Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

16 January 2022

The Wedding at Cana
Paolo Veronese
Refrain

(English) Come, come to the banquet. Come,
(Bilingual) Ven, ven al ban-que-te. Vén a la
(Spanish) Ven, ven al ban-que-te. Vén a la

come to the feast. Here the hungry find plen-
fies-ta de Dios. Here the hungry find plen-
y, here the thirsty shall drink. Here at the
bre y sed se-rán sa-cia-dos. Ven a la

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

Final ending

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

Verses

1. Like the child whose fishes and loaves fed the
¿Quién le pue-de dar de com-er a la
2. Til the seed is given to earth, it is
Hay que dar-se a mò-rir pa-ra
3. In the stranger by our side, in the
Los de-san-pa-ra-dos ven-drán a par-
CALL TO WORSHIP

* In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

* The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.
GLORIA | Mass of Renewal

Curtis Stephan

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and on earth peace to peo-ple
of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we ad-
dore you, we glo-ri-fy you, we give you
thanks for your great glo-ry, Lord God, heav-en-ly
King, O God, al-might-y Fa-ther.

Lord Je-sus Christ, On-ly Be-got-ten Son, Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther, you take a-
way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us; you take a-
way the sins of the world, re-cent our prayer; you are seat-ed
at the right hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-
cy, have mer-cy on us. For you a-lone are the
COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Isaiah 62: 1-5

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 96: Proclaim His Marvelous Deeds

1. O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

2. Proclaim his salvation day by day. Tell among the nations his glory, and his wonders among all the peoples.

3. Give the Lord, you families of people, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name.

4. Worship the Lord in holy splendor. O tremble before him, all the earth. Say to the nations, “The Lord is king.” He will judge the peoples in fairness.

SECOND READING | 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11
GOSPEL | John 2: 1-11

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 PRAYER
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 | Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

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 | Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven Janco

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven Janco

GREAT AMEN | Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven Janco
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 | Mass of the Angels and Saints

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.” During this time when we are not able to celebrate the Eucharist together in person, 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. Amen.
Communion Meditation | Set Me as a Seal

Set me as a seal upon thine heart,
as a seal upon thine arm:
for love is strong as death.

(b. 1981)
Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.

CONCLUDING RITES

* The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.
* May almighty God bless you, the Father, (‡) and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.
* Go forth, the Mass is ended.
* All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL | Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

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1. Diverse in culture, nation, race, We
2. God, let us be a bridge of care Con -
3. When storms widen, storms arise, O
4. God, let us be a table spread With
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come together by your grace. God, let us be a
necting people every where. Help us confront all
Holy Spirit, make us wise. Let our resolve, like
gifts of love and broken bread, Where all find welcome,
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meeting ground Where hope and healing love are found.
fear and hate And lust for power that separate.
steel, be strong To stand with those who suffer wrong.
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grace attends, And enemies arise as friends.
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*May be sung as a two- or four-voice canon.

POSTLUDE | Hommage à Frescobaldi

Jean Langlais
(1907-1991)

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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 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.

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.
THE SAINT CECILIA ADULT FAITH FORMATION COMMISSION IS PLEASED TO PRESENT A VIRTUAL GUEST SPEAKER EVENT

CAN GOD BE FOUND IN POLITICS?—CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP AND THE COMMON GOOD

NICHOLAS HAYES–MOTA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022
6:00 P.M.

This presentation will be entirely virtual and will take place on Zoom. To register and be sent the Zoom link, please email Ed DeMers (edward_demers@hotmail.com).

Following the presentation there will be some time for questions and answers.

