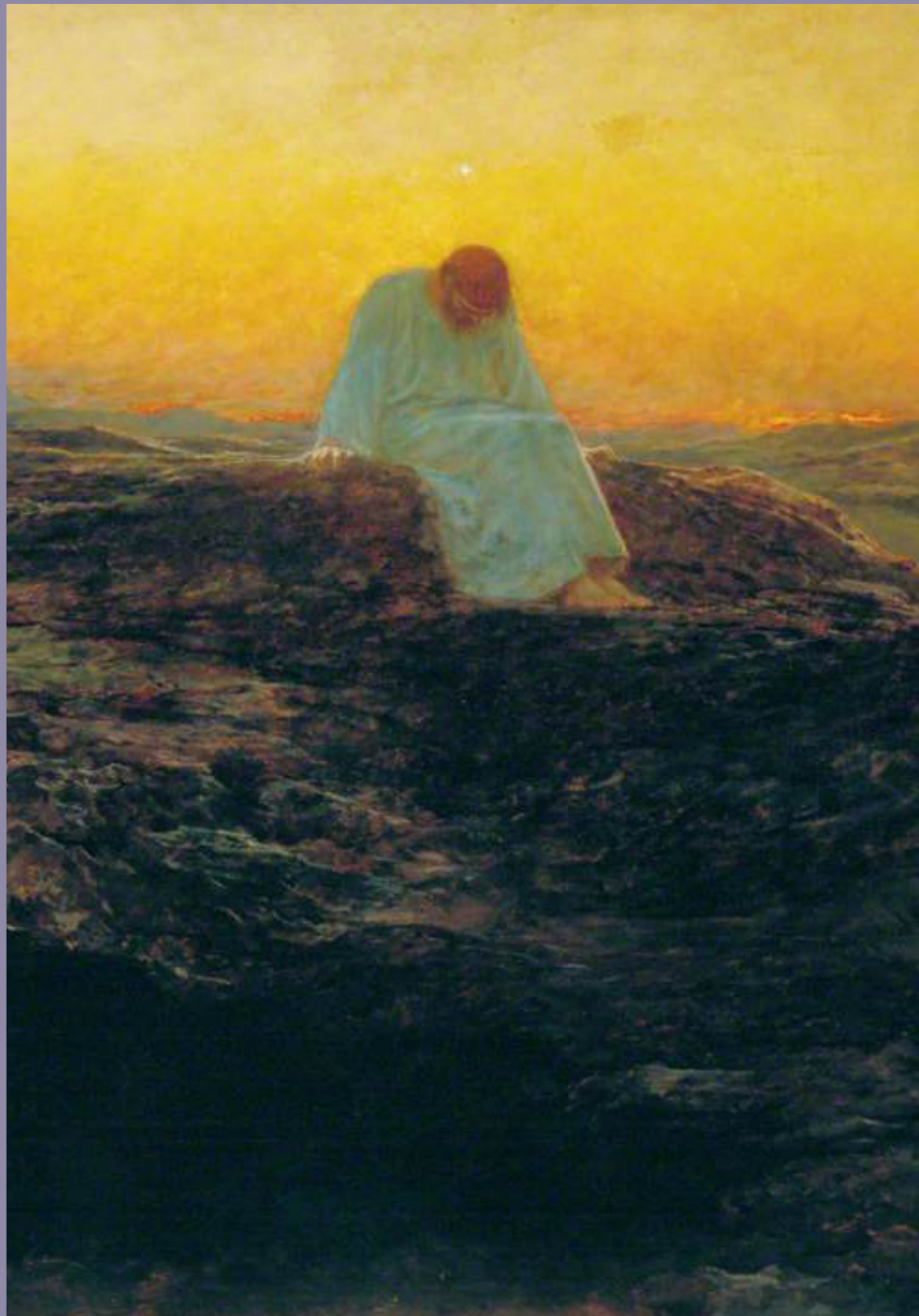


# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



The Temptation in the Wilderness

by Briton Riviere (c.1898)

**First Sunday of Lent**  
22 February 2026

# Lent



## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

22 FEBRUARY 2026

PRELUDE | Oboe Sonata in A minor, TWV 41, no. 1, *Siciliana*  
Elizabeth England, *oboe* and Brett Maguire, *parish organist*

Georg Philip Telemann  
(1681-1767)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN



1. Lord, who through - out these for - ty days For  
2. As you with Sa - tan did con - tend And  
3. As you did hun - ger and did thirst, So  
4. And through these days of pen - i - tence, And  
5. A - bide with us that, when this life Of



us did fast and pray, Teach us to o - ver -  
did the vic - t'ry win, O give us strength in  
teach us, gra - cious Lord, To die to self, and  
through your Pas - sion - tide, For ev - er - more, in  
suf - fer - ing is past, An East - er of un -



come our sins, And close by you to stay.  
you to fight, In you to con - quer sin.  
on - ly live By your most ho - ly word.  
life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.  
end - ing joy We may at - tain at last!

PENITENTIAL RITE

COLLECT

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Genesis 2: 7-9; 3:1-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 51: Be Merciful, O Lord

Marty Haugen

Be mer-ci-ful, O Lord, for we have sinned; be  
mer-ci-ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Verses

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness,  
in your compassion, blot out my offense.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt and my sorrow,  
and cleanse me from all of my sin.
2. My offenses, truly I know them, and my sins are always before me;  
against you alone have I sinned, O Lord, what is evil in your sight I have done.
3. Create in me a clean heart, O God, put your steadfast spirit in my soul.  
Cast me not away from your presence, O Lord, and take not your spirit from me.
4. Give back to me the joy of your salvation, let your willing spirit bear me up  
and I shall teach your way to the ones who have wandered,  
and bring them all home to your side.

