

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 October 2023

The Parable of the Father and His Two Sons
in the Vineyard by Georg Pencz, 1534-35

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

1 OCTOBER 2023

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | *Dies sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot'*, BWV 635

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



1. All crea - tures of our God and King, Lift
2. O rush - ing wind and breez - es soft, O
3. O flow - ing wa - ters, pure and clear, Make
4. Dear moth - er earth, who day by day Un -
5. O ev - 'ry one of ten - der heart, For -



up your voice and with us sing: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
clouds that ride the winds a - loft: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
mu - sic for your Lord to hear. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
folds rich bless - ings on our way, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
giv - ing oth - ers, take your part, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia! O burn - ing sun with gold - en beam And
lu - ia! O ris - ing morn, in praise re - joice, O
lu - ia! O fire so mas - ter - ful and bright, Pro -
lu - ia! The fruits and flow'rs that ver - dant grow, Let
lu - ia! All you who pain and sor - row bear, Praise



sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam:
lights of eve - ning, find a voice. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
vid - ing us with warmth and light,
them God's glo - ry al - so show.
God and cast on God your care.



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

6. And you, most kind and gentle death,
Waiting to hush our final breath,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
You lead to heav'n the child of God,
Where Christ our Lord the way has trod.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7. Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship God in humbleness,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Oh praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

CALL TO WORSHIP

GLORIA | Missa Pacem

L. Randolph Babin



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 | Ezekiel 18: 25-28

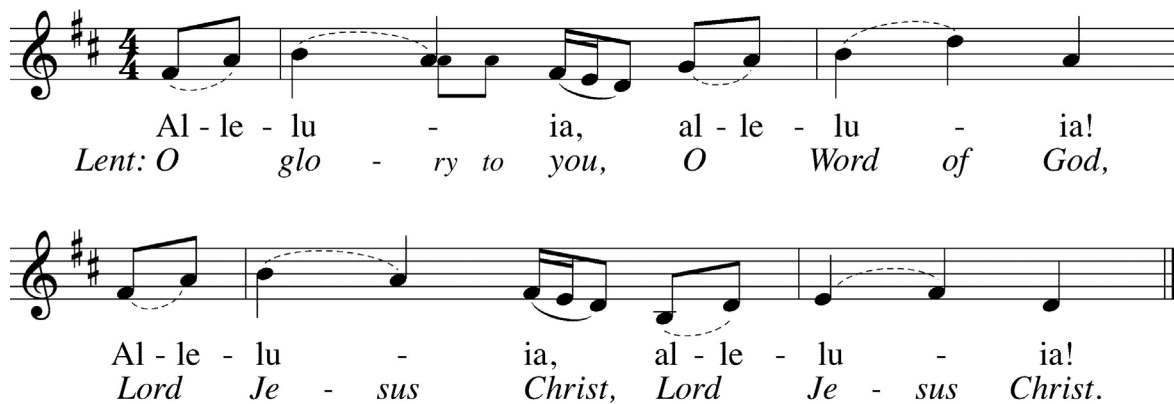


1. O Lord, make me know your ways. Teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth, and teach me; for you are the God of my salvation.
2. Remember your compassion, O Lord, and your merciful love, for they are from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions. In your merciful love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.
3. Good and upright is the Lord; he shows the way to sinners. He guides the humble in right judgment; to the humble he teaches his way.

SECOND READING | Philippians 2: 1-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Unity Mass

Norah Duncan IV



GOSPEL | Matthew 21: 28-32

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!

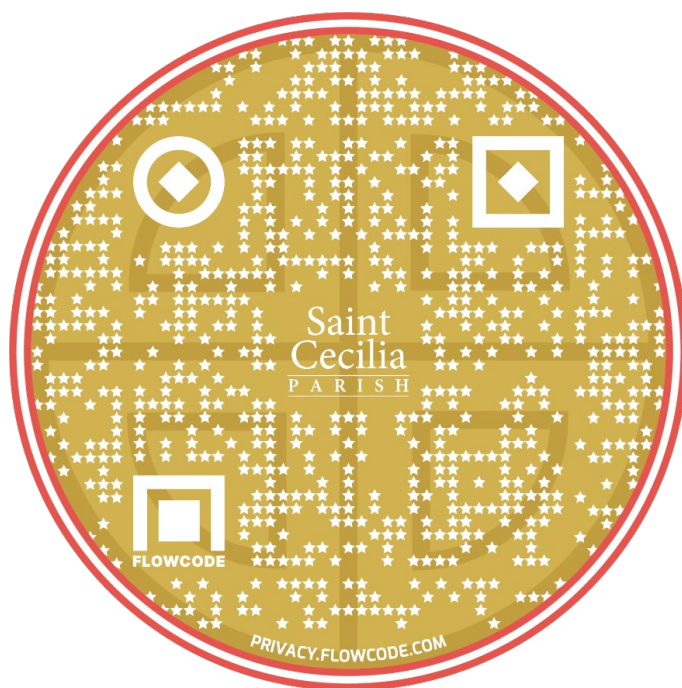
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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 | Jesus, the Lord

Roc O'Connor

Refrain

Je - sus. Je - sus. Let all cre-

a - tion bend the knee to the Lord.

