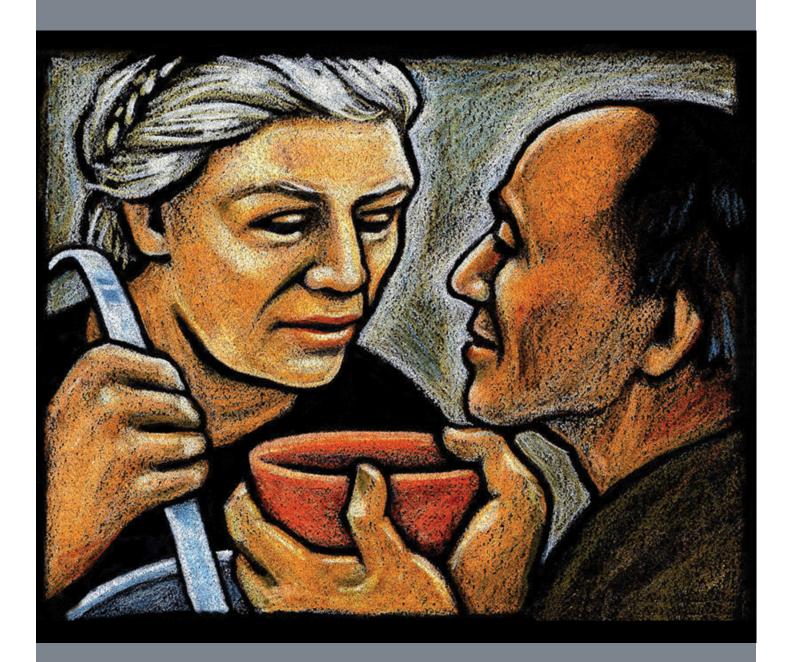
Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 5 February 2023

Dorothy Day Feeding the Hungry by Julie Lonneman

Saint Cecilia

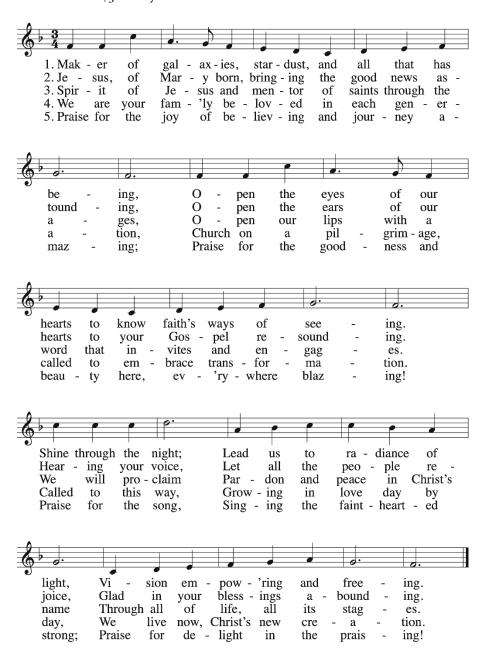
P A R I S H

5 February 2023

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Journey of Faith

LOBE DEN HERREN



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

All: Amen.

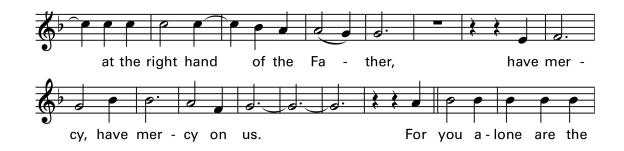
▼ The Lord be with you.

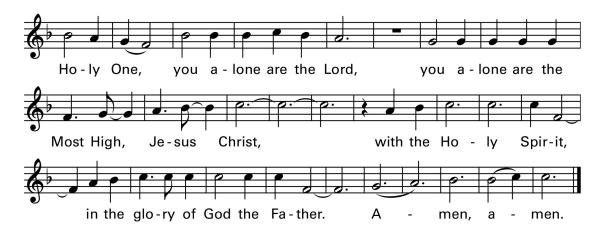
All: And with your spirit.

GLORIA | Mass of Renewal

Curtis Stephan







COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Isaiah 58: 7-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 112: The Just Man is a Light in Darkness

Tony Alonso



A light rises in the darkness for the upright;

he is generous, merciful, and just. It goes well for the man who deals generously and lends, who conducts his affairs with justice. R.

He will never be moved; forever shall the upright be remembered.

He has no fear of evil news; with a firm heart, he trusts in the LORD. R.