SECOND READING | Romans 5:12-19

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony Alonzo

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: 1-11

HOMILY

## NICENE CREED

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

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

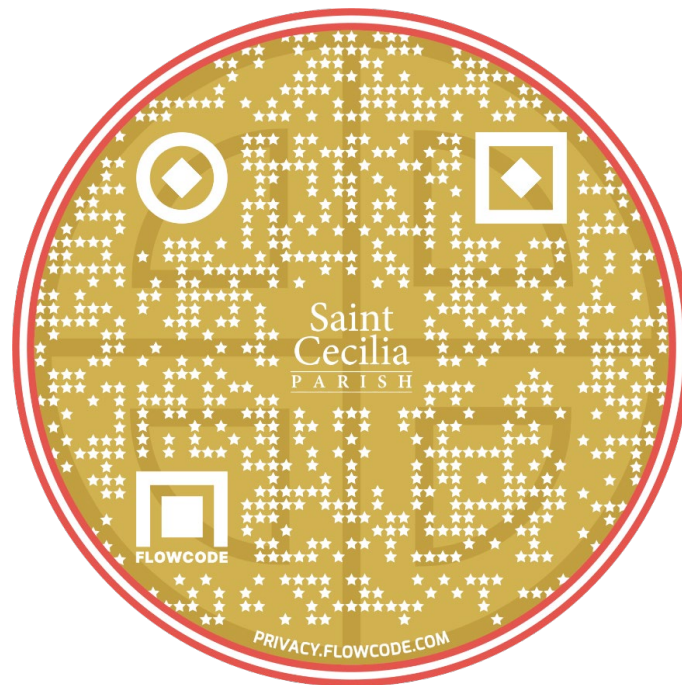
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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

You can also mail a check to:

Saint Cecilia Parish  
18 Belvidere Street  
Boston, MA 02115



# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | Hosea

Gregory Norbet

Verses



1. Come back to me with all your heart.  
    & Trees do bend, 'though straight and tall;
2. The wil - der - ness will lead you  
    In - teg - ri - ty and jus - tice,
3. & You shall sleep se - cure with peace;



Don't let fear keep us a - part.  
so must we to oth - ers' call. *(To refrain)*  
to your heart where I will speak.  
With ten - der - ness, & you shall know. *(To refrain)*  
faith - ful - ness will be your joy. *(To refrain)*

Refrain



Long have I wait-ed for your com - ing home to me and



liv - ing deep - ly our new life.

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- ✘ The Lord be with you.  
All: And with your spirit.
- ✘ Lift up your hearts.  
All: We lift them up to the Lord.
- ✘ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
All: It is right and just.

SANCTUS | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso

Save us, Sav - ior of the world, for by your  
 Cross and Res - ur - rec-tion you have set us free.

AMEN | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso

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 | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso

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

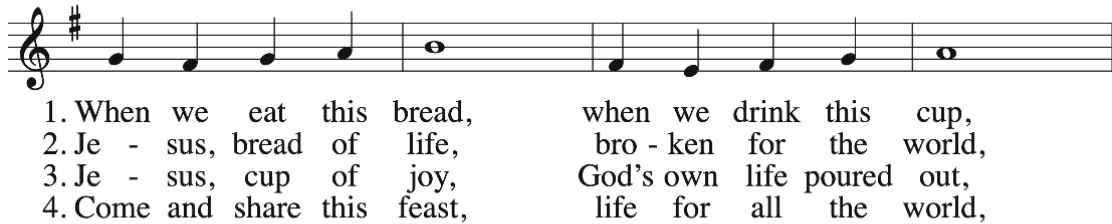
Loving Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist.  
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if you were already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

Refrain

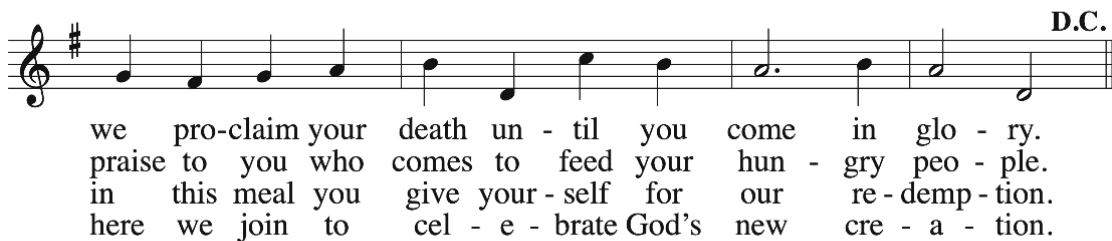


We re - mem - ber how you loved us to your death,  
 and still we cel - e - brate, for you are with us here;  
 and we be - lieve that we will see you when you come  
 in your glo - ry, Lord. We re - mem - ber, we  
 cel - e - brate, we be - lieve.

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,



D.C.

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.

COMMUNION MEDITATION | Lord of All Hopefulness

Barry Rose  
 (b. 1934)

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
 Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can destroy,  
 Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
 Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
 Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
 Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
 Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
3. Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,  
 Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,  
 Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
 Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
 Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,  
 Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
 Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

# CONCLUDING RITE

RECESSIONAL | The Glory of These Forty Days

ERHALT UNS HERR



1. The glo - ry of these for - ty days We  
2. A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw The  
3. So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, De -  
4. Then grant, O God, that we may, too, Re -



cel - e - brate with songs of praise; For Christ, through whom all  
lov - ing God who gave the law; And to E - li - jah,  
liv - ered from the li - ons' might; And John, the Bride - groom's  
turn in fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, Him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
fast - ing, came The steeds and char - i - ots of flame.  
friend, be - came The her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.  
with your grace, And give us joy to see your face.

