

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

15 October 2023

The Great Banquet by the Brunswick Monogrammist

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

15 OCTOBER 2023

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | *Toccata Quarta Per l'Organo da sonarsi alla levatione*

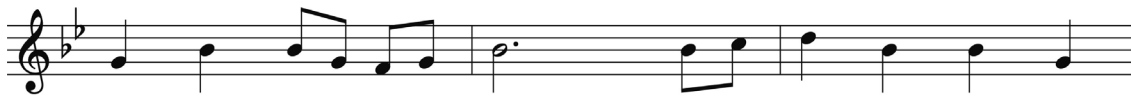
Girolamo Frescobaldi
(1583-1643)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | The Reign of God

Dolores Duffner



1. The reign of God, like farm - er's field, Bears
2. The reign of God can - not be found In
3. The reign of God is like a pearl On
4. Though hid - den now, the reign of God May,
5. Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God From
6. The reign of God is come in Christ; The



weeds a - long with wheat; The good and bad are
far - off, for - eign land Till in fa - mil - iar
bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
yet un - no - ticed, grow; From deep with - in it
ti - ny seed will spread, Till birds of ev - 'ry
reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,



in - ter - twined Till har - vest is com - plete.
face and place We find it close at hand.
pre - cious pearl, Go out and buy that field.
ris - es up, Like yeast in swell - ing dough.
feath - er come To nest, and there be fed.
kin - dling hearts, The reign of God is here!

CALL TO WORSHIP



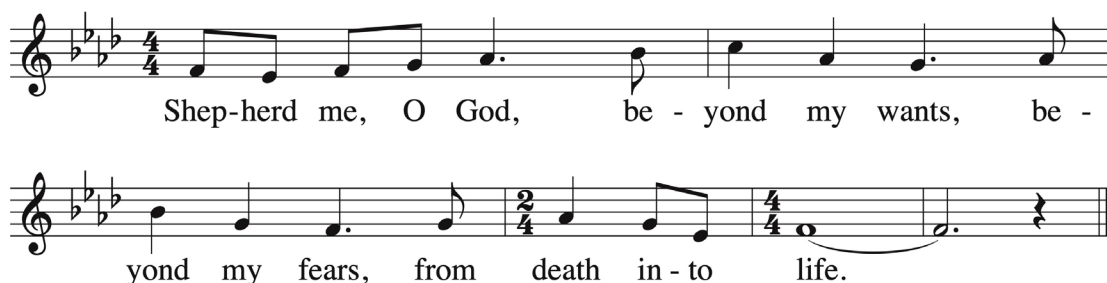
Verses

1. We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
2. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
3. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Isaiah 25: 6-10a



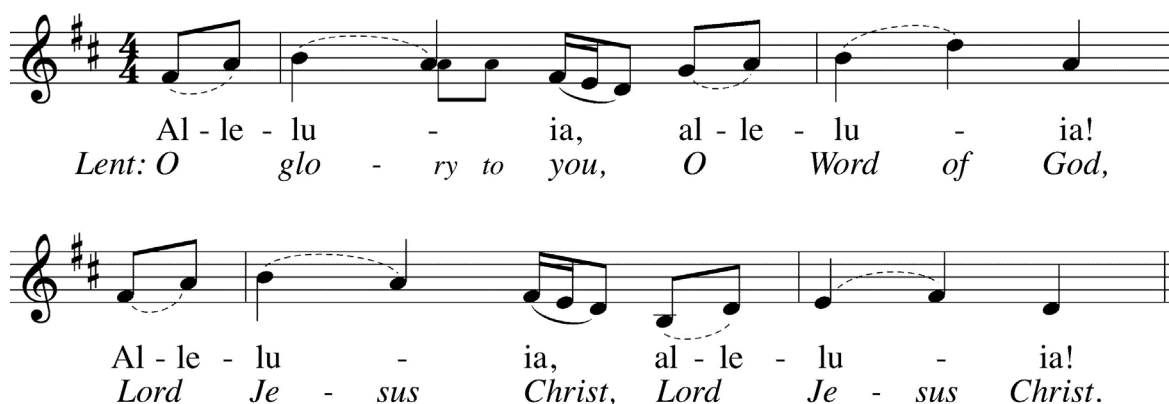
Verses

1. God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want;
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love;
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.
2. Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul;
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth;
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.
3. Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side;
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.
4. You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.
5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

SECOND READING | Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Unity Mass

Norah Duncan IV



GOSPEL | Matthew 22: 1-10

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,

the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYERS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

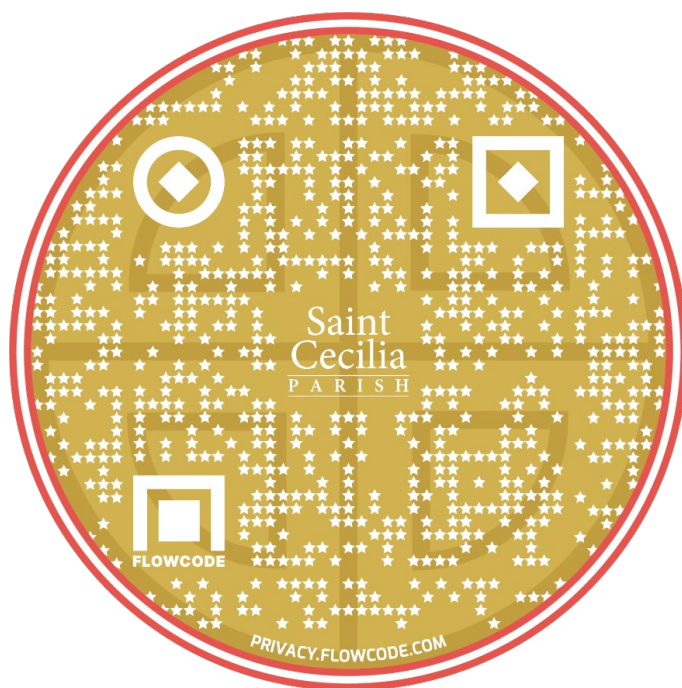
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

Using the Flowcode with the camera on your smartphone is as easy as Aim & Tap. Aim your camera at the Flowcode image and tap the notification banner when it appears on your phone's screen. You may need to zoom in a bit to focus on the code.

