

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4 February 2024

Healing Peter's Mother-in-Law by John Bridges

Saint Cecilia

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4 February 2024

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | Chorale No. 1 in E Major, Introduction

César Franck
(1822-1890)

THE ORDER OF THE MASS INTRODUCTORY RITES

PROCESSIONAL HYMN | As a Fire is Meant for Burning

BEACH SPRING



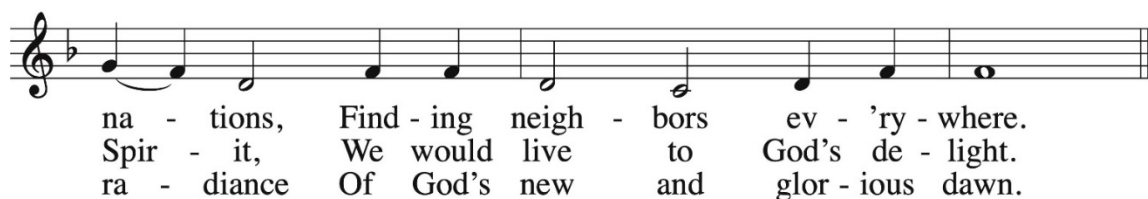
1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing With a
2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; We are
3. As a green bud in the spring - time Is a

bright and warm - ing flame, So the Church is meant for
pil - grims on the way. We are seek - ers; we are
sign of life re - newed, So may we be signs of

mis - sion, Giv - ing glo - ry to God's name.
giv - ers; We are ves - sels made of clay.
one - ness Mid earth's peo - ples, man - y hues.

As we wit - ness to the gos - pel, We would
By our gen - tle, lov - ing ac - tions, We would
As a rain - bow lights the heav - ens When a

build a bridge of care, Join - ing hands a - cross the
show that Christ is light. In a hum - ble, lis - t'ning
storm is past and gone, May our lives re - flect the



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.

PENITENTIAL ACT

GLORIA | Mass of Renewal

Curtis Stephan

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



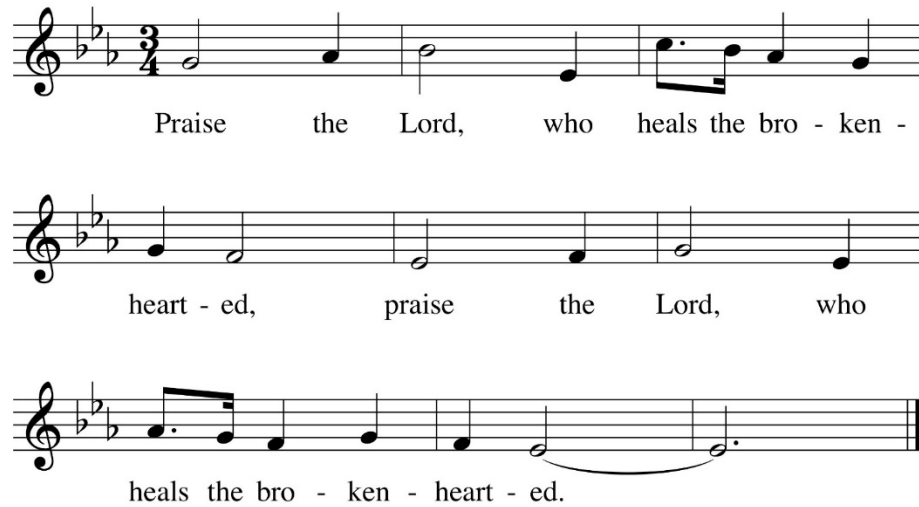
Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God,
 Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a -
 way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you take a -
 way the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer; you are seat - ed
 at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer -
 cy, have mer - cy on us. For you a - lone are the
 Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the
 Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men, a - men.

COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 147: Praise the Lord, Who Heals the Brokenhearted Marty Haugen