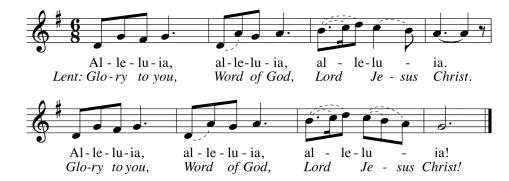
With a steadfast heart he will not fear.

Openhanded, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm forever.

His might shall be exalted in
glory. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Alleluia from Jubilation Mass

James J. Chepponis



GOSPEL | Matthew 5: 13-16

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God.

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,

and rose again on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory

to judge the living and the dead

and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Universal Prayer

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

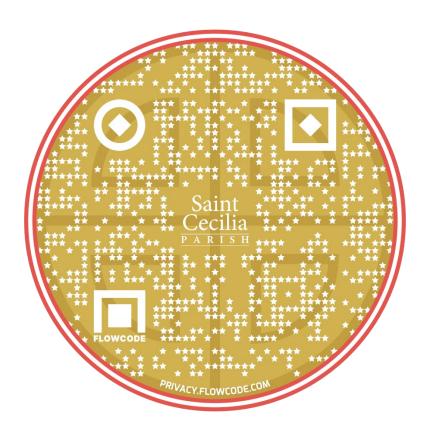
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

Using the Flowcode with the camera on your smartphone is as easy as Aim & Tap. Aim your camera at the Flowcode image and tap the notification banner when it appears on your phone's screen. You may need to zoom in a bit to focus on the code.

If the Flowcode doesn't work for you, please visit www.flowcode.com/page/stceciliaboston.

You can also mail a check to:

Saint Cecilia Parish 18 Belvidere Street Boston, MA 02115



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | Lead Us to Your Light

Carol Browning



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

▼ The Lord be with you.

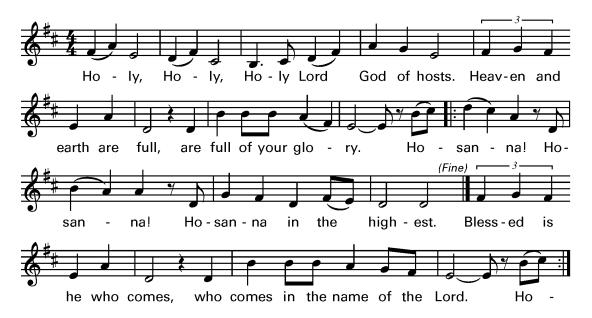
All: And with your spirit.

¥ Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

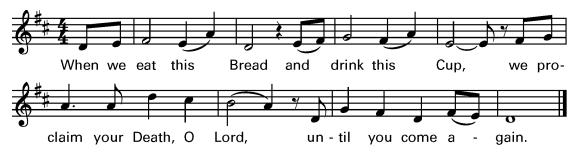
▶ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.



MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte



Great Amen | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



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

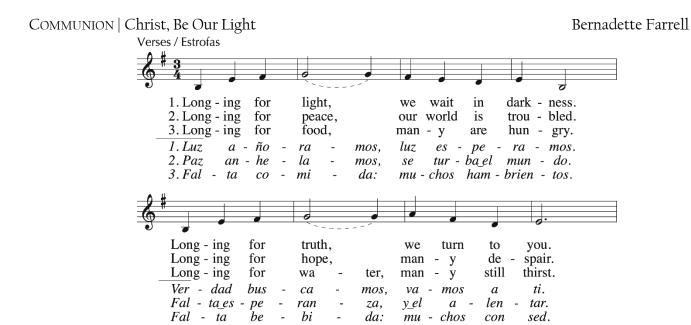
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist.

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.





- 4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, Walls made of living stone.
- 5. Many the gifts, many the people, Many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, Making your kingdom come.
- 4. Muchos sin casa buscan abrigo. Falta calor: yertos están. Haznos tu albergue, tus piedras vivas Que tu refugio dan.
- Muchos los dones, mucha la gente, Muchos desean pertenecer. Haznos sirvientes unos de otros. Venga tu reino, oh Dios.

COMMUNION MEDITATION | Teach Me, O Lord

Philip W.J. Stopford (b. 1977)

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statues; and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein is my desire. Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness. O urn away mine eyes lest they behold vanity; and quicken me in thy way. O establish thy word in thy servant, that I may fear thee.

CONCLUDING RITES

▼ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

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

All: Amen.

№ Go forth, the Mass is ended.

All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris Akers



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.