Nicholas Hayes–Mota is a doctoral candidate in Theological Ethics at Boston College. His dissertation examines the possibility of a “politics of the common good” in contemporary liberal democracies and draws on community organizing and Catholic Social Teaching to propose a way forward. Nicholas’ scholarship is informed by his ten years as a teacher and practitioner of faith-based community organizing, as well as his lay ministry in a variety of parish and university contexts. He presently serves as a trainer with the Leading Change Network (LCN), and as a facilitator with the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO)—the Boston affiliate of the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF). Nicholas received his AB from Harvard College and his MDiv from Harvard Divinity School.
SAINT CECILIA PARISH

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, January 15 | 5:00 p.m.
Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Emily Bogert, lector

Sunday, January 16 | 8:00 a.m.
Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Emily St. Germain, lector

Sunday, January 16 | 9:30 a.m.
Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Louisa Essmann, Thomas O'Brien, and
Rosaria Salerno, lectors

Sunday, January 16 | 11:30 a.m.
Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Ben DeWinter and Sarra Hajjaj, lectors

Sunday, January 16 | 6:00 p.m.
Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Matthew Duprey and Pat Scofield, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 15 | 5:00 p.m.
Delia Conlon, Memorial
Jimmy Bellofatto, Special Intention

Sunday, January 16 | 8:00 a.m.
Jimmy Bellofatto, Special Intention

Sunday, January 16 | 9:30 a.m.
Erin Marie VanFlandern, 7th Anniversary
Eleanor Mooney Dahar, Memorial
Grace Rett, 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, January 16 | 6:00 p.m.
Chris Eitzmann, Memorial

Wednesday, January 19 | 8:00 a.m.
James E. Stevenson, 1st Anniversary

THIS SUNDAY’S READINGS
Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Corinthians 12:4-11
John 2:1-12

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS
Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10
1 Corinthians 12:12-30
Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21
PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick
Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially Mary Pickering, Delia Alvarez, Charlie Naughton, Peter Tracy, MaryAnn Weber, Bob Haas, Bob Roppolo, Christopher Gobron, Joy Gilbert, Mary Walters, John Powers, Marc Pelletier, Larry Murphy, Josephine Mason, Marian Licameli, Ray Cronin, Rosalind Sica, Nicholas Collins, Eileen Bolesky, and Liam Nedell.

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish
We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our parish who have recently registered: Will Moore & Hayden Densmore of Boston, Julie Mikush of Cambridge, Emma Carroll of Natick, Emily Stengel & Cody Davis of Hampstead, North Carolina, Katie Sheldon-Medeiros and Jeremy Medeiros of Watertown, Kaitlyn & Kevin Martins of Boston, Michael Monte of Natick, Audrey Dawson of Boston, Kate Mitchell of Medford, Cameron McCauley of Brighton, and Gregory Margida of Boston. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Second Collection
Next week’s second collection supports the Church in Latin America (CLA). The CLA provides support for pastoral projects in financially poorer dioceses in Latin America and the Caribbean. CLA funds catechetical and lay leadership programs, youth ministry, evangelization programs, and formation programs for religious, priests, and deacons. Please visit www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/latin-america/index.cfm for more information. Or donate here: https://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/funds/second-collection-church-in-latin-america

Road to Social Equity Report
If you’re on our mailing list, you’ve already received the final report with the findings from our parish-wide survey and focus groups. You can also read the report on our website. We hope you’ll take the time to read it in full, as there are many meaningful insights about who we are as a community.

Now that we have this foundational information we’ll be turning it into a strategic plan. There will be opportunities for each of our ministries to learn more. If you’re not in a ministry or the time of that presentation doesn’t work for you, please mark your calendars for one of the following open info sessions: Sunday, January 23, at 2:00 EST or Thursday, January 27 at 6:00 EST. To learn more or to get involved with this process, please email lbennett@stceciliaboston.org.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Tomorrow, January 17, we celebrate the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. This is a day for praying for the rediscovery of lost values and for the courage to stand in opposition to hatred and prejudice in all its forms. This holiday is also known as a “Day ON, not a Day OFF,” and while the usual activities may not be available due to COVID, we encourage you to read, reflect, and donate, in service of racial equity, antiracism, and dismantling the systems of oppression that are still so prevalent in our society.

Parish Offices Closed Tomorrow
Please note that the Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, January 17 in observance of MLK Day.