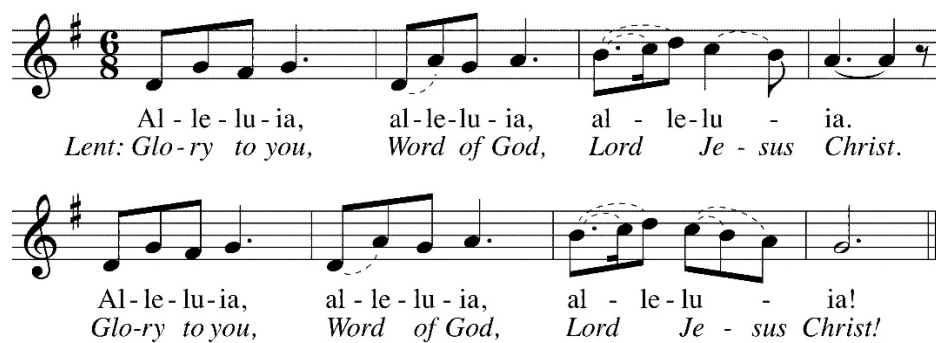


1. How good to sing psalms to our God; how pleasant to chant fitting praise!
The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles.
2. He heals the brokenhearted; he binds up all their wounds.
He counts out the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name.
3. Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord Lifts up the lowly; he casts down the wicked to the ground.

SECOND READING | 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Jubilation Mass

James Chepponis



GOSPEL | Mark 1: 29-39

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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!

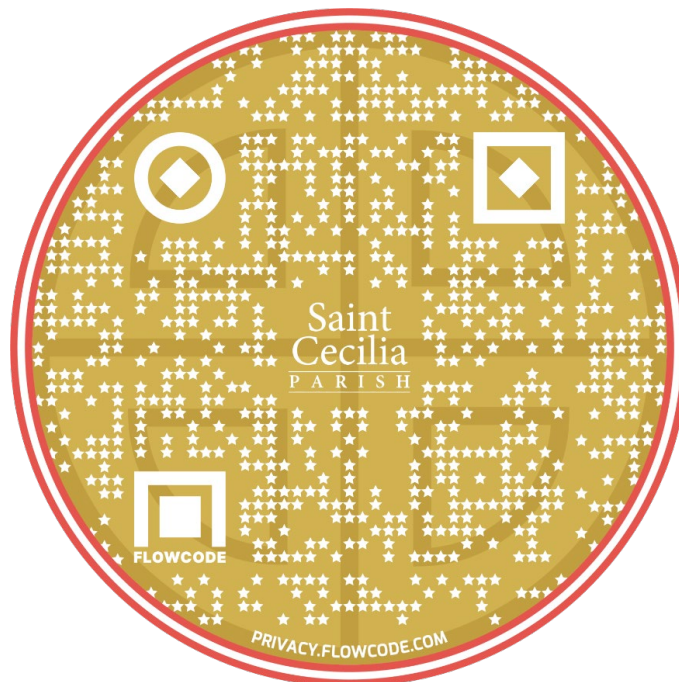
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS | Healer of Our Every Ill

Marty Haugen

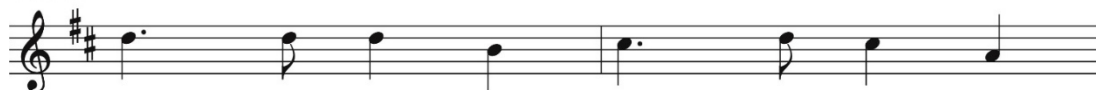


Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, Light of each to - mor - row,



Give us peace be - yond our fear And hope be - yond our sor - row.

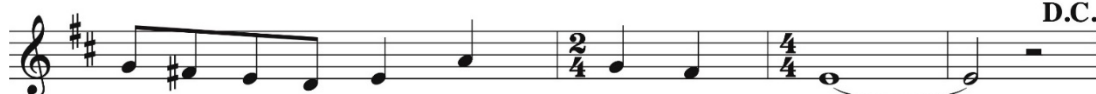
Verses



1. You who know our fears and sad - ness,
2. In the pain and joy, be - hold - ing
3. Give us strength to love each oth - er,
4. You who know each thought and feel - ing,



Grace us with your peace and glad - ness.
How your grace is still un - fold - ing,
Ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
Teach us all your way of heal - ing.



Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
Give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

D.C.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your
Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come a - gain.

GREAT AMEN | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

A - men. A - men. A - men.

COMMUNION RITE

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.

DOXOLOGY

SIGN OF PEACE

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.” 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. Amen.

Refrain

Come to me, come to me, come when you are wea - ry;
come to me, come to me, and I will give you rest.

Verses 1, 2

1. All who la - bor and are bur - dened,
2. Take my yoke up - on your shoul - ders,
all who la - bor and are bur - dened, let them come to me,
take my yoke up - on your shoul - ders, come and learn from me,
come to me, and I will give them rest.
learn from me, for I am gen - tle of heart.

Verse 3

3. For the heart I hold is hum - ble, yes, the
heart I hold is hum - ble, and my yoke is eas - y, my
bur - den light, and you will find rest for your souls.