POSTLUDE | Oboe Sonata in A minor, BWV 41, No. 2, *Spiritoso*  
Elizabeth England, *oboe* and Brett Maguire, *parish organist*

Georg Philip Telemann  
(1681-1767)

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

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

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

# WELCOME!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**Saturday, February 21 | 5:00 p.m.**

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant  
Theresa Chaklos, lector

**Sunday, February 22 | 8:00 a.m.**

Rev. Jim Shaughnessy, SJ, celebrant  
Clare Gillis, lector

**Sunday, February 22 | 9:30 a.m.**

Rev. John Unni, celebrant  
Rev. Mr. Christopher Brolly, SJ, deacon  
Erin Young, Virgen Palermo, Kelly McClintock, lectors

**Sunday, February 22 | 11:30 a.m.**

Rev. John Unni, celebrant  
Rev. Mr. Christopher Brolly, SJ, deacon  
Thomas O'Brien, Moira Macdonald, Jen Koweiski, lectors

**Sunday, February 22 | 6:00 p.m.**

Rev. John Predmore, SJ, celebrant  
Laura Melle, lector

## SPECIAL INTENTIONS

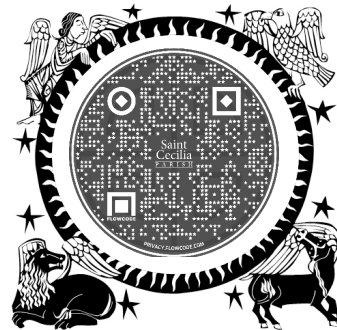
**Saturday, February 21 | 5:00 p.m.**

Eugenia Valente, *Memorial*

**Sunday, February 22 | 9:30 a.m.**

Carol Howland, *Anniversary*  
Raffaele Santoro, *Memorial*  
Mark Brostowski, *Memorial*  
Walter Conn, *Memorial*

Scan this code for  
offertory giving:



Thank you for your generous  
support of Saint Cecilia Parish!

## TODAY'S READINGS

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT READINGS

Genesis 12:1-4a

2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Matthew 17:1-9



# PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

## Our Deceased

**Dr. Lyle Micheli** died on December 14. Pray for the repose of his soul and for the consolation of his wife, Anne. The funeral Mass will be celebrated at Saint Cecilia on February 21 at 10:00 a.m.

**John Reynolds** died on February 7. Pray for his eternal repose and for the consolation of his family and friends. Funeral arrangements are pending.

**Philip Slotnick** died on February 14. Pray for the repose of his soul and for the consolation of his wife, Priscilla, and their family. The funeral Mass was celebrated at Saint Cecilia on February 18. May his memory be a blessing.

**Frank LaPiana** died on February 16. Pray for his eternal repose and for the consolation of his family and friends. Funeral arrangements are pending.

May their souls 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, Margaret Flagg, Paul Surette, and Deirdre Sullivan.**

## Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish!

We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our community: **Caitlin Cevasco, Walter Landergan, Barbara and Robert Rosiello, Carmen McCuen Ogando, James Anderson, Stephanie and Stefan DePaul, Ali Senior, Susan Johnson, Fernanda Reyes Espinosa, Sabrina Chaklos, Daniel DiSisto, and Teresa Hawkins.** If you have not previously registered, you can do so online at [www.stceciliaboston.org](http://www.stceciliaboston.org).

## Take Home a Little Black Book for Lent

These books are available in the narthex. You're invited to take one home and spend just six minutes a day in reflection to prepare for our celebration of Easter. If you aren't coming to church in person, you can order your own directly from their website at [littlebooks.org](http://littlebooks.org). They are available in paper (\$5) and ebook (\$5) formats. You can also get all the seasonal books on the Little Books app available for iOS and Android devices at [littlebooks.org/app](http://littlebooks.org/app).



## Lenten Wednesdays — Mass & Reconciliation

On all the Wednesday evenings of Lent (February 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25; and April 1) we will celebrate Mass in the sanctuary at 6:00. Following Mass, confessions will be heard until 8:00 for anyone who wishes to celebrate the sacrament. If you've been away from the sacrament for a long time, rest assured, the clergy will guide you through reconciliation and there's no need to be nervous about the structure of the rite. Come celebrate the sacrament of God's mercy and healing love this Lent.

## Lenten Accompaniment with Fr. Jim Shaughnessy, SJ

Deepen your spiritual journey this Lent with personal check-ins with Father Jim Shaughnessy, SJ. Available by appointment, Father Jim offers spiritual conversation, blessings, discernment mentoring, and guidance in praying the Ignatian Examen. If you're seeking spiritual accompaniment or would like to explore your prayer life, we invite you to connect with him. To schedule a meeting, please call reception at (617) 536-4548.

## Catholic Appeal 2026

Once a year, Catholics in the Archdiocese of Boston are asked to join together to support their parish and the wider Church by contributing to the Catholic Appeal. The Appeal is a primary means by which we do our part to support our parishes, schools, and communities. Please help us launch our parish campaign by making an online donation at [bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org).



*Follow Me, Satan (The Temptation of Christ) by Ilya Repin (1901)*

## LENTEN PRAYER IN THE IGNATIAN TRADITION

### THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

Are you looking for something to do during Lent this year? If so, this might be just the thing! Fr. John Predmore, SJ will host six Lenten online prayer sessions to accompany participants through the major movements of The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits. Participants will gather via Zoom to discuss the major prayer movements of the week, and to discuss the graces received over the past week. Participants will be invited to find some time to spend in prayer each day. The gatherings will take place every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. beginning on February 25 (The First Week of Lent) and ending on April 1 (Wednesday of Holy Week).