WELCOME!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, February 4 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant Emily Bogert, lector

Sunday, February 5 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, celebrant Elizabeth Fahey, lector

Sunday, February 5 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant Rosaria Salerno, Moira Macdonald, and Kelly McClintock, lectors

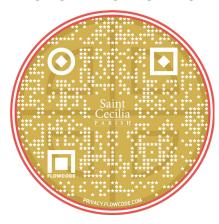
Sunday, February 5 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant Brian Kelleher-Calnan, Catherine Horsley, and Ngozi Udeh, lectors

Sunday, February 5 | 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant Zachary Boutin and Mary Ann Hinsdale, IHM, lectors

SCAN THIS CODE FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH!

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 5 | 9:30 a.m.

Deceased Members of the Raymond Family, *Memorial* Catherine Aloisi, *Memorial* Regina Stettinius, *Memorial*

Sunday, February 5 | 9:30 a.m. Elisabeth Krawinkel, *Memorial*

Thursday, February 9 | 8:00 a.m. Joseph Bliss, *Memorial*

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 58:7-10 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Matthew 5:13-16

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Sirach 15:15-20 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 Matthew 5:17-37





PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Glenn Gallo**, **Carol Tebo**, **John Hosang**, **Mary Walters**, **Marc Pelletier**, **Ray Cronin**, **Rick Gaillardetz**, **Michele Maniscalco**, **Nick Hungerford**, and **Fred Tufts**.

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish

We are pleased to welcome the following newly registered members of our parish: Gera and Bill Griffiths of Harwich Port, Katherine May of Brookline, the Cataldo-Smart Family of Boston, Julie and Brian McDonough of Boston, the Gibbons Family of Boston, Blaise Fangman of Boston, Kayla Greenwood of Marshfield, Nancy Rogers of Gaithersburg, Maryland, Deborah Whalen of Cambridge, Sharon and Richard Miklitsch of Denver, North Carolina, and Mary and Larry Hennessey of Okemos, Michigan. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Memorial of St. Blaise—The Blessing of Throats

This Friday, 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 liturgy on Friday morning (February 3).

Scout Sunday Observance - February 5

The Boy and Girl Scouts of America designate the Sunday closest to February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday—a day set aside to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to Scouting. At Saint Cecilia, we're commemorating Scout Sunday on February 5 and we invite all Scouts in the parish to come to Mass in their uniforms. We always look forward to this very special occasion. Following the 9:30 liturgy, support our local troops by purchasing everyone's favorite Girl Scout Cookies! Our Girl Scouts will be selling cookies for \$5 per box either outside the church (weather permitting) or in the parish hall.

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, OMV**, 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.

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 28 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.

Liturgy of the Hours

On Saturday, February 11, we will celebrate the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes and the World Day of the Sick with Lauds at 9:00 a.m. Join us live on the Saint Cecilia Facebook page or via Zoom. Please email sc.hoursandtaize@gmail. com for more information.



A NOTE ON PARISH SAFETY

Hello, Parishioners, Friends, and Visitors-



You may have noticed the presence of members of the Berklee Police Department in church during our 9:30 and 11:30 Sunday liturgies. As part of our commitment to maintaining a safe parish environment, we have invited officers into our space. Officers not only

keep us safe, but they have assisted us with medical emergencies and traffic situations. With the unfortunate increase in nationwide targeted violence against houses of worship, we are grateful for the good relationship we have with Berklee Police, and we welcome their presence. If you ever notice behavior that makes you feel ill at ease, we encourage you to approach one of the officers.

Our parish staff and ministry leaders have completed an Active Shooter Response Training, but we need to rely on everyone to understand the importance of remaining vigilant, reporting suspicious activity, and being aware of their surroundings. Together, let's commit ourselves to maintaining a safe and peaceful environment at Saint Cecilia.

Be kind and be well.

Peace, Lisa Pickering Director of Facilities



FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute flowers for our sanctuary in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving to God, please contact Mark Donohoe (mdonohoe@stceciliaboston. org) several days in advance of the weekend.

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. At Saint Cecilia, we will observe this day on Sunday, February 12 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., & 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.

