

## Practice of Hope

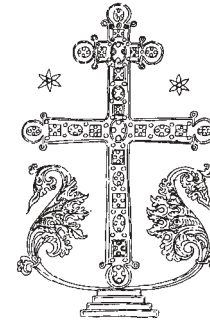
Before the wars of the 1990s, people of varied ethnic groups and religious convictions in the Balkans often lived side by side, sharing friendships and sometimes intermarrying. The tragic violence rent massive numbers of these relationships as people fled for their lives. In the aftermath, Dutch filmmakers Eric van den Broek and Katarina Rejger conceived a project called "Videoletters," recounted in *The New York Times* (6/8/05). They invited anyone in the former Yugoslavia who had lost touch with a friend or neighbor of a different ethnic group to record a message. The filmmakers would try to deliver the message anywhere in the region. The project has led to many joyful reunions. It was designed to demonstrate that reconciliation is possible. The directors of the project hope that their idea can be expanded to other areas of conflict, such as Israel and Palestine, Russia, and Africa. Learn more at [www.videoletters.net](http://www.videoletters.net).

## Scripture Insights

Dramatic spiritual experiences are rare. Few people can say that they met with God face-to-face, in a dream, or a vision. It is not surprising that doubts greet such claims. If we want to be reasonable and faithful disciples, a healthy skepticism about extraordinary spiritual claims is in order.

We are not amazed to find extraordinary spiritual claims in Scripture. After all, we regard sacred writings as the word of God. Today we read in Acts of miraculous cures in Jerusalem and the people's hope in the healing power of Saint Peter – even of his shadow. In Revelations we read of John of Patmos, "caught up in the spirit" and commanded to write down his vision. And we read in John's Gospel of the disciples' reception of the Holy Spirit after Jesus overcomes Thomas' doubts. Christianity is founded on the extraordinary claims surrounding Jesus of Nazareth. We believe that he was killed, buried, and brought to new life, and that his resurrection releases his followers from death. In that light, today's readings are appropriately extraordinary. Perhaps our recognition of Christ's presence has arrived in seemingly mundane ways: in the births of children, in reconciliations, through falling in love, through the promise of the first buds of spring. Once we know how to sense Christ's presence, is a child's birth ordinary? Is spring after winter mundane? The Easter stories of scripture are extraordinary. When we let them help us see in new ways, we experience the extraordinary. We experience a world brimming with God's grace.

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# Saint Cecilia Parish

Boston, Massachusetts

A Catholic Community in the Heart of the Back Bay

## Saint Cecilia Church

[www.stceciliaboston.org](http://www.stceciliaboston.org)

30 St. Cecilia Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Phone-617-536-4548/Fax-617-536-1781

## Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor

Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate

email: [mdonohoe@rcn.com](mailto:mdonohoe@rcn.com)

Richard Clark, Director of Music, Organist

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Scott MacDonald, Director of Rel. Education

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Paula Telage, Business Manager

email: [pgrummett@hotmail.com](mailto:pgrummett@hotmail.com)

Genevieve Fiorente, Administrative Asst.

## In Residence

Rev. Thomas A. Mahoney

## Access for the Disabled

Both the church and parish hall are accessible by elevator.

## Parking

Two hours of free parking for parishioners is available before 1:00 p.m. on Sundays at the Fitz-Inn Auto Park at Belvidere and Dalton Streets. Reduced rate parking is available with validation on Sundays in the Prudential Center Garage.

## Liturgy Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 7:30 a.m.

Holy Days, 7:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays, 4:30–4:50 p.m., and by appt.

## Christian Initiation

*Infant Baptisms:* Baptisms are celebrated at the 9:30 and 11:00

Sunday Masses and should be scheduled one month in advance.

*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:*

The parish welcomes those seeking fuller participation in the life of the Church. Classes run from September to May. Contact the rectory for more information.

## Sacrament of Marriage

Couples preparing for marriage should contact the rectory at least six months in advance.

## Religious Education

Classes are held after the 9:30 Mass.

## CAP Team Members

G. DiSanto - [gin250boston@yahoo.com](mailto:gin250boston@yahoo.com)

P. Quilty - [nursemppeg@aol.com](mailto:nursemppeg@aol.com)

# Second Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2007



## Ministers of the Liturgy

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, presider

Chris Orrell, lector

Richard Barry, eucharistic minister

Sunday, 8:00 a.m.

Rev. David Beauregard, OMV, presider

Bob Murphy, lector

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, presider

Moira Macdonald & Katherine Roz, lectors

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, presider

Alicia Borgman & Kelly Graham, lectors

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

Rev. John Unni, presider

Randy O'Connor & Charlene Wong, lectors

*Through locked doors, despite the disciples' fear, beyond their doubting and disbelief, the risen Jesus came and "stood in their midst" – not just once, but twice. Nothing deters Jesus from sharing his Spirit and new life with his disciples. He persists until he brings all – not just the early disciples and Thomas but also all of us today – to peace, forgiveness, and new life. Living Liturgy™, Second Sunday of Easter 2007*

## The Cecilia Film Series

This occasional film series seeks to draw our attention to films that explore moral and social issues, particularly in light of Catholic social teaching. We hope to generate conversation in our community and an appreciation of the way that art can lead us to a deeper understanding of our faith. Popcorn will, of course, be served. We welcome your suggestions for films and scheduling ideas. Please join us on Thursday, April 19 at 7p.m. for the second film in our series, *The Mission*, the award-winning 1986 film about the experience of a Jesuit missionary in eighteenth century South America, starring Robert De Niro and Jeremy Irons.