Verse 1

1. In him we live, we move and have our be-ing; in
him the Christ, in him the King. Je - sus, the Lord.

Verses 2, 3

2. Though Son, he did not cling to
3. He lived o - be - dient - ly his

god - li - ness; but emp - tied him - self, be -
Fa - ther's will ac - cept - ing his death,

came 3 a slave! Je - sus, the Lord.
death on a tree!

EUCHARISTIC 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, you take a - way the sins of the
Prince of Peace,
God of Love,
Bread of Life,

Repeat as needed

world, have mer - cy on us.

Last time *Cantor or choir:*

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the

All:

world, have mer - cy on us. 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:

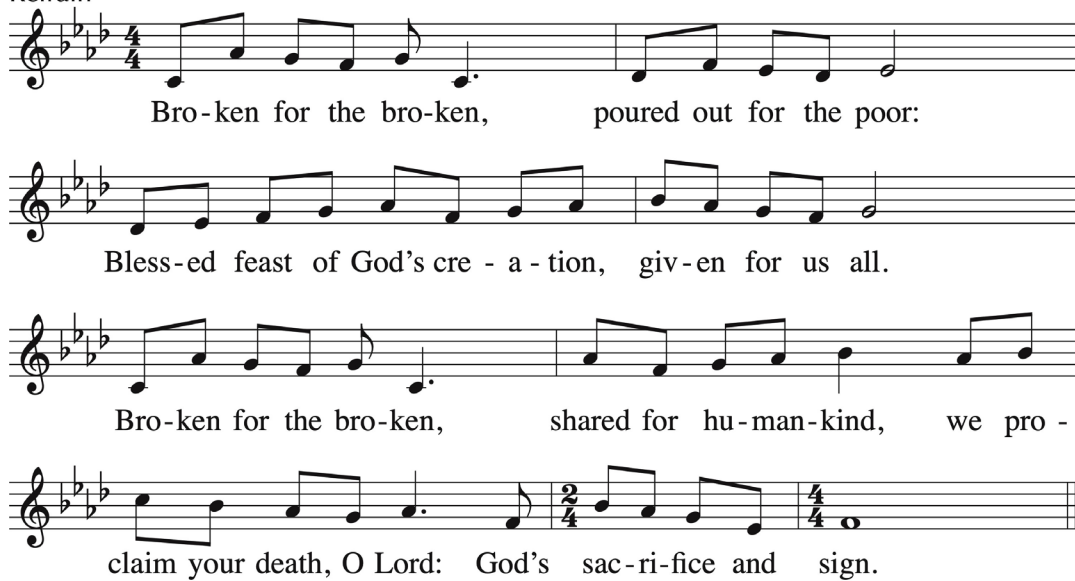
ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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 | Broken for the Broken

Chris De Silva

Refrain



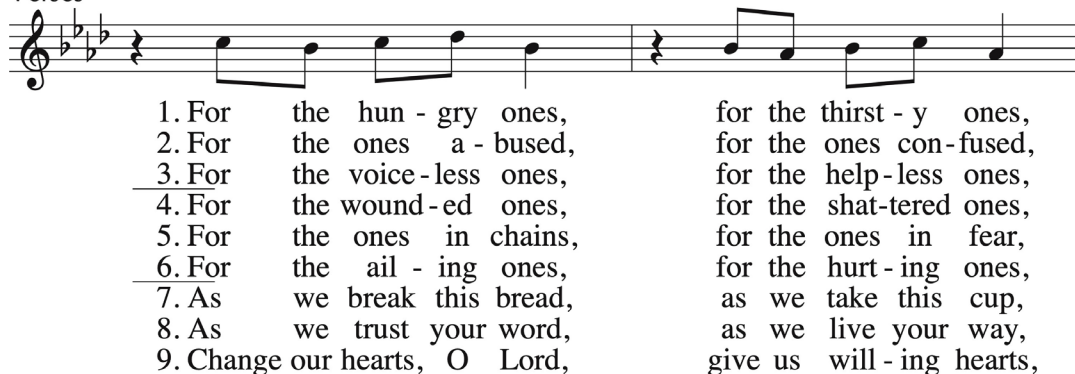
Bro-ken for the bro-ken, poured out for the poor:

Bless-ed feast of God's cre - a - tion, giv-en for us all.