SAINT CECILIA REMOTE FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY CALL

Sunday, February 5, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. ET

Please join the Remote Fellowship Community as we welcome Carly Caminiti and Peter Lin-Marcus, members of Saint Cecilia's Racial Equity Team, to our February online coffee hour. As many of you know, beginning in 2022, Saint Cecilia embarked on the second phase of work with Health Resources in Action (HRiA) to develop a multi-year strategic plan to become a more welcoming, anti-racist community. A diverse group of Saint Cecilia parishioners worked together to determine Priority Areas, including improving belonging and inclusivity for parishioners, parish culture, and solidarity in action. We're excited to have Carly and Peter update us on what they've been working on and what the future plans look like!

We hope you can join the "Far Flung Flock" for this online coffee hour. Anyone is welcome to join us! If you have registered or attended any online coffee hour in the past, you will automatically get the email with the link for February. If you have not attended or are unsure if you're on our list, please email Mary Ann Gallagher at gallaghercomms@gmail.com to be added to the list. The Zoom link will be emailed to the entire list a few days before the call.









SEEKING MARRIED COUPLES FOR SAINT CECILIA'S MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM (PRE-CANA)



WINTER WALK BOSTON

Ending homelessness is within our reach! For the seventh year, a consortium of agencies focused on homelessness, including Women's Lunch Place, Pine Street Inn, Boston Health Care for the Homeless, Y2Y Harvard Square, and common cathedral are sponsoring a 2-mile fundraising walk through the streets of Boston. The event takes place on Sunday, February 12 at 8:30 a.m. and begins at Copley Square Plaza. We hope each adult walker will raise \$100-either by paying it as a registration fee or fundraising it. We have a Saint Cecilia Hunger & Homelessness Ministry team again this year and if you'd like to join or support it, please go to: https://secure.ggiv.com/event/winterwalkboston23/register/form/registration or contact Mark.Lippolt@gmail.com.

And if you are unable to join us for the Walk, you can still support the team by donating at: https://secure.qgiv.com/event/winterwalkboston23/team/911184/

Members of the Saint Cecilia Winter Walk Team will be at weekend Masses if you would like to make a donation by check (made payable to "Winter Walk Boston") or cash.



One of the primary initiatives of our Marriage Ministry is to offer a Marriage Prep course for all engaged couples. Since 2019, Saint Cecilia has offered our own course, based on the Archdiocese model of Marriage Prep ("Transformed in Love"), in which married couples serve as witness couples to lead the engaged couples through the coursework. But we can't do

this without your help! Whether you have been married for a month or 50 years, we would love your marital experience and wisdom for the engaged couples enrolled in the program. Marriage Prep courses are offered several times a year, but commitments are flexible. *Our next class is March 4/March 11!* For more information, please email Julianne and Michael Lavelle at stc.marriage@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration.



CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Generous parishioners have donated a supply of children's books that can be found in a box in the narthex. Please feel free to borrow these during one of our liturgies.



Did you know that we do not receive any financial support from the Archdiocese, but like all parishes, we are required to pay a monthly Central Ministry Tithe? Each parish is expected to contribute 10% of their offertory (or 5.7% if the parish has a school) to help support the work of the Archdiocese.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

BOSTON COLLEGE ANNUAL CANDLEMAS LECTURE

On the Edge: Reflections on Being a Catholic **Intellectual amid Many Religions**

Presenter: Francis X. Clooney, S.J., Parkman Professor of Divinity and Professor of Comparative Theology at Harvard

Divinity School

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 | 7:00 PM Gasson Hall, 100, Chestnut Hill Campus

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY **CAMPUS EVENTS/WEBINARS**

Imagination and Faithful Practices of Resistance

Presenter: Callid Keefe-Perry, Assistant Professor of Contextual Education and Public Theology, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

Thursday, February 16, 2023 | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. | Hybrid TML Auditorium, Theology and Ministry Library, Room 113 Boston College, Brighton Campus, 117 Lake Street Registration Required | Free of charge

Do THE WORK: Toward a Catholic Anti-Racism

Presenter: Tia Noelle Pratt, Assistant Vice President for Mission Engagement and Strategic Initiatives, Villanova University

Thursday, February 23, 2023 | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. | Hybrid TML Auditorium, Theology and Ministry Library, Room 113 Boston College, Brighton Campus, 117 Lake Street Registration Required | Free of charge

To learn more or register, visit: https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/ schools/stm/continuing-education/campus-events.html

SAINT SUSANNA PARISH — DEDHAM

Heaven, Hell, Resurrection, and the After Life Presenter: Dr. Nate DesRosiers, Associate Professor in Religious Studies at Stonehill College

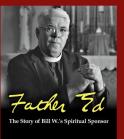
Monday, February 13, 2023 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Zoom

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



Father Ed:

