

# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Jesus Appears on the Shore: The Calling

by Nicholas Mynheer, 2007

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
25 January 2026

# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

25 JANUARY 2026

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | *Lento* from Trio Sonata No. 6, BWV 530

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | God is Here! As We His People

ABBOT'S LEIGH



1. God is here! As we his peo - ple  
2. Here are sym - bols to re - mind us  
3. Here our chil - dren find a wel - come  
4. Lord of all, of Church and king - dom,




Meet to of - fer praise and prayer,  
Of our life - long need of grace;  
In the Shep - herd's flock and fold;  
In an age of change and doubt,




May we find in ful - ler meas - ure  
Here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
Here, as bread and wine are tak - en,  
Keep us faith - ful to the Gos - pel;



What it is in Christ we share.  
Here the cross has cen - tral place.  
Christ sus - tains us as of old.  
Help us work your pur - pose out.




Here, as in the world a - round us,  
Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing,  
Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant  
Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion,



All our var - ied skills and arts  
Here in si - lence, as in speech,  
Seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
All we have to give, re - ceive;



Wait the com - ing of the Spir - it  
Here, in new - ness and re - new - al,  
What it means in dai - ly liv - ing  
We, who can - not live with - out you,



In - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
God the Spir - it comes to each.  
To be - lieve and to a - dore.  
We a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ry to God in the high - est,  
and on earth peace to peo - ple of good will.


## Verse 1

1. We praise you, we bless you, we a - 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. **D.C.**

## Verse 2

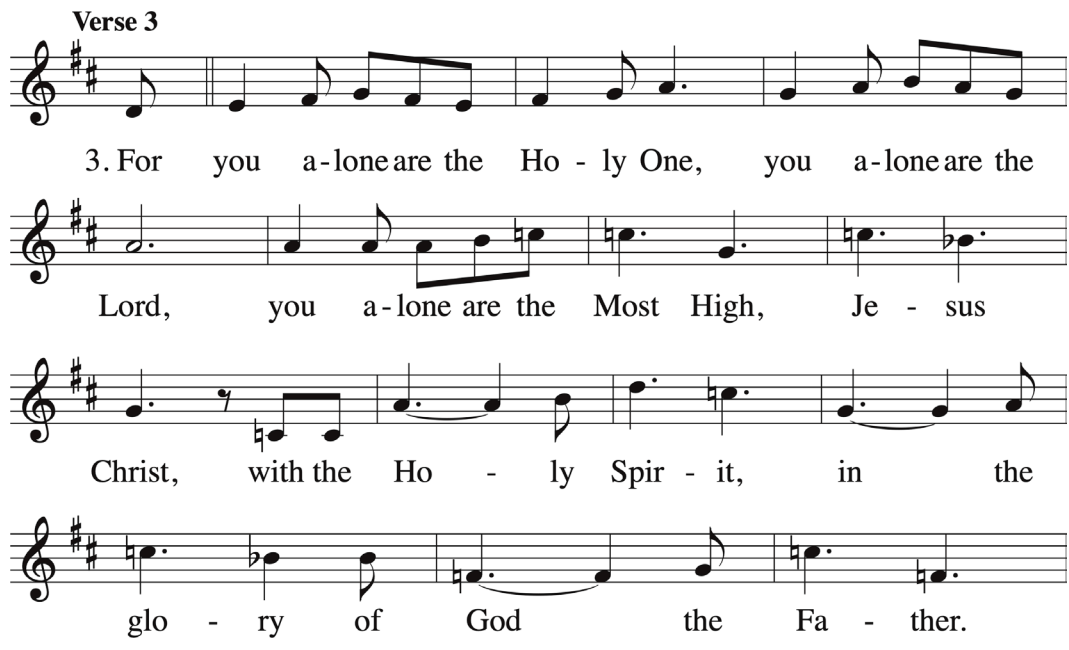
2. Lord Je - sus Christ, On-ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a-way the  
sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you  
take a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive our  
prayer; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the

D.C.




Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us.

Verse 3



3. For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the  
Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus  
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

D.C.



A - men, a - men.

COLLECT

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Isaiah 8: 23-9:3

The Lord is my light, my light and my sal - va - tion. The

Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion.

The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?  
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
whom should I dread? *R.*

O LORD, hear my voice when I call;  
have mercy and answer me.  
It is your face, O LORD, that I seek;  
hide not your face from me. *R.*

There is one thing I ask of the LORD,  
only this do I seek:  
to live in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,  
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD,  
to inquire at his temple. *R.*

I believe I shall see the LORD's  
goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Wait for the LORD; be strong;  
be stouthearted, and wait for the  
LORD! *R.*

SECOND READING | 1 Corinthians 1: 10-13, 17

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Jubilation Mass

James Cheponis

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Lent: Glo - ry to you, Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
*Glo - ry to you, Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ!*

GOSPEL | Matthew 4: 12-23

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!