For an End to Racism
Pray that our parish may cultivate welcome, extend hospitality, and encourage the participation of people of all cultures, ethnicities, and backgrounds. And pray that we respond boldly to the Holy Spirit’s call to act together to end violence and racism.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on Tuesday, January 18, and ends on Friday, January 25. Since 1908, this week has been dedicated to prayer for Christian unity. This is a time for the worldwide Christian community to pray in communion with the prayer of Jesus “that they all may be one” (John 17:21).

LITURGY OF THE HOURS
Please join us for Evening Prayer & Morning Prayer

Friday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m.
Memorial of Saint Agnes

Tuesday, January 25 at 6:30 p.m.
Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul

Tuesday, February 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Vigil of the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Saturday, February 5 at 9:00 a.m.
Memorial of Saint Agatha

Friday, February 11 at 6:30 p.m.
Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes

Tuesday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m.
Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter

TAÏZÉ PRAYER
Please join us as we mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Saturday, January 22 at 6:30 p.m.
A meditative hour of song, scripture, and silence.
**SAINT CECILIA PARISH**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MEMORIAL BREAKFAST**

**Monday, January 17, 2022 | 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Boston Convention and Exhibition Center & Online**

This year’s MLK Breakfast will be a hybrid event with both in-person and online components. This vibrant and passion-filled program will pay tribute to Black women throughout history who have shepherded the dream of social justice. In partnership with Northeastern University, the 52nd annual breakfast will include a celebratory program and an extended program of virtual teach-ins (informal lectures and discussions on subjects of public interest). Tickets for the in-person breakfast are $50. Please note that there are a limited number of tickets available for the breakfast event at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center.

This year’s theme is "From Resistance to Representation: Black Women Proving the Dream" and the keynote speaker is historian, Harvard Law professor, and NYT bestselling author Annette Gordon-Reed. You may register by visiting: https://bostonmlkbreakfast.org.

**LGBTQ CATHOLICS UNITE MONTHLY MEETING**

**Sunday, January 23 | 1:30 p.m. | Community Room and Zoom Virtual Meeting**

LGBTQ Catholics Unite provides an opportunity for LGBTQ Catholics and friends to gather and openly discuss relevant topics, scripture, and current events. This month Fr. Paul Sullivan, SJ will facilitate a discussion on the "Discernment of Spirits.” Fr. Paul will lead a discussion on Ignatius’ insights into the human heart and mind in making prayerful decisions. Fr. Paul is pastor of Our Lady of Hope Parish and St. Brigid School in Portland, ME. He has served in parish and high school ministry, and as a spiritual director at Eastern Point Retreat House. LGBTQ Catholics Unite provides a forum in which to share faith experiences, thoughts, beliefs, and feelings. We hope attendees will feel supported, heard, and spiritually nourished. All, including allies, are welcome! If you are interested in receiving info on how to connect via Zoom, please email stceciliarainbowministry@gmail.com.

**THE CHOSEN SEASON 2**

January 25, February 8, 22 | 6:00 p.m. | On Zoom

*The Chosen* is the first multi-season series about the life of Christ. If you haven’t seen season one yet, we highly recommend it (you can watch it for free on *The Chosen* app). Although, you don’t need to watch it before seeing season two—we’ll be sure to catch you up! Due to COVID case numbers we’re meeting online on Zoom as is the case with all parish ministries. Each episode is about one hour long and afterwards there will be a short discussion. If you plan to attend, please email johannathehappy@gmail.com.

**Wisdom and Mature Spirituality**

The Wisdom and Mature Spirituality is now reading *Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps* by Fr. Richard Rohr. In this inspiring and deep book, Fr. Rohr ties gospel principles to the Twelve Steps to help free all – addicted or not – of any spiritual obstacles to a deeper relationship with God and more active living out of the gospel. The Wisdom group is always happy to welcome new members in the second half of life. If you’d like to join us Sunday morning via Zoom 8:30-9:30 for fellowship and conversation, please email Deb Garcia sc.wisdomandmaturespirituality@gmail.com.

