# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



# The Epiphany of the Lord 8 January 2023

The Dream of Three Wise Men by He Qi



8 January 2023

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

PRELUDES | Prélude sur l'Introît de l'Epiphanie

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

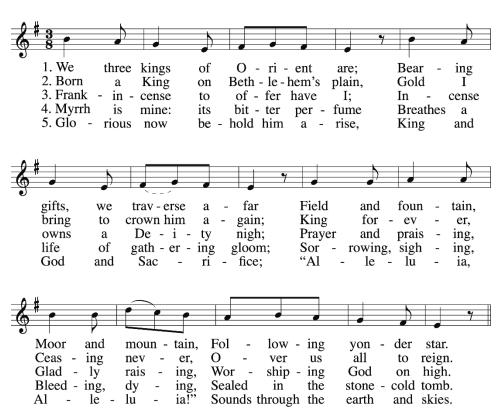
Deux Noëls de Provence

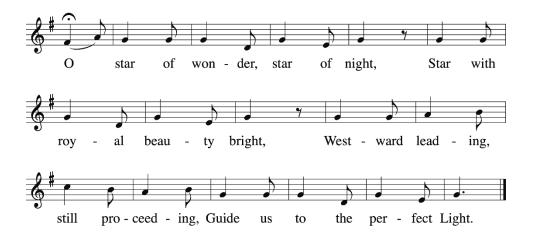
Guy Morançon (b. 1927)

Daniel Lamoureux, organ

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | We Three Kings of Orient Are

KINGS OF ORIENT





# CALL TO WORSHIP

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

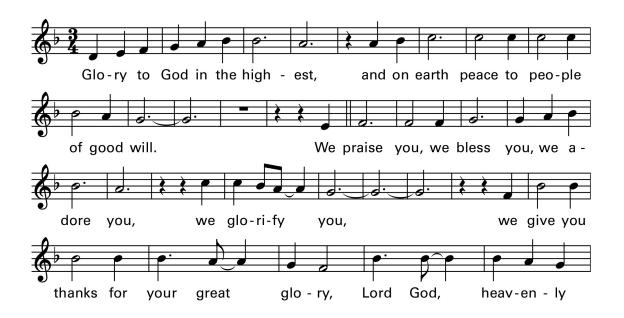
All: Amen.

▶ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

GLORIA | Mass from Renewal

Curtis Stephan





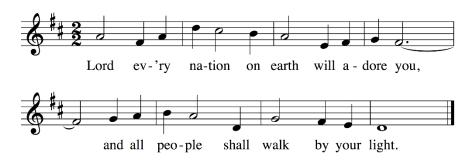
Collect

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Isaiah 60: 1-6

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 72: Lord, Every Nation on Earth Will Adore You

Marty Haugen

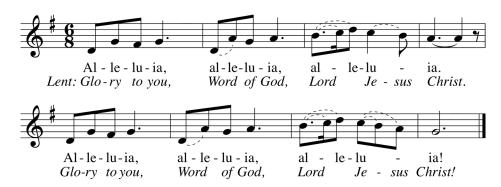


- O God, give your judgment to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice, and your poor in right judgment.
- 2. In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace till the moon is no more. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the River to the bounds of the earth.
- 3. The kings of Tarshish and the islands shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him.
- 4. For He shall save the needy when they cry, the poor and those who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and the needy and save the lives of the needy.

SECOND READING | Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Alleluia from Jubilation Mass

James J. Chepponis



GOSPEL | Matthew 2: 1-12

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!

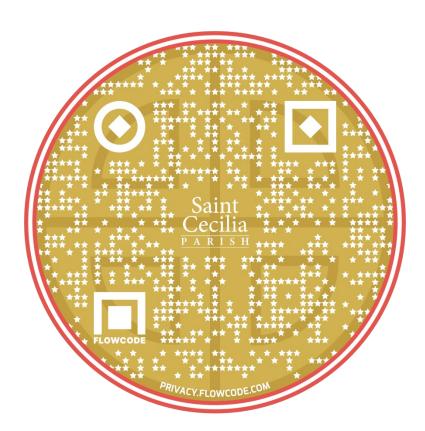
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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:

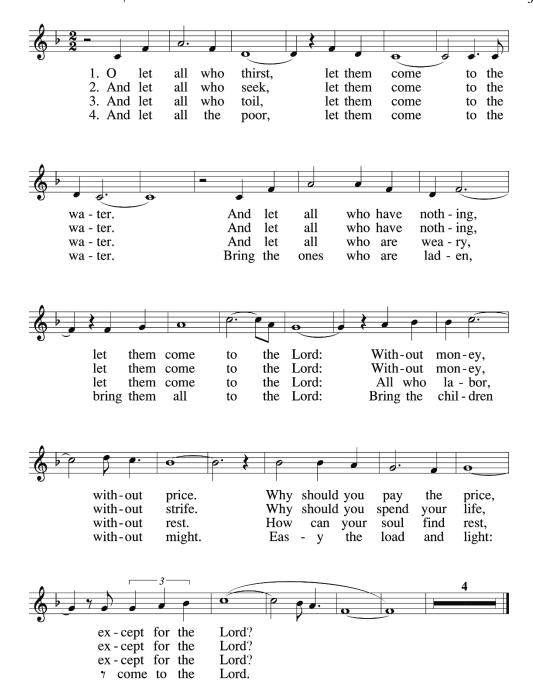
Saint Cecilia Parish 18 Belvidere Street Boston, MA 02115



# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of the Gifts | Come to the Water

John Foley



# EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

**▼** The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

**¥** Lift up your hearts.

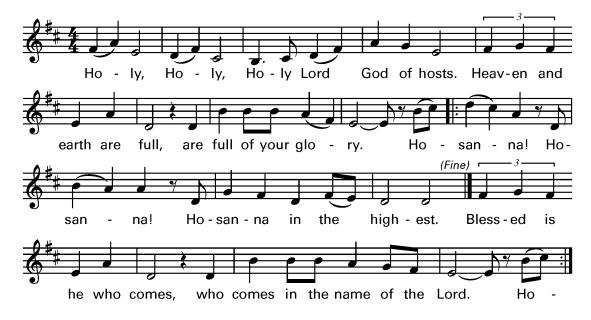
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

▶ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

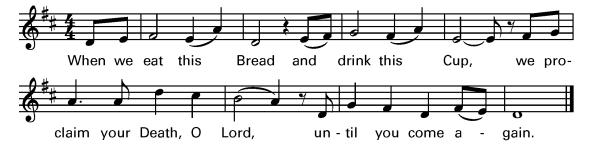
HOLY, HOLY | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte



MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte





### 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 Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte



# 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 | Every Valley and And the Glory of the Lord

George Friderich Handel (1685-1759)

# Tyler Cesario, tenor

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry moutain and hill made low; the crooked straight and the rough places plain. (Isaiah 40: 4)

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. (Isaiah 40: 5)

# CONCLUDING RITES

**▼** The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

f M 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.



POSTLUDE | Postlude-Cantique

Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)

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: <a href="mailto:RDuff@stceciliaboston.org">RDuff@stceciliaboston.org</a>.

# 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.



Saint Cecilia Parish mourns the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who died in Vatican City last Saturday. Pope Benedict served the Church for 71 years as a priest, 28 years as a Cardinal, and nearly eight years leading the Catholic Church as the Bishop of Rome and Successor to Saint Peter. His life and his pontificate were characterized by a deep abiding faith and an extraordinary commitment to theological scholarship. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Father, eternal shepherd, hear the prayers of your people for your servant Benedict, who governed your Church with love.

> He faithfully administered the mysteries of your forgiveness and love on earth; may he rejoice with you forever in heaven.

He was servant and teacher of the Church, and did the work of Christ on earth; may Christ welcome him into eternal glory.

He was appointed high priest of the flock; may he be counted among the priests in the life of your kingdom.

He was an instrument of your peace and love for the human family; receive him in your love, and grant him eternal peace, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Vatican News Service [adapted]

# OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



# MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

# Saturday, January 7 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant Catherine Horsley, lector

# Sunday, January 8 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, celebrant Jim Dougherty, lector

# Sunday, January 8 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant Letitia Howland, Natasha Bolton-Pierre, and Chika Offurum, lectors

# Sunday, January 8 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant Julie DesAutels, Hannah Ostwald, and Kelly McClintock, lectors

### Sunday, January 8 | 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant Kevin Dumas and Nikko Mendoza, lectors

# SPECIAL INTENTIONS

### Saturday, January 7 | 5:00 p.m.

Gerald Maloney, 76th Anniversary

#### Sunday, January 8 | 9:30 a.m.

John Michael Cigan Sr., Second Anniversary Jacob Schleinz, Memorial Richard Dapra, Memorial

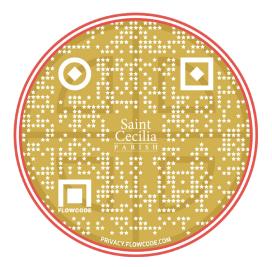
### Friday, January 13 | 8:00 a.m.

Sr. Francis Ryan, First Anniversary
Dr. Manuel Velasquez, Second Anniversary

# TODAY'S READINGS NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12 Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 John 1:29-34

# SCAN THIS CODE FOR OFFERTORY GIVING



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

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# PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

### **Our Deceased**

Lisa Pickering's sister died on December 21. Pray for the eternal repose of **Kathleen Wirtz**, as well as for the consolation of Lisa, Ralph, and their family. If you are reading this online, the Funeral Mass will be held on Friday morning, January 6 at 10:00 at Saint Mary Church, 115 Crescent Street, Quincy. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

The Church throughout the world mourns the death of **Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI** who died on December 31. The Pope Emeritus served as pontiff from April 2005 until he resigned in February 2013. He was an intellectual and theologian of great faith who offered his life in service to Jesus Christ and the Church. Pray for the repose of his soul. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

#### **Our Sick**

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially 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: Andrea Alonso of Boston, Sam Dunkel of Boston, the Pearl Family of Wellesley, Erin and Michael Lanzo of Boston, Lori Atkinson of Boston, Daniel LeFaivre of Boston, Kathryn Atherton of Boston, Laurie Donovan of Braintree, and Michelle Lustrino of Boston.