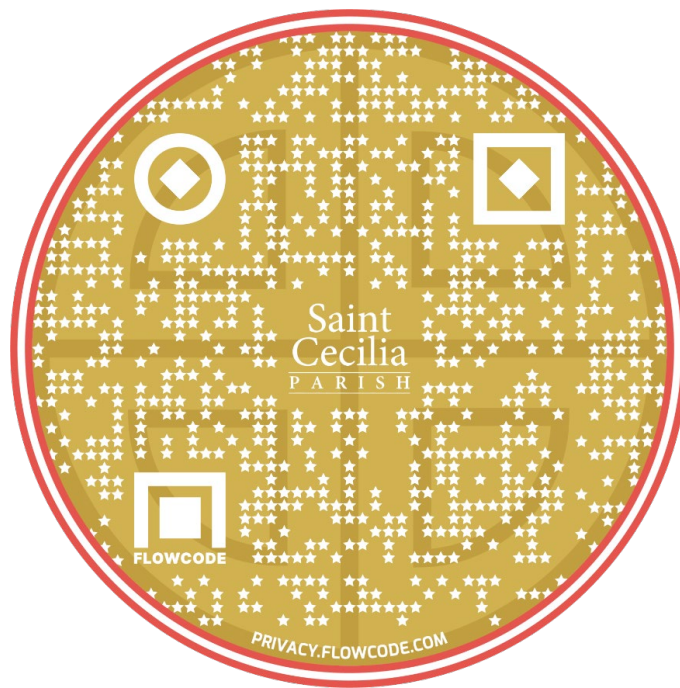
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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](http://www.flowcode.com/page/stceciliaboston).

You can also mail a check to:

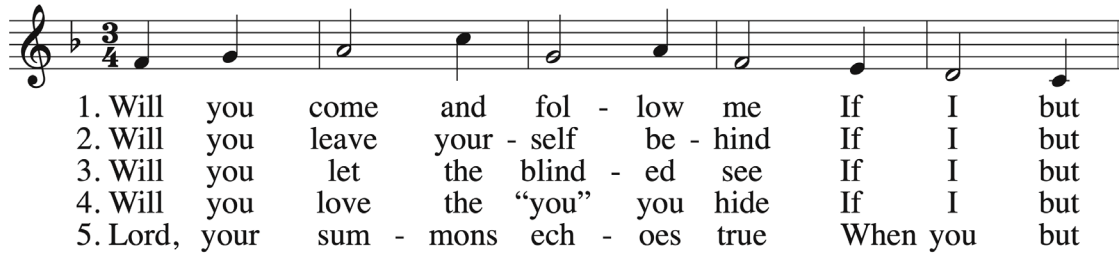
Saint Cecilia Parish  
18 Belvidere Street  
Boston, MA 02115



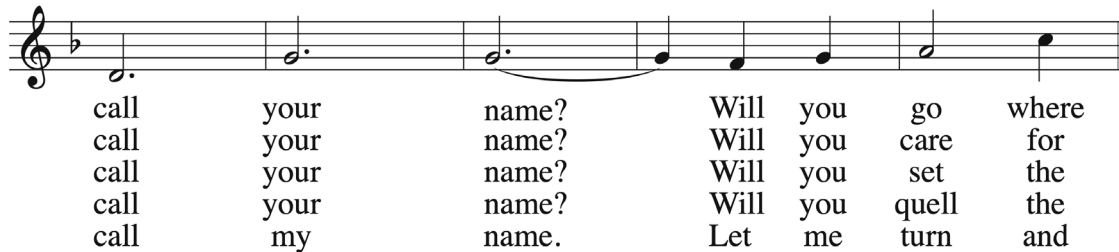
# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS | The Summons

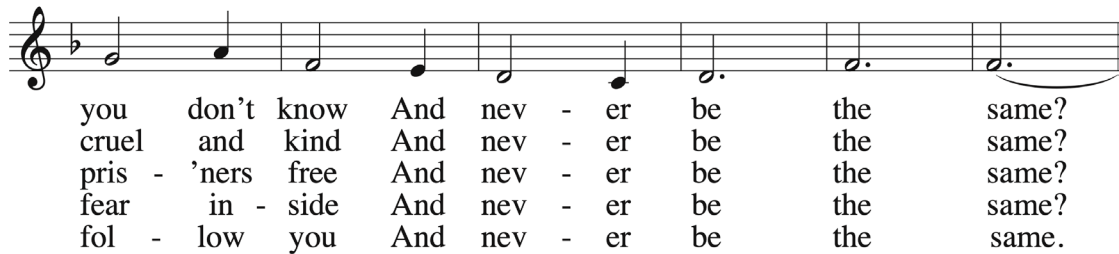
John L. Bell



1. Will you come and fol - low me If I but  
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind If I but  
3. Will you let the blind - ed see If I but  
4. Will you love the "you" you hide If I but  
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true When you but



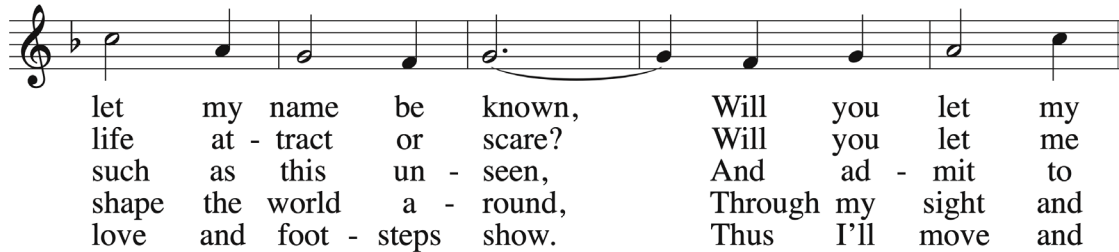
call your name? Will you go where  
call your name? Will you care for  
call your name? Will you set the  
call your name? Will you quell the  
call my name. Let me turn and



you don't know And nev - er be the same?  
cruel and kind And nev - er be the same?  
pris - 'ners free And nev - er be the same?  
fear in - side And nev - er be the same?  
fol - low you And nev - er be the same.