Verse 4



4. All the Fa - ther gives will come to me;

all the Fa - ther gives will come to me; and who -

ev - er comes to me, who - ev - er comes to me,

I will nev - er cast out. D.C.

COMMUNION MEDITATION | O Sing to the Lord a New Song

Lloyd Larson

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CONCLUDING RITES

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

✠ The Lord be with you.

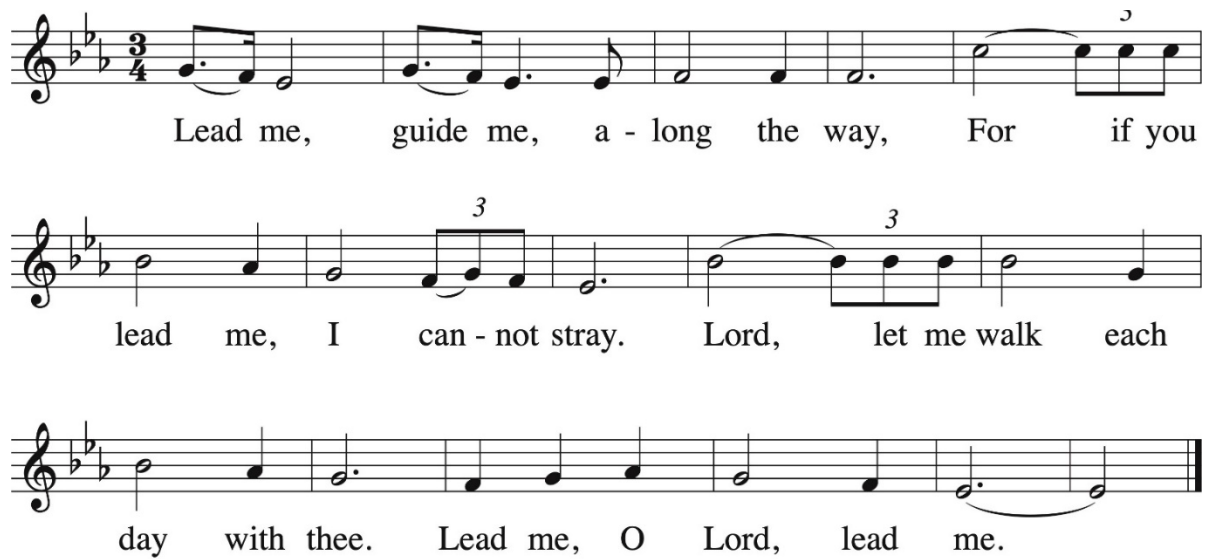
All: And with your spirit.

✠ May almighty God bless you, the Father, (+) and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

✠ Go forth, the Mass is ended.

All: Thanks be to God.



Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, For if you
lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each
day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Verses



1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r To
2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous - ness. Be my
3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am



help me o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the
aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press. I am put - ting
blind with - out thy Light to see. Lord, just al - ways



dark-ness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
let me thy ser - vant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

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.



Congratulations, Bishop Barbosa!



We send our prayers and best wishes to the Most Rev. Cristiano Guilherme Borro Barbosa who will be ordained to the episcopacy of the Archdiocese of Boston by Cardinal Seán this Saturday, February 3 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. Bishop Barbosa will serve as auxiliary bishop of the central region, joining Cardinal Seán and four other auxiliaries as bishops of the archdiocese. Pray for our new bishop, that he will shepherd those under his care with love and will promote unity and peace within the archdiocese.

Bishop Barbosa's episcopal motto is *Ut unum sint* (Latin: "That they all may be one") from Jesus' Farewell Discourse in John's Gospel.

Information for those reading this online who wish to attend the Mass of Episcopal Ordination:

Ordination Mass

Saturday, February 3, 10:00 a.m.
(Procession begins at 9:30)
Cathedral of the Holy Cross
2400 Washington Street

A reception will follow at Cathedral High School Hall.

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, February 3 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Maggie Giles, lector

Sunday, February 4 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, celebrant
Emily St. Germain, lector

Sunday, February 4 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Christie Hedges, Virgen Palermo, and Jen Jowieski, lectors

Sunday, February 4 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Cynthia Wanner, Megan Altendorf, and Esteban Vanegas, lectors

Sunday, February 4 | 6:00 p.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 4 | 9:30 a.m.

Isabelle Plante, *Memorial*

Sunday, February 4 | 11:30 a.m.