### The Baptism of the Lord

Tomorrow's feast concludes the Christmas season and Tuesday begins the First Week in Ordinary Time. We will have six Sundays in winter Ordinary Time before we begin the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday, February 22.



# For All Who Have Been Baptized

Pray for all who have been baptized in our parish, particularly those during this last year, that they may faithfully fulfill their baptismal promises and live as disciples of Jesus.

# **Liturgy of the Hours**

Join us for Morning Prayer for the Eve of Epiphany and the feast of Saint Raymond of Peñafort this Saturday, January 7 at 9:00 a.m. And we will conclude the Christmas season with the celebration of Evening Prayer on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Monday, January 9 at 6:00 p.m. Join us live on the Saint Cecilia Facebook page or via Zoom. Email sc.hoursandtaize@gmail.com for details.

#### Thank You!

The collection at all the Christmas Masses was designated for the support of our senior priests. Due to your generosity, we were able to send \$20,345 to Clergy Trust. Please note that this figure does not reflect the generous gifts that people made directly to the Clergy Trust website. On behalf of all the priests of the Archdiocese of Boston, thank you very much.

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



The Epiphany of the Lord is one of the great solemnities of the liturgical year. Traditionally celebrated on January 6, the twelfth day of Christmas, it is so important that in many countries, including the United States, it is transferred to the nearest Sunday

when it doesn't happen to fall on a Sunday. On Christmas day we celebrate the Word becoming flesh; on Epiphany we celebrate the news getting out-the revelation of this amazing happening to the world. Epiphany comes to us from the East as its Greek name indicates. The word means "manifestation," "showing forth," or "revelation." In the Eastern Churches, this day is a triple celebration of the revealing of Christ to the Magi; to people gathered at the Jordan when Jesus was baptized by John; and to the wedding guests at Cana. While the Church in the West emphasizes the visit of the Magi to the infant Christ today, with the Baptism of the Lord commemorated this Monday, a hint of the ancient origins of Epiphany survives in one of today's antiphons for Evening Prayer: "Three mysteries mark this holy day: today the star leads the Magi to the infant Christ; today water is changed into wine for the wedding feast; today Christ wills to be baptized by John in the river Jordan to bring us salvation."



# EPIPHANY DOOR BLESSING

20 + C + M + B + 23



It is an Epiphany custom to inscribe with chalk the initials of the Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, along with the numerals of the new year, over the main doorway of your house or apartment. Traditionally, the letters and numbers are inscribed in this format: 20 + C + M + B + 23. In

addition to the letters being the initials of the traditional names of the three Magi, they also abbreviate the Latin words "Christus mansionem benedicat," or "May Christ bless the house." At Saint Cecilia, we pray that we will be a welcoming presence for all who pass through our doors; we pray that we will welcome everyone without judgment or prejudice. You are invited to take home a piece of blessed chalk with you today and say a prayer of blessing at your door. This is one option:

#### Loving God,

We pray through the intercession of the Magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, that you help us create a home of peace and love.

Give to those who pass through the doorways of this house, an awareness of your presence within their hearts.

Bless our comings and our goings. Watch over us and over all our guests; when we leave, bless our journeys and bring us safely home.

We ask this through Jesus, your Son and our Lord.
Amen.

# JOIN THE HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS MAILING LIST

Saint Cecilia's Hunger and Homelessness Ministry has remained active throughout the pandemic. From facilitating the collection of food and supply donations for our partners to offering safe, limited, COVID-adapted opportunities for volunteering, there are plenty of ways to pitch in for our neighbors in need.

To get involved, or learn more about the work of this important ministry, please contact Mark Lippolt at Mark.Lippolt@gmail.com to join the mailing list.



# SUPPORT REFUGEES

For the past six years, our parish has provided ongoing support to Catholic Charities' Refugee and Immigration Services. We have offered to provide refugee families with supermarket and general gift cards so that they will have food and household items while their applications for political asylum are processed. If you would like to purchase gift cards to Market Basket, Stop 'n Shop, Shaw's/Star Markets, Target, or Visa —and no more than \$25 per card —please feel free to drop them in the offertory basket or mail them to: Mark Lippolt, Saint Cecilia Parish, 18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115.

According to Marjean Perhot, Director of Catholic Charities' Refugee and Immigration Services, for the twelve months ending June 30, 2022, the agency settled:

- 170 Afghan evacuees
- 62 Ukrainian immigrants
- 260 Haitian entrants

The need has never been greater and your accustomed generosity is greatly appreciated!



# JOIN THE REMOTE FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY'S JANUARY CALL

# Sunday, January 8, 2023 | 4:00 p.m. ET | Zoom

The Remote Fellowship Community is pleased to announce that the next online coffee hour will be held on January 8, with guests Mark Donohoe, Scott MacDonald, and Christine Burns. Mark is a pastoral associate; Scott is the director of faith formation and parish visibility; and Christine is the digital media coordinator. The trio will respond to questions and share some of what goes on behind-the-scenes at Saint Cecilia.