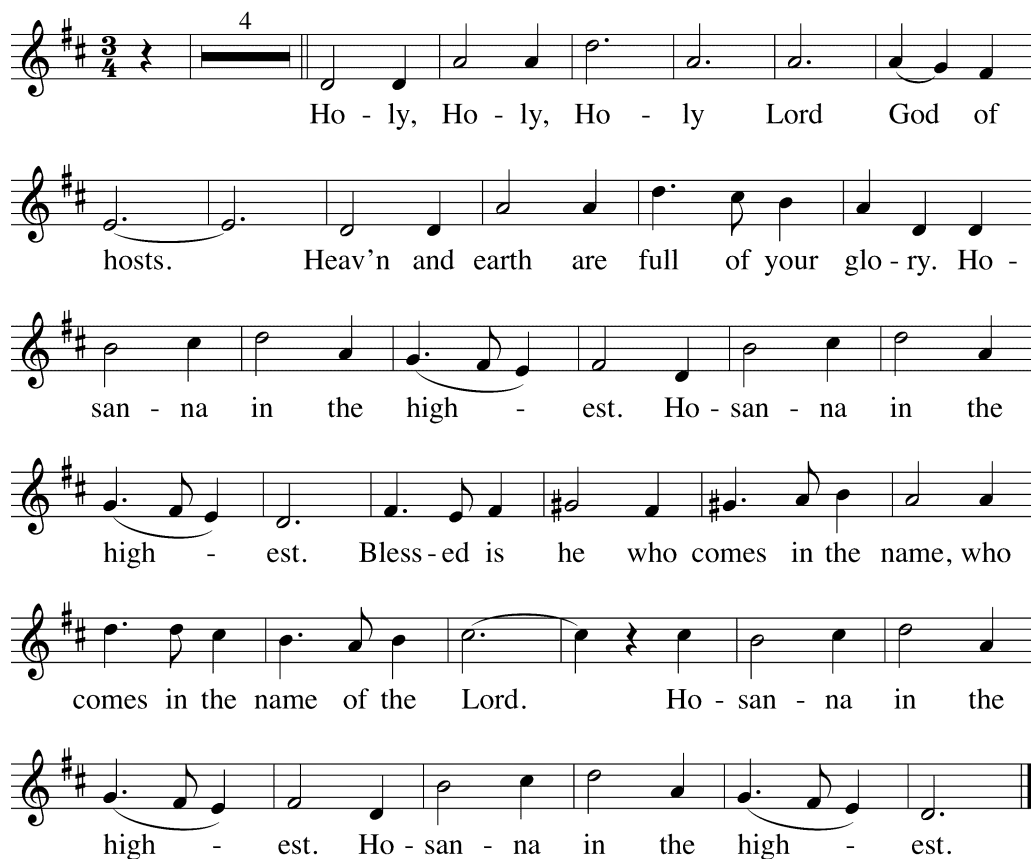
Will you let my love be shown, Will you  
Will you risk the hos - tile stare Should your  
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, And do  
Will you use the faith you've found To re -  
In your com - pa - ny I'll go Where your



let my name be known, Will you let my  
life at - tract or scare? Will you let me  
such as this un - seen, And ad - mit to  
shape the world a - round, Through my sight and  
love and foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and



life be grown In you and you in me?  
an - swer prayer In you and you in me?  
what I mean In you and you in me?  
touch and sound In you and you in me?  
live and grow In you and you in me.



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.



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



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.

## THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

- ✠ The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
All: And with your spirit.

## AGNUS DEI | Missa Pacem

L. 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 | We Remember

Marty Haugen

#### Refrain



We re - mem - ber how you loved us to your death,  
and still we cel - e - brate, for you are with us here;  
and we be - lieve that we will see you when you come  
in your glo - ry, Lord. We re - mem - ber, we  
cel - e - brate, we be - lieve.

Verses-Set A

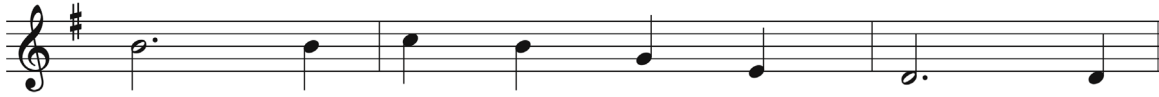


1. When we eat this bread,                      when we drink this cup,  
 2. Je - sus, bread of life,                      bro - ken for the world,  
 3. Je - sus, cup of joy,                      God's own life poured out,  
 4. Come and share this feast,                      life for all the world,



we pro-claim your death un - til you come in glo - ry.  
 praise to you who comes to feed your hun - gry peo - ple.  
 in this meal you give your - self for our re - demp - tion.  
 here we join to cel - e - brate God's new cre - a - tion.