**UPCOMING YOUNG ADULT EVENTS**

**AFFC develops and promotes opportunities for lifelong faith formation for the members of the Saint Cecilia Parish community.**

**To learn more, please contact Scott MacDonald. smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org**
UPDATE ON OUR AFGHAN FAMILIES

Family members and volunteers enjoying the fresh snow!

The first family arrived on Wednesday, December 29 and was welcomed by a small group of parishioners from the Paulist Center and Saint Cecilia POWIR* site. They are settling into their new home and now begin the difficult journey of starting a new life. This family speaks Dari. They all arrived having learned how to say “My name is” in English. As we help them adjust, it would be good for us to learn a few phrases. A typical Muslim greeting in Arabic is Assalamu alaykum meaning ‘hello’ or more literally, ‘peace be upon you.’ The usual response is Wa-Alaikum-Salam, ‘and unto you peace’. Our second family is expected by the end of January.

Volunteers have already furnished the home, set up benefits, brought the family grocery and clothing shopping, and even took the family to Castle Island to sled and see the beach for the very first time!

Thanks to tremendous generosity from our communities, we have met our fundraising goal of $100,000. Our most immediate need is gift cards for groceries, clothing, pharmacies, and pre-loaded Charlie Cards. For more information about how to make these gift card donations, learn about Afghan culture, donate funds, volunteer, or purchase items from our Amazon wish list, go to http://bit.ly/PC-SC-help. Once volunteers have registered, they will be invited to an online orientation training session.

The next article in our series of resources is from the UN Refugee Agency, "Explaining the Refugee Crisis" https://www.unrefugees.org/news/afghanistan-refugee-crisis-explained/

In the coming weeks, we will continue to link to articles and videos so that we may begin to understand a different culture and be sensitive to the complications of being in a new place with unfamiliar customs.

*POWIR stands for “Partners Organized to Welcome Immigrants and Refugees”.

Contact us with questions: sc.socialracialjustice@gmail.com. Thank you again for your generosity and kindness.

SUPPORT AFGHAN REFUGEES

For the past five years, our parish has provided ongoing support to Catholic Charities’ Refugee and Immigration Services. We have offered to provide refugee families with supermarket gift cards so that they will have food while their applications for political asylum are processed. For the months of January and February, all the gift cards we collect will be given to the two Afghan families that our parish is helping resettle in Quincy and Dorchester. If you would like to purchase gift cards to Market Basket, Stop & Shop, or Shaw’s/Star Markets — and no more than $25 per card — please feel free to drop them in the offertory basket at Mass or mail them to: Mark Lippolt, Saint Cecilia Parish, 18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115.

THANK YOU

Many thanks to everyone who stopped at the holiday wreath table on Sunday, December 19 to purchase a beautiful decoration handmade by students at Mount Alvernia High School, or make a donation. As a result of your generosity, more than $1,300 was raised to support Saint Cecilia Parish’s work, in collaboration with the Paulist Center, to resettle Afghan refugees.

RECOMMENDED READING

Saint Cecilia has been blessed over the years with assisting clergy who are members of local religious communities, including the Oblates of the Virgin Mary, the Congregation of Holy Cross, and especially the Jesuits. In his homilies over the past couple of weeks, Father John has referenced books written by Jesuits. Awareness was written by Father Anthony de Mello (1931-1987), an Indian Jesuit priest and psychotherapist.

Back in 2012, Saint Cecilia was fortunate to have Father Gregory Boyle, S. J. speak at our parish. Father Boyle is the founder and director of Homeboy Industries, the world’s largest gang intervention and rehabilitation program, headquartered in Los Angeles. Father John has recently quoted from two of Father Boyle’s books: Tattoos on the Heart and The Whole Language: The Power of Extravagant Tenderness.
OFFERINGS FROM PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral care is offering three different support groups in February: grief support, caregiver support and chronic illness support. Groups will be limited to 6-8 participants, meeting on Zoom, with an initial commitment of 8 weeks. For more information please contact Giovanna at gfranchi@stceciliaboston.org or (857) 317-3823.