- **Time:** February 25, 2026, 7:00 PM (EST)  
And on March 4, 11, 18, 25, & April 1
- **Zoom Link:** <https://bchigh.zoom.us/j/86986460260?pwd=89ugakXLWXzrbqapmvG1JlxpHfeJtP.1>
- **Meeting ID:** 869 8646 0260 | **Passcode:** 674764

## 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.



## MENTAL HEALTH DROP-IN GROUP

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22 | 1PM | CLASSROOM 1**

*"For spiritually alive people, for people of deep and genuine faith, we don't want to surrender to despair and cynicism, reactivity and fragmentation. We want to be healed and empowered, so we can participate in healing and empowering other people."*

—Brian McLaren

All are invited to come to the next Mental Health Drop-In Group rescheduled for Sunday afternoon, February 22 at 1:00. We will be viewing a video message from Dr. Brian McLaren on "Good News for a Fractured World" followed by a small group discussion. Dr. McLaren is on the core faculty of the Center for Action and Contemplation located in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and is an author, speaker, activist, and public theologian. He is a passionate advocate for a Christianity that is just, generous, and works with people of all faiths for the common good. We hope you'll join us!

## AFTDJ ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

**STARTS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

A Faith That Does Justice is offering free English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. Two-hour class sessions occur 2 days per week for 15 weeks beginning the week of February 22. Sessions are virtual using WhatsApp and Zoom. In-person sessions may eventually become available. Interested applicants may scan the QR Code to the right to apply. Once AFTDJ receives your application, they will follow up with next steps and details about the schedule.



## FAST FOR A GREENER LENT

Lenten spiritual traditions include fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. Deepen your ecological spirituality this Lent by signing up for the Greener Lent program at <https://greenerlent.org> where there are opportunities to reduce meat consumption beyond the usual Fridays in Lent, or commit to daily prayer for Care for God's Creation.

When you register, please be sure to pick "St Cecilia Boston" as your group. Also, if you need some vegetarian recipes, check these out: <https://goodnewsveg.com/good-recipes/>.

## KEEPING THE SHELVES STOCKED AT DORCHESTER FOOD PANTRIES

### HELP OUR NEIGHBORS STRUGGLING WITH FOOD INSECURITY

Whether you are present in person for Sunday Mass or watch the livestream, it's hard not to smile when children from the parish bring forward food donations during the Offertory that will support the Catholic Charities' Yawkey Center Food Pantry and the Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry—both in Dorchester.

Items we like to donate to these pantries include:

- Canned tuna fish
- Peanut butter
- Boxed macaroni & cheese
- Cooking oil
- Boxed pasta
- Canned chicken breast
- Tomato sauce

If you attend Mass at Saint Cecilia you can deposit donated food in the baskets located in the narthex. If you prefer to order online, please have your donations shipped to:

Hunger & Homelessness Ministry  
Saint Cecilia Parish  
18 Belvidere Street  
Boston, MA 02115

In addition there are envelopes on a table in the narthex if you wish to send a check to Catholic Charities. Please make your check payable to "Catholic Charities Boston" and write "Food Pantry" on the memo line.

Please note: We cannot accept donations of baked goods, produce, or anything perishable.

Food pantries nationwide are reporting record-high demand as food insecurity rises, driven by food and housing inflation and the end of pandemic-era SNAP benefits. Your donations each week make a difference in the lives of our neighbors struggling to put food on the table. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



## COMING UP AT SAINT CECILIA

**FEBRUARY 21 - 26**

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Weekly Lenten Devotional | 9am | Comm. Room

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Wisdom Group | 8:30am via Zoom

Small Groups | After the 9:30 Mass | Classroom 3

Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election | 11:30 Mass

Mental Health Drop In Group | 1pm | Classroom 1

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Belvidere Midday Tuesday | 12pm | Comm. Room

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Mass + Reconciliation | 6pm

Small Group Connections | 8pm via Zoom

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Lenten Prayer with Fr. John Predmore, SJ | 7pm via Zoom

Wisdom Group | 7:30pm via Zoom

## WISDOM & MATURE SPIRITUALITY GROUP

**THURSDAY EVENINGS | 7:30–8:30 PM | ZOOM**

**SUNDAY MORNINGS | 8:30–9:30 AM | ZOOM**

The parish Wisdom & Mature Spirituality group holds two weekly online gatherings, with the hope of sharing ways in which faith can inform and enrich us during the second half of life. Conversations are often informed by shared spiritual reading, but reading the book is always optional. The next book that this group will be reading is *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*, by Richard Rohr, OFM. In one review, American historian, author, scholar, and ordained Episcopal priest, Lauren Winner writes,

"The message of *Falling Upward* is straightforward and bracing: the spiritual life is not static. You will come to a crisis in your life, and after the crisis, if you are open to it, you will enter a space of spiritual refreshment, peace, and compassion that you could not have imagined before."

To request more information about joining these online gatherings or to be added to the ministry's mailing list, please send an email to the ministry.

**FAR FLUNG FLOCK COFFEE HOUR:  
SR. JULIA UPTON, RSM**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 1 | 4PM ET VIA ZOOM**

The FFF is pleased to welcome Sister Julia Upton, Provost Emerita and Distinguished Professor of Theology at St. John's University, New York to the online coffee hour on March 1st. Dr Upton is an esteemed author and proud member of the FFF. As a participant in Societas Liturgica, an international society for liturgical study and renewal, Sr. Julia has been studying online worship and faith sharing. She will share and discuss "Learning from the Distanced Church" with us. Please join the conversation!

**PIZZA AFTER 6PM MASS**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 1 | AFTER 6PM MASS**

Join us in the parish hall for pizza, fellowship, and connection after the 6pm Mass!

**BEREAVEMENT GROUP**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 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.

**SMALL GROUP CONNECTIONS**

**IN PERSON:**  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
After the 9:30 Mass  
Classroom 3

**ONLINE:**  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays  
8pm EST  
via Zoom

Join the Parish Pastoral Council for prayerful conversation inspired by Sunday's Gospel in person and online. To sign up, please email the PPC at [ppc@stceciliaboston.org](mailto:ppc@stceciliaboston.org). Walk-ins are always welcome!