Bro-ken for the bro-ken, shared for hu-man-kind, we pro -

claim your death, O Lord: God's sac-ri-fice and sign.

Verses



1. For	the hun - gry ones,	for the thirst - y ones,
2. For	the ones a - bused,	for the ones con-fused,
3. For	the voice-less ones,	for the help-less ones,
4. For	the wound-ed ones,	for the shat-tered ones,
5. For	the ones in chains,	for the ones in fear,
6. For	the ail - ing ones,	for the hurt - ing ones,
7. As	we break this bread,	as we take this cup,
8. As	we trust your word,	as we live your way,
9. Change	our hearts, O Lord,	give us will - ing hearts,

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.
Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.
All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all
The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;
The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one;
All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all
He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.
All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

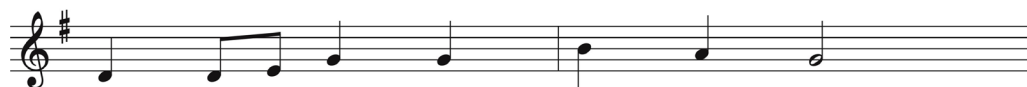
CONCLUDING RITES

RECESSIONAL | God, Whose Purpose is to Kindle

MANNA



1. God, whose pur - pose is to kin - dle,
2. God, who still a sword de - liv - ers
3. God, who in your ho - ly gos - pel



Now ig - nite us with your fire.
Rath - er than a plac - id peace,
Wills that all should tru - ly live,



While the earth a - waits your burn - ing,
With your sharp - ened Word dis - turb us,
Make us sense our share of fail - ure,



With your pas - sion us in - spire. O - ver - come our
From com - pla - cen - cy re - lease! Save us now from
Our tran - quil - i - ty for - give. Teach us cour - age



sin - ful calm - ness, Stir us with your sav - ing name.
sat - is - fac - tion, When we pri - vate - ly are free,
as we strug - gle In all lib - er - at - ing strife.



Bap - tize with your fier - y Spir - it,
Yet are un - dis - turbed in spir - it
Lift the small - ness of our vi - sion



Crown our lives with tongues of flame.
By our neigh - bor's mis - er - y.
By your own a - bun - dant life.

POSTLUDE | | *Der Tag, der ist so Freudenreich*, BWV 605

Johann Sebastian Bach

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.



You're invited to

NATIONAL FAITH & BLUE WEEKEND

Join your local law enforcement and members of your community for a weekend of resolution and reconciliation. National Faith & Blue Weekend is a collaborative effort to build bridges and break biases.

Hosted By:

Boston Police Department, Area D-4
&
Saint Cecilia Church, Back Bay

When & Where:

**AFTER MASS MEET & GREET
WITH D-4 OFFICERS**

Sunday, October 1, 2023
9:30 a.m. Mass

Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere St., Boston



Learn More: WWW.FAITHANDBLUE.ORG



FAITH & BLUE

BostonPolice
DEPARTMENT

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OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, September 30 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Rosaria Salerno, lector

Sunday, October 1 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, celebrant
Esteban Vanegas, lector

Sunday, October 1 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Nikko Mendoza, Ben DeWinter, and Moira Macdonald, lectors

Sunday, October 1 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Megan Altendorf, Zachary Boutin, and Thomas O'Brien, lectors

Sunday, October 1 | 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Jen Kowieski, lector

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, October 1 | 9:30 a.m.

Willard Gelwick, *1st Anniversary*
Ann Guerriero, *Memorial*
Marc deSousa, *Memorial*

Sunday, October 1 | 11:30 a.m.

Patsy McCree, *Memorial*
Robert Peterlin, *Memorial*

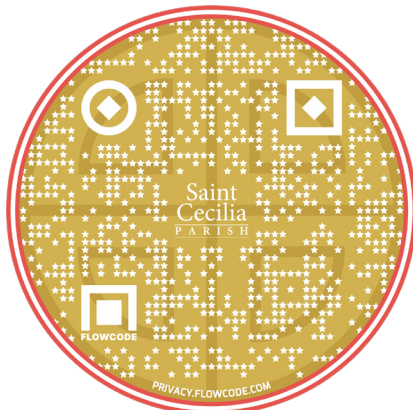
TODAY'S READINGS

Ezekiel 18:25-28
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 21:28-32

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43

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: **Thomas Debele** of Dorchester, **Ellen Ortyl** of Burlington, the **Correia Family** of Newton, **Edima Ottoho** of Boston, **Kate and Joseph Vasinda** of Boston, the **Maloney Family** of Atkinson, New Hampshire, **Andy Moore** of Cumberland Foreside, Maine, **Ronan Rillovick** of Boston, **Kelly Murphy** of Cambridge, **Gina Filloramo** of Boston, **Aleksandra Picariello** of Waltham, the **Lawrence Family** of Milton, and **Rebekah and Josh Neuberger** of Brookline. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Children's Faith Formation Is Back!