All are welcome to join the "Far Flung Flock" for what promises to be an engaging and informative online coffee hour. We will begin at 4:00 p.m. If you have registered or previously attended a online coffee hour, you will automatically receive an email including the Zoom link. If you have never attended or if you're not sure if you're on our list, email Mary Ann Gallagher at gallaghercomms@gmail.com. You will be sent the Zoom link a few days prior to our meeting.

# WINTER WALK BOSTON

Ending homelessness is within our reach! For the seventh year, a consortium of agencies focused on homelessness, including Women's Lunch Place, 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 12 at 8:30 a. m. and begins at Copley Square Plaza. We hope each adult walker will raise \$100—either by paying it as a registration fee or fundraising it. We have a Saint Cecilia Hunger & Homelessness Ministry team again this year and if you'd like to join or support it, please go to: https://secure.qgiv.com/event/winterwalkboston23/register/form/registration or contact Mark.Lippolt@gmail.com.

# CATECHISM STUDY

First Session: Thursday, January 12 | 7:00—8:00 p.m. Open to: Everyone!

Have you considered studying the Catechism but were intimidated by it? Are you looking to dive deeper into your relationship with Christ? Or, are you just interested in learning more about the Catholic faith alongside other parishioners? If so, then this is the perfect opportunity for you! Join the Saint Cecilia Young Adults in studying the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* during the new year. We will be using the recently launched *Catechism In A Year Podcast* as a guide. RSVP (at https://linktr.ee/scyoungadultsboston) to be added to the mailing list for the study group. Podcast listening is not required to join the discussion—all are welcome!

# 53RD ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MEMORIAL BREAKFAST

Monday, January 16, 2023 | 8:30 a.m.
Boston Convention and Exhibition Center & Online

This year's Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast celebration will be a hybrid event with both in-person and online components. The 2023 theme is: "Reclaiming Our Rights: Education and Activism." This event hopes to raise awareness about the importance of education in the pursuit of social justice. The keynote speaker will be Jelani Cobb—dean of the Columbia Journalism School, author, a contributing and staff writer for *The New Yorker* since 2012, and a frequent speaker on race, history, politics, and culture in America. Tickets for the in-person breakfast are \$50 and can be purchased by visiting https://bostonmlk-breakfast.org/breakfast-2023/.

# SCYA RETREAT: Living the good life

RESCHEDULED: Friday, January 20 at 7:00 p.m. through lunchtime on Sunday, January 22, 2023 Glastonbury Abbey, Hingham, MA

The annual Saint Cecilia Young Adults retreat returns to Glastonbury Abbey! During this retreat, we will spend time diving into what it means to "live the good life" as Christians. We will explore topics including discovering our spiritual gifts, the dignity of work, saints with imperfect backgrounds, and read scripture including the Beatitudes. The retreat is peer-led by young adults, for young adults. Our weekend of fellowship will include talks, small group discussion, prayer, Mass, games, and unstructured time. The cost of the weekend is \$170, which includes lodging and all meals from dinner on Friday to Sunday brunch. If the cost of the weekend is a significant hardship, please contact the retreat team. The deadline to sign up and make your payment is January 6, 2023. Please reach out to Genevieve Martin grmartin08@gmail.com with any questions or concerns. Register via the SCYA's Linktree: https://linktr.ee/scyoungadultsboston



# CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen. (Rev. 1:5-6)

Joan Abruzzi
The Abruzzi Family
John Aiken
Andrew Harry Almquist
Elsie & Tony Andrade
Mary Dennehy Anzivino
Leslie Amadon
Sharon Appelman

Cora Arnold
Catherine Aylward

Maria Barbosa

Mr. & Mrs. Vasco Barbosa

Romania Barclay

Mary Baumgartner

Edmund Baumgartner

Ettore Bergamaschi

Gertrude Bienkowski

Julius & Eleanore Bienkowski

Margaret B. Boland

Eileen Bolesky

A. Greer Bond

Chuck & Betty Botosh

Nancy Boutin

Virginia Boyer

Mary Bradley

John Brait

Jack Brent

Pat Brooks & Family

Domenic & Agatha Bruno

Francisco Bucasus

The Bufalini Family

Josephine Caliguire

Paul Caliguire

Glenn Calmus

Marjorie & Howard Camden

Maria Cristina Campo de Paez

Linda Cantlin

**Emmett Cantlin** 

John Cargill

William & Catherine Carroll

Bill & Marilyn Carroll

John Alan Cates

Catherine Charland

Earl Charland

Borys & Olga Chermak

Mee-Na Choo

Jong-Joo Chung

John Coghlan

Margaret Colbert-Dempsey

Ann Coleman

Charlene Colgan

Margaret & James Collins

Nicholas R. Collins

Stephen Conciatori

Maria Cone

Patricia Connelly

Fr. Chuck Connolly, S.J.

Mickey & Joe Contilli

The Cooney Family

Denis & Pauline Cote

Francis & Madeline Cotton

The Cox Family

Robert Crawford

Maria Cullen

Daniel & Jeanne Curley

Daniel T. Curley

Mark Czestochowa

Eleanor Byrne Mooney Dahar

Mr.& Mrs. Saheed W. Dahar

John E. & Betty L. Davis

Frederic W. Davis

Evelyn L. Davis

Clifton H. Davis

Norma De Robinson

The DeMers Family

John Zekas Dennehy

Mr. & Mrs. Philip F. Dennehy Jr.