Liz Pino, *14th Anniversary*

TODAY'S READINGS

Job 7:1-4, 6-7

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Mark 1:29-39

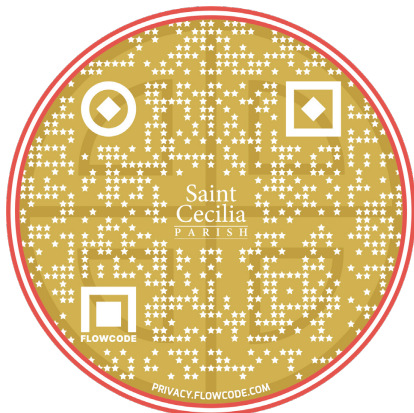
NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1

Mark 1:40-45

SCAN THIS CODE
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH!

PIZZA IS BACK!

February 4, After the 6:00 p.m. Mass

Following the 6:00 p.m. Mass on
the first Sunday of every month, we
invite you to join us downstairs in the
parish hall for pizza and fellowship.
We'll see you there!

PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially Mary Olivieri, Jacqueline Lavelle, Glenn Gallo, Marc Pelletier, Michele Maniscalco, and Fred Tufts.

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish

We are pleased to welcome the following newly-registered members of our parish: **Brian Gaillardetz** of Dorchester, **Lynn Anamasi** of Pineville, North Carolina, **Melissa Tsuboyama** and **Peter Sbardelli** of Brookline, the **Nowak Family** of Cambridge, **Kate Reilly** of Boston, **Lien Zayhowski** of Cambridge, **Shannon Bommelje** of Rochester, New York, **Astrid Love** of Jamaica Plain, and **Kelly McDermott** of Medfield. If you have not previously registered, you can do so at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Memorial of St. Blaise—The Blessing of Throats

This Saturday, the Church remembers Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr. Saint Blaise lived in Turkey and Armenia during the fourth century and once saved a boy who was choking on a fish bone. From the eighth century onwards, Saint Blaise has been invoked on behalf of the sick and it has been said that those who light a candle in his memory will be preserved from illnesses of the throat. The customary Blessing of Throats will be given at the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Friday, February 2.

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

On Friday, February 2, we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which commemorates the Jewish practice of the purification of the mother after childbirth and the presentation of the child to God in the temple. Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 a.m.

World Day for Consecrated Life

In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration occurs on the Sunday following the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (February 2). Today we pray for all those who have consecrated their lives to Christ in the religious life by professing the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. We pray in a special way for **Fr. Jim Shaughnessy, SJ**, a member of the Society of Jesus who is on our pastoral staff; **Fr. Terry Devino, SJ** and **Fr. Peter Gyves, SJ**, both members of the Society of Jesus who assist us by presiding at some of our liturgies; **Fr. Peter Grover, OMC**, a member of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary who

is also one of our regular presiders; **Sr. Ann Marie Cook, SNDdeN** of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and **Sr. Mary Ann Hinsdale, IHM** of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary—both Sisters are active members of our parish. May all men and women in consecrated life continue to live their lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ and respond with generosity of heart to the gift of their vocation.

Celebration of First Reconciliation

On Saturday, February 10, we celebrate the sacrament of first Reconciliation with the 27 children preparing to receive their First Communion on May 11. In their classes, they are learning about how much God loves them and more about how they will be welcomed to God's table through the Eucharist. Pray for our First Communicants and for all the children in our Faith Formation program—that the gentle and loving presence of God continues to be made known to them.

Black History Month

During the month of February we recognize that Black history is American history. To divorce the two is to perpetuate the systematic oppression and violence our neighbors of color face. Though only 29 days long, Black History Month is a time to celebrate and lift up the lives and achievements of Black Americans past and present. We plan to celebrate this year by sharing articles and highlighting some facts about some noteworthy Black figures in history. These values echo the main principles of Catholic Social Teaching, and we pray that they are increasingly embraced by all Americans.

Reminder to All Saint Cecilia Volunteers!

The Archdiocese of Boston, in compliance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has firm guidelines for volunteers in parish ministries. One of these requirements is that every year volunteers complete a CORI. As a parish, we do this each January and when a new volunteer begins. We also ask each volunteer to fill out a ministerial involvement form. This can be returned to the Parish with your CORI form so that we can be sure we have updated information. If you have not completed a CORI yet, please pick up a form from a Reception team member or download it from our website (www.stceciliaboston.org/volunteering/). If you have any questions please email Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien, Pastoral Director of Operations. Thank you!