Children's Faith Formation began on Sunday, September 24 for grades K through 8. Faith Formation for grades 9 and 10 will begin on Sunday, October 1. To register your children for faith formation, please go to: <https://bit.ly/45BWmLK>. Please note: we need baptismal certificates for all children enrolled in the program and all families must be registered parishioners. If you are not presently registered, there are registration forms in the narthex or you can register online by visiting: <https://www.stceciliaboston.org/joining-our-parish/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please email our new Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Carly-Anne Gannon, at her parish email.

Faith & Blue Weekend

This Sunday, we're welcoming members of the Boston Police Department and their furry friends from the K-9 unit for a meet and greet following the 9:30 Mass as part of National Faith & Blue Weekend. This provides the perfect opportunity for folks to meet with officers in the spirit of building bridges and breaking biases, along with blessing the officers' canines as part of the Blessing of the Animals! We look forward to seeing you!

Coffee Hospitality—Many Hands Make Light Work!

With the return of children's faith formation classes, the

addition of new college students in our midst, and the increased rhythm of the fall season, we need some helping hands in the Parish Cafe 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 at her parish email.

Blessing of the Animals

In commemoration of the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, we will bless animals this Sunday, October 1, at the 9:30 and 11:30 liturgies.

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. The first Sunday of October is known as Respect Life Sunday. 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. During the month of October, the Church invites us to reflect more 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.

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 29th at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston. The Mass includes a vow renewal and a special blessing by the Cardinal. Couples can register here: <https://www.evangelizeboston.com/event/annual-wedding-anniversary-mass-2/>.



Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

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



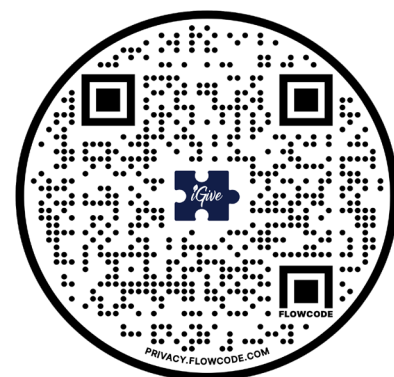
PLEASE SIGN UP FOR *iGive*
OUR RECURRING GIVING
PROGRAM

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!



FATHER JOHN ON IGIVE, OUR RECURRING GIVING PROGRAM

Be The Piece That Brings Us Together!

Dear Friends,

Can you believe it's October already? I hope that summer provided you with some time to relax, refresh, and recharge. We're now back at it in full swing—our ministries are up and running, our children's faith formation program is underway, our choirs are helping lift our voices in praise during worship, and it's the time of year when we make our annual appeal for iGive—our parish recurring giving program. This year, our theme for the iGive campaign is "Be the piece that brings us together."

I've been thinking lately about how our parish is like a mosaic or a magnificent puzzle, with each one of us and our unique gifts contributing to the larger picture of what makes up Saint Cecilia. Whether it's through outreach, faith formation, liturgical ministries, hospitality, or fellowship, each and every piece matters. The completion of our puzzle relies on the collective efforts of all of us—those near and far—coming together to share our own particular gifts and talents—to ensure that we continue to become a community where everyone feels welcomed, supported, spiritually nourished, and challenged to live lives in response to the Gospel message.

I am so grateful to the 105 households who responded to last year's appeal. Thank you! You are helping us become good stewards of the many blessings God continuously pours into our lives.

In order to continue providing our ministries with financial support, and to help our sisters and brothers in need, we rely on sustained and predictable giving. The iGive program helps us budget and plan for the year ahead. It also allows you to choose how frequently you give, and to do so in a convenient and consistent way, whether you are with us here in Boston or are participating from afar. Your generosity will allow us to piece together our programs in an intentional and planned way, ensuring that every ministry and initiative receives the support they need.

We can only complete this puzzle with your help. **This year, our goal during the month of October is the addition of 70 new households to the iGive program.** I hope you will consider becoming one of the pieces that brings us closer to our goal. Your commitment, no matter the size, is a crucial piece of the puzzle that will help shape the future of our parish.