THE STORY OF BILL W.'S SPIRITUAL SPONSOR



Dawn Eden Goldste

Tuesday, February 28 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. ET

CORCORAN COMMONS, HEIGHTS ROOM CHESTNUT HILL CAMPUS

Lunch will be provided - space is limited

Register at this link



Alcoholics Anonymous co-founder Bill Wilson called Father Edward Dowling, SJ, "the greatest and most gentle soul to walk this planet." Father Ed's guidance transformed Bill's life and deepened the spirituality of the twelve-step movement. But despite his vital role in A.A. history, Dowling's own story has never been told--until now. Dawn Eden Goldstein, author of the new biography Father Ed, shares about the life and message of this remarkable Jesuit who came to devote his ministry to helping people.



Dawn Eden Goldstein, SThD Author



The Jesuit Institute

BOSTON COLLEGE School of Theology and Ministry





You are the light of the world. A citu set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. *Just so, your light must shine before others,* that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

~ Matthew 5:14-16

SAINT CECILIA PARISH



I distracted myself with my phone during a long wait for my sister's appointment with a pain specialist. An elderly woman maneuvered into the seat across from me. I shifted in my chair and retracted my outstretched legs as she reeled in her walker and situated her belongings. Baggy clothing hung from her tall, thin frame. My gaze drifted downward to her shoes, the right one untied.

I pointed. "Can I tie that for you?"

Her watery blue eyes locked onto mine. "Oh, yes, thank vou."

I fumbled for words as my casual courtesy suddenly felt intimate. "My own shoes are untied half the time, too," I said.

As I reached for the armrest to pull myself up, the woman placed her wrinkled hands atop mine. "God bless you! Thank you!" she repeated three times, cocooning my fingers in her warmth. Now my eyes became watery, too.

This took place five years ago. And it has taken me those five years to figure out why the old woman's gratitude moved me to tears.

I too have begun to struggle with bending over, getting up from the floor and maintaining balance on uneven ground. Undeniable evidence of my own aging. Now in my late 60s, I am the person getting dropped off close to buildings to save walking. I am the one hoping for ramp access instead of stairs. At some point, I may need help tying my shoes.

I should not be surprised at any of my body's changes—my entire career prepared me for what to expect. For 38 years, I taught nursing students about human development and aging. But for all my attention to achy joints and dwindling

reserves, I may have failed to consider the emotional cost of those losses. Most people do not welcome the slowing of movement, restricted range of motion and loss of sensory acuity that often accompany later life. Coping with these changes is a significant challenge.

If I could go back and do it all again, I would shift the emphasis in my teaching a bit, telling my students about the woman at the pain clinic. I would ask them to empathize with the physical limitations and frustration that elicited such effusive gratitude for a simple fastened shoe, or perhaps the loneliness that prompted her to caress my hands.

Science may explain physical aging, but life experience and faith are teaching me far more about how to cope with it. Among the many lessons of my late 60s: *Give grace*. We who aren't as fast, agile or sharp as we used to be once fancied ourselves young and quick and indestructible, too. Until we weren't.

For all I knew, the long arthritic fingers that enveloped mine in that waiting room belonged to a concert pianist. Or perhaps a ballerina who laced up toe shoes for decades before acquiescing to the sensible sneakers I tied. This woman was young and invincible, too, before the chronic pain that now dominated her waking moments.

The week after my encounter with the elderly woman, I met a new mailroom employee at my office. Watching me struggle to carry several bundles from my car, he opened the door for me. I thanked him and we introduced ourselves. The man's advanced age and labored gait surprised me, considering his job required so much walking and lifting.

He said he was 73, diabetic and trying to lose weight to reduce knee pain. He lifted his pant leg to show me a new compression sleeve that provided some relief, and

SAINT CECILIA PARISH

suggested it for my own painful knees. I thanked him for his recommendation and offered a casual "God bless you!" as he departed down the hallway.

He stopped in his tracks, stood full upright, and turned to face me. "I receive that!" he proclaimed with a broad smile and a nod, hand over his heart. That was the day I was taught not only how to give grace, but how to receive it.

It is easy to think of older people as always having existed in their current condition. Does it make us feel younger to think that way? More superior? Perhaps we hope it holds our own mortality at bay.

Life does not work that way.

We live, we age and we will die. How should we accompany one another on our journeys?

That day in the pain clinic, I was tempted to simply disappear into my phone, safe and unbothered by anyone else. But I would have missed an important lesson had I stayed there. Apathy and isolation never summon our better angels.

