor’s work as great. That’s the sign of excellent art—all walks of life are able to recognize its beauty, goodness and truth. Yet O’Connor admits that she wouldn’t be a great artist if it weren’t for her faith. She explains, “When people have told me that because I am a Catholic, I cannot be an artist, I have had to reply, ruefully, that because I am Catholic, I cannot afford to be less than an artist.” Would that we all took our vocations as seriously.

Mary Flannery O’Connor, *ora pro nobis*.

# THE VOCATION OF FLANNERY O'CONNOR

By DAMIAN J. FERENCE

One of the greatest disciples of the twentieth century was neither a priest, nor a religious, nor a married person. She was a celibate, single woman who spent the last 13 years of her life battling lupus while writing some of the best fiction the world has ever known—all while living on a 455-acre dairy farm in Milledgeville, Ga. with her mother, her books, and forty-four peacocks. Her name was Flannery O'Connor.



where she earned her master's degree. From there she moved to New York and then Connecticut, which is where she thought she would stay as her writing career developed. But around Christmas of 1950 she became very ill and moved back to Georgia and was eventually diagnosed with lupus, the same disease that took her father's life when she was a teenager. She and her mother moved to an old family farm in Milledgeville which Flannery named "Andalusia."

Mary Flannery O'Connor, the only child of Edward O'Connor and Regina Cline O'Connor, was born and baptized in Savannah, Ga in 1925. She was raised in a strong Catholic circle, as she literally grew up in the shadow of the Church, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, which was a stone's throw from the O'Connor home, impossible to miss from the family room window and her parents' second-floor bedroom. Edward and Regina sent Flannery to Catholic school, but were themselves her first and best teachers in the ways of faith, as they promised at her baptism.

O'Connor went to high school and college in Georgia, but left the South to enroll in the Writers' Workshop at the University of Iowa,

Although Flannery O'Connor was a faithful Catholic her entire life, she really entered into the Paschal Mystery of Jesus when she had to come back to Georgia and move in with her mother. No doubt O'Connor had other plans and dreams for herself as a writer in the North, but she had to deny her plans, take up the cross (and crutches) of her illness, and follow the Lord. In other words, she had to die to self—which she did.

O'Connor knew that her *primary* vocation was to be a disciple, to follow Jesus. But she also knew that her *particular* vocation was to be a writer. Someone once asked her, "Miss O'Connor, why do you write?" She quipped,

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“Because I’m good at it.” O’Connor wasn’t being cocky or arrogant—she was telling the truth. O’Connor had a gift for writing and she worked very hard to develop her gift. She explained, “There is no excuse for anyone to write fiction for public consumption unless he has been called to do so by the presence of a gift.” She also knew that since her ability to write was a gift, she needed to glorify God with her writing.

Like anyone who takes her vocation seriously, O’Connor lived a fairly structured life. She began most mornings with Mass, followed by a small breakfast, and then wrote for three straight hours every day, without any interruption, until lunch. After lunch she would receive visitors, read, feed her peacocks, and write letters. Following dinner she would read some more and would normally retire by 9:00 p.m., but not before she read the *Summa* of St. Thomas Aquinas for twenty minutes and prayed her night prayers.

At first glance, O’Connor’s writing may not seem very Catholic. Her grotesque stories are mostly set in the Protestant South and are filled with wild, hilarious and often bigoted characters who take the Lord’s name in vain, steal, murder and rape. Such content doesn’t seem to match the lifestyle of a daily communicant and admirer of Thomas Aquinas. Yet that is precisely what makes O’Connor so good.

Flannery O’Connor had no intention of writing “Catholic novels” or “Catholic stories.” Rather, she wanted to write good novels and good stories, and she trusted that if she was a good Catholic, her worldview would manifest itself in her work. O’Connor professed, “I see from the standpoint of Christian orthodoxy. This means that for me the meaning of life is centered in our redemption by Christ and what

I see in the world I see in relation to that.” In other words, O’Connor was not interested in writing stories about parish priests, Marian apparitions, or Catholic boarding schools. Such topics might be easier to digest for the average Catholic reader, but O’Connor was convinced that the average Catholic reader was far below average, and she wasn’t just writing for Catholics. She observed, “It is popular to suppose that anyone who can read the telephone book can read a short story or a novel.” O’Connor wrote stories which, at their core, all deal with the fallen nature of humanity and our need for a Savior, and the majority of her readers didn’t believe in God, sin or redemption. O’Connor herself said that every one of her stories contains a moment when grace is offered to a fallen character, although it is usually rejected.

One reason so many readers fail to understand O’Connor’s project is because they fail to understand how she uses distortion and violence. For example, there are two situations in her fiction where she depicts the drowning of a child. A reader can easily take such drownings at face value and dismiss O’Connor as sensational, rather than looking deeper into O’Connor’s commentary on the nature of baptism. O’Connor explains, “When I write a novel in which the central action is baptism, I am very well aware that for a majority of my readers, baptism is a meaningless rite, and so in my novel I have to see that this baptism carries enough awe and mystery to jar the reader into some kind of emotional recognition of its significance.” In other words, O’Connor uses distortion and violence in her fiction to reveal, not to destroy. Perhaps she described her work best when she insisted that “to the hard of hearing you shout, and for the almost-blind you draw large startling figures.”

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# SAINT CECILIA PARISH

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## PARISH RESOURCES

### Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115  
Hours | Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.  
Phone | 617 536 4548  
Fax | 617 536 1781  
E-mail | [info@stceciliaboston.org](mailto:info@stceciliaboston.org)  
Website | [www.stceciliaboston.org](http://www.stceciliaboston.org)

### Parish Staff

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

### Assisting Clergy

Rev. Thomas Gariepy, CSC  
Rev. Peter Grover, OMV  
Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ  
Rev. George Winchester, SJ

### Schedule for Liturgy

Thursday & Friday | 8:00 a.m.  
Lord's Day | Sat 5:00 p.m.; Sun 8:00, 9:30, 11:15, and 6:00 p.m.  
Holy Days | 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

### Reconciliation

By appointment at any time and Wednesday evenings from 6:30–8:00 during 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. For more information, please contact Scott MacDonald.

### Baptism for Infants

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

### 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](mailto:loisflaherty@gmail.com)), Ginny DiSanto ([gin250boston@gmail.com](mailto:gin250boston@gmail.com)) or Peg Quilty ([nursepeg@gmail.com](mailto:nursepeg@gmail.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 narthex 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

The church is accessible by elevator.

### 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.