ARE YOU AN ADULT WHO HAS NEVER BEEN CONFIRMED?

Are you an adult Catholic who has been baptized and received first communion, but was never confirmed? If so, perhaps this is the right time. This year’s Central Region adult confirmation will take place on Monday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Catherine of Genoa Church (Sts. Louis & Zelie Martin Parish) in Somerville.

This winter we will be offering a class at Saint Cecilia for adults who wish to prepare for the sacrament of confirmation. If you would like more information or would like to register for this class, please contact Scott MacDonald at smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org.

WINTER WALK BOSTON

Ending homelessness is within our reach! For the sixth year, a consortium of agencies focused on homelessness, including Pine Street Inn, Boston Health Care for the Homeless, Y2Y Harvard Square, and common cathedral are sponsoring a 2-mile fundraising walk through the streets of Boston. The event takes place on Sunday, February 13 at 8:30 a.m. and begins at Copley Square Plaza, Back Bay. It is hoped that each adult walker will raise $100—either by paying it as a registration fee or raising it from friends and family. There is a Saint Cecilia team again this year—we’ve participated each year since the event began—and if you would like to join us, please go to: https://secure.qgiv.com/event/winterwalk22/register/form/registration

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SAINT CECILIA CARES

Our parish helps the folks who are visited by members of our Saint Cecilia Cares ministry team. Each year, the Cares ministers package up sets of Christmas/holiday cards for them. Given that many of those the Cares team visits are experiencing poverty or have mobility issues, these cards were greatly appreciated. While many stores are having 50% off sales, you might consider picking up a box (only one box per person, please) of cards for us to use next year. There will be a bin in the narthex for this purpose.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIRTUAL EVENTS

BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

Why a Synod on Synodality?
Presenters: Dr. Kristin Colberg of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University, and Dr. Rafael Luciani of the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry and Expert to the Latin American Episcopal Council.

Thursday, January 20 | 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. | Registration Required | Free of charge

For further details or to register for this event, please check the School of Theology and Ministry website: https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education/campus-events.html

Resurrection Hope in a Time of Crucifying Black Death
Presenter: Kelly Brown Douglas. Dean of the Episcopal Divinity School at Union Theological Seminary and Professor of Theology at Union College. This lecture will be based on her latest book, Resurrection Hope: A Future Where Black Lives Matter, followed by an audience Q&A.

Tuesday, February 2, 2022 | 7:00 p.m. | Webinar by Zoom | Registration Required | Free of charge

For further details or to register for this event, please check the Lowell Humanities Series: https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/academics/sites/lowell-humanities-series.html

SPRING 2022 ONLINE COURSES

Christian Faith and Moral Character
January 26 – March 1 | 5-Week Online Course | Registration Required | $60.00

History of The Church II: The Reformation to Vatican II
January 26 – March 1 | 5-Week Online Course | Registration Required | $60.00

For further details or to register for these events, please check the STM Online: Crossroads Website: https://bostoncollege-stm.catalog.instructure.com/

SAINT SUSANNA PARISH — DEDHAM

On The East / West Schism
Presenter: Nate DesRosiers, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Religious Studies at Stonehill College

Monday, January 31 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Zoom Presentation

For further details on this presentation, please check the website: https://www.saintsusanna.org/Attachments/aff_yearly_program_standard.pdf
On most days, at some point, I can be seen walking down the street carrying a bag of poop. This would be a much stranger sight if I didn’t also have one or both of our dogs walking beside me. Yet I find that this small, simple act of dog ownership helps on the humility front. It’s hard to have an outsized view of yourself when you literally carry dog poop around town in a brightly colored bag on a daily basis.

As Americans, we’re generally not too big on humility. We’re more into keeping up appearances and keeping up with the Joneses. We’re taught to seize the day, that might makes right, that only the strong survive. Rather than lifting up humility as a virtue, we’re more inclined to equate humility with weakness.

And that’s too bad. Because if we all genuinely embraced humility, I’m pretty sure the world in which we live would be a much more enjoyable place these days.