If the Flowcode doesn't work for you, please visit www.flowcode.com/page/stceciliaboston.

You can also mail a check to:

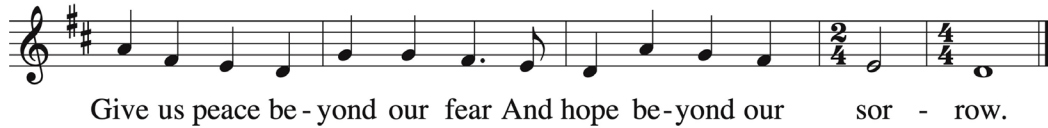
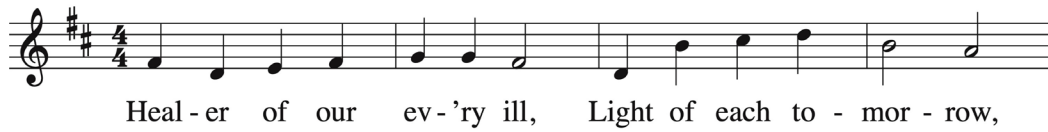
Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street
Boston, MA 02115



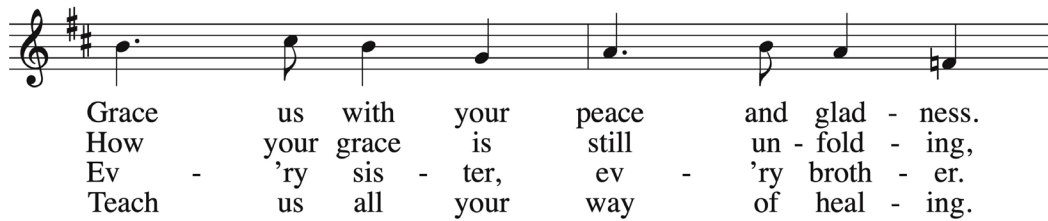
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | Healer of Our Every Ill

Marty Haugen



Verses



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

✠ Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

✠ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

HOLY, HOLY | Missa Pacem

J. Randolph Babin

4

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of
hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name, who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Missa Pacem

J. Randolph Babin

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro -
claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

GREAT AMEN | Missa Pacem

J. Randolph Babin

A - men, a - men, a - men.
A - men, a - men, a - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.

LAMB OF GOD | Missa Pacem

J. Randolph Babin

Cantor or choir: *All:*

Lamb of God, Prince of Peace, God of Love, Bread of Life, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us. *Repeat as needed*

Last time *Cantor or choir:* us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us. *All:* Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

It is a long-held Catholic belief that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an "Act of Spiritual Communion." When we are unable to be physically present at the celebration of the Eucharist, Pope Francis invites Catholics to say this prayer as a source of grace. We can be assured that when we express our desire to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, God will be with us spiritually in a special way. Here is an Act of Spiritual Communion that we encourage you to pray as you participate in our live-streamed liturgies:

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Loving Jesus,
I believe that you
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there
and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.

COMMUNION | Come to the Feast

Bob Hurd

Refrain / Estribillo



Come, come to the ban - quet. Come,
Ven, ven al ban - que - te. Ven a la
Bilingual: Ven, ven al ban - que - te. Ven a la



come to the feast. Here the hun - gry find plen -
fies - ta de Dios. Los que tie - nen ham -
fies - ta de Dios. Here the hun - gry find plen -



ty, here the thirst-y shall drink, here at the
bre y sed se - rán sa - cia - dos. Ven a la
ty, here the thirst-y shall drink. Ven a la



sup - per of Je - sus, come to the feast.
ce - na de Cris - to, ven a la fies - ta de Dios.
ce - na de Cris - to, come to the feast.

1.-6. To verses
A las estrofas

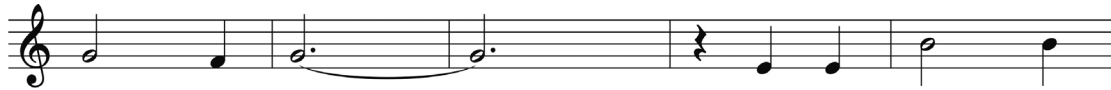


feast, come to the feast.
Dios, ven a la fies - ta de Dios.
feast, come to the feast.

Verses / Estrofas



1. Like the child whose fish - es and loaves fed the
 2. 'Til the seed is giv - en to earth, it is
 3. In the stran - ger by our side, in the
 1. ¿Quién le pue - de dar de co - mer a la
 2. Hay que dar - se a mo - rir pa - ra
 3. Los des - am - pa - ra - dos ven - drán a par -



mul - ti - tude, in the Lord the
 just one grain; but once sown its
 least and last, in the thirst for
 mul - ti - tud? Con Je - sús, al
 co - se - char, las se - mi - llas
 tir el pan y ve - rán su



lit - tle we have, bro - ken and shared, be -
 death brings new birth, the har - vest is rich; what's
 jus - tice we share, Christ is here in the
 com - par - tir lo po - co que hay, re - ci -
 de li - ber - tad y re - su - rrec - ción, la pro -
 dig - ni dad de nue - vo en Je - sús, Sal - va -



comes a - bun - dant food.
 lost is raised a - gain.
 break - ing of the bread.
 bi - mos ple - ni - tud.
 me - sa de vi - vir.
 dor y Buen Pas - tor.

D.C.

