

Practice of Charity

The peak season for hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean is August to October. That has played out powerfully in recent years with hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma bringing destruction and death to our shores. Take a good look at those hardest hit by the storms, and you'll see the faces of the poor. Without the means to seek shelter beforehand, they continue to suffer afterward. In biblical terms, the very existence of the poor was considered proof that God's people were not keeping faith. But Psalm 146 reminds us that the Lord *does* keep faith and continually calls us to care for each other. So does Catholic Charities USA. The agency works to alleviate suffering on a daily basis and offers long-term assistance in the wake of disaster. Go to www.catholiccharitiesusa.org to discover how you can join in "providing help and creating hope."

Scripture Insights

"Woe to the complacent....they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph!" Today's scriptures, pointed at those who live "comfortably" (Amos 6:4), receiving much that is "good," can easily trigger unease as we reflect on the comfort of our lifestyles, particularly as contrasted with that of many people in the world. What will be the Lord's words to us when we die?

Neither Amos nor Jesus faults the level of comfort the rich enjoyed but, rather, their lack of awareness of the suffering of those closest to them. Joseph was the son of Jacob, and in the book of Amos, a metaphor for Israel. Did Zion really not care about the afflictions of their neighbors in the northern part of the country? Lazarus literally *lies at the door* of the rich man. Did the rich man never look out? Go out? Did he just ignore him? Whatever the reason, he just never bothered, and for this reason he is judged.

The rich man had not taken to heart God's love and constant concern for the poor manifest throughout scripture, that concern for those with no one to care for them. As the prophets repeatedly reminded, one aspect of fidelity to God's law is the demonstration of this concern. The rich man has failed doing this.

In other respects, the rich man may have been a devoted descendent of Abraham – note the tenor of their conversation. He certainly was a man who demonstrated much love and concern for his family. He just failed to see beyond his door. May we learn from his mistakes.

At Home with the Word 2007. Reprinted with permission. Liturgy Training Publications.



Saint Cecilia Parish

Boston, Massachusetts

A Catholic Community in the Heart of the Back Bay

Saint Cecilia Church

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Parish Staff

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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

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Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 30, 2007



Ministers of the Liturgy

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, presider

Cynthia Wanner, lector

Richard Barry, eucharistic minister

Sunday, 8:00 a.m.

Rev. David Beauregard, OMV, presider

Bob Mann, lector

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, presider

Mary Jane Kinne & Rosaria Salerno, lectors

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, presider

Katherine Roz & Stephanie Buscaglia,
lectors

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

Rev. John Unni, presider

Charlene Wong & Steve Ciesielski, lectors

The parable of the rich man and Lazarus is blunt: how the rich man spends the afterlife was determined in this life by his lack of concern for the poor man "lying at his door." Now is the time to bridge whatever chasms exist between ourselves and those in need. After death the divide is impassable, and our eternity is set. So, now is our time: Who is lying at our door?

Living Liturgy,

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2007

NU Catholic Center News

NULIFE Meeting is every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at 68 St Stephen Street. Come on over for some fellowship, faith, and fun!

Pine Street Women's Inn

On Monday, October 8, St. Cecilia's Pine Street Women's Inn food group will serve its first dinner of the 2007-2008 schedule. Once again, St. Cecilia's Religious Education families will cook and serve the meal to 100 homeless women at the Inn. Sheila Galligan and Pilar Herrera will be preparing this meal and would love to have some help. We realize that October 8 falls on the Columbus Day holiday weekend, and many people will be away. But if any other families will be available and would like to help cook and serve the meal, please contact E. Jane Smith at ejsmith@providers.org. If any parishioners would like to help with a donation of fresh fruit and desserts, please bring them to the rear of the church between the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses on next Sunday, October 7.

Lions & Tigers & Bears! Oh, My!

It's that time of year again! Next Sunday, in commemoration of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4), we will celebrate the Blessing of the Animals at both the 9:30 and 11:00 liturgies. Bring your dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, turtles, hamsters, guinea pigs, and iguanas. Indeed, every creature is welcome!

Want to Help??

If you are interested in getting more involved in the many ministries and programs going on here, there is a table with "volunteer/interest" forms at the rear of the church for the next couple of weeks. Please stop by and check it out!

Religious Ed Notes

- Religious Education begins today! Welcome back everyone!
- There are no Religious Education classes next Sunday due to Columbus Day Weekend.
- The first class for Grades 8, 9, and 10 will be on Sunday, October 14 at 4:00. Students in this class will attend the 6:00 Mass.
- Religious Ed Family Dinner - October 21. All families enrolled in the program are invited to attend a fun pre-Halloween dinner catered by Blue-Ribbon Bar-B-Q. The dinner will be held at the Hilton Boston Back Bay and will begin at 5:00 p.m. Please e-mail Scott MacDonald if you wish to attend.

Rel. Ed. Classroom Directory

Pre-K & K: Mrs. Callahan & Ms. Diggins,
Parish Hall, 3rd Fl.

1st Grade: Mr. Moffatt, Rectory Dining Room.

2nd Grade: Mr. Lippolt, Berklee Annex, 1st Fl.

3rd Grade: Mr. Portillo, Berklee Annex, 1st Fl.

4th Grade: Ms. Donnelly & Ms. Saluke,
Parish Hall, 1st Fl.

Grades 5/6/7: Mr. Curtis, Parish Hall, 1st Fl.

(Berklee Annex is across the street at 9 Belvidere St.)

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) will begin again at St. Cecilia's on Monday, October 1 at 6:15 p.m. in the parish hall. This is a process offered each year to those who wish to be baptized into the Catholic faith and to those who are already baptized Christians who wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact Mark Donohoe at 617-536-4548 or mndonohoe@rcn.com. We look forward to having you join us!

Social Justice Committee

There will be a meeting of the Social Justice Committee today at 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall. All are welcome to join us!

Altar Server Ministry

The ministry of server is open to all parishioners and children from Grade 4 and up. Servers act as crucifers (carrying the cross) and candle bearers; they have responsibilities with the sacramentary (book containing the prayers used at Mass), the preparation of the altar and the gifts, and the washing of hands at Mass. There are two training sessions: Oct. 13 and Oct. 27, both from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. If you are presently an altar server or would like to be one, please plan to attend one of these sessions. If you are a server or would like to prepare to be a server and cannot make either of these dates, please contact Scott MacDonald.

Communications Board

We're putting together a Communications Board to look at and improve the way we communicate. If you have career experience in any of the following areas, we'd love to hear from you: Creative Director, Copywriter, Proofreader/Copyeditor, PR, Production Coordinator. We already have a great graphic designer and need to fill these other positions. If you think you can help, please contact Scott MacDonald (sj_macdonald@msn.com).

Special Intentions

Saturday, September 29, 5:00 p.m.

Mary and Joseph Przybyski, Memorial

Sunday, September 30, 9:30 a.m.

Stanley Januskiewicz, Memorial

Sunday, September 30, 11:00 a.m.

James Walters, Memorial

Sunday, September 30, 6:00 p.m.

Barbara Salamy, 1st Anniversary

Monday, October 1, 7:30 a.m.

Domenico Scarcella, Memorial

Wednesday, October 3, 7:30 a.m.

Clelia Scarcella, Memorial

Thursday, October 4, 7:30 a.m.

Cesare Rella, Memorial