WINTER WALK BOSTON

Ending homelessness is within our reach! For the eighth consecutive year, a consortium of agencies focused on homelessness are sponsoring a 2-mile fundraising walk through the streets of Boston. The event takes place on Sunday, February 11 at 8:30 a. m. and we will walk during the coldest month of the year. The Walk will begin and end on the Boston Common at the open field at the corner of Beacon and Charles Streets. Participants, housed and unhoused, will walk shoulder to shoulder and then share a meal together. It is hoped that each adult walker will raise \$100—either by paying it as a registration fee or raising it from friends and family. There is a Saint Cecilia Hunger & Homelessness Ministry team again this year—we've participated each year since the event began. We would like to designate Women's Lunch Place as the recipient of the funds we raise this year. If you would like to join or support our team, please go to: <https://secure.ggiv.com/event/winterwalk2024-boston/team/943814/>. Please contact Mark Lippolt at the Hunger and Homelessness Ministry email for more information.

FEBRUARY PARISH RETREAT

We are pleased to report that the number of parishioners who have registered for our February 24 day retreat has been overwhelming! Thank you to everyone who diligently registered. We have nearly 150 people signed up and are now at capacity. If you would like to be added to our waitlist, please contact Scott MacDonald at his parish email address. We look forward to spending a day together cultivating community!

CATIE'S CLOSET

For the third year, we are excited to invite you to support Catie's Closet! Catie's Closet assists kids aged 4-18 who are experiencing poverty by giving them clothing discreetly and respectfully through their schools, including Boston Public Schools. Their goal is to improve school attendance and graduation rates. They have targeted 100 schools locally and serve 70,000 students, on average, daily. This February, in honor of Saint Valentine's Day, we are holding a virtual clothing drive for Catie's Closet. You can get detailed information about their Amazon Wish List at <https://amzn.to/4b7YrZO> or check their website for opportunities to get involved—www.catiescloset.org. We are unable to accept donated items at Saint Cecilia at this time.

NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Tuesday, February 6 | 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Location: Sanctuary in Saint Cecilia Church
Open to: Everyone

On the first Tuesday of every month, our Young Adults host a Holy Hour from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Saint Cecilia sanctuary, and we invite you to give yourself the gift of spending an uninterrupted hour in the presence of Christ in the Eucharist, supported by music and prayer. One parishioner recently described the Holy Hour by saying, "Last night was just filled with healing and grace...it was one of the most powerful experiences I have had at Saint Cecilia, and there have been so many..." Bring yourself, and all that you are carrying, and allow yourself to rest in God's love. ***Please use the St. Cecilia Street entrance and ring the bell to enter the building.***

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK HIGHLIGHT: SAINT COLUMBKILLE PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

Saint Columbkille Partnership School in Brighton partners with Boston College to provide a superior preschool (age 2.9) through grade eight education grounded in the Catholic values of love, respect, and high expectations. Prospective families are invited to attend their virtual open house and in-person tours. On Tuesday, February 6 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a virtual open house, and on Thursday, February 8, and Friday, February 9, there will be in-person tours. You can register at stcps.org. Please note that universal pre-k is available for 4-year-old Boston residents.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

"Is there anyone sick among you?" This question, found in the New Testament Letter of James, gives the response that the sick should call for the priests of the Church who are to pray over and anoint the sick with oil in the name of the Lord. Never hesitate to call the parish office to ask for



prayer and the Sacrament of the Sick prior to surgery or when diagnosed with serious illness. This sacrament is not to be looked upon as the "Last Rites" but rather as a powerful instrument of God's healing presence. On February 11, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Church observes World Day of the Sick. This celebration is a reminder to pray for all those who are sick and to recognize and honor those who work in healthcare and those who serve as caregivers. On Sunday, February 11, we'll observe this day with a special Blessing of Healthcare Workers and Caregivers at the 9:30 and 11:30 liturgies. The Sacrament of the Sick will be offered after the 5:00 p.m. (Saturday), 8:00 a.m., and 11:30 a.m. liturgies that same weekend, for those who are living with physical, mental, or spiritual sickness or the frailty of advanced age. If you would like to take part in this special celebration, be sure to attend one of these liturgies.



