

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



The Fifth Sunday of Lent

26 March 2023

The Resurrection of Lazarus by Giovanni di Paolo

Saint Cecilia


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26 March 2023

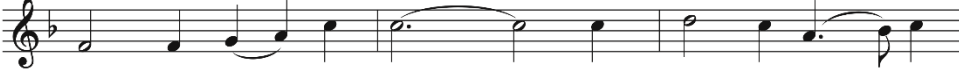
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | From Ashes to the Living Font

LAND OF REST




1. From ash - es to the liv - ing font Your
2. Through fast - ing, prayer, and char - i - ty Your
3. *Insert appropriate stanza.*
4. From ash - es to the liv - ing font Your



Church must jour - ney, Lord, Bap - tized in grace, in
voice speaks deep with - in, Re - turn - ing us to

Church must jour - ney still, Through cross and tomb to



grace re - newed By your most ho - ly word.
ways of truth And turn - ing us from sin.

East - er joy, In Spir - it - fire ful - filled.

Year A

Sundays I & II

3. From desert to the mountaintop
In Christ our way we see,
So, tempered by temptation's might
We might transfigured be.

Sunday III

3. For thirsting hearts let waters flow,
Our fainting souls revive;
And at the well your waters give
Our everlasting life.

Sunday IV

3. We sit beside the road and plead,
"Come, save us, David's son!"
Now with your vision heal our eyes,
The world's true Light alone.

Sunday V

3. Our graves split open, bring us back,
Your promise to proclaim;
To darkened tombs call out, "Arise!"
And glorify your name.

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.

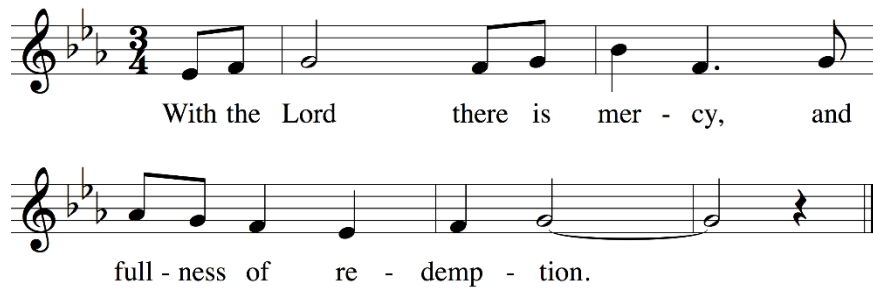
COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Ezekiel 37: 13-14

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 130: With the Lord There is Mercy

Marty Haugen

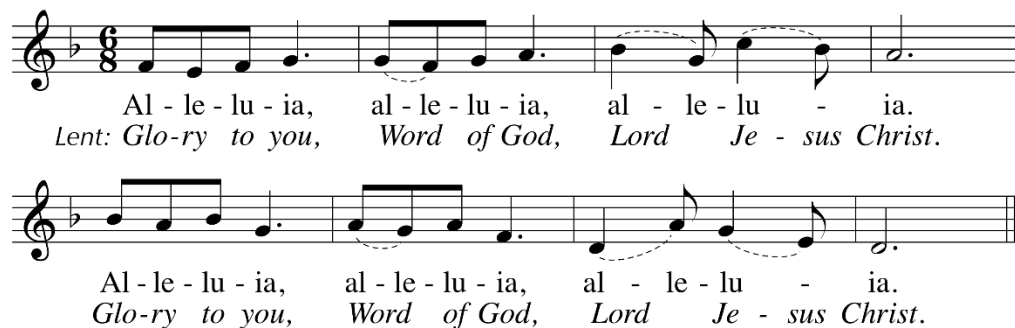


1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive to the sound of my pleadings.
2. If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who would stand?
But with you is found forgiveness, that you may be revered.
3. I long for you, O Lord, my soul longs for his word.
My soul hopes in the Lord more than watchmen for daybreak. Let Israel hope in the Lord.
4. For with the Lord there is mercy, in him is plentiful redemption.
It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

SECOND READING | Romans 8: 8-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony Alonso



GOSPEL | John 11: 1-45

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!