Robert DeSantis

Marc DeSousa

Kathy Devin

Kathleen Dewitt

Jack DiGiovanna

Philip & Anne Dinkel

The DiSanto Family

Cecelia Dodson

Walter Doherty

Alida Dommermuth

Mary Lou Donadio

Gerry Doyle

Paul Dragon

Adam Dragon

John Manning Driscoll Jr., MD

Arthur Dunnett

R. Margaret Dunnett

Stephen Ellis

Tony, Ann, and John Farinelli

Mary Fazio

AnnMarie Fenny

Katherine D. W. Findlan

Mike Fischer

Bernie Flaherty

Paul Flaherty

Walter Fletcher

Delia & Michael Flynn

Judy & Tom Flynn

Rolande Fournier Houle The Franchi & Mancini Families Nora Frank Arthur Robert Frithsen Constance Frithsen Thomas & Helen Gallagher Chuck Gamble Maria Carmina Garcia Joseph Garcia Bill Gardner James Michael Garvey Joan & Bill Geary William & Anne Giles Margaret R. Gilman Ellen & Eddie Gorham Peter & Viola Griffin James J. Griffin Lucy Griffin Lucy Ann Griffin Michell Griffin Mary Ann Griffin Patty Griffith Mortimer Griffith Eileen Griffith Rev. Msgr. Michael F. Groden Janet Guevara Victor Guevara Mr. & Mrs. Granderson Hall Brian Hare Rev. Brendan Harnett Rose Hart Cynthia Jones Hawkins Charles & Nancy Heaslip Jillian Heaslip Nicole Bairos Heck Mark Alan Heller The Hickey Family Fr. Jerry Hogan Ellen Hogan Elizabeth Holst-Diamantini

Paul Horan

Edmond & Agnes Horsley Winston & Godfrey Horsley Carol Howland Richard Howland Rita Gorham Howland The Hughes Family Paul Jarosiewicz John P. & Margaret Joyce Marie Julian Mary J. Kakas Lois Kane Joseph Anthony Kane Joseph Anthony Kane, Jr. Anne Kapp Jack Kaster Tricia Kelly Robert Kenney Josephine Kiesewetter John Kiley Nadia & Joseph Kiley Brig. Gen. Leo A. Kiley (Ret.) Rita Kone John Kosinki Cecilia Kurta Joseph Kurta Rene & Dottie L'Abbe Lawrence Lacev Mary Angela Lacey **Bob Lacey** Ruth M. & Robert F. Lally Richard Larue Neil Leonard Susan Levinsky The Lewis Family Kenny Liebling Claire & Joseph Lippolt Carmen Peter Lombardo

Loretta Macdonald Barbara & John MacDonald Mary MacEvoy The Maciora Family Barbara & Fred Maglero Joel Maksymowicz Gerry & Bridie Maloney James & Mary Manley Edward Mansour, MD Leonard Mariani Efrain Marrero Dolores Marrero Frederick & Josephine Mason Alexander & Josephine Mathurine Manuel Matos Ana Matta Natibidad Matta Judy Matteson Stephen Matteson Eileen McCalla William John McCarron Carmela McCov Patrick & Margaret McDonagh James P. B. McDonough Patrick McEvoy Helen McEvoy Mary & Henry McKenney Edward McKenney Bill & Jim McLaughlin Jim McManus Monika Menasche Peter Menansche Victor Menasche Robert Menson Joe Michalski Florence & Tony Mignanelli Vjera & John Mihaic Miloslav Mikus The Miles Family Rita & William Miller

Cliff Mitchell

F. Beirne Lovely, Jr.

Lorraine Lyons

Patricia & Eugene Macdonald

Rev. Kenneth Macdonald

Kathleen Modeste
Francis Moffatt
Claire Moffatt
Barbara Moffatt
Josephine Moitoso
Jeff Monroe

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Mooney George Morales

Irene Morillo John B. Morse

C O D M

Susan & Dan Moyse

Dan Mullin

Margaret & Bob Munger

Ed Murphy

Elizabeth Murphy

Robert Murphy

Marilyn C. Murphy

Ed Murphy Jr.

Elizabeth Murray Beimers

Jim Nausadis

Cleveland & Dorothy Nelson

Sr. Jeannette Normandin, S.S.A.

Rachael Nylen

Marisol Liliana O'Brien

Daniel K. & Kathleen E. O'Brien

Christopher Jude O'Connor

Jerry O'Connor

Patricia Oakes

David Orvosh

Placido Paez C.

Cristobal Paez L.

Elena Paez L.