## Holy Family Shelter Meal

The next shelter meal will be Tuesday, April 17. To help serve, meet at the rectory by 4:30 p.m. We also need desserts for the meal so please deliver them to the rectory before 4:30 on Tuesday. We will be cooking the meal this morning after the 9:30am Mass. For more information, contact Jenny Jones at 617-283 7927.

## Parish Council Election

The annual election for the Parish Pastoral Council is upon us. This year there are four open seats to be filled, and all registered parishioners are welcome to run. The parish council represents the parish community and helps the pastor to foster a vision for the future of the parish. If you think you might have the time and talent for this very important task or if you have questions about the process, please submit your name at [stcecilia.ppc@hotmail.com](mailto:stcecilia.ppc@hotmail.com) by April 29. We will host a "Meet the Candidates" event after the Masses on Sunday morning, May 6, and the election will take place on Sunday, May 20.

## Pennies from Heaven!

This June, a group of high school students from our parish will spend one week in Gallup, New Mexico, as participants in the Young Neighbors in Action (YNIA) program. To help defray the cost of this trip, we invite you to bring your pennies and other spare change to church. There will be a Poland Spring 5-gallon bottle in the vestibule of the church for the next five months. Every penny counts!

## Bake Sale!

Next weekend our high school students will host another bake sale after the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses to help raise funds for their Young Neighbors in Action (YNIA) service trip to New Mexico in June. So bring your appetites and your wallets!

## Parish Night with the Red Sox!

Tickets will go on sale next Sunday, April 22 after the 8, 9:30 and 11am Masses for the Wednesday, May 16th game @7:05pm – Boston Red Sox vs. Detroit Tigers. We have 100 tickets @ \$30 apiece. We will be having a hotdog dinner at the church beforehand and then heading over to the game. Please plan to join us!

## Save the Date!

- **Tuesday, April 17, 7:00 p.m. The Paulist Center:** "The Eucharist: Origins in Jewish and Early Christian Practice", presented by Ronald Dubois, PhD.
- **Wednesday, April 18, 2007, 7:00 p.m. Boston College, Fulton Hall 511.** "Speaking as a Woman: Reflections on Contemporary Catholicism" with Dr. Colleen Griffith. Free.
- **Thursday April 19 at 3:00 p.m. NU The Sacred Space, 2nd floor Ell Hall.** "Muslims as Companions on the Way to God." Father Robert McCahill, M.M. speaks on his belief in the necessity for a "dialogue of life" between Christians and people of other faiths.
- **Saturday, April 28, 8 p.m.** Concert. Guedye St. Jean, soprano. Yukiko Oba, piano. Special guest, Matthew Truss, countertenor. Free.
- **Anointing of the Sick:** Sunday, May 6 at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. All those who are suffering with chronic illness or are facing serious surgery are welcome to join us.
- **Religious Ed Family Dinner:** 4:00 p.m. Sunday, May 6 at Hilton Boston Back Bay. No morning classes today. Dinner followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m. Mark your calendars!
- **Parish Easter Supper and Evening of Reflection:** Friday May 18 at 7:00 p.m. Come join us for supper, followed by a talk given by Fr. John, who will follow up on the themes touched on at our last get-together during Lent.
- **Parish Retreat:** June 1-3, 2007. Please plan to join us for our Parish Retreat at Sacred Hearts Retreat Center, Wareham, MA. Cost: \$200.00 per person, which includes 5 meals and two nights lodging. Bro. John Hamilton, CFX will be the retreat director. There are only 50 spots available, so please sign up soon!
- **Sunday, June 3. AIDS Walk Boston:** This family-friendly event raises money for AIDS Action Committee services and prevention efforts. Walk begins and ends at the Hatch Memorial Shell on the Esplanade. St. Cecilia is organizing a Walk Team. Parishioners can walk, run, or volunteer. Details to follow.

## Special Intentions

Sunday, April 15, 11:00 a.m.

Kelley Campion, Memorial

Monday, April 16, 7:30 a.m.

Normand Perry, Memorial

Wednesday, April 18, 7:30 a.m.

Pedro Trilles, Memorial

## Baptism

Sunday, 11:00 a.m. – Aidan Grey Moore

child of Gregory and Nicole Moore

## Pine Street Thanks!

A heartfelt "thank you" to the Brostowski, Kurtin and Madison families, Deborah Dyer and Carolyn O'Leary for your help in preparing and serving the Easter Monday dinner at the Pine Street Women's Inn, our final Monday evening dinner for the season. We look forward to working with you again in the fall.