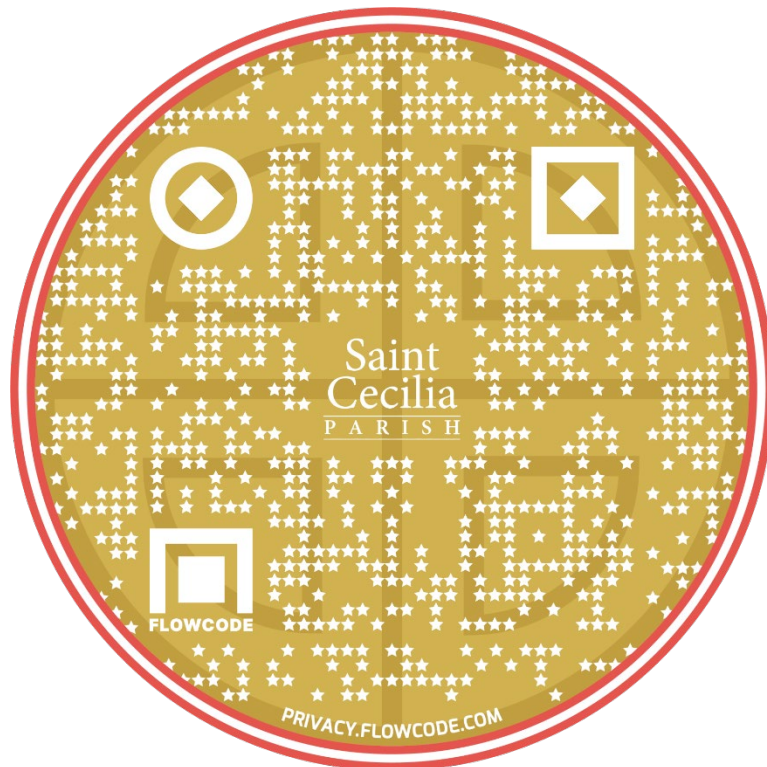
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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 | God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn

MOSHER

1. God weeps with us who weep and mourn, God's
2. Through tears and sor - row, God, we share A
3. And yet, be - cause, like us, you weep, We

tears flow down with ours, And God's own heart is
sense of your vast grief; The weight of bear - ing
trust you will re - ceive And in your ten - der

bruised and worn From all the heav - y hours Of
ev - 'ry prayer For heal - ing and re - lief, The
heart will keep The ones for whom we grieve, While

watch - ing while the soul's bright fire Burned
bur - den of our ques - tions why, The
with your tears our hearts will taste The

low - er day by day, And pulse and breath and
doubts that they en - gage, And as our friends and
deep, dear core of things From which both life and

love's de - sire Dimmed down to ash and clay.
loved ones die, Our hope - less - ness and rage.
death are graced By love's re - new - ing springs.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

✠ Lift up your hearts.

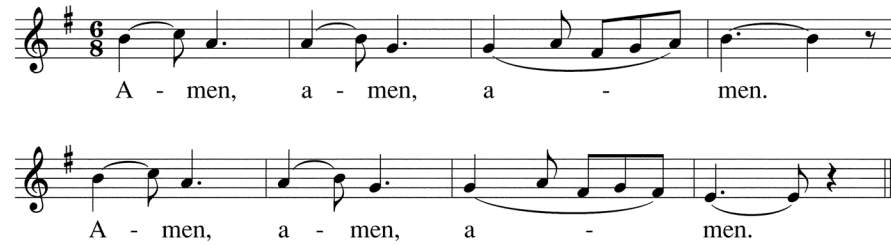
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

✠ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

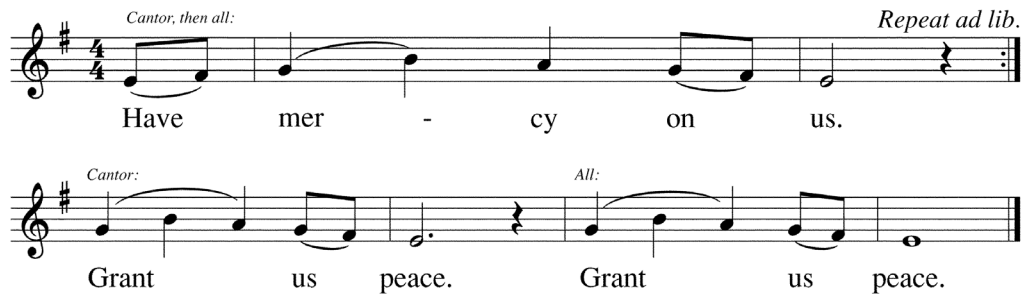


THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

LAMB OF GOD | Mass of the Angels and Saints



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

Un - less a grain of wheat shall fall up -
 on the ground and die, it re - mains but a
 sin - gle grain with no life.