Verses-Set B



5. Here,                      a      mil - lion      wound - ed      souls                      are  
 6. Now                      we      re - cre - ate      your      love,                      we  
 7. Christ,                      the      Fa - ther's      great      "A - men"                      to  
 8. See                      the      face      of      Christ      re - vealed                      in



yearn - ing      just      to      touch      you      and      be      healed;  
 bring      the      bread      and      wine      to      share      a      meal:  
 all      the      hopes      and      dreams      of      ev - 'ry      heart,  
 ev - 'ry      per - son      stand - ing      by      your      side:



gath - er      all      your      peo - ple,      and      hold      them      to      your      heart.  
 sign      of      grace      and      mer - cy,      the      pres - ence      of      the      Lord.  
 peace      be - yond      all      tell - ing,      and      free - dom      from      all      fear.  
 gifts      to      one      an - oth - er,      and      tem - ples      of      your      love.

*Laudate Dominum omnes gentes;  
laudate eum, omnes populi.*

O praise the Lord, all ye nations;  
praise him, all ye peoples.

*Quoniam confirmata est  
super nos misericordia ejus,  
et veritas Domini manet in aeternum.*

For his loving kindness  
has been bestowed upon us,  
and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

*Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.  
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper,  
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.*

Glory be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and  
ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## CONCLUDING RITES

RECESSIONAL | You Walk Along Our Shoreline

AURELIA



1. You walk a - long our shore-line, Where land meets un - known sea.  
2. You call us, Christ, to gath - er The peo - ple of the earth.  
3. We cast our net, O Je - sus; We cry the king-dom's name;



We hear your voice of pow - er, "Now come and fol - low me.  
We can - not fish for on - ly Those lives we think have worth.  
We work for love and jus - tice; We learn to hope through pain.



And if you still will fol - low Through storm and wave and shoal,  
We spread your net of gos - pel A - cross the wa - ter's face,  
You call us, Lord, to gath - er God's daugh - ters and God's sons,



Then I will make you fish - ers, But of the hu - man soul."  
Our boat a com - mon shel - ter For all found by your grace.  
To let your judg - ment heal us So that all may be one.

POSTLUDE | Prelude in D  
Brett Maguire, *organ*

Johann Sebastian Bach

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](mailto:RDuff@stceciliaboston.org).

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

# 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 Massachusett tribal nations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

# OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**Saturday, January 24 | 5:00 p.m.**

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant  
Uma Staehlar, lector

**Sunday, January 25 | 8:00 a.m.**

Rev. Jim Shaughnessy, SJ, celebrant  
Maggie Giles, lector

**Sunday, January 25 | 9:30 a.m.**

Rev. John Unni, celebrant  
Jerry McElroy, Ben DeWinter, Moira Macdonald, lectors

**Sunday, January 25 | 11:30 a.m.**

Rev. John Unni, celebrant  
Rev. Mr. Christopher Brolly, SJ, deacon and homilist  
Pat Scofield, Nikko Mendoza, Letitia Howland, lectors

**Sunday, January 25 | 6:00 p.m.**

**Mass cancelled** due to expected snow storm

## SPECIAL INTENTIONS

**Sunday, January 25 | 8:00 a.m.**

Charles W. McCarthy, *9th Anniversary*

**Sunday, January 25 | 9:30 a.m.**

Marion Lehmann, *Memorial*  
Paul Gilbert, *Memorial*

**Sunday, January 25 | 11:30 a.m.**

Alphonse Ferent, *9th Anniversary*

Scan this code for  
offertory giving:



Thank you for your generous  
support of Saint Cecilia Parish!

## TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 8:23—9:3

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

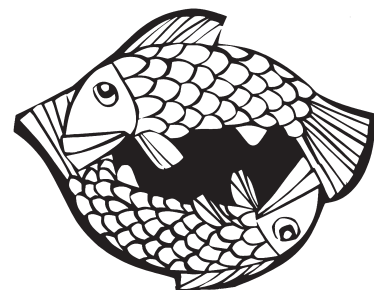
Matthew 4:12-23

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Matthew 5:1-12a



# PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

### Our Deceased

**Robert W. Case** died on January 15. Pray for his eternal repose and for the consolation of his family and friends. The funeral Mass will be celebrated at Saint Cecilia on Wednesday, January 28 at 11 a.m., followed by a reception in the parish hall. Prior to the funeral, there will be a visitation in the church from 10 to 11 a.m. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

### Our Sick

Pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Glenn Gallo, Marc Pelletier, Fred Tufts, Baby Eloise Josephine Mason, Kevin J. Owens, So Kwai Sim, Daria, Maureen McLaughlin, Anne Kenney, and Paul Surette.**

### Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish!

We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our community: **Maureen Dwyer, James and Jessica Hill, Ben Iacoi and Isabella Dalena, Jonathan Guerrini, Elizabeth Good and Tucker Rosebrock, John Vroom and Sarabrent McCoy, Julia and Daniel Gutierrez, and Jane Darby and David Sullivan.** If you have not previously registered, you can do so online at [www.stceciliaboston.org](http://www.stceciliaboston.org).

### Collection for the Church in Latin America

This weekend we will have a special collection for the Church in Latin America. Your contribution will help promote solidarity throughout the hemisphere by providing support for pastoral projects in Latin America and the Caribbean. To give online, please visit: [www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/church-in-latin-america-2025](http://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/church-in-latin-america-2025).

### Birthday Cake!

Help us celebrate Father John’s special day by coming to the parish hall for birthday cake after this Sunday’s 9:30 liturgy.

### Copy of Your 2025 Tax Statement

If you would like a copy of your 2025 tax statement, please email Colleen Melaugh at her parish email.