AN EVENING WITH THEOLOGIAN JAMES ALISON

The Saint Cecilia Rainbow Ministry is pleased to host an evening with James Alison, Catholic priest, author, and theologian. It will be held in the Parish Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 15. The event will also be livestreamed on the Saint Cecilia YouTube channel

(<https://bit.ly/3HG08Qy>). James Alison (b. 1959) has studied, lived, and worked in Mexico, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Spain, and the United States as well as his native England. Fr. Alison earned his doctorate in theology from the Jesuit Faculty in Belo Horizonte, Brazil in 1994. Fr. Alison was brought up in an Evangelical Anglican family and became a Catholic at the age of 18. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1988. For more information, please see www.JamesAlison.com.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA FEBRUARY 4 – FEBRUARY 11

Sunday, February 4

Wisdom Group, 8:30 a.m. | Zoom
Far-Flung Flock Online Coffee Hour
with Nancy Marek Cote, 4:00 p.m. | Zoom

Monday, February 5

Knitting & Crocheting Meeting, 3:30–4:30 p.m. | Zoom

Tuesday, February 6

RCIA, 6:30 p.m.
Saint Cecilia Holy Hour, 7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 7

SCYA Men's Group, 7:30 a.m. | Zoom
New & Expecting Parents Faith Sharing Group,
10:00 a.m. | Family Flex Room
Communion Circle at Susan Balis House, 3:30 p.m.
SCYA Women's Group, 7:00 p.m. | Zoom

Thursday, February 8

Wisdom Group, 7:30 p.m. | Zoom

Saturday, February 10

First Reconciliation, 10:00 a.m.
SCYA Bingo at Boston Healthcare
for the Homeless, 12:00–3:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 11

Wisdom Group, 8:30 a.m. | Zoom

SCYA LENTEN REFLECTIONS—PRAYER, FASTING, & ALMSGIVING

Mondays (2/12, 2/26, 3/11) | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

**Hybrid [In-Person at Saint Cecilia (Community Room)
& on Zoom] | Open to: Young Adults (18-40)**

How is God inviting you to draw closer to him this Lent? Each Lent, we're invited to pray, fast, and give alms, but what does that look like in 2024? Do you want to try something new this year, but don't know where to start? Consider joining the Saint Cecilia Young Adults (SCYA) in a three-part series as they dive deeply into each of these three Lenten practices! The group will discuss the spirit of these challenging calls and share ideas of how to put them into practice in new ways. Deepen your relationships with God and fellow young adults through this journey of Lenten reflection. RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/3vOQI2A>

ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

BOSTON COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

ANNUAL CANDLEMAS LECTURE

**Catholicity, Sacrifice, and Shame: Subverting Polarization
in Our Contemporary Ecclesial and Political Cultures**

Presenter: James Alison, theologian, priest, and author

Wednesday, February 7, 7:00 p.m.

Gasson Hall, 100, Chestnut Hill Campus

For more information and to register: https://events.bc.edu/event/annual_candlemas_lecture_james_alison_catholicity_sacrifice_and_shame_subverting_polarization_in_our_contemporary_ecclesial_and_political_cultures

ONLINE COURSES

Job: Make It Make Sense

February 7 – March 12 | 5-Week Online Course

Registration Required | \$60.00

Lent 2024: Reflecting Together

February 7 – March 19 | 6-Week Online Course

Registration Required | \$60.00

Ordinary Sacredness: Xaverian Values for Everyday Life

February 7 – March 19 | 6-Week Online Course

Registration Required | \$60.00

Franciscan Spirituality

February 21 – April 2, 2024 | 6-Week Online Course | Regis-

tration Required | \$60.00

Sacraments: The Fabric of Catholic Life

February 21 – March 26, 2024 | 5-Week Online Course |

Registration Required | \$60.00

For more information or to register for these events, please check the STM Online:
Crossroads website: https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education.html#tab-stm_online_crossroads

BOISI CENTER FOR RELIGION AND AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE

Religious Nationalism and the Dimming of Religious Freedom

Presenter: Dr. Stephen Schneck, United States Commission on
International Religious Freedom

Wednesday, February 6 | 6:00-7:30 p.m. | Devlin Hall 026,

255 Beacon St, Chestnut Hill, MA | RSVP Requested | Free

For further details and to RSVP: <https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/centers/boisi-center/events/archive/spring-2024-events/religious-nationalism-and-the-dimming-of-religious-freedom.html>



SAINT SUSANNA PARISH — DEDHAM

Unlaunched Voices: An Evening with Walt Whitman

Presenter: Stephen Collins, actor,
educator, and historical tour guide

Monday, February 5 | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | Zoom

For more on this presentation, please check the website:
https://www.saintsusanna.org/adult_faith_formation.htm



SAINT CECILIA FAR-FLUNG FLOCK FEBRUARY ONLINE COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, February 4 | 4:00 p.m. ET

The Far-Flung Flock is pleased to announce that Saint Cecilia "artist-in-residence" Nancy Marek Cote will be their guest for this month's coffee hour. Nancy will discuss the art she has created over the years and her current exhibit on display in Saint Cecilia Church. In addition, she'll talk about her interesting and engaging backstory. Marek's current exhibit of the Saints connects the many strands of both her personal and professional endeavors in a growing collection of work.