If you would like to enroll in iGive, it's easy! All you need to do is create an online profile by visiting www.stceciliaboston.org/igive. If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Finance and Development, Colleen Melaugh, at cmelaugh@stceciliaboston.org. On behalf of our staff, our parish finance council, and our development committee, thank you for all you do to help us continue to create our beautiful puzzle, pleasing to God.

With gratitude,

Fr. John

Father John, Colleen Melaugh, and the Parish Finance and Development Councils



THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA
OCTOBER 1 – OCTOBER 8

Sunday, October 1

Blessing of the Animals at 9:30 & 11:30 Masses
Faith and Blue at 9:30 Mass
Wisdom Group, in-person at Saint Cecilia, 1:00 p.m.
Far Flung Flock Coffee Hour, 4:00 p.m. via Zoom

Monday, October 2

Returning Citizens, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 3

RCIA, 6:30 p.m.
Holy Hour: 7:00–8:00 p.m. Sanctuary

Wednesday, October 4

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

Thursday, October 5

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

Friday, October 6

Far Flung Flock Retreat Begins!

Sunday, October 7

Wisdom Group, 8:30 a.m. via Zoom
Our Far Flung Flock Flies Home! 1:00 p.m.



CALLING ALL MARRIED
COUPLES—OUR MARRIAGE
MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!

Saturday, October 21/28 | Hybrid

Since our Marriage Ministry's reboot in 2018, 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 at the Marriage Ministry email to learn more. We hope you will join this rewarding ministry!



HOLY HOUR
AT SAINT CECILIA

Tuesday, October 3

7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

"Come to me... and I will give you rest"
Matthew 11:28

Join us on October 3 for a Holy Hour at Saint Cecilia from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Give yourself the gift of spending an uninterrupted hour in the presence of Christ in the Eucharist, supported by music and prayer led by our young adult parishioners. Bring yourself, and all that you are carrying, to be in the presence of Christ, and allow yourself to rest in God's love.



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 MORE ABOUT THE CONFLUENCE OF POVERTY, IMMIGRATION, AND HOMELESSNESS

Thursday, October 5 at 6:30 p.m. ET | Hybrid

Join *A Faith That Does Justice* for a conversation with Dr. Geralde Gabeau, Founder and Executive Director of Immigrant Family Services Institute (IFSI-USA), Jeff Thielman, President and CEO of the International Institute of New England, and Suzanne Giovanetti, CEO of the Plymouth Area Coalition for the Homeless. This discussion will be moderated by Fr. Peter Gyves, SJ, MD, Executive Director of *A Faith That Does Justice*, and will inform how poverty, immigration, and homelessness intersect and offer solutions to improve housing and economic security for immigrants. Register at <https://bit.ly/3Eu5ehd> to join the livestream. Or, register at <https://bit.ly/3P4cBAX> to join in person at Emanuel Church, 15 Newbury St, Boston, MA.

ONLINE COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, October 1, at 4:00 p.m. ET | Zoom

Our Remote Fellowship Community (the Saint Cecilia Far-Flung Flock) is very excited to announce that Fr. John Unni will be their guest for the October online coffee hour. This marks the two-year anniversary of this vibrant community of remote parishioners and they're so excited to celebrate this milestone with Fr. John.

If you have not registered or attended any online coffee hour in the past, you must register for the FFF email list with this link (<https://bit.ly/45pDVRa>). You will get an email with the Zoom link a few days before the call. It's important to add the FFF email to your contacts to prevent these emails from going into your spam or junk folders. NOTE: Be sure to fill out the registration form correctly—some people have inadvertently omitted their email address or typed their address incorrectly when registering and, therefore, will not receive any communications.

FOLLOW AMERICA'S EXCLUSIVE COVERAGE OF THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

America is sending a team of editors to cover the Synod on Synodality. Joining veteran Vatican reporter Gerry O'Connell in Rome will be:

- Ashley McKinless and Zac Davis, the hosts of the “Jesuitical” podcast
- Colleen Dulle, host of the “Inside the Vatican” podcast
- America's executive editor for audio and video, Sebastian Gomes (Sebastian is also a Saint Cecilia parishioner!)

You may have seen that James Martin, S.J., America's editor at large, is also participating as one of Pope Francis' picks as a delegate to the synod. Throughout the synod, you can expect the following:

- **Expert analysis:** Gerard O'Connell will provide his expert analysis, bringing his extensive background and sourcing to you to help make sense of the proceedings
- **Podcasts:** “Inside the Vatican” and “Jesuitical” will produce multiple episodes per week, covering the synod and talking with experts and participants
- **“Synod Diary” Newsletter:** Every day, the America team on the ground will bring a short reflection on the synod and surrounding events in Rome, right to your inbox. (This newsletter will be exclusive to subscribers.)