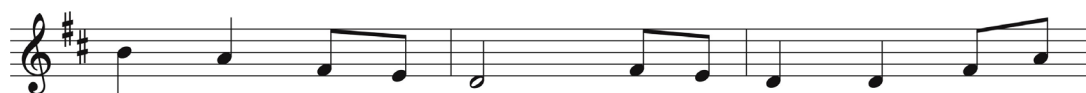
CONCLUDING RITES

RECESSIONAL | Sing a New Church

NETTLETON



1. Sum - moned by the God who made us Rich in
 2. Ra - diant ris - en from the wa - ter, Robed in
 3. Trust the good - ness of cre - a - tion; Trust the
 4. Bring the hopes of ev - 'ry na - tion; Bring the
 5. Draw to - geth - er at one ta - ble All the



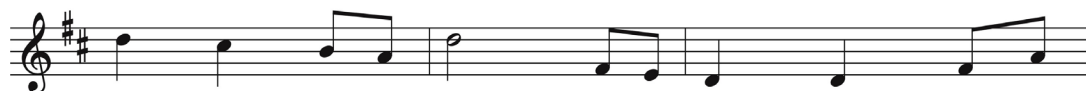
our di - ver - si - ty, Gath - ered in the name of
 ho - li - ness and light, Male and fe - male in God's
 Spir - it strong with - in. Dare to dream the vi - sion
 art of ev - 'ry race. Weave a song of peace and
 hu - man fam - i - ly; Shape a cir - cle ev - er



Je - sus, Rich - er still in u - ni - ty:
 im - age, Male and fe - male, God's de - light:
 prom - ised, Sprung from seed of what has been.
 jus - tice; Let it sound through time and space.
 wid - er And a peo - ple ev - er free.



Let us bring the gifts that dif - fer And, in



splen - did, var - ied ways, Sing a new Church in - to



be - ing, One in faith and love and praise.

POSTLUDE | Récit de Basse de Trompette from Verbum Supernum

Nicolas de Gringy
(1672-1703)

Music in this worship aid is printed with permission under Onelicense.net #A700-137.

For information on becoming involved or supporting the music program at Saint Cecilia,
please contact Dr. Robert Duff at 617-536-4548 or email: RDuff@stceciliaboston.org.

WELCOME!

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish, a Roman Catholic community that gathers day by day, week by week, to know and make known the grace of God. By means of this abundant grace, we enjoy a diverse and close-knit parish family—young, old, rich, poor, of various ethnic origins and differing backgrounds. From our extraordinary music program to a growing children's faith formation program; from the various liturgical ministries to the many opportunities for social outreach that the parish provides, Saint Cecilia is a vibrant community of faith, centered on prayer and worship that tries to keep the Gospel close to heart and to live by Jesus' teachings.

Saint Cecilia Parish was established in 1888. At that time the Back Bay section of Boston along Commonwealth Avenue and Beacon Street was the residential section of the Yankee aristocracy. The maids ("Irish working out girls") and coachmen who served these residents had long requested a church of their own. When Archbishop Williams granted their request and carved the parish from the territory of the Cathedral, they built a magnificent church out of their meager earnings. Our church building resides on the ancestral homeland of the Pawtucket and Massachusetts tribal nations.

The church was dedicated on April 22, 1894. Its architecture is Romanesque, XII Century Norman. The main altar, notable for its massive simplicity, was carved from a single block of white Carrara marble. The painting in the center reredos is a reproduction of da Vinci's The Last Supper, and the dome above is an array of 24K gold rosettes.

For the sixtieth anniversary celebration in 1954, a massive renovation project was undertaken. During this renovation, a statue of Pope Saint Pius X (canonized that same year) was imported from Italy and placed on the right side of the sanctuary. Above the statue are paintings from Pius' life. On the left side is a statue of Saint Patrick, principal patron of the Archdiocese of Boston, and above it are three scenes from his life.

Fourteen circular and sixteen square panels adorn the nave and arches of the church. The square panels are decorated with the symbols of Our Lady taken from the Litany of Loreto and the circular ones with symbols taken from the lives of the apostles. The great window of the Assumption—framed by the two oak cases of the organ—was installed in 1954 (the Marian Year) in spaces originally designed for windows but not until then used.

The original organ of 24 stops was built in 1902 by the Hutchings-Votey Organ Company, Opus 1465, and was rebuilt in 1954 with 32 stops. In 1998, Timothy Smith and Theodore Gilbert began a massive reconstruction of the organ. The current Smith & Gilbert Organ of 4 manuals, 54 ranks, and 3,084 pipes was dedicated on the Feast of Saint Cecilia, November 22, 1999.

Today we are experiencing something of an awakening within these old walls. Our numbers are increasing by 350 new households each year, and we continue to grow in our commitment to issues of peace, justice, and service to our neighbors, both near and far.

We've been right here on Belvidere Street, in the same building for over 125 years, but that does not mean that life here is stale, stagnant, or even predictable. We are proud to be entrusted with the legacy of Saint Cecilia Parish, where everything is the same, yet always changing; where we honor tradition while embracing the future; where God's love makes all things new.

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, October 14 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Mary Kane, lector

Sunday, October 15 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Elizabeth Fahey, lector

Sunday, October 15 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Ron Coyne, celebrant
Julie Bogdanski, Natasha Bolton-Pierre,
and Letitia Howland, lectors

Sunday, October 15 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. Ron Coyne, celebrant
Esteban Vanegas, Virgen Palermo, and Moira Macdonald,
lectors

Sunday, October 15 | 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Nikko Mendoza, lector

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 14 | 5:00 p.m.

Catherine Aylward, *Memorial*

Sunday, October 15 | 9:30 a.m.

Mary Jane Sexton, *Memorial*

Sunday, October 15 | 11:30 a.m.

Hannah Cammack, *Special Intention*

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 25: 6-10a

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

Matthew 22:1-14

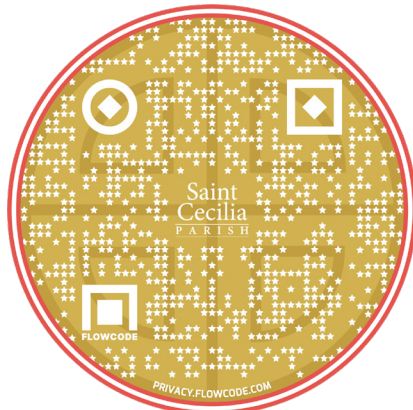
NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Matthew 22:15-21

SCAN THIS CODE
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH!



PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially Melissa Starzyk, Theodore Mootos, Fr. Roman Galadza, Elizabeth Kennedy, Jeff Hommes, Sue Ryan, Tim Finn, Glenn Gallo, John Hosang, Mary Walters, Marc Pelletier, Ray Cronin, Rick Gaillardetz, Michele Maniscalco, Nick Hungerford, and Fred Tufts.

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish!

We are pleased to welcome the following newly-registered members of our parish: **Diane and Kenneth Fogash** of Bethany Beach, Delaware; **Emily Keeley** of Boston; **Timothy DeBow** of Boston; and **Mariah Banks** of Boston. If you have not already registered with the parish, please do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Respect Life Month

Each October, the Church in the United States observes Respect Life Month—a time to remember that all people are created in the image of God and are worthy of respect. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. This month, the Church invites us to reflect deeply on the dignity of every human life and on the second half of the Great Commandment of Jesus to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Coffee Hospitality—Many Hands Make Light Work!

With the increased rhythm of the fall season, we need some helping hands in the Parish Café on Sunday mornings. Please don't worry about over-committing yourself—if you can help out once a month or even just once a year, we'd love you to be a part of our Coffee Hospitality Ministry! There are three shifts: 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and clean-up. Responsibilities include serving food and coffee, cleaning up, and most importantly, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere by smiling and engaging with parishioners. For more information or to sign up, please contact Lisa Pickering.

Sign Up for Our Pumpkin Palooza—Sunday, October 22

Next Sunday, following the 9:30 liturgy, we will have a pumpkin painting event for our kindergarten through Grade 6 students. If your child is attending, please fill out this form (<https://forms.gle/ugGRVYJH5T4P5Hhe8>) so we have an accurate count of how many pumpkins we need. The cut-off date for RSVPs was Friday, October 13, so please see page 5 and respond if you haven't already!

Don't Miss the Saint Cecilia Ministry Fair!

Following the 9:30 and 11:30 liturgies this Sunday, we invite you to learn about our 30 ministries and how you can get involved. Between our hospitality, liturgical, outreach, fellowship, and faith formation ministries, there's something for everyone! If you have any questions, reach out to Tanya Rybarczyk. Please note: coffee hospitality will have limited seating and will be scaled down to coffee and croissants to accommodate the ministry fair.

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

All couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, or 50th wedding anniversaries are invited to join Cardinal Seán O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap. on Sunday, October 29 at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston. The Mass will include a vow renewal and a special blessing by the Cardinal. Couples can register here: <https://www.evangelizeboston.com/event/annual-wedding-anniversary-mass-2/>.

Special Collection for World Mission Sunday

This week's second collection supports Catholic World Missions. By baptism, all Catholics are called to participate in the mission of the Church and share their faith as missionaries. World Mission Sunday gathers support for the pastoral and evangelization programs and needs of more than 1,150 mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and remote regions of Latin America. The funds gathered on World Mission Sunday are distributed in the pope's name by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith—a Pontifical Mission Society. To donate, please visit this link: <https://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/world-mission-sunday-2023>



women's lunch place

Friday, October 20 | Fairmont Copley Plaza

Spaghetti 2023 Dinner

WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Friday, October 20, at 6:00 p.m. | Fairmont Copley Plaza

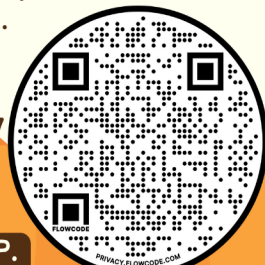
The annual Spaghetti Dinner gala to benefit the day shelter on Newbury Street will be held on Friday, October 20 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza with a cocktail reception at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Jim O'Connell, President of Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program and a longtime friend of our parish. Women's Lunch Place (WLP) is ready for their next chapter. Over the past four decades, they have built a strong suite of programs and services that allow them to meet the growing needs of vulnerable women. Just as their donors have helped lay the foundation for their proactive programming, WLP is helping to lay the foundation for their guests to rebuild their lives. If you would like to join one of the Saint Cecilia tables at this event, please email Mark Lippolt. Tickets are \$250 each. The WLP is also looking for folks who would like to purchase full tables or serve as a table captain.



Saint Cecilia Parish Pumpkin Palooza

**OCTOBER 22 | PARISH HALL
FOLLOWING 9:30 MASS**

In lieu of our kindergarten through sixth-grade children's faith formation classes, we will be decorating pumpkins in the Parish Hall following the 9:30 liturgy! Classes for Grades 9/10 are as regularly scheduled.



SCAN THE FLOWCODE TO RSVP.

SAINT CECILIA YOUNG ADULTS (SCYA) MINISTRY UPCOMING EVENTS

Our Young Adults Ministry has a host of events happening in October, so if you're a parishioner between 20-40 years old, please feel free to join. You can get in the loop about these events via the SCYA's Linktree: <https://linktr.ee/scyoungadultsboston>

1. Zoom Catechism Discussion

Monday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m.

2. Halloween Craft Night

October 21, 4:00 p.m. | Back Bay Location TBD

3. Trivia Night

October 26, 6:30 p.m. | Saint Cecilia Parish Hall

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

BE THE **PIECE** THAT BRINGS US **TOGETHER**



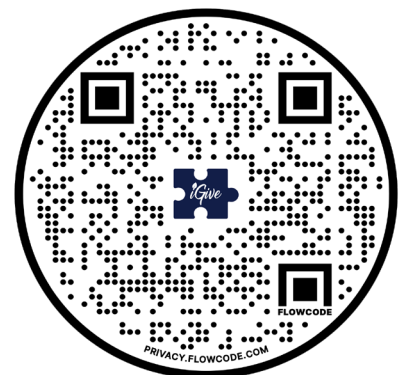
PLEASE SIGN UP FOR *iGive*
OUR RECURRING GIVING
PROGRAM

it's simple

- 1** SIGN UP ONLINE
- 2** CREATE A PROFILE
- 3** SELECT YOUR GIVING
FREQUENCY & AMOUNT



SCAN THIS QR
CODE WITH YOUR
SMARTPHONE TO
LEARN MORE!