Elizabeth Painter

**Dusty Painter** 

Christine Palmer

Anne Palmer

Carmela & Anthony Pandolfo

The Peña Palermo Family

Annette Perna

Ed Pert

Julia Powell

Mary Louise Powell

Sadie & Jim Price

Milton & Marjorie Putnam

The Quigley Family

Helen Ragan

Priscilla Reber

John & Elaine Reilly

The Rocchio Family

Giuseppina & Carmelo Roccuzzo

Aurelio Rollo

Grace Romasanta

Edgar & Josephine Roy

Jack Russell

Elizabeth Rose Russo

Dorothy Ryan

Mary & Raif Saati

Patrick Sanders

Joan Mullin Scheib

Donald P. Schnorr

Ernst Schwarzenbach

Marcelle Schwarzenbach

Marvin L. Scott

Judith E. Scott

Susan Shaughnessy

Jeanne, Joe, & Barry Shea

Laura Ann Shea

Siobhan Shea

Ann Shoback

Paul Shoback

Kathryn Shirley-Davidson

Marshall Shulman

Paul & Mary Siebert

Robert E. Simmons

Gary Smith

General James & Marie Sniffen

Ellen Solomita

Soon-Ok Bae Son

Pil-Yun Son

Kyeung-Seok Son

**Edith Sorrentino** 

The Stanton Family

Dorothy Starzyk

William Starzyk Jr

Mary & Frank States

Hans & Brigita Steffen

Winston Earl Stevens

Wayne Matthew Stevens

Kate Stevens

Elaine Stritch

Walter & Mary Sullivan

The Sullivan Family

John & Ruth Szum

Susan R. Szum

Joseph Tanny

Adjoba Tanny

Virgil M. Teti

Nicholas & Angeline Teti

Suzanne Trombley

Nadine & John Troppy

Claire Tutein

Frank & Estelle Unni

Joseph Unni

Gregg VanNostrand

Brian VanNostrand

Angie & Frank Verderane

Anne Bingham Volk

Elizabeth Volk

Maurice Wade

Marie J. Walley

Marie A. Walley

Francis M. Walley Jr.

Ronald Weber

Sheila & William Whalen

Raymond Willett

Frank Williams

Franklin Williamson

Thomas Hunt Wyman

Fran & Ed Wysocki

Wilson Young

Dianne Zimmerman



Every Christmas morning, my friend Sean's parents would load their three sons into the family car and head to a local soup kitchen. Sean and his brothers would help out by putting napkins and flatware on the tables, then a hot meal would be served and gifts distributed to the patrons. Sean's dad sometimes dressed up as Santa Claus.

On the first day back from Christmas break one year during middle school, Sean's teacher asked the class what they had done over the holidays. "We served a meal at the soup kitchen in the morning and then we came home and celebrated," Sean told his class. An awkward silence followed. Sean could tell that kids around the room were staring at him.

"That was the first time it occurred to me that this was not the way most of my friends spent their Christmases," Sean remembers. "One of my favorite parts about serving was that it wasn't a big deal. My parents really did a good job of integrating it into our holiday traditions. It was just something we did."

For many of us, the Advent and Christmas seasons are times when we feel an especially strong pull to reach out toward those who are in need. Why? Maybe one reason is that while Christmas is supposed to be full of joy and togetherness, we realize that there are so many people in the world who are hurting and lonely, and we feel called to close that gap. Sean's family surely responded to this call in a powerful way.

One thing I love about the Christmas stories found in the Gospels is that they so clearly affirm the season's tradition of compassion. The stories are chock-full of love, justice, and God's special concern for those who are poor and vulnerable. Let's explore these themes by focusing on a few of the Christmas season's central characters: Mary and Joseph; the Christ-child; and the shepherds and Magi.

# Mary and Joseph

It's impossible to imagine. The Virgin Mary—a devout teenager, not yet married to Joseph—is visited by the angel Gabriel and told she will bear the Son of God. At first, she is "greatly troubled" by this unexpected news. Mary, after all, knows the punishment other unwed mothers have faced in her community: execution by stoning.

But, drawing on the deepest well of faith ever known, Mary says yes to God's plan. She says yes to life.

This time of year, I spend a lot of time thinking about other mothers who are facing unexpected pregnancies, and wonder about the trepidation many of them must be feeling. I pray that our communities of faith can be places of welcome where all parents—single and married, well-off and struggling—feel supported in their choice for life.

Mary found this sort of radical hospitality in Joseph. When he learned of Mary's pregnancy, his first instinct was to divorce her quietly, protecting her from shame and violence. Then, when an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and told him not to fear, but to care for Mary and her unborn child, he took Mary into his home.

Their journey together took them to Bethlehem and then, in the Gospel of Matthew's account, into Egypt to escape the murderous King Herod. This must not be forgotten: The Holy Family was a refugee family. How relevant and painful it is to reflect on that fact against the backdrop of the world's current refugee crisis.

On the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, I went to a prayer service for migrants and refugees at Catholic Charities' headquarters in Camden. The room was filled with Catholic Charities staff members and recently resettled refugees who had just finished an English class. Some of the refugees have arrived here in the past few months from Syria, welcomed

by Catholic Charities and working to build a new life in South Jersey. During the general intercessions, prayers for refugees were read by a handful of the refugees themselves who have become confident English speakers. I have had very few, if any, more powerful experiences of prayer in my life. How might the world be different if every Christian around the world consciously saw the Holy Family in each refugee family?