The best way to follow and support all of this synod coverage is to subscribe to *America*. Visit www.americamagazine.org/synod



Classroom Locations for Children's Faith Formation

Kindergarten & Grade 1
Community Room (after the Gospel)

Grade 2 – Classroom 4 (10:40 a.m.)

Grades 3/4 – Classroom 3 (10:40 a.m.)

Grades 5/6 – Classroom 2 (10:40 a.m.)

Grades 7/8 – Classroom 2 (4:30-5:45 p.m.)

Grades 9/10 – Classroom 4 (4:30-5:45 p.m.)

A REMINDER TO PARENTS

While at Saint Cecilia, children should never go to the restrooms alone. We are happy that you feel so safe here, but please remember that we are in an urban building that is quite open and has multiple entrances. For the safety of our children, please do not allow them to wander around unsupervised and please do not ever allow them to go to the restroom unaccompanied by a parent.

JOIN WISDOM & MATURE SPIRITUALITY THIS SUNDAY!

This Sunday, our Wisdom and Mature Spirituality Group is meeting in person in the Community Room after the 11:30 Mass to read *Hidden Wings: Emerging from Troubled Times with New Hope and Deeper Wisdom* by Margaret Silf. Normally this group is only for folks in the second half of life, but given the relevance of this title, the group is welcoming younger folks into their fold for conversations about this profound book. The group meets twice weekly on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. The first Sunday of the month, the group meets in person in the Community Room after the 11:30 Sunday Mass. Through their time together, the group deepens their spirituality roots, encounters God, creates friendships, and, when moved by the spirit, discusses social justice issues. Feel free to drop in anytime. Please email Deb Garcia the Wisdom and Mature Spirituality email account for more information.

SAINT CECILIA CLIMATE JUSTICE MINISTRY UPDATES

October 4 is the end of the Season of Creation, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, and the date when Pope Francis will release 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! Contact the Climate Justice Ministry via their parish email account for more information.

St. Francis of Assisi, though he was born into wealth and enjoyed a life of luxury for years, ultimately renounced his worldly possessions following a mystical experience. He lived in poverty in harmony with man and nature and is the patron saint of the environment and animals. We look forward to celebrating the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi through the Blessing of the Animals!

Because of the threat of global warming and damage to the ecosystem from industrialization, our society has to have its own conversion. We can not continue as we always have. We can care for Creation by reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, converting our homes to use only renewable energy, eating a more plant-based diet, walking or taking public transportation, and advocating for change.

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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.





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 at the Hunger and Homelessness Ministry email account.

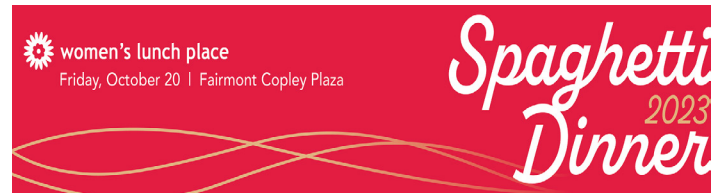


CELEBRATE HEALTH EQUITY INTERNATIONAL

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>.

HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS MINISTRY: DRIVERS NEEDED

Each weekend parishioners have the opportunity to pick up donated meats, dairy products, prepared foods, and produce from four local supermarkets and deliver them to either Catholic Charities' Haitian Multi-Service Center in Dorchester or the Huntington Y's Families in Transition program. In addition, we deliver parish donations to two Dorchester pantries on Saturdays: the Mary Ann Brett Pantry and the Catholic Charities pantry. This vital ministry takes place at 8:00 a.m. every Saturday and Sunday morning, and on Sundays can be completed in time to attend or livestream the 9:30 a.m. Mass. We need drivers for all the Saturdays and Sundays in October and November. Please email Mark Lippolt (insert my H&H email here) if you would like more information about how you can help.



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 at the Hunger and Homelessness Ministry email account. Tickets are \$250 each. The WLP is also looking for folks who would like to purchase full tables or serve as a table captain.



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 PM 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>.