We can't finish our puzzle
without your help!





PIE SELLERS NEEDED!

As part of our ongoing relationship with Community Servings, we are looking for parishioners willing to assist with their annual Pie in the Sky fundraiser. Every Thanksgiving pie sold feeds a Community Servings client suffering from a life-threatening illness for one week. The delicious pies—apple, pecan, and pumpkin—are the perfect dessert for your Thanksgiving table. If you are willing to help sell pies at Saint Cecilia liturgies as well as to your friends and colleagues, please email Mark Lippolt.



CELEBRATE HEALTH EQUITY INTERNATIONAL

Health Equity International/St. Boniface Hospital will be celebrating its 40th anniversary on Thursday, November 2 in the Saint Cecilia Parish Hall. The program will explore the impact HEI's world-class health services have had in southern Haiti over the past four decades. You will also hear directly from CEO Conor Shapiro (a parishioner), patients, and staff about what HEI/SBH has meant to them, and learn about how supporters like you have helped make all this life-giving work possible. Tickets are \$100 and can be purchased online at: <https://healthequityintl.org/2023celebration>.



"WONDERFULLY MADE - LGBTQ+R(ELIGION)" PREMIERE

Tuesday, October 24 | 6:30 p.m. | Saint Cecilia

The Greater Boston LGBTQIA Catholic Collective invites you to the Boston Premiere of the film *Wonderfully Made: LGBTQ+R(eligion)*, directed by Yuval David and produced by Mark McDermott. This event takes place on Tuesday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m. at Saint Cecilia Church, with a Q&A session with the creatives and advocates following the screening and a light reception.

Wonderfully Made - LGBTQ+R(eligion) is a feature-length documentary striking at the root of anti-LGBTQ attitudes by exploring the challenges and aspirations of LGBTQ+ Catholics. The film focuses on the Catholic Church because it is one of the largest religious organizations and its anti-LGBTQ+ stance is known and growing more hardline. It features interviews with leading advocates rarely seen all together, including clergy, organizational leaders, and activists. The narrative of the film is shaped by the process of a fine art project creating unprecedented, photographic iconography depicting Jesus as a member/ally of the LGBTQ+ community, represented by multiple LGBTQ+ models. Get your tickets here: <https://bit.ly/3t1o4tx>. Tickets can also be purchased by clicking on the QR code in the narthex.



SAVE THE DATE: 15TH ANNUAL SOCIAL JUSTICE CONVOCATION

Saturday, October 21, 10:00 a.m. | Virtual

Celebrate 15 years of education, inspiration, and collaboration at this year's 15th annual Archdiocesan Social Justice Convocation. The convocation will focus on two questions: What are the root causes of poverty? How can we learn from each other by building bridges—not working in silos—to alleviate the root causes of poverty? In addition to several guest speakers, Cardinal Seán will celebrate Mass. To register, please visit https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pJhvlOS1SKiVEUO5D-1VYHA#/registration

THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA

OCTOBER 15 – OCTOBER 22

Sunday, October 15

Wisdom Group, 8:30 a.m. via Zoom
Ministry Fair following the 9:30 & 11:30 liturgies

Monday, October 16

Catechism Study sponsored by SCYA, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 17

RCIA, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 18

SCYA Men's Group, 7:30 a.m. via Zoom
Communion Circle at Susan Bailis House, 3:30 p.m.
SCYA Women's Group, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thursday, October 19

Communion Circle, Hale House, 4:00 p.m.
Wisdom Group, 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Saturday, October 21

Marriage Ministry, 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
Young Adults Halloween Craft Night, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 22

Wisdom Group, 8:30 a.m. via Zoom
Family Pumpkin Palooza!

CALLING ALL MARRIED
COUPLES—OUR MARRIAGE
MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!

Saturday, October 21/28 | Hybrid

Since our Marriage Ministry's 2018 reboot, our parish has provided bi-annual marriage prep courses for engaged couples planning to marry in the Church. These hybrid courses, held on two consecutive Saturdays, are offered every October and March. The next course is on October 21 (Zoom) and October 28 (in-person). Saint Cecilia's course is based on the archdiocese's *Transformed in Love* model, in which married couples in the parish serve as witnesses that lead engaged couples through the coursework. To shepherd young couples through this significant process, our Marriage Ministry needs your help! Whether you've been married for a short time or for decades, we'd love you to share your knowledge and experience with our group. Again, our next course is in October; commitment time is flexible, and we will provide guidance on how to relay your experience and wisdom. This is a wonderful opportunity to inspire future couples and nurture your own marriage! Also—this year we hope to expand our Marriage Ministry with additional gatherings, and activities such as speakers, book clubs, and a marriage mentoring program. We need help to get these new initiatives up and running, so please reach out if you're interested! Please contact Julianne and Michael Lavelle to learn more. We hope you will join this rewarding ministry!