Maintaining a healthy and realistic view of one’s own importance isn’t about low self-esteem or self-renunciation. Rather, it’s about lifting others up, leaving space for those beyond ourselves to function more fully in the world around us. It’s about listening to voices besides our own and opening ourselves up to differing viewpoints.

Perhaps not surprisingly, I believe our current political landscape could use a dose of humility. Our politicians could stand to dial back the self-aggrandizement, and people on all sides might recognize that they may, even occasionally, not have all the answers. The amplification of one’s own views on social media surely doesn’t help with the ensuing divisiveness.

From a faith perspective, without humility we tend to forget our place in the world. Our self-righteousness can take over and we slowly, but surely put ourselves on the same plane with God, rather than taking our place as humble servants of God. Which, in the religion business, is called sin.

Of course, even faith leaders are not immune to a lack of humility. Joel Osteen drives a Ferrari. There are clerics who revel in the opulence of their office, more concerned with status than service. Which doesn’t leave much room for humility, for giving away power and prestige, rather than stockpiling it. Nor does it speak to the one who humbled himself on a cross.

Embracing humility doesn’t mean spiritual groveling. We are indeed worthy to stand before God, and we should live with the sure confidence that we are truly and wholly loved by God. But setting ourselves over and above other members of God’s creation is neither spiritually sustainable nor how God intends for us to walk through this world. Which is easy to forget in this age of self-affirmation and self-reliance and self-indulgence and self-justification.

What is it that keeps you humble? It may be walking down Main Street carrying a bag of poop; it may be listening to others before sharing your opinion on Facebook; it may be acknowledging a mistake at work rather than blaming a co-worker.

I invite you to reflect upon ways that you might walk more humbly through this world of ours. Dogs, of course, are optional.

~ The Rev. Tim Schenck, rector of the Episcopal Parish of St. John the Evangelist in Hingham, Massachusetts, is a priest, author, syndicated columnist, blogger, and creator of the online devotional Lent Madness. You can read his blog at www.clergyconfidential.com. Tim is pictured below.
SAINT CECILIA PARISH

PARISH RESOURCES

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E-mail | info@stceciliaboston.org
Website | www.stceciliaboston.org

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Assisting Clergy
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Rev. Peter Grover, OMV
Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ

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.

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.

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 Scott MacDonald in the Parish Office.

Marriage
Couples who wish to prepare for marriage should contact Mark Donohoe in the Parish Office at least six months in advance.

Care of the Sick
To arrange for the Sacrament of the Sick, for Holy Communion to be brought to those unable to attend the Sunday celebration, or for Viaticum for the Dying (Holy Communion for those in danger of death), please contact the Parish Office. It is always possible to anoint the sick during regularly scheduled liturgies.

Order of Christian Funerals
The parish is prepared to celebrate the Vigil (wake) in the church. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team
The CAP Team is responsible for training all parish staff and volunteers in mandated reporting laws and the Protecting God’s Children program (VIRTUS). They also provide consultation and support to anyone in the parish who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Lois Flaherty (loisflaherty@gmail.com), Maria Roche (maria.roche15@gmail.com), Letitia Howland (l_howland@hotmail.com), or Erin Young (erin.t.young@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

The Archdiocese of Boston has in place a vigorous program to protect children from harm and to educate its ministers and faithful about the nature of abuse, with a goal of increasing knowledge, creating a safe environment for children, and recognizing and reporting potentially dangerous situations. The full text of the policy is also available in the narthex and Parish Office, as well as on our website.

For Those with Celiac Disease
If you have celiac disease, please let us know. We have a supply of low-gluten altar bread available for those who cannot tolerate gluten.

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

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

Parking
There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski’s Tavern), for $11, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and $14 after 4:00 every day of the week. To take advantage of this discount, ask one of our greeters 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, first place the ticket you received upon entering the garage into the machine, then follow it with the chaser ticket.

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 other states as well as other countries. If you are local, please introduce yourself to a staff member or drop in for coffee on Sunday. 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.
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“He has risen.” Matt 28:6

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