SAVE THE DATE: 15TH ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN CONVOCATION

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

The focus will be these questions: Why does Poverty exist? What can we do together to alleviate the ROOT CAUSES of Poverty? To register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pJhv-IO1SKiVEUO5D1VYHA#/registration



ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY & MINISTRY

CAMPUS EVENTS/WEBINARS

Spiritual Friendship: Modern Catholic Reflections on a Universal Theme

Presenter: Brenna Moore, professor, Department of Theology, Fordham University, and author of *Kindred Spirits: Friendship and Resistance at the Edges of Modern Catholicism* | Wednesday, October 5 | 5:30–7:00 p.m. | Hybrid | Boston College, Theology and Ministry Library Auditorium, 117 Lake Street, Brighton Campus | Registration Required | Free

No Synodal Church Without Catechetical Reform

Presenter: Hosffman Ospino, associate professor of Hispanic ministry and religious education, chair of the department of religious education and pastoral ministry, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry | Wednesday, October 12 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. | Hybrid | Boston College, Corcoran Commons, Heights Room, Chestnut Hill Campus | Registration Required | Free

To learn more and register, visit the STM website: <https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education/featured-events.html>

ONLINE COURSES

1. Old Testament Narrative

2. Autumn Blessings: Spirituality for the Second Half of Life
October 4 – November 7 | 5-Week Online Course Registration Required | \$60.00

1. Ignatian Spirituality

2. Mission And Spirituality: A Xaverian Journey
October 4 – November 14 | 6-Week Online Course Registration Required | \$60.00

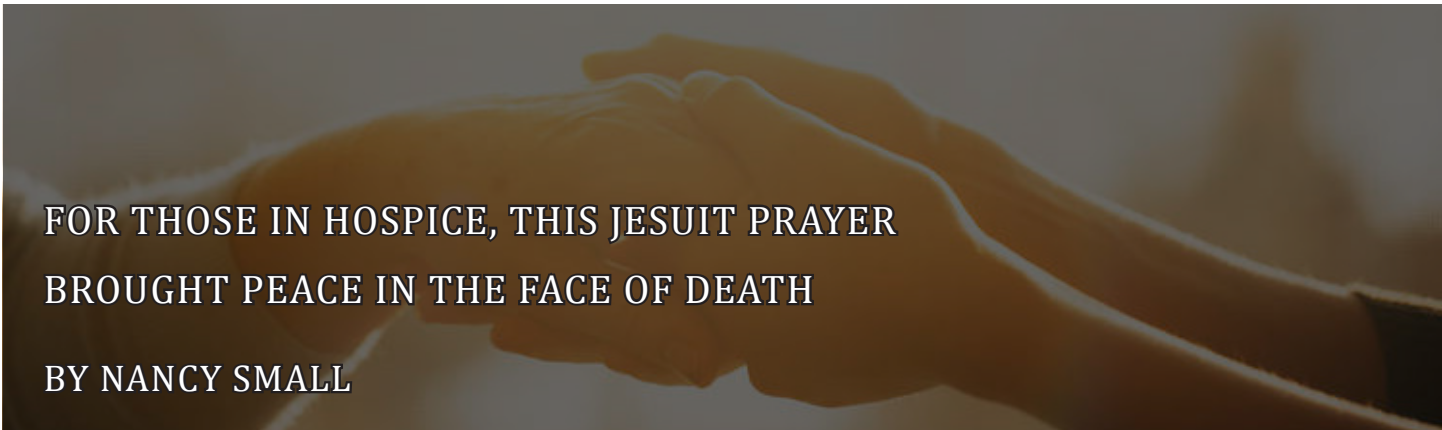
To learn more and register, visit the STM Crossroads website: https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education.html#tab-stm_online_crossroads

SAINT SUSANNA PARISH — DEDHAM

Life Behind Prison Walls and the Need for Reform

Presenters: Ruth Raichle, of Bethany House Ministries, Dr. Kathleen Dennehy and Paul Robinson
Monday, October 2 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Zoom

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



FOR THOSE IN HOSPICE, THIS JESUIT PRAYER BROUGHT PEACE IN THE FACE OF DEATH

BY NANCY SMALL

Bulletin Editor's Note: We at Saint Cecilia Parish would like to offer special gratitude to our CARES Ministers who accompany the elderly, sick, and dying on all stages of their life journey.

I once heard an older Jesuit quip, "I asked God to take my memory...and he did!" He was referring to the Ignatian Suscipe, which begins, "Take Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory." Situated within the Fourth Week of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, it is a prayer of one who has taken a deep dive into the sea of God's limitless love. Awed by the immensity of this love, the person is moved to mouth these poignant words of surrender, returning all that God has given with loving abandon.

Another Jesuit calls the Suscipe (the word is Latin for "receive") the hardest prayer in the Spiritual Exercises:

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all that I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To you, Lord, I return it. Dispose of it wholly according to your will. Give me only your love and your grace, that is enough for me.

Indeed, giving God all that we possess is pretty monumental. And offering God our entire will is a prospect that seems more daunting than doable. I can relate to people who hand their will and their lives over to God on their knees every morning, and by the time they stand up, they've yanked both of them back. But years ago I discovered a setting where the Suscipe summoned more relief than it did resistance.