Verses

1. ♪ If we have died with him, then we shall
 2. ♪ an - y - one serves me, then they must
 3. ♪ Make your home in me as I make
 4. ♪ If you re - main in me and my word
 5. ♪ Those who love me are loved by my
 6. ♪ Peace I leave with you, my peace I

live with him; if we hold firm, we shall
 fol - low me; wher - ev - er I am, my
 mine in you; those who re - main in me
 lives in you; then you will be my dis -
 Fa - ther; we shall be with them and
 give to you; peace which the world can - not

D.C.
 reign with him.
 ser - vants will be.
 bear much fruit.
 ci - ples.
 dwell in them.
 give is my gift.

COMMUNION MEDITATION | When Jesus Wept

Ruth Elaine Schram

When Jesus wept, the falling tear
 in mercy flowed beyond all bound.
 When Jesus groaned, a trembling fear
 seized all the guilty world around.

In agony, pain and agony, great teardrops flowing down,
 our Savior's head was adorned with a thorny crown.
 The tears that flowed down His holy face
 will wash away all our fear and replace it with mercy and grace.

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.

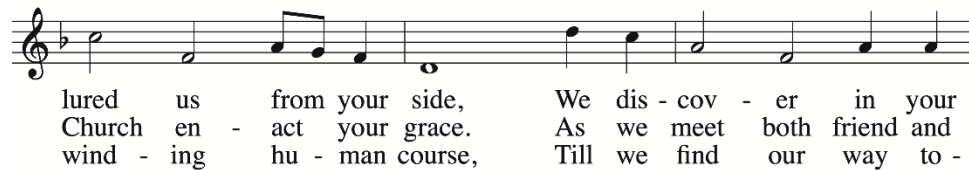
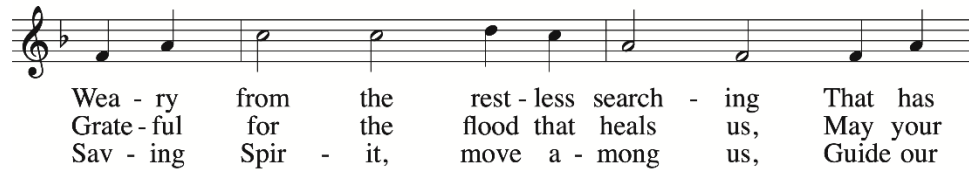
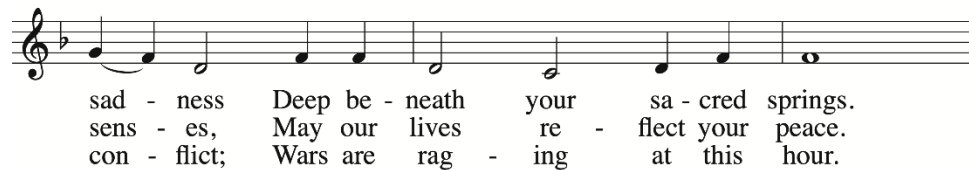
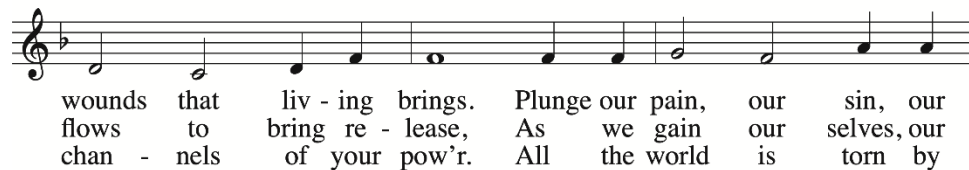
All: Amen.

✧ Go forth, the Mass is ended.

All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL | Healing River of the Spirit

BEACH SPRING



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 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, March 25 | 5:00 p.m.

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

Sunday, March 26 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Elizabeth Fahey, lector

Sunday, March 26 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Chika Offurum, Richard Gaillardetz,
and Michael Lake, lectors

Sunday, March 26 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Mary D'Angelo, Ben DeWinter,
and Karen McMenamy, lectors

Sunday, March 26 | 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Terrence Devino, SJ, celebrant
Hannah Ostwald and Zachary Boutin, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 26 | 9:30 a.m.

Ed Walsh, *9th Anniversary*
Noah Vith, *Memorial*
Frank Vith, *Memorial*
Carmina Garcia, *Memorial*
Glenn Calmus, *Memorial*
Mabel & Ernie Frayling, *Memorial*

TODAY'S READINGS

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

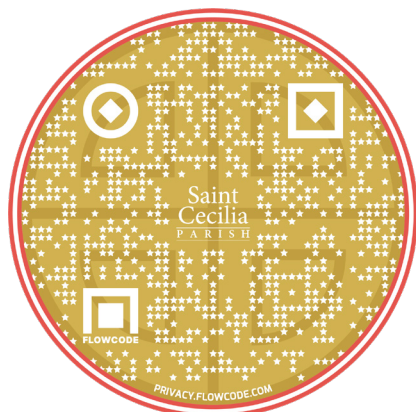
Matthew 21:1-11

Isaiah 50:4-7

Philippians 2:6-11

Matthew 26:14—27:11-66

SCAN THIS CODE
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH!