If you have not registered or attended any online coffee hour in the past, you must register for the FFF email list with this link (<https://bit.ly/45pDVRa>). You will get an email with the Zoom link a few days before the call. Be sure to add the FFF email address to your contacts to prevent emails from going into your spam/junk folders. If you do not receive our emails, it could be because you mistyped your email address or didn't add the FFF address to your contacts.

A FEW SLOTS OPEN FOR RETREAT

Father Jim Shaughnessy, SJ, is interested in talking to anyone who might want to consider coming on an eight-day silent retreat that he is helping with at Eastern Point Retreat House in Gloucester. The retreat begins on the afternoon of Thursday, February 29, and ends on the morning of Wednesday, March 6. If you're interested in this retreat, please leave a message for Father Jim at the reception desk by calling 617-536-4548 or by emailing info@stceciliaboston.org.



WHY WE CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

BY GLENICE ROBINSON-COMO

"When you control a man's thinking you do not have to worry about his actions. You do not have to tell him not to stand here or go yonder. He will find his 'proper place' and will stay in it. You do not need to send him to the back door. He will go without being told. In fact, if there is no back door, he will cut one for his special benefit. His education makes it necessary." — Dr. Carter G. Woodson in "The Miseducation of the Negroe"

As the first African slaves were brought to Jamestown, Virginia in 1619, they stepped on foreign soil into a system that would redefine who and what they were. Forever gone were their family names, traditions and culture; forever gone was the pride that had been instilled in each of them. An identity that was once connected by bloodlines was now almost untraceable. From that point on, they became women and men without the hope of being anything more than property.

The members of this caste were also the victims of identity theft. From the slave trade, they found themselves lost in a foreign land, living among others Africans who spoke different languages and originated from different tribes. Traveling through this middle passage, the lives they once knew became faded memories, tossed overboard and lost at sea forever.

Those who were forced into slavery became "strange fruit" (as described in the Billie Holiday song) and part of a social system that forced adaptation. Their identities were defined through the perception of slave owners. But through it all—stolen from the shores of Africa and stripped of their heritage and their place—this courageous group of Africans eventually reshaped and redefined their lives in America.

"For Africa to me...is more than a glamorous fact. It is a historical truth. No man can know where he is going unless he knows exactly where he has been and exactly how he arrived at his present place." — Dr. Maya Angelou, author and poet

At the dawn of the twentieth century, most people presumed that African-Americans had little history besides their subjugation in slavery. Carter G. Woodson, a son of slaves, received a bachelor and master's degree from the University Of Chicago and in 1912, became the second African-American to receive a PhD from Harvard University. Woodson recognized the scarcity of information of blacks and founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. In 1926, he initiated the celebration of Negro History Week, which corresponded with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. In 1976 this celebration was expanded to include the entire month of February.

Woodson, remembered as the Father of Black History, began to shed light on the richness of the African-American experience. He understood the need to change the perception of African-Americans and to increase their self-worth. He wanted to free black history from the bias of whites in order to present blacks as true active participants in history. The rewards of doing this proved invaluable. It allowed blacks to begin to identify who they were for themselves and to begin to promote social change. An awareness of African-American history is informative for everyone because it shares the contributions of many unsung heroes and she-roes who made their mark in America but still remained unnoticed.

Black History Month informs all of us of a rich history where God intervened and led a people of faith into the promised land. This promised land erased identity theft so that African Americans could redefine and re-establish themselves as equals among all people. This month of celebration is a time to recognize the gifts of those who have gone before us. It acknowledges those whose backs we now stand upon and forces prejudice from the cracks and crevices that still plague communities across America. Black History is relevant to everyone because it invites all of us to rethink how we can be challenged to imagine a different world, a better world, for all of God's people.

I believe Dr. Woodson would feel that we still have much work to accomplish. We still must lift up the contributions of

African-Americans as a model for our children and for future generations. We still must realize the content and character of a person cannot be tied to ethnicity alone.