When I served as a hospice chaplain, I encountered a steady stream of people struggling to stay afloat in a tidal wave of loss. Much of life as they knew it was being stripped away by terminal illness. Things like their livelihoods. Their independence and sense of identity. Meaningful activities that gave them a sense of self-worth and purpose. Causes that were close to their hearts. Cherished rituals with loved

ones. Dreams for the future that fizzled. Parts of their bodies that were taken for granted until they no longer functioned properly.

People spoke of these losses as though the pieces of their lives had disappeared into some giant void which caused them to feel empty, disoriented and discouraged. I was convinced that there must be a better way for them to relate to these losses, but I did not know what that might be. So I prayed about it, and what came to mind was the Suscipe.

"Take, Lord, receive...." Such powerful words, these three. Yet the dynamics involved in giving and receiving differ greatly. When we beseech God to take something from us, we expect God to initiate the next step. But when we invite God to receive, we initiate the next step. We assert our spiritual agency by choosing to hand something over to God.

This subtle shift is significant for those who are terminally ill. Most have experienced things being taken from them without their consent as their disease progresses. They often speak of their illness as a thief that robs them of what they love. Many understandably grow resistant to the notion of taking, even when it comes to God.

Seeing God as a holy ally who readily receives what they offer opens up liminal space in a loving way.

When we prayed, I invited them to name things they cherished and that they lost due to illness. Then we honored each of these precious parts of their lives. For the person who could no longer walk, we celebrated how their legs had carried them along the path of life and stood strong amid each challenge they faced. For those whose athletic prowess led them to championship trophies, we recalled the joy they experienced as they glorified God in their bodies. For those who worked for the greater good, we honored their unique contributions to bringing forth God's harvest of justice.

Then we placed these losses into the hands of the God who tenderly knit them together in their mother's womb. We prayed that God graciously receive back these parts of themselves and their lives that illness had taken away. I encouraged them to imagine God gently caressing their offering. Let us ask God to hold this part of you for safekeeping, I would say, and bless this sacred part of your life and your legacy.

Tears often flowed as we prayed. Finally, their losses found a home, no longer rattling around in the recesses of their being. They were received by a God who weeps over our losses and enfolds us in a sheltering embrace. And in that warm embrace, their troubled souls found relief.

Entrusting their liberty to God softened the blow of becoming increasingly dependent on others. Asking the God who never forgets us to cradle their mixed-up minds and faltering memories soothed their mental anguish. Their understanding was overshadowed by thick clouds of unknowing, so it brought relief to give it to a God whose knowing surpasses all human understanding.

But when it came to handing over their will in its entirety, they struggled. For most, their will played a pivotal role in their ability to keep on going as their physical health declined. Many had beat the odds associated with life expectancy and seemed to live on sheer willpower alone. It was as if they hoisted their sails high each day to catch every wisp of wind that could carry them just a little further. How could they surrender such a driving force in their lives?

This hardest surrender happened little by little. Each time they handed over a part of life they had lost, they placed it squarely in the lap of God. The more of themselves they entrusted to God, the more they came to trust God. Giving God what they treasured led them to a deeper experience of God's incarnate love.

They related to the humanity of Jesus when he begged God to take away the cup of agony. They found solace in Christ who understood the depths of their suffering and touched their wounds in a way no other could. They felt solidarity with Jesus who relinquished his human dreams and prepared to die. They pinned their hopes for resurrection upon Christ's outstretched arms on the cross, fervently praying that he would prepare a place for them in paradise.

Eventually, the moment came when it was harder to resist giving their will to God than it was to hand over their will. Their resistance melted in the warmth of God's merciful invitation to lay down their burdens and find rest for their

souls. This was the moment of utter surrender, when the will that had undergirded every achievement, the will that had urged them on in the face of adversity, released its restless hold on life and rested in God alone.

Did I mouth the exact words of the Suscipe as I prayed with those whose earthly lives were ending? Not always. But I invited them into the pervasive love of God that persuades one to surrender all they have and hold, a love that compels and completes us, drawing us like a magnet toward Holy Mystery. What I witnessed in the process was a profound sense of the suscipe's final words becoming fully alive. *Give me only your love and your grace. That is enough for me.* Emptied of all they could possibly give, God's infinite love and intimate grace finally became enough as they stared into the face of eternity.

~ Nancy Small is a spiritual director, retreat leader and a staff member at the Office of Ignatian Spirituality. She ministered as a hospice chaplain for twelve years. She serves as an Ambassador of Peace with Pax Christi USA, the national Catholic peace movement, and lives with her husband in Worcester, Mass.



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

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, OMF

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!