**RITE OF ELECTION**

Lent is a time to keep in prayer those adults preparing for Christian initiation. This year we are blessed to have 10 catechumens preparing for the Easter sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist; 11 candidates, already baptized in other Christian traditions, who are preparing for reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church and the sacraments of confirmation and Eucharist; five baptized Catholics who are preparing for reception of confirmation and Eucharist; and one catechized Catholic preparing for confirmation. This is a momentous time for these 27 men and women, and it is our privilege to accompany them.

**CATECHUMENS**

Lena Brown  
Ronan Foley  
Olivia Olson  
David Pepin  
Jared Richards  
Josie Sawhney  
Caroline Sha  
Nicholas Ward  
Natalie Vlyaran  
Quinn Zhang

**CANDIDATES FOR FULL COMMUNION**

Elijah Arnold  
Cutter Arey  
Kristin Bafaro  
Adrienne Pettiette Erlinger  
Thomas Gallagher  
Christina Hong  
Noel Lethbridge  
Lauren Olson-Sidford  
Erica Schofield  
Jared Richards  
Georgette-Vanell Wandji

**UNCATECHIZED CATHOLICS PREPARING FOR  
CONFIRMATION & EUCHARIST**

Molly Donahue  
Renato Henrique de Gaspi  
Jerry Magliota  
Kate Ravenscroft  
Sullivan Shackelford

**CATECHIZED CATHOLIC PREPARING FOR  
CONFIRMATION**

Marina Zucker Marques

**WOMEN HELPING WOMEN**

**A MORNING OF FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, AND COMPASSION**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7 | 10:00 AM | PARISH HALL**

In honor of International Women's Day (March 8), join us for a women's breakfast as we gather around the table to pray, connect, and reflect on how Christ calls us to care for one another. This morning will introduce a shared vision of women helping women—especially our sisters at Women's Lunch Place and similar area programs. Together, we'll listen, learn, and explore simple, meaningful ways to respond to the needs of one another with mercy, dignity, and hope.

For more information, please reach out to Ann Faldetta or Mary Wessel at her parish email.

**A CONCERT BY THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY GLEE CLUB**

**MARCH 7 | 8:00 PM | SAINT CECILIA CHURCH**

We are honored to host the United States Naval Academy Glee Club for a concert at Saint Cecilia on Saturday, March 7. The program of choral works will include sea shanties, patriotic selections, classical repertoire, and contemporary selections from the club's specialty ensembles—barbershop quartet, women's ensemble, and men's a cappella. The USNA Glee Club has achieved national prominence as one of America's premier choral ensembles, and has performed extensively throughout the United States and abroad.

This concert is free and open to the public.

**SPACE TO SHARE**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 | 6:30PM 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!

**DORCHESTER'S 17TH ANNUAL SAINT PATRICK'S DAY BRUNCH**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | 9:30AM – 12PM**

**SAINT MARGARET CHURCH (800 COLUMBIA ROAD, DORCHESTER, MA)**

Join us for Dorchester's 17th Annual Saint Patrick's Day Brunch. This year, Congressman Stephen F. Lynch, General President Edward A. Kelly from the International Association of Fire Fighters, and WORK Inc. will be inducted into Dorchester's Hall of Fame. All proceeds from the brunch will go to the Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry.

For more information, please call reception to receive Pattie Brett's contact information.



**Camp Fatima**  
*Catholic Overnight Camp for Boys*  
Gilmanton Iron Works, NH

• Build leadership skills  
• Guide and mentor others  
• Model the Catholic Faith

Apply Today  
www.bfcamp.com

**Hiring Counselors**  
*June 20th - August 8th*

The poster features a collage of images: a boy in a blue shirt and shorts, a large metal cross, a stylized blue 'F', a boy in a black life vest, and a scenic view of a lake with trees. A QR code is also present.



THANK YOU FROM  
CATHOLIC CHARITIES  
BOSTON



Dear Saint Cecilia Parish,

On behalf of Catholic Charities Boston, thank you for your parish's generosity through the Saint Cecilia Advent Giving Tree. Because of your support, we were able to provide clothing and toys for children at the Yawkey Child Care Center in Dorchester, winter clothing and accessories for adults who participate in English classes and job training at El Centro in Jamaica Plain, and grocery store gift cards for clients in the Refugee and Immigrants program. Your compassion helped ensure our neighbors had access to these essentials and during a time of great need.

Thanks to your support, Catholic Charities Boston can continue to be a beacon of hope for tens of thousands of neighbors who rely on us for shelter, emergency assistance, and long-term support.

As we stand committed to meeting our neighbors' increased needs while weathering significant cuts in public funding, the partnership of parish communities like Saint Cecilia's is more essential than ever. Please know how thankful we are for your partnership and for the compassion your parish shows to those most in need.

With sincere gratitude,

**Alicia Ridenour**  
*Senior Director of Volunteer Programs*  
*Catholic Charities Boston*

THANK YOU FROM  
MARY ANN BRETT FOOD  
PANTRY



Dear Saint Cecilia Parishioners,

Once again a sincere heartfelt thank you for all of the toys and gift cards received this past Christmas Season for the many families in our community who visit the Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry weekly for their groceries. Due to your generosity, we were able to bring lots of smiles and joy to the children. We couldn't have done this without partners like you. Your kindness plays a crucial role in assisting us in accomplishing our mission to support these local families in need. Thank you for your caring and for helping us create special memories.

God loves a cheerful giver!