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## SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY AND BHCHP

This February, in honor of Saint Valentine's Day, we will continue our tradition of supporting non-profit agencies that help children. This year we are looking to provide much-needed items to the infants and children who are patients at the Family Clinic run by our long-time friends at Boston Health Care for the Homeless.

You can get detailed information about their Amazon Wish List at: [https://www.amazon.com/registries/gi/quest-view/7COQD7MHU7ZD?ref=cm\\_sw\\_r\\_cp\\_ud\\_ggr-subnav-share\\_NOF72C7PG1C7VBC8WQH8](https://www.amazon.com/registries/gi/quest-view/7COQD7MHU7ZD?ref=cm_sw_r_cp_ud_ggr-subnav-share_NOF72C7PG1C7VBC8WQH8).

For those of you who prefer to "shop local," there will be plastic bins in the narthex where you can place these important items: Diapers (especially sizes 5, 6, 7 and pullups for 2T to 5T, Baby Wipes, and Ensure drinks (vanilla and strawberry).

Thanks for your accustomed generosity!

## CONCERT TO BENEFIT WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25 | 7 - 9:30PM**  
**NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY - WILLIAMS HALL**  
**(290 HUNTINGTON AVENUE, BOSTON)**

The third Boston concert of Music for Food's 16th season — "The Sacred" — will highlight two choral works as well as pieces by Sibelius and Mozart.

Admission is free with a suggested donation (\$40/adult, \$15/student); no tickets or RSVPs are necessary. All proceeds will go to support Women's Lunch Place.

## FRAUD FIGHTERS WORKSHOP

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29 | 10:30AM - 12PM**  
**PARISH HALL**

The Suffolk County District Attorney's Office presents Fraud Fighters: a presentation on how to spot scams, protect finances, and secure your peace of mind. Knowledge is power - join us to learn more! If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien at her parish email.

## NEW STORIES ON SACRED LANDS: STORYTELLING & CELEBRATING REMATRIATION!

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 27 | 4:30-6:30PM | BEACON HILL FRIENDS HOUSE (6-8 CHESTNUT ST, BOSTON)**

All At the close of 2025, Land Justice Futures celebrated the first land return by Catholic sisters to a tribal nation in U.S. history. The beauty, profundity, and gentle grace of this act is now reverberating in news, stories, and human hearts across the country.

Join for light refreshments with Land Justice Futures' partners, friends, and supporters. Hear some of the backstory of our recent, history-making land rematriation — the process, the people, and what we're learning from this important bridging work with the Catholic Church.

Come linger with us in the magic of this story, and dream together about where we go from here!

To register, please visit the following link: [www.tinyurl.com/land-justice-futures](http://www.tinyurl.com/land-justice-futures). If you have any questions, please contact Gabriella Mora through the reception desk (617-536-4548) for more information.

## FAR FLUNG FLOCK COFFEE HOUR: DEACON CHRISTOPHER BROLLY, SJ

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1 | 4PM VIA ZOOM**

The FFF is pleased to welcome Deacon Christopher Brolly, SJ to our FFF Coffee hour. Christopher began ministry at St Cecilia in the fall of 2023. At the time he was a Jesuit scholastic who assisted Tanya Rybarczyk with the RCIA/OCIA program. He is now an ordained deacon and currently assists at one or two weekly Mass on Sundays assisting Fr John at the 9:30 liturgy. Christopher is looking forward to sharing his ministry and calling with all of us.

If you are not already registered, you can attend the coffee hour by emailing the ministry.

## CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1 | 2PM | COMMUNITY ROOM**

PILGRIMAGE, verb: the journey to a distant, sacred goal

A pilgrimage is a journey, both outwards to hallowed places and inwards to spiritual growth. Join Nancy Nee Hanifin and Coffee Czar Karen McMenamy for the first of two presentations on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. The Camino can be seen as an extended, moving retreat, offering tremendous opportunities for meditative walking, reflection and introspection. A pilgrimage journey is the most graphic reminder we can have that our life as a whole is a pilgrimage. Each of us is on a journey with God, and on a journey to God.

In 2010 Nancy walked the 500 miles across Spain to the tomb of Saint James. On her return she founded the Boston Chapter of the American Pilgrims on the Camino. Karen McMenamy joined Nancy as co-chair after her own 500 mile journey in 2015. Combined they have walked thousands of miles, well over a dozen times, volunteered in the Pilgrims' Office in Santiago (Karen) and mentored hundreds of aspiring pilgrims from across New England. The meetings will cover the history of the Camino, traditions and practical planning and preparation for walking the Way of Saint James.

## NIGHT OF WORSHIP

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 | 7PM - 8PM | SANCUARY**

All parishioners, regardless of age, are invited to spend an hour with the Lord before the Blessed Sacrament. Praise and worship music led by the Young Adult Ministry will guide your meditation and enrich your prayer in adoration. Please enter from the side door on Saint Cecilia Street and ring the bell to be let in. Can't join us in person? We'll be live-streaming our worship service over Zoom. Register to receive a Zoom link each month here: [www.tinyurl.com/stc-night-of-worship](http://www.tinyurl.com/stc-night-of-worship).

## BEREAVEMENT GROUP

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 | 6PM VIA ZOOM**

When a loved one dies, everything changes. At Saint Cecilia, we believe no one should walk alone in grief and loneliness. Wherever you are in your grief, you're welcome here. No pressure. No timeline. Just an open, steady invitation to join a supportive community. Please contact Mary Wessel at her parish email for the Zoom link.