WELCOMING THE STRANGER

For the past seven years, Saint Cecilia has provided ongoing support to Catholic Charities' Refugee and Immigration Services with supermarket grocery cards. Like so many other agencies in the Commonwealth, Catholic Charities of Boston has seen a surge in immigrants in need of assistance this year. With your help, they can provide a vital lifeline for these newest members of our community. If you would like to purchase gift cards to Target, Market Basket, Stop & Shop or Shaw's/Star Market—and no more than \$25 per card—please mail them to the parish or drop them in the offertory basket in an envelope marked "Catholic Charities." To mail them, please send your cards to:

Mark Lippolt
Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115





FALL CONCERT WITH THE WOOD HARBOR ORCHESTRA

The Wood Harbor Orchestra with choir returns to Saint Cecilia Church on Saturday, October 14 at 8:00 p.m. for the fall concert *Masses and Other Sacred Music*, sponsored by the Tutti Music Collective. The Tutti Music Collective is committed to showcasing the music of local minority, LGBTQ, and living composers. The collective believes that concert music should reflect the diversity of the world we live in, and they strive to create a space where these voices can be heard and celebrated. The concert will feature music composed by five local composers (including parishioners Mary Casiello and Rachel Burckardt) as well as Libby Larsen and Amy Beach. Tickets are available from Eventbrite by scanning the QR code. Use the code "CECILIA" for a special discount! We hope to see you there!



LEARN THE SKILLS TO SAVE A LIFE!

Sunday, October 29 at 2:00 p.m. | Community Room

Saint Cecilia will offer CPR/AED/First Aid/Naloxone [Narcan] training on Sunday, October 29 at 2:00 p.m. The training will include instruction on how to provide CPR, how and when to use an automated external defibrillator (AED), how to deal with choking and rescue breathing for infants, children, and adults, and how to administer Narcan. The training has two parts: an online component (which must be done in advance of the in-person training) and an in-person training at the church. This training will be conducted by a Red Cross and American Heart Association Certified Instructor. Space is limited, so please contact Lisa Pickering as soon as possible to register. Life is too precious to not know these things—you can be the difference between life and death.

LIKE SMILING? LIKE PEOPLE? VOLUNTEER AS A GREETER!

We need help welcoming our neighbors into the church before each liturgy on the weekends. Your small time commitment and warm smile can make someone's day! Please sign up to greet by emailing Lisa Pickering. Thank you so much!

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Saint Cecilia
P A R I S H

September
Friday, 9/29 @ 6 pm
Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

October
Wednesday, 10/4 @ 6 pm
Saint Francis of Assisi
Wednesday, 10/18 @ 6 pm
Saint Luke

Evening Prayer

November
Wednesday, 11/1 @ 6 pm
All Saints
Wednesday, 11/22 @ 6 pm
Saint Cecilia

Please join us on Facebook Live
or via Zoom - Email
hoursandtaize@stceciliaboston.org
for details & reminders

SAINT CECILIA CLIMATE JUSTICE MINISTRY UPDATES

On October 4, Pope Francis released the apostolic exhortation update to *Laudato si'*. Our Climate Justice Ministry will be reading this important document and meeting to discuss it on Sunday, October 29 at 1:00 p.m. and we invite you to come!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY & MINISTRY

CAMPUS EVENTS/WEBINARS

15th Anniversary Celebration of the School of Theology and Ministry and Book Launch

Presenters: Dean Michael C. McCarthy, S.J., and nine STM faculty authors

Wednesday, October 19 | 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. | In-person | Boston College, Gasson Hall, Room 100, Chestnut Hill Campus | Registration Required | Free

For further details or to register for these events, please check the STM Online: <https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education/featured-events.html>

ONLINE COURSES

Effective Preaching: Preaching for Children

October 18 – November 7 | 3-Week Online Course | Registration Required | \$30.00

The Gospel of Mark

October 18 – November 7 | 3-Week Online Course | Registration Required | \$30.00

Unsung Scriptures

October 18 – November 28 | 6-Week Online Course | Registration Required | \$60.00

For further details and/or registration, please check the STM Online: Crossroads website: https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education.html#tab-stm_online_crossroads

BOISI CENTER FOR RELIGION AND AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE

Hesburgh of Notre Dame: Assessments of a Legacy

Presenter: Michael James

Tuesday, October 17 | Luncheon, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. | 24 Quincy Rd., 101 Boston College, 24 Quincy Road, Chestnut Hill, MA | Registration requested | Free

The Art of Encounter: Catholic Writers from the Margins

Friday, October 20 - Saturday, October 21 | 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. | Conference | Stokes Hall, Stokes S195, Boston College, 59-107 College Road, Chestnut Hill, MA | Registration requested | Free

For further details and to register: <https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/centers/boisi-center/events.html>

SAINT SUSANNA PARISH — DEDHAM

Jesus Who? The Evolution of God in the Bible, Part II

Presenters: Professor Mary Joan Leith, of Religious Studies at Stonehill College

Monday, October 16 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Zoom

For further details on this presentation, please check the website: https://www.saintsusannrma.org/adult_faith_formation.html





WHY I AM PRO-LIFE

BY JAMES MARTIN, S.J.

Whenever I say that I am pro-life, it always surprises some people—which always surprises me.

Last summer I attended a conference on polarization in the Catholic Church, held at Georgetown University. One evening, when I mentioned my pro-life convictions to a participant, her face registered shock. “I’m so relieved to hear that,” she said.

Maybe because I also advocate for refugees and migrants, L.G.B.T. people and the environment—causes usually championed by those who identify as politically progressive—some people tell me that they wonder about the sincerity of my public comments in support of unborn children. By the same token, others with whom I share common ground on a variety of social justice issues often express discomfort, disappointment and even anger when I use the phrase “pro-life.”

So perhaps it would be helpful to explain what I mean when I say that I am pro-life. And I would invite you to consider this more as a profession of faith than as a political argument

The best way of explaining my belief is this: The longer I live, the more I grow in awe of God’s creative activity and in reverence for God’s creation.

I see God’s creative activity in countless ways, but mainly in the ways that God is active in the spiritual lives of people with whom I minister. Over the last 25 years, I have accompanied perhaps hundreds of people in my ministry as a spiritual director—that is, someone who helps people notice God in their daily lives and in their prayer.