I invite all of you to celebrate the advancements that have been made in our great country by African-Americans, realizing that a month is not enough time to remove the veils of hatred that still exist. May we each be encouraged to work toward our promised land, where all are needed to truly make this the land of the free.

~ *The Rev. Glenice Robinson-Como is Canon Pastor at Christ Church Cathedral, Houston.*

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world."
— Harriet Tubman, African-American abolitionist and humanitarian

JOIN OUR WISDOM & MATURE SPIRITUALITY GROUP!

The Saint Cecilia Wisdom and Mature Spirituality Group holds two weekly online gatherings—Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Sunday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Members of the group gather to share ways in which faith informs and enriches the second half of life. For more information about meetings or to join their mailing list, please contact the group via their ministry email address.



HELP CATHOLIC CHARITIES SUPPORT NEWLY-ARRIVED REFUGEES

For the past seven years, our parish has provided ongoing support to Catholic Charities programs that provide aid to refugees. Just in the past year, Catholic Charities has opened two new shelters to address the Commonwealth's refugee and homelessness crisis. 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 Visa, Target, Market Basket, Stop & Shop, and Shaw's/Star Market—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.* The need has never been greater and your customary generosity is greatly appreciated.

MGH SEEKING EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

The Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Spiritual Care Department is looking for Extraordinary Ministers to administer Holy Communion to patients and families in the hospital. This is a wonderful volunteer ministry, and there is a great need.

Requirements:

One-year commitment to serve at least one day a week for 2-3 hours, and a practicing Roman Catholic in good standing. If you are interested, please email Br. Jeff Shackleton, OFM, at jshackleton@mg.harvard.edu or call the MGH Spiritual Care Department at (617) 726-2220. Many blessings for considering this important ministry!

PARISH RESOURCES

Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115
Hours | Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. & By Appointment
Phone | 617 536 4548; **Fax** | 617 536 1781
Website | www.stceciliaboston.org

Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor
Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support
Christine Burns, Digital and Print Media Coordinator
Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate
Robert Duff, Director of Music
Carly-Anne Gannon, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation
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 and Events
Tanya Rybarczyk, Pastoral Associate

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Terrence Devino, SJ | Rev. Peter Grover, OMV | Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ

Music Ministry

Tyler Cesario, Assistant Director of Music
Daniel Lamoureux, Vigil Organist
Brett Maguire, Parish Organist
Pendexter Macdonald, Assistant Organist

Audiovisual Support

Maureen Deery, Parish Photographer & Creator of Weekly Slide Show
Geoffrey Edwards, Livestream Videographer
Vasily Izumchensky, Livestream Sound Engineer

Reception

Keith Brinkley, **Joe O'Brien**, **Paul Keating**, & **Ellie Sanderson**

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.

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.

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.

Parking

There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski's Tavern), for \$13, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and \$13 after 4:00 every day of the week. To get this discount, ask a greeter for a chaser ticket at Mass or ask a staff person during the week. Chaser tickets must be used at the machine at the exit gate. To obtain the discount, place the ticket you received upon entering the garage into the machine, then follow it with the chaser ticket.

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 Faith Formation, contact our Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Carly-Anne Gannon, at cgannon@stceciliaboston.org.

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team

The CAP Team is responsible for training all parish staff and volunteers in mandated reporting laws and the Protecting God's Children program (VIR-TUS). They provide consultation and support to anyone who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Maria Roche, Letitia Howland, or Erin Young if you have any questions. The Archdiocese of Boston has in place a vigorous program to protect children from harm and to educate its ministers and faithful about the nature of abuse, with a goal of increasing knowledge, creating a safe environment for children, and recognizing and reporting potentially dangerous situations. The full policy is available in the narthex, Parish Office, and on our website.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

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.

Marriage

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

Care of the Sick

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

Order of Christian Funerals

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

Joining Our Community

We're happy that you're with us! Our community offers a warm, spiritual home for a diverse group of Catholics. We come from many neighborhoods in and around Boston, but also have long distance parishioners from around the country and around the world. We invite both local and long distance individuals and families to fill out a new parishioner form on our website. No matter what your background or location, please know that you are always welcome at Saint Cecilia.

Please note:

According to online safety guidelines released by the Archdiocese of Boston, we have removed email addresses from our online parish bulletin to avoid the danger of potential phishing scams. If you need a staff member's email address or ministry email address, please call our reception desk (617-536-4548) and our receptionists would be happy to pass along the appropriate information. Thank you for helping us maintain our parish security online!