## GBIO UPCOMING LISTENING SESSIONS



Founded in 1998, the GBIO is an interfaith coalition focused on making systemic changes to support social and economic justice in our local communities. Representing 60 member institutions—including Saint Cecilia—and more than 107,000 individuals, the GBIO has shown the power of collective strength in achieving a variety of goals.

The organization coalesces, trains, and organizes people across religious, racial, ethnic, class, and neighborhood lines and is dedicated to developing leaders who are committed to making Greater Boston a better place to live, work, and raise a family. For more than 20 years, the GBIO has worked to improve housing and healthcare, reform our criminal justice system, address racial disparities in our city, and rebuild schools and neighborhoods.

### GBIO—A 2025 Housing Hero!

In response to hearing people's stories, the GBIO advocated for the Massachusetts Affordable Homes Act, leading to a major win for public housing in the 2023-2024 Massachusetts legislative session. The legislation includes a historic \$2.2 billion authorization for capital improvements to public housing units in Massachusetts. Additionally, the annual operating budget for state housing authorities was set at \$113 million—a \$21 million increase from the original proposal. This funding will make a difference in the lives of 70,000 vulnerable Massachusetts residents, setting a powerful precedent for the nation.

### Upcoming Listening Sessions at Saint Cecilia

Next month, as part of our parish partnership with the GBIO, we will be hosting a series of small group listening sessions to help the GBIO identify future campaigns and actions. Listening session participants will be invited to share thoughts and stories concerning the critical issues currently affecting our neighborhoods. During these sessions we'll also explore potential changes, and brainstorm creative ways to respond. Listening sessions will be held on a Sunday in February following Mass.

### Getting Involved—Next Steps

- Join a listening session (goal: 50 participants parishwide).
- Contact [gbio@stceciliaboston.org](mailto:gbio@stceciliaboston.org) to join the Saint Cecilia GBIO team, sign up to participate in a listening session, or to learn more.
- On the weekends of **January 24/25** and **January 31/February 1**, talk to a GBIO representative in the narthex after Mass or in the parish hall during coffee hospitality. On these dates, you will also be able to sign up to attend a February listening session.

What changes would you like to see? Come share your thoughts, and let's make a difference!

## WINTER WALK BOSTON

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 | 10AM | BOSTON COMMON**

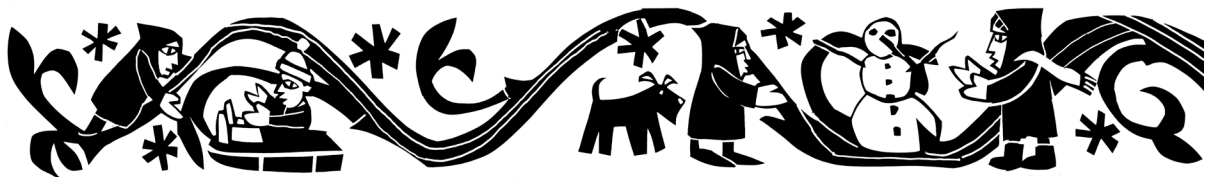
The Winter Walk is an initiative that believes ending homelessness is within our reach. The mission of the Walk is to raise awareness and funds towards that goal, and to support organizations that are working on prevention, support, and care for our homeless community.

We hope you can join us on February 8th, 2025 on the Boston Common, where the Walk will begin and end. Registration opens at 8:30 am with the event starting at 10 a. m Look for the tents on the corner of Charles Street and Beacon Street. 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 Hunger & Homelessness team again this year - we've participated each year since the event began. We have designated Capuchin Mobile Ministries as the recipient of the funds we raise again this year. if you would like to join or support our Team (donations from non-walkers gladly accepted) please go to: <https://fundraisers.winterwalk.org/mark-lippolt>.

## WEEKLY LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

**SATURDAYS | FEBRUARY 21 & 28;  
MARCH 7, 14, 21, & 28  
9AM | COMMUNITY ROOM**

Matthew's Gospel tells us that right after Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, he was led by the Spirit into the desert where he fasted for forty days and forty nights. Our own Lenten awakening is also a journey through the wilderness—a time of both struggle and promise. This Lent, we invite you to join us for a weekly Saturday morning devotional, "Have a Beautiful, Terrible Lent!" using resources created by Kate Bowler. Kate is a four-time New York Times bestselling author, award-winning podcast host, and professor of religious history at Duke University. Using Kate's resources, we will companion with one another as we embrace life's everyday struggles alongside its beauty and navigate the darkness as we move towards the light and promise of Easter. Lent is a time of renewal and grace, but you don't have to go it alone. You are welcome to come when you can—no six-week commitment is necessary and drop-ins are always welcome. For more information, reach out to Mary Wessel at her parish email.



JOIN US FOR

## The Future is Generous: Technology, Innovation, and Social Impact

**Thursday, February 12, 2026**

7:30am – 8:00am  
Breakfast Buffet

8:00am – 9:00am  
Panel Discussion

**UMass Club, Amherst Room**

ONE BEACON ST, 32ND FLOOR, BOSTON, MA 02108

Hear from a panel of innovative and successful professionals in the financial and tech industries who will offer insight into their particular field and share why and how they give back.