In the process I have seen first-hand how God encounters individuals in breathtakingly, sometimes nearly miraculously personal ways. With one person, God encounters him or her through a powerful experience in private prayer, with another during an almost mystical experience amid nature, with another in a conversation that suddenly heals an old emotional wound. The expression “God meets people

where they are” captures some of this reality—but only a little. God’s ability to enter a person’s life in ways that are perfectly tailored to that life always amazes me.

The more I see this, the more my awe of God’s creative activity naturally grows.

But I notice God’s creative activity in other ways, too. The birth of my two nephews, who are now 20 and 13 years old, profoundly deepened my appreciation for the mystery of life. When I first saw my oldest nephew in the hospital a few hours after his birth, I was tremendously moved. After returning home, I wept for joy, completely overwhelmed by the gift and vulnerability of God’s new creation. Over the years I’ve watched them learn how to eat, sit up, talk, crawl, laugh, walk, read, run, ride bikes, make jokes, throw a ball, drive a car and take joy in the world.

Recently I had dinner with my older nephew and thought, “I can’t believe that he didn’t exist 20 years ago” and felt a surge of gratitude for God’s grace. (I knew enough not to tell him this, since he’d probably say, “Uncle Jim, give me a break!” Or more likely, “Uh huh.”)

The more I reflect on this the more my reverence for God’s creation grows. All of this naturally increases my reverence for the life of the child in the womb.

Now, as a man and a priest, and therefore someone who will never experience the joys and challenges of being a mother, someone who will never have to make a decision about an abortion and someone in a position of some power in the church, I recognize the limitations of my experience. And I recognize that many women consider it offensive to hear this from a man—because they have told me.

Many women whom I love, respect and admire support abortion rights and see these rights as a constitutive part of their authority over their own bodies. And who can doubt that over the centuries, women have been dominated and abused by men—even men responsible for providing them

with legal, pastoral and medical care?

But acknowledging that women's bodies are their own does not diminish my own reverence for the living body in a woman's womb. Thus, I cannot deny that I see the child in the womb, from the moment of his or her conception, as a creation of God, deserving of our respect, protection and love. Mysterious, precious, unique, infinite, made in the image and likeness of God. Holy.

And my respect for life extends to life at every stage, a feeling that has only grown through my experiences in various ministries during my 30 years as a Jesuit—for example, with refugees.

For two years, as a young Jesuit in the early 1990s, I worked in Kenya with refugees from around East Africa, who, in search of a safe life for their families, had fled war-torn countries like Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Somalia and Rwanda, and settled in the slums of Nairobi. There, along with colleagues from the Jesuit Refugee Service, I helped them start small businesses to support themselves.

Many of them had suffered the severest losses in their home countries, tragedies that might seem unbelievable to some—seeing spouses hacked to death with machetes before them; watching their children have their throats slit; and being brutalized, kidnapped and tortured themselves. Sometimes people think I am concocting these stories. I'm not. I have met these people, and in many cases have seen the proof: medical records, newspaper clippings, gruesome scars.

Their lives were devalued, threatened and imperiled. It's no wonder that refugees and migrants flee their home countries. Nearly all of them flee to save their lives and protect the lives of their children. So when I think of "life issues" I often think of the 68 million refugees, migrants and internally displaced people whose most important "pro-life activity" is to flee. Their lives are often at risk not just in their home countries, but also in transit through the deserts and on the seas, and later in teeming refugee camps, where, despite many noble efforts, they and their children die due to lack of food, sanitation and medicine.

Every life is precious to God—including the lives of refugees, migrants and internally displaced persons. In other words, the life of a child at a border is precious, just as the life of a child in the womb is precious.

To take another non-traditional "life issue," think about L.G.B.T. people. In the past few years I have learned a great deal about how these precious lives are also in grave danger.

Consider this: lesbian, gay and bisexual youth in the United States are almost five times as likely to commit suicide than their straight counterparts. In many countries around the world, a gay person is at serious risk of being beaten or killed if his or her sexuality is discovered, and in eight countries homosexual acts are punishable with the death penalty. And in the last 10 years, over 3,000 transgender people have been murdered worldwide, and the most common causes of their deaths are shootings, stabbings and beatings.

In some places, then, L.G.B.T. issues are truly life issues. The life of an L.G.B.T. teenager in a family that rejects them is precious, just as the life of a child in the womb is precious.

I could also tell you about many other vulnerable lives that I have encountered as a Jesuit, which are equally valuable in the eyes of God: the lives of patients with traumatic brain injuries confined for years in a hospital in Cambridge, Mass.; the lives of the poor, sick and dying men and women in their final days at Mother Teresa's hospice in Kingston, Jamaica; the lives of street-gang members in the violent, deadly and now-demolished housing projects in Chicago; the lives of men who have attempted suicide and who now sit in solitary confinement in a prison in Boston. All these people are God's beloved children, made in God's own image.

So my respect for life extends to all people, but most especially those whose lives are at risk: the unborn child, to be sure, but also the refugee whose life is threatened by war, the L.G.B.T. young person tempted to commit suicide, the homeless person whose life is endangered by malnutrition, the uninsured sick person with no health care, the elderly person in danger of being euthanized, the inmate on death row. I have come to value all life, from conception to natural death, and believe that our laws should reflect this important principle.

Sometimes this is referred to as the "consistent ethic of life" or the "seamless garment" approach, a reference to the robe stripped from Jesus before his crucifixion and for which soldiers cast lots (Jn 19:23-24). It has been criticized unfairly by some people as "watering down" pro-life activities. One strong advocate of that approach, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, the late archbishop of Chicago, lamented it was wrongly used in that way. But the misuse of a principle does not invalidate it.

In fact, the point of the consistent ethic of life is not that we should focus on other issues instead of abortion, but that our witness for social justice and in defense of all life is strengthened when we base it clearly and consistently on the recognition of the dignity of every human life at every

stage.