Father Richard Rohr said, "If something comes toward us with grace and can pass through us and toward others with grace, we can trust it as the voice of God."

It took my own aging to teach me this lesson, to see these encounters as the voice of God, and I still fail more often than I succeed at living it. But I am committed to learning.

~ Mary Kay Jordan Fleming is professor emerita of developmental psychology and a freelance essayist with publications in Next Avenue; Pulse: Voices from the Heart of Medicine and in several anthologies.

HELP HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WELCOME FAMILIES TO THEIR NEW HOMES!

Here's Habitat Greater Boston's Amazon Wish List of items that will make moving into a new Habitat home even more special for local families!

Your generosity makes a significant impact on the lifes of these families. All items on this list are reasonably priced under \$75: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/38KJ36TTTSL8Y?ref =wl share



CONCERT TO BENEFIT WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE

Sunday, February 19, 2023 | 7:30 p.m.

"Music for Food" is a musician-led initiative to fight hunger in our local communities. According to Project Bread: "Prior to the pandemic, household food insecurity in Massachusetts was at 8.2%. The coronavirus pandemic fueled a hunger crisis unlike any other in our lifetime, at its peak rendering 19.6% of households food insecure." Music for Food's concerts have raised funds to create more than 1.5 million meals.

Music for Food's 13th season continues at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 19, in New England Conservatory's Brown Hall. The incredible Don Weilerstein, Kim Kashkashian, Vivian Weilerstein, William Coleman, Meesun Hong Coleman, Yiliang Jiang, Jeffrey Ho, Samuel Zacharia, Cameron Stowe, and Katherine Whyte will perform Charlotte Bray's *Replay* for Piano Quartet, George Benjamin's "Viola, Viola," Benjamin Britten's *String Quartet in D major*, and Britten's *On This Island*. Admission is free, and all donations will benefit Women's Lunch Place (WLP), which will soon launch its 40th anniversary of providing needed resources to vulnerable women in Boston.

Suggested donation is \$30+ and \$10+ for students, collected at the door. 100% of donations will benefit Women's Lunch Place—a day shelter serving women experiencing homelessness, hunger, and poverty in the greater Boston area.

Masks are required. To reserve your tickets: https://musicforfood.net/boston/s13core3









PARISH RESOURCES

Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115

Hours | Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. & By Appointment

Phone | 617 536 4548; Fax | 617 536 1781

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

Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support

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

Corey Ortiz, Reception

reception@stceciliaboston.org

Christine Burns, Digital Media Coordinator

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Tyler Cesario, Assistant Director of Music

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Mark Donohoe. Pastoral Associate

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Robert Duff, Director of Music

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Giovanna Franchi, Pastoral Minister

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Olivia Hastie, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation

ohastie@stceciliaboston.org

Scott MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility

smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org

Colleen Melaugh, Director of Finance and Development

cmelaugh@stceciliaboston.org

Lisa Pickering, Director of Facilities and Events

lpickering@stceciliaboston.org

Assisting Clergy

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

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ

Audiovisual Support

Maureen Deery, Parish Photographer & Creator of Weekly Slide Show mcdeery@gmail.com

Geoffrey Edwards, Livestream Videographer

gedwards@stceciliaboston.org

Vasily Izumchensky, Livestream Sound Engineer

vizumchensky@berklee.edu

Schedule for Liturgy

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday | 8:00 a.m.

Lord's Day | Sat 5:00 p.m.; Sun 8:00, 9:30*, 11:30 a.m, & 6:00 p.m. Holy Days | 8:00 a.m.

* Please note that the 9:30 Mass is both in person and livestreamed.

Baptism for Infants

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

Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for our Faith Formation Program, please contact our Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Olivia Hastie, at ohastie@stceciliaboston.org.

Marriage

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

Order of Christian Funerals

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

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the communal process through which non-baptized men and women become members of the Catholic Church. It is also suitable for those baptized in different faith traditions who are interested in becoming Catholic, or, for those who were baptized Catholic, but have yet to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and confirmation.

Care of the Sick

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

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team

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

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

For Those with Celiac Disease

If you have celiac disease, please let us know. We have a supply of lowgluten altar bread available for those who cannot tolerate gluten.

Hearing Assistance in Church

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

Building Accessibility

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

Parking

There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski's Tavern), for \$13, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and \$13 after 4:00 every day of the week. To take advantage of this discount, ask 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.

Joining Our Community

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