**Jaidip Chanda**

HEAD OF FUNDRAISING AND DISTRIBUTION  
FIDELITY CHARITABLE



**Yvonne Hao**

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER & GENERAL PARTNER  
FLAGSHIP PIONEERING



**Jonathan Melton**

HEAD OF LENDING  
UNCHAINED CAPITAL, INC.

**To register, please head to:**

<https://tinyurl.com/Business-Leaders-Breakfast>

## MENTAL HEALTH DROP-IN GROUP

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 | 1PM | CLASSROOM 1**

We're continuing our monthly talks with Brian McLaren from the Center for Contemplative Action, focusing on the theme "Good News for a Fractured World." All are welcome to attend.

A SPACE TO SHARE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 | 6:30PM - 8PM  
COMMUNITY ROOM

Space to Share is a place for LGBTQ+ parishioners to speak freely about the challenges and joys of being LGBTQ+ and Catholic (or whatever else is on our minds). Whether it's your first visit or you're a biweekly regular, we'd love to have you join us! Please note the day change - Space to Share will meet on **Wednesday**.



COMING UP AT SAINT CECILIA

**JANUARY 25 - 29**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24**

GBIO Reps after 5pm Mass | Narthex

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25**

GBIO Reps after Sunday Masses

Narthex + Parish Hall

Wisdom Group | 8:30am via Zoom

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 27**

Belvidere Midday Tuesday | 12pm | Comm. Room

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29**

Fraud Fighters Workshop | 10:30am | Parish Hall

Wisdom Group | 7:30pm via Zoom

THANK YOU FROM  
A FAITH THAT DOES JUSTICE



*Inspiring faith in action*

Dear Friends at St. Cecilia Parish,

On behalf of the volunteers at A Faith That Does Justice (AFTDJ) and the neighbors we serve each week, I want to thank you for the extraordinary support you offered through the Advent Giving Tree Program. Because of your kindness, we were able to distribute hundreds of essential items, including clothing, socks, underwear, tee shirts, coats, hats, gloves and boots to those whom we serve through our weekly Grab & Go Lunch Program.

We offered these items at two sites closest to those whom we serve. At Emmanuel Church near Arlington Street and the Boston Common, our lunch program attracts people with severely limited resources who are experiencing material hardship. At The Basilica of Our Lady or Perpetual Help, known familiarly as Mission Church, our volunteers bring food in insulated wagons to those in the Nubian Square neighborhood, many of whom are unhoused and/or dealing with physical and mental disabilities. A mile and a half from St. Cecilia Parish, this neighborhood is a world apart in its ability to provide resources to those in need.

Again and again, recipients expressed their gratitude, asking us to thank those who donated the gifts. "God bless you!" was the refrain we heard most often. One gentleman exclaimed, "After seeing you, I'm in good hands!" Another accepted a piece of clothing for his wife, noting how grateful he was because he had now had something to give her for Christmas.

Advent is a season of preparation, hope, and love made visible through action, themes that AFTDJ's founder, Peter W. Gyves, SJ, MD, frequently spoke about as he challenged us to be "compassionate where there is human suffering." Your thoughtfulness touched people who are often unseen, reminding them that they are remembered, valued, and cared for. There is no greater gift than this, as Father Peter would say.

Peace and Blessings,

Thomas E. Dwyer  
President and Executive Director

# EDWARD, IT'S ME!

BY DAVID MANZO

He refused a bed or a couch at the soup kitchen. The only place Edward would sleep was on the cold tile floor of the kitchen, surrounded by the knives that he insisted on placing around himself. Unsettling as that was, it was actually a step forward for Edward, who insisted on sleeping outside, even in the snow.

Helping the guests of Haley House soup kitchen in Boston navigate homelessness, mental illness, despair and loneliness was always a lesson in humility. In Edward's case, it began with accepting that his mind was in a place that none of us could imagine.

During my junior and senior years at Boston College, I'd arrive at Haley House by 6 AM to begin my shift – first greeting the line of 60 hungry guests, then preparing meals, distributing clothing, comforting a man after his seizure, or cleaning the soup kitchen when the last guest left at noon.

Haley House was founded in Boston in 1966 in the tradition of the Catholic Worker by newlyweds John and Kathe McKenna. They invited men experiencing homelessness into their small apartment for food, shelter and community. Simply, they lived the Gospel imperative from Matthew 25, "for I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."

Kathe and John embraced Dorothy Day's core message focusing on love, justice, hospitality and nonviolence. In addition to a soup kitchen, today's Haley House, in multiple Boston locations, provides more than one hundred units of permanent affordable housing, operates an urban farm, and supports individuals returning from incarceration with education and work skills, in addition to maintaining a social enterprise.

After graduation I decided to become a full-time volunteer and lived in a community above the soup kitchen for three years. It was during this time, I met Edward. Dealing with him required caution. Entering the kitchen unannounced might cause Edward to start or get upset. So whenever I entered the kitchen, whether alone or with a group of housemates after a



Image: David Manzo

dinner gathering, I never failed to say, "Edward it's me." Three words that were part warning, part comforting reassurance and part plea for a peaceful interaction.

When I first saw Edward, he lived in a cardboard box in the schoolyard next to Haley House, his life's possessions in a few large plastic trash bags. Polite and timid, he responded to a greeting with a nod, not a word.

For months, two members of our community, Jeanne

Fazzino Lain and Annie Porzio Doyle tried unsuccessfully to coax Edward to seek shelter especially during Boston's wintery nights. He refused. They persisted. He refused.