No less a person than St. John Paul II, in his encyclical *The Gospel of Life (Evangelium Vitae)*, pointed to several “life issues” beyond abortion, invoking the *Didache*, one of the most ancient Christian texts outside the Bible, which dates to the first century. The *Didache* (which means “teaching” in Greek) not only inveighed against abortion but also condemned those who “show no compassion for the poor” and who “do not suffer with the suffering.”

In his encyclical, John Paul highlighted not only “the ancient threats of scourges of poverty, hunger, endemic disease, violence and war but also “new threats.” *Evangelium Vitae* joined with the Second Vatican Council in “forcefully condemning” practices that are “opposed to life itself.”

The long list often surprises people, but it is a reminder of the breadth of human life and the many threats to it:

...any type of murder, genocide, abortion, euthanasia, or willful self-destruction, whatever violates the integrity of the human person, such as mutilation, torments inflicted on body or mind, attempts to coerce the will itself; whatever insults human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children; as well as disgraceful working conditions, where people are treated as mere instruments of gain rather than as free and responsible persons; all these things and others like them are infamies indeed.

Today we could add even more to St. John Paul’s list. The threats to human life in all its diversity grow with each passing year.

Perhaps it is time to expand our understanding of what it means to be pro-life. During the Georgetown University conference, I met many thoughtful people who proposed other ways of framing the discussion: “Whole Life,” “One Life,” “Every Life.” These may be some helpful ways forward.

What would help even more than a new label is for all of us to care for every life. For the refugee advocate to care passionately about the unborn. And for the pro-life marcher to care passionately about the migrant. We should care for all life.

Because, as our faith teaches, as I have learned, and as I believe, every life is sacred.

~ The Rev. James Martin, S.J., is a Jesuit priest and editor at large at America. He is consultor to the Vatican’s Dicastery

for Communication and author of many books, including *Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion and Sensitivity* and his most recent title, *Come Forth: The Promise of Jesus's Greatest Miracle*.

THANKSGIVING MEAL KIT BAGS

It's not too early to be planning for Thanksgiving. Once again, we are partnering with Pine Street Inn to provide 150 meal kit bags of shelf-stable food for tenants in over 40 different housing sites across Boston. Pine Street will provide the turkeys and pies and parishioners will fill a meal kit bag with the food items listed below so that tenants can prepare meals for themselves to share with other tenants or to eat with their families.

Beginning on Sunday, October 29, parishioners are invited to pick up a meal kit bag in the narthex or reception desk. Filled bags will be due back to Saint Cecilia on Sunday, November 19 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

These are the items we need for each meal kit bag:

- Boxed Stuffing Mix
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Jars of Turkey Gravy
- Dry Pasta
- Canned Yams (*canned goods should come with a pop-top lid*)
- Canned Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Vegetables (*Green Beans, Corn, & Peas*)
- Cornbread Mix
- Canned Pumpkin or Fruit Pie Filling
- Pie Crust Mix
- Salt & Pepper (*shakers*)
- Hand Held Can Opener

We are also looking for 25 gift cards to any of the following merchants:

- CVS
- VISA
- Target
- Marshalls or TJ Maxx
- Star Market
- Shaw's
- Trader Joe's

Gift cards can be sent to the attention of Karen Dunnett or Lisa Pickering, Saint Cecilia Parish, 18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115.

PARISH RESOURCES

Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115

Hours | Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. & By Appointment

Phone | 617 536 4548; Fax | 617 536 1781

Website | www.stceciliaboston.org

Parish Staff

**To email parish staff, please use the following formula:*

First Initial + Last Name @stceciliaboston.org

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support

Christine Burns, Digital and Print Media Coordinator

Tyler Cesario, Assistant Director of Music

Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate

Robert Duff, Director of Music

Carly-Anne Gannon, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation

Daniel Lamoureux, Vigil Organist

Scott MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility

Brett Maguire, Organist

Colleen Melaugh, Director of Finance and Development

Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien, Pastoral Director of Operations

Lisa Pickering, Director of Facilities and Events

Tanya Rybarczyk, Pastoral Associate

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Terrence Devino, SJ

Rev. Peter Grover, OMC

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ

Audiovisual Support

Maureen Deery, Parish Photographer & Creator of Weekly Slide Show

Geoffrey Edwards, Livestream Videographer

Vasily Izumchensky, Livestream Sound Engineer

Reception

Keith Brinkley, Eli Geruschat, Joe O'Brien, & Corey Ortiz

Schedule for Liturgy

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday | 8:00 a.m.

Lord's Day | Sat 5:00 p.m.; Sun 8:00, 9:30*, 11:30 a.m., & 6:00 p.m.

Holy Days | 8:00 a.m.

* Please note that the 9:30 Mass is both in person and livestreamed.

Parking

There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski's Tavern), for \$13, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and \$13 after 4:00 every day of the week. To get this discount, ask a greeter for a chaser ticket at Mass or ask a staff person during the week. Chaser tickets must be used at the machine at the exit gate. To obtain the discount, place the ticket you received upon entering the garage into the machine, then follow it with the chaser ticket.

Building Accessibility

Both the church and Parish Hall Center are accessible by elevator.

Hearing Assistance in Church

The church is equipped with an assistive listening system. If you would like to use one of the small receivers, please ask one of our greeters.

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.

Baptism for Infants

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

Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for our Faith Formation Program, please contact our Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Carly-Anne Gannon.

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 (VIR-TUS). They provide consultation and support to anyone who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Maria Roche, Letitia Howland, or Erin Young if you have any questions. 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 policy is available in the narthex, Parish Office, and on our website.

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.

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.

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 long distance parishioners from around the country and around the world. We invite both local and long distance individuals and families to fill out a new parishioner form on our website. No matter what your background or location, please know that you are always welcome at Saint Cecilia.

Please note:

According to online safety guidelines released by the Archdiocese of Boston, we have removed email addresses from our online parish bulletin to avoid the danger of potential phishing scams. If you need a staff member's email address or ministry email address, please call our reception desk (617-536-4548) and our receptionists would be happy to pass along the appropriate information. Thank you for helping us maintain our parish security online!