With deep gratitude,

**Jim and Pattie Brett**  
*Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry*



# A SURRENDERED LENT: Or How to Pick Penances that Bear Fruit While the World Burns

BY EMILY STIMPSON CHAPMAN

I used to love Lent. Twenty years ago, when I was newly returned to the Church and for many years afterwards, I would spend weeks contemplating what acts of penance I would perform and what devotions I would practice. It felt like a spiritual New Year, a chance to clean house for my soul, double down on discipline, and start anew.

And maybe it was that for a while. Maybe there were Lents where I successfully ran the spiritual marathon and dashed across the Easter finish line feeling all fresh, shiny, and strong. There likely were. God probably indulged me for a while, letting me have Lents where I thought I was doing a super amazing job at offering up all the things.

It's hard to remember those Lents now, though. I remember the feeling of loving Lent, but not the details of succeeding at it. Those have all been crowded out by Lent after Lent after Lent that has gone the exact opposite of how I planned.

This will be my twenty-second Lent since I returned to the Church, and looking back on them, what I mostly see is me having a plan, then God taking over and permitting some cross or trial or challenge in my life that subsumed my Lent—that, in truth, became my Lent, as I struggled to accept it and offer it back up to Him.

I'm not complaining, though. Not really. It's always been for the best. God always knows better what I need to grow closer to Him than I do. He also knows how good it is for me to make a plan, then see it turn upside down. Or to fail at it entirely. It reminds me that on my own, I can do nothing. All is grace. All is Jesus.

These days, as I think about my plans for Lent, I admit I feel a bit nervous. I can't help but wonder what He has in store for me this year. What new challenge will rear its head in the coming weeks and upend my prayerfully made plan? Loss? Sickness? Nuclear



Photo: Anastasia Kolchanov

*Ash Wednesday at Saint Cecilia (2025)*

Holocaust? I'm ruling nothing out at this point. Whatever it is, though, I expect my Lent will end up being defined not by the penance or practice I choose, but rather by simply surviving what life (or Putin) throws at me.

Nevertheless, I still have a plan. Not a plan like I would have had in the days of old, but a simple and flexible one, formed according to the principles I've hammered out for Lenten

practices over the last two decades. I'm sharing them this month here with the hopes that, as you pray through these last strange days of ordinary time, they might help you plan your Lent, grow through Lent, and hold the whole of Lent, not so much loosely, but rather with the attitude of surrender, saying to Jesus, "Here's what I think best, but Thy will, not mine."

As always, take what is useful. Leave the rest.

**1. Remember, Lent is not the Spiritual Olympics.**

It's not. It's not a contest, to see who is more virtuous, more disciplined, or more capable of sacrificing all the things. It's not an opportunity to set a Personal Record in holiness and outdo Lents past. It's not an endurance test to see who has what it takes to make it into the Kingdom of God.

Instead, Lent is about growing closer to Jesus. It's about reflecting on what is holding us back from Him and letting go of those things. (Or, more realistically, one of those things.) It's about growing in understanding of what Jesus did for us on Calvary and why He needed to do that in the first place. It's about feeling sorrow for our sins and gratitude for His mercy. Lent is about our hearts, far more than it is about our actions. If the actions we're doing during Lent aren't softening our hearts and changing our hearts and making them more completely His, then something is wrong. Either we're doing the wrong actions or we're doing them with the wrong attitude.

**2. Keep it simple.**

More and bigger sacrifices during Lent do not make for a better Lent. It's better to do one thing, faithfully, thoughtfully, and with great love, than to do a host of things half-heartedly and occasionally. In the past, the more penances and practices I've taken on for Lent, the more penances and practices I've abandoned before Easter. When I try to do too much, I end up not doing anything at all. One penance after another falls by the wayside, either because I get overwhelmed by them or because none of them really have my heart and attention. The simple Lents, with simple penances and practices, always end better than the Lents when I try to do all the things.

**3. Don't neglect prayer.**

Prayer is one of the three pillars of Lent. Along with fasting and almsgiving, it's what the Church asks us to do in a particularly focused way during this season. But that prayer isn't just another Lenten practice. It's not simply adding in a daily Rosary or getting to daily

Mass. Prayer is what makes a fruitful Lent possible. It should be how we discern what to do during Lent, and it is how we find the grace to keep doing it. My biggest Lenten failures have always had one thing in common: a lack of prayer. I didn't pray at the beginning and ask God to help me see what practices or penances He wanted me to take on. And I didn't pray enough throughout Lent, asking God for the grace to endure, be faithful to my commitments, and allow me to draw closer to Him through them. Instead, I tried to power through Lent on my own, relying on my wisdom, my strength, my will, not His. And that never turns out well.

**4. Be realistic.**

Come Lent, it can be tempting to tackle the biggest problems in our personality or life by taking on grand sweeping penances that we think will change us for good. So, we vow to give up losing our temper...or procrastinating...or complaining...or, as I did one Lent, expressing my opinions. Yes, opinions, all opinions—about the weather, about the liturgy, about clothing and food and classes, about everything. My heart was in the right place. I knew I had a bad habit of sharing my opinions too freely—often at the wrong time and more often in the wrong ways. I wanted to learn to be more thoughtful. That was good. But it wasn't realistic.

Unless one takes a vow of silence, nobody can give up expressing opinions. It's how we converse. It's human nature. It was too much. Just like vowing to never lose our temper or never procrastinate or never complain, when those bad habits run deep in us, can be too much. It would have been better for me that Lent if I'd decided to give up expressing political opinions. Or opinions on liturgical music. Or (if social media had existed at the time) disagreeing with people in comment boxes. I should have picked something small and doable with which to practice holding my tongue. But I went big... and fell flat on my face. I could barely go 40 minutes without expressing an opinion, let alone 40 days. By the time Lent ended, I felt a whole lot worse about myself, but not one bit closer to Jesus.