### The Christ-child

What can we learn about God from our belief that he came into the world as a baby boy?

God could've come to Earth wielding the power of a superhero, but he didn't. Instead, he came to Earth as the Christ-child, incarnating "transparency, vulnerability, defenselessness," as the great spiritual writer Fr. Ronald Rolheiser puts it. "Ultimately though that power, helplessness and vulnerability, is the greatest power of all because it, and it alone, can transform hearts," Rolheiser writes. "You don't soften hearts by overpowering them. You transform hearts through another kind of persuasion."

There has been a collective, societal obsession with political and military power this year—even more than usual, perhaps. Christmas is a reminder that God transforms the world (and invites us to join in the work) with gentleness.

# Shepherds and Magi

Both of our Gospel accounts of Jesus's birth include visitors to the manger: shepherds in Luke and Magi in Matthew. Why?

Scripture scholar Luke Timothy Johnson points out that shepherds in first-century Palestine were "among the lowest-esteemed laborers." That they are Jesus's very first companions in Luke's Gospel sets the stage for Christ's later ministry, during which he consistently accompanied those who were poor and marginalized. As disciples, the way Jesus spent time is a model for how we might spend time; his priorities should be our priorities.

While the Magi aren't poor or vulnerable the same way the shepherds are, they come from outside the Jewish community, and reveal how the love of God made flesh in Christ embraces all people. The boundaries we build up to separate groups based on race, religion, class, age, ability, and more are not of God. Fr. Gregory Boyle, SJ, cuts to the heart of this idea in his book *Tattoos on the Heart*. "No daylight to separate us. Only kinship. Inching ourselves closer to creating a community of kinship such that God might recognize it," he writes. "Soon we imagine, with

God, this circle of compassion. Then we imagine no one standing outside of that circle, moving ourselves closer to the margins so that the margins themselves will be erased."

If our Christmas season in 2016 is filled with radical hospitality, respect for the dignity of life at every stage, and kinship with the marginalized, our celebration will surely look a lot like the very first Christmas. Or, in G.K. Chesterton's words, "Christmas is built upon a beautiful and intentional paradox; that the birth of the homeless should be celebrated in every home." May every heart prepare Him room! Merry Christmas!

~ Mike Laskey is the Director of Communications for the Jesuit Conference in Washington, D.C. and is the author of The Ministry of Peace and Justice (Liturgical Press). He also works as the sports columnist for the National Catholic Reporter, where he also contributes to the Young Voices section. His work has also appeared in America, Give Us This Day, Millennial, US Catholic, Vice and other outlets.

# ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

# BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY ONLINE COURSES

#### **New Testament Visions of Faith**

January 18 - February 28, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course | Registration Required | \$60.00

#### The Creed: What We Believe

January 18 - February 21, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course | Registration Required | \$60.00

To learn more or register, please visit the STM Online: Crossroads website: https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/stm/ sites/crossroads.html

# SAINT SUSANNA PARISH — DEDHAM

### **Praying with Women in Scripture**

Presenter: Dr. Jaime Waters, Associate Professor of Old Testament at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

Monday, January 9, 2023 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Zoom Presentation

For more on this presentation, please check the website: https://saintsusanna.org/adult\_faith\_formation.html



On the beautiful celebration of the Epiphany we met the Magi, those mysterious, gift-bearing people from the east, who came from afar to pay homage to the newborn Christ. They followed a star, they came to worship, and Christ was shown forth not just to the Jewish people but to the nations.

The word, epiphany, literally means manifestation, the showing forth of Christ to the world. At Christmas Jesus is born, but at Epiphany Jesus is shown forth to the nations. And yet underlying this beauty there dwells hidden darkness. When Herod realized the Magi were not coming back to him, he reacted with great violence and cruelty.

This celebration reminds us that Jesus came not for one tribe, not for one nation, but ultimately, for all people. Each of the readings for Epiphany makes this point. One of the many values that the Epiphany reveals is that God's love is universal and the word, catholic, literally means universal.

In my own parish of St. Thérèse, more than thirty countries from five different continents, are represented, and that starts to reveal the universality of the Church. On the cross, Jesus stretched out his arms to embrace the whole world.

The Magi come at the beginning of St. Matthew's Gospel and at the conclusion of this Gospel, after his resurrection, Jesus will tell the apostles to go out and to teach all nations, not just some nations, but all nations, and to baptize them, to bring them into the family of God. This universal dimension of God's love, the invitation to all to become part of the Kingdom, the call to repentance and conversion, are for all. These are all Epiphany Values.

Once you understand these values, you can better understand what conflicts with them. In other words, start with what is right and then you can better see what is wrong. While there are Epiphany Values, underlying the beauty of this celebration, there are also many anti-values that contradict what this feast celebrates. What are some of the anti-values?

Racism is an anti-value that contradicts the Epiphany. Racism looks to what a person is rather than who a person a person is. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, goes so far as to describe racism as a type of idolatry that can take the place of God in our lives. [CCC 2113]

The disrespect for human life, both born and unborn, at every stage and at every age is an anti-value that contradicts Epiphany values. Jesus will say that he has come that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Each human life is created in the image and likeness of God, but furthermore, as the Second Vatican Council noted, through Jesus' human birth, he has, in one way, united himself with every human person. Pope Francis has wryly observed that it is not progressive to try to resolve problems by eliminating a human life.