Then on a Monday in early February snow fell. And fell. Arctic cold, high winds, inches turned into feet. The blizzard killed 99 people in the northeast, but not the 100th.

For many, the memory of the Blizzard of 78 is that of abandoned cars, closed schools and businesses, making due during a week-long state of emergency. For me it was witnessing the miracle of Jeanne and Annie's months of prodding and building a trusting relationship resulting in saving the life of a man living in a cardboard box in a schoolyard.

That night Edward abandoned his cardboard home of many years for the warmth and security of Haley House. Offered a bed, he refused. Given his clouded mind and poor judgement, he compromised and slept on the kitchen floor. It was a first-step, a warm step. Later, he placed around him on the floor the knives we used in the soup kitchen to prepare for meals. It was more for comfort than defense in his odd new environment. At least we hoped so.

Despite his fears and struggles a sweetness shined through. Edward's greatest gift was his kindness toward the young people who lived near Haley House. The mail slot at Kathe McKenna's home across the street from Haley House often had a note for her 4-year-old daughter from Edward.

Yet, the mental illness demons continued. One Saturday morning, FBI agent McCarthy appeared at Haley House answering Edward's complaint. After a brief conversation with Edward, the agent left having assessed that Edward's description of us as "a bunch of subversives" did not merit the FBI's attention. We breathed a sigh of relief.

I smiled when I opened Daniel Dain's recently published book, *A History of Boston*. It not only described the early days of Haley House but also included a photo of 12 volunteers in front of the soup kitchen door, one of whom was Edward.

Maybe there are thin places, moments where heaven and earth seem closer, where it is easier to feel God's presence. I did not expect to find it in a blizzard nearly 50 years ago watching my housemates save Edward's life.

Jeanne recently reflected on her efforts to coax Edward saying, "Annie and I gave each other the courage we did not have separately and that is truly the power of community."

In Dorothy Day's 1952 essay she shares, "We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community."

Jeanne and Annie, together lived the message of Dorothy Day's essay which was appropriately titled, "The final word is LOVE."

One day Edward disappeared from our lives. We never knew why. It was just his time to move on.



*David Manzo was a member of the live-in community from 1977-80, served as their Board Chair from 1980-91 and is currently a member of Haley House's Board of Directors. He is in his 46th year as an adjunct professor at Boston College.*



**Jesus Calls His Disciples**  
by He Qi

# PARISH RESOURCES

## Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115  
Hours | Seven days a week, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Phone | 617 536 4548; Fax | 617 536 1781  
Website | [www.stceciliaboston.org](http://www.stceciliaboston.org)

## Parish Staff

*Rev. John J. Unni*, Pastor  
*Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ*, Pastoral Support  
*Rev. Mr. Christopher Brolly, SJ*, Deacon  
*Mark Donohoe*, Pastoral Associate  
*Robert Duff*, Director of Music  
*Anastassia Kolchanov*, Digital and Print Media Coordinator  
*Scott MacDonald*, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility  
*Colleen Melaugh*, Director of Finance and Development  
*Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien*, Pastoral Director of Operations  
*Lisa Pickering*, Director of Facilities Operations & Events  
*Mary Wessel*, Pastoral Associate

## Assisting Clergy

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV  
Rev. John Predmore, SJ

## Music Ministry

*Tyler Cesario*, Assistant Director of Music  
[tcesario@stceciliaboston.org](mailto:tcesario@stceciliaboston.org)  
*Daniel Lamoureux*, Vigil Organist  
*Brett Maguire*, Parish Organist  
*Pendexter Macdonald*, Assistant Organist

## Audiovisual Support

*Maureen Deery*, Parish Photographer & Creator of Weekly Slide Show  
*Geoffrey Edwards*, Livestream Videographer  
*Ben Worthley*, Audio Engineer

## 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., and 6:00 p.m.  
Holy Days | 8:00 a.m.  
\* Please note that the 9:30 Mass is both in person and livestreamed.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Father Jim Shaughnessy, SJ is available by appointment for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To schedule an appointment, please call the Parish Office. On all the Wednesday evenings of Lent, Mass is celebrated in the sanctuary at 6:00 and following Mass, Father Shaughnessy will hear confessions until 8:00—no appointment necessary.

## 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.

## Building Accessibility

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

## Baptism for Infants

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

## Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for Faith Formation, contact our Pastoral Director of Operations, Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien.

## Parking

There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski's Tavern), for \$15, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and \$15 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.

## 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 provide consultation and support to anyone who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Maria Roche, Letitia Howland, Erin Young, or Kathy Sanders ([sanderno2010@gmail.com](mailto:sanderno2010@gmail.com)) 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.

## Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

This 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. For more information, contact Mary Wessel 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.

## Joining Our Community

We're happy that you're with us! Our parish offers a warm, spiritual home for a diverse group of Catholics from many neighborhoods in and around Boston; we also have friends from around the country and the world. We invite local individuals and families to fill out a new parishioner form on our website. No matter your present status in the Catholic Church, current family or marital situation, gender or gender expression, sexual orientation, personal history, age, race, or self-image, you are invited and will be welcomed, accepted, loved, and respected here at Saint Cecilia. We are here to accompany and serve you.

## 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 a ministry email address, please call our reception desk (617-536-4548) and our receptionists will be happy to share the appropriate information. Thank you for helping us maintain our parish security online.