Small, targeted, doable penances—like saying a prayer for people that cut us off in traffic instead of honking our horn at them to address anger issues, or picking one person whom we tend to complain about and, when temptation strikes, finding something for which to praise them instead—will, in the end, bear far more fruit...and leave us less discouraged come Easter Sunday.

**5. Don't choose a penance that leads to sin.**

This one seems self-evident...but it wasn't always evident

to me. Consider, for example, the Lent that I took on a graduated fast. Every week, I gave up something new—the first week sugar, the second week sugar and gluten, the third week sugar, gluten, and dairy. Or something like that. Whatever the order, by the end of Lent I was eating like a vegan Mormon Celiac on a diet, and I was a wench! I was so crabby and so short-tempered and so wrapped up in how miserable and hungry I was, that I'm surprised my roommates didn't kick me out of the house. There also were numerous years where I attempted to give up coffee or putting sugar in my coffee or milk in my coffee. By the fourth time I attempted to mess with my coffee for Lent, my friends banded together and told me flat out I was no longer permitted to take on any Lenten penances that involved coffee. It wasn't fair to them.

It's funny now, but it wasn't funny then. I really was unpleasant. And our Lenten penance should not make us unpleasant. It should be penance for us, but not anyone else. If we can give up coffee or eat only one meal a day or get to Mass every day during Lent and do it with a good spirit and balanced blood sugar and while still fulfilling our duties at home or work, we should do it. Those are all good things. But if we're being a bear to everyone around us while we carry out our Lenten penance, we are missing the point. Charity comes first.

### **6. Give. Don't just give up.**

Almsgiving is often the most neglected of Lenten practices. Most of us spend the days and weeks before Lent thinking about what things we'll sacrifice and what devotions we'll adopt, but we forget that along with penance and prayer, we're also supposed to give alms. In the faces of those in need, we are supposed to see ourselves, who are always in need of Christ's grace. And through giving to those in need, we're supposed to learn both detachment from material goods and greater trust in God's provision, both of which are prerequisites for growing in holiness.

Almsgiving does one more thing: It prevents our Lent from being all about us. It calls us out of ourselves and asks us to see the world with the eyes of Christ—the suffering, the pain, the hunger. It softens our hearts, helps us to grow in compassion, and binds us in solidarity with the Christ who gave all for a suffering world. So, as you plan for Lent, think about how you will give to others during this season—through checks written, Masses said, or time spent.

### **7. It's just a season.**

We hang so very much on Lent, expecting great things to happen in our soul during those 40 or so days. We hope to kick bad habits, develop new and better habits, have deep spiritual insights, and be overwhelmed with joy when Easter finally arrives. When none of those things happen—when penances and practices fall by the wayside and the trials of life keep coming and we get to Easter feeling every bit as tired and weak as we did on Fat Tuesday—it's tempting to say we had a "bad" Lent, that we failed at it, that the whole season was pointless for us.

But sometimes, our failure is the best fruit of Lent. It can be a solid annual reminder that we are not the saviors of our souls. That title belongs to Jesus alone. "Bad Lents" are, in fact, good Lents, if they help us learn just how weak and broken we are, how we can't do anything by our own power, and how badly we need Jesus.

Holiness is the work of a lifetime, not a season, and it happens in fits and starts, through a constant succession of failures and victories, successes and setbacks, all experienced in the midst of new trials and crosses. These 40 odd days can be part of that, but they're never the whole of it.

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So, that's the best advice I've got for now. Pray. Ask God what He wants you to do. Sacrifice something that will lead you to lean more heavily on Jesus. Pray some more. Give generously. And don't despair if life happens and all your carefully laid plans go out the window. Because the way this Lent is starting off, they probably will.



*Originally published in Emily Stimpson Chapman's blog, Through a Glass Darkly, on February 25, 2022.*

*Emily Stimpson Chapman is a best-selling Catholic author of over a dozen books. Over the years her writing has appeared in Our Sunday Visitor, First Things, Touchstone, Franciscan Way, the National Catholic Register, Faith and Family, Lay Witness, and Catholic Digest.*

# THE SACRED GAZE:

LOVING AND SEEING OURSELVES  
AS GOD LOVES AND SEES US

\* with Father John Predmore, SJ \*

March 14 | 9am - 3pm | Parish Hall

## DETAILS

- Requested contribution is \$25.
- Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.
- Each individual attending the retreat must submit a completed registration form –this includes couples.
- Registration opens on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 9am.



To register, please head to:  
[www.stceciliaboston.org/lent-retreat/](http://www.stceciliaboston.org/lent-retreat/)

# REV. MSGR. FRANCIS KELLEY, THE PINE STREET INN'S NORTH STAR

BY DAVID MANZO

Two years ago, making his way to a Pine Street Inn meeting, Father Frank Kelley caught his heel on a sidewalk in the South End. Falling forward, his face hit the pavement. He arrived at the meeting bloodied.

At first, Frank waved off a trip to the hospital. After all, there was work to be done and problems to be solved: Ending homelessness was a bigger goal than tending to his needs.

Eventually, when Frank and I arrived at the Massachusetts General Hospital Emergency Room, Frank waited patiently to be seen. There was nothing that day that would distinguish him from others. But as time passed, all I wanted to say to the staff member was:

“Do you know who this man is? Do you know what he has done for the city? This is the founder of Pine Street Inn!”

But Frank didn't want any special treatment that evening. He patiently waited his turn.

It is impossible to estimate the hours that Frank—who died on Feb. 4 — spent at Pine Street Inn, New England's largest provider of services to men and women experiencing homelessness.

In 1968, as a newly ordained 27-year-old priest, Frank was there when the Association of Boston Urban Priests (ABUP) was approached to save the only shelter Boston had for homeless men, a dilapidated building at the edge of Chinatown at 8 Pine Street.

As Frank recounted it, “We had no idea what we were doing but we knew we needed to do it.”