To disrespect the lives of the unborn, the terminally ill and the severely disabled, contradicts the values of the Epiphany. To exploit workers, the poor, the stranger, the undocumented, the refugee and the vulnerable, disrespects human life and contradicts the values of the Epiphany.

The list of anti-values goes on but there is one that seems to be spreading around the world and it is called nationalism. Now there is critical distinction to make between patriotism and nationalism.

Patriotism is a virtue. St. Thomas Aquinas taught that patriotism is a type of piety. Patriotism realizes that after God and our parents, we are debtors to society. There are many people in our diocese and in every diocese, who have shown their patriotism. Obviously, we think of those who are honorably serving or have honorably served in the armed forces but also of many others who have exercised this virtue in many other ways.

Who we are as a nation unites us with our fellow citizens but who we are as disciples of Jesus, unites us with believers around the world. Who we are in terms of our common

humanity unites us with all people.

Nationalism takes something good like patriotism and twists it into an idol that takes the place of God. Nationalism throughout the world becomes an impediment to peace, stability, human solidarity and the common good. Nationalism rejects the universal character of the Epiphany and is also a place where racism can rear its ugly head.

Speaking to the United Nations in 1995, St. John Paul II, who personified patriotism to his native Poland, clarified what he called, . . . an unhealthy form of nationalism, which teaches contempt for other nations or cultures, and patriotism, which is a proper love of one's country.

He went on to insist that, Nationalism, particularly in its most radical forms, is . . . the antithesis of true patriotism, and that it can give rise to totalitarianism. In its extreme forms, nationalism based on fear, like Herod, reacts with violence and cruelty. We are called to love our parents, but we do not love our parents by hating someone else's parents.

As the Magi stepped out in faith looking for Jesus, so may we follow him with lives of intentional faith. As the Magi opened their treasures before the infant Jesus, so may we open before him the treasures of our lives in what we have and who we are. May we respond to his universal love in every little way and in a universal way.

In the Eucharist, Jesus opens up the treasures of God's love to us as he continues to give himself to us under the form of bread and wine, so that we can be strengthened to be signs of his love, not just to one group, or one country but to all whom we meet.

May we see and serve him in others and by his grace may others see him in us. May we reject anti-values and share with all whom we meet, the love God extends to all. May we embrace, share and live, Epiphany Values.

~ Reverend Joseph I. Cisetti is pastor at St. Thérèse Parish in Kansas City, Missouri.



# FR. JAMES MARTIN, S.J.: IN THE EPIPHANY, CHRIST COMES FOR EVERYONE



The parish I grew up in was called Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church. It is still there in Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Philadelphia. Over the main entrance is an immense stained-glass window of that scene: the Epiphany, when the Wise Men came to pay homage to the Infant Jesus. The tall window is executed in the bold, chunky, stained glass so popular in the 1950s and 1960s. I always

loved looking at it when we left church at the end of Mass. And it always made me wonder if the Epiphany happened exactly as was depicted in my church, or as it was described in the Gospels. After all, the visit of the Magi is included only in Matthew's Gospel. Mark, Luke and John leave it out.

So it's hard to know if it happened exactly in the way it was recounted. But the deeper meaning of the Epiphany is that Christ came to all the world's people, not just to the Jewish people. The message of Christ—which is love, forgiveness, mercy, peace and care for the poor—is meant for all the world. At the close of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus repeats this message: "Make disciples of all nations," he says. Now few of us will be going to "all the nations" to make disciples.

But can you do that in your own world? The Wise Men came all that way to hear the good news. I'll bet there are a lot of people in your life who would like to hear it too.

~ James J. Martin SJ is an American Jesuit priest, writer, and editor-at-large of the Jesuit magazine America. In 2017, Pope Francis appointed Martin as a consultant to the Vatican's Secretariat for Communications.



# 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

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

#### Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support

Keith Brinkley, Mike Currier, Rudy Flores, Parker Olson,

Corey Ortiz, Reception

reception@stceciliaboston.org

Christine Burns, Digital Media Coordinator

cburns@stceciliaboston.org

Tyler Cesario, Assistant Director of Music

tcesario@stceciliaboston.org

Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate

mdonohoe@stceciliaboston.org

Robert Duff, Director of Music

rduff@stceciliaboston.org

Giovanna Franchi, Pastoral Minister

gfranchi@stceciliaboston.org

Olivia Hastie, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation

ohastie@stceciliaboston.org

Scott MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility

smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org

Colleen Melaugh, Director of Finance and Development

cmelaugh@stceciliaboston.org

Lisa Pickering, Director of Facilities and Events

lpickering@stceciliaboston.org

### **Assisting Clergy**

Rev. Terrence Devino, SJ 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.

#### **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, Olivia Hastie, at ohastie@stceciliaboston.org.

#### Marriage

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

#### Order of Christian Funerals

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

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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 \$13, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and \$13 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 around the country and arround the world. 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.