The Boston we have today, with fewer than 3 percent of our brothers and sisters without shelter (as compared to many cities that exceed 50 percent), is due in large part to Frank's vision and leadership and



Photo: David Manzo

*Father Frank Kelley, far left next to Paul Sullivan as the Inn moved from Chinatown to the South End in 1980.*

three extraordinary Pine Street executive directors, Paul Sullivan, Rich Ring, and Lyndia Downie and their teams. Frank's mentorship and support were keys to each of their successes.

Frank never saw himself as others saw him. In recent years, when others referred to him as the founder of Pine Street Inn, he pulled a two-sided card from his pocket that listed who he felt were the real founders (plural). There were 39 names on it, including his.

For Frank it was never about one person.

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## SAINT CECILIA PARISH

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It struck me that his list included names from early days of the Inn – Bob Walsh, Vin McCarthy, Father Walter Waldron, Kay Whalen, Kathe McKenna and Barbara McInnis, but it also included more recent names like Mayor Tom Menino and Tim Barrett.

In Frank's mind, Pine Street Inn was always evolving. That was what kept it effective.

The early days of the Inn were, as Paul Sullivan said, "three hots and a cot." Frank knew that we needed more than shelter beds. We needed a comprehensive approach that included job training, day and overnight outreach vans, collaboration with other non-profit groups like Boston Healthcare for the Homeless, working with community and church groups, volunteers, as well as business and political leaders.

Frank helped lead our decades long march until today, when the Inn has created more than 1,100 units of permanent, affordable housing.

Frank always heard the words of his late friend Bob Walsh saying, "Our work is always about finding solutions to ending homelessness."

Father Frank Daly, a classmate of Frank's, recently asked me to describe Frank Kelley's gifts. The answer would be a very long book. But I will share three.

First, in 2000, we began searching for our next executive director. Although Lyndia Downie felt she was "not yet ready" to lead the Inn, Frank pushed her to apply. He knew Lyndia was ready before Lyndia did. *Frank had the ability to see gifts in others that we often could not see in ourselves.*

Second, Frank tied his life to the Gospel message found in Matthew 25: 35-36 that faith is demonstrated through action to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead.

I was struck when Frank said, "I could not do them all so I tried to do one." And he did that one very well! After learning about Frank's death, Rich Ring said to me, *"He lived the Gospel."*

Finally, we would not have the Pine Street Inn we have today without Frank's leadership, including his 30 years as board chair. I remember the board meeting when we voted to boldly expand permanent housing.

Throughout the Inn's many transitions, Frank always reminded us that "we are more of a family than an institution. There is always a tension when you have a large number of people living together. Pine Street teaches us about the human quality. They make room for everyone here."

Frank was relentless in this quest. Even in his final days in hospice at Regina Cleri, Boston's retirement community for diocesan priests, he was still peppering Lyndia with advice on how to continue to move the Inn forward. Frank was not satisfied with mere institutional responses to homelessness. He demanded that we care for the individual needs of each guest.

I will leave it to others to discuss Frank's impactful work at Sacred Heart in Roslindale and with the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) and with all the people he mentored, counseled, and prayed for and with.

For at his core, this man was a parish priest, whose parish not only included the men and women at Pine Street Inn, but the entire City of Boston.

Lyndia summed up Frank's leadership and compassion: "He was our North Star."



*Originally published in Dot News on February 18, 2026.*

*David Manzo volunteered at the old Inn at 8 Pine Street. He joined the Pine Street Inn Board in 1988, served as board chair from 2002 to 2006 and is currently a life trustee.*



# PARISH OPERATING STATEMENT: Q2

We are pleased to present the Parish Operating Statement for the first half of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. We ended with a surplus of \$458,419 which enabled us to make our usual \$75,000 allocation to the Capital Repairs Reserve Account.

During the first half of the year total income was over budget by \$201,901. Total expenses were under budget by \$256,238. This is not unusual and is the result of very generous contributions from our parishioners at the end of the calendar year. We expect to end the year very close to budget.

As always, we continue to be appreciative and thankful for your very generous support of the parish and our ministries. We urge you to continue your stewardship as we all strive to make Saint Cecilia a vibrant and positive force in our community.

**FYE JUNE 30, 2026 BUDGET**

<u>OPERATING STATEMENT</u>	QUARTER ENDING	FISCAL YEAR ENDING
	December 31, 2025	June 30, 2026
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		
Sunday Offertory Income	\$ 1,093,079	\$ 1,107,500
Special Donations Income	\$ 680,500	\$ 526,500
Operating Income	\$ 224,461	\$ 185,500
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 74,236	\$ 50,875
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 2,072,276</b>	<b>\$ 1,870,375</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>		
Personnel Expenses	\$ 742,343	\$ 811,793
Office Expenses	\$ 137,118	\$ 137,375
Liturgy Expenses	\$ 66,434	\$ 71,050
Building Expenses	\$ 337,811	\$ 487,168
Other Expenses	\$ 330,151	\$ 362,709
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 1,613,857</b>	<b>\$ 1,870,095</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 458,419</b>	<b>\$ 280</b>
TRANSFER FOR CAPITAL REPAIRS ACCT	\$ (75,000)	\$ (75,000)
<b>FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 383,419</b>	<b>\$ (74,720)</b>

## SAINT CECILIA FINANCE COUNCIL

Father John Unni, *Pastor*  
 Matt Maguire, *Chair*  
 Bonnie Blanchfield  
 Alicia Cooney  
 Mark Duggan  
 Jason Grapski

Cole Young  
 Colleen Melaugh,  
*Director of Finance & Development*  
 Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien,  
*Pastoral Director of Operations*

# 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

[bmaguire@stceciliaboston.org](mailto:bmaguire@stceciliaboston.org)

**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 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.