"O MY PEOPLE, I WILL OPEN YOUR GRAVES
AND HAVE YOU RISE FROM THEM,
AND BRING YOU BACK TO THE LAND OF ISRAEL."

— TODAY'S FIRST READING

PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Necce Regis, Tim Finn, Mary Torok, 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: **Rosemary Gonzalez and Abel Samanez** of Boston, **Florence Assolloh** of Dedham, **Katelyn Ripley and Thomas Kenyon** of East Boston, **the Abel-LeBlanc Family** of Westwood, **Navin Mathew John** of Everett, **Mary Ellen Mustone** of Cambridge, and **the White Family** of Tewksbury. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Easter Flowers

Remember your loved ones by donating toward our Easter flowers. Please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/sVaVxQboEJHa7Hp7>. Envelopes will also be available in the narthex for people who would like to print the names of their loved ones. The names of those remembered will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Palm Sunday (April 2) will be the last opportunity to donate toward the Easter flowers.

Lenten Wednesdays—Mass & Reconciliation

On all the Wednesday evenings of Lent (March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29; April 5) 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.

Catholic Appeal

Thank you to those who have already responded generously to the Cardinal's invitation! We are currently at 22% of our monetary goal and 65% of our donor participation goal. As Catholics, each of us shares the responsibility of the Church community—both directly within our parish and to the greater Church. We are stronger together and your generosity is greatly appreciated! Donate here: www.bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate



The Third Scrutiny

Today at the eleven-thirty liturgy we celebrate the third scrutiny of our Elect. We pray that the Lord who raised Lazarus from the dead will liberate **Brynna, Ruby, and Helen** from the areas of death and darkness in their lives as they continue to prepare to receive the life-giving sacraments of Easter.

Thank You!

We are grateful for your recent generosity towards two special collections. Through your support, we raised \$2,934 in support of the Church around the world and \$6,829 for Catholic Charities of Boston during our Ash Wednesday collection. Your contributions are greatly appreciated, and we thank you for your kindness.



HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS MINISTRY: DRIVERS NEEDED

Each weekend, parishioners have the opportunity to pick up donated meat, dairy products, prepared foods, and produce from four local supermarkets and deliver it to either Catholic Charities' Haitian Multi-Service Center in Dorchester or the Huntington Y's Families in Transition program. This vital ministry takes place at 8:00 a. m. every Saturday and Sunday morning, and on Sundays can be completed in time to attend or watch the 9:30 a. m. parish Mass. We need drivers for all the Saturdays and Sundays in March and April. Please email Mark.Lippolt@gmail.com if you would like more information about how you can help.



EARTH DAY MOVIE SCREENING

The Saint Cecilia Climate Justice group invites you to a free movie screening of the 2022 documentary *The Letter*, dinner, and discussion on Earth Day (Saturday, April 22) at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment, *Laudato Si'*, is a letter to everyone about caring for creation. This documentary invites us into a dialogue with youths, the poor, Indigenous people, and wildlife, and calls us to action. For more information, please reach out to Jenny Jones at jennyinjp@gmail.com. This event is sponsored by the Saint Cecilia Social and Racial Justice Ministry.

REMOTE FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY MONTHLY CALL

Sunday, April 2, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. ET

Join the “Far-Flung Flock” as they dive into the topic of prayer and share stories and inspiration at their April 5 online coffee hour! Members of this ministry’s leadership team will be highlighting forms of prayer, including Centering Prayer, the Honest Prayer, Bible stories that inspire us, and the Ignatian Examen. We’ll break into smaller groups to explore these types of prayer and share insights from the book *Learning to Pray* by Fr. James Martin, SJ, which many of us are reading during our Lenten journey. No pre-reading is required, and all are welcome to join!

If you have received the meeting link in the past, you will receive the Zoom link a few days in advance of the call. If you would like to join the Far-Flung Flock's mailing list, please fill out this Google form: <https://forms.gle/vDwVd6NtSUZWtb1MA>. If you have any questions about the FFF, please contact Mary Ann Gallagher (gallaghercomms@gmail.com).



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday

Mass of the Lord's Passion

Saturday 5:00 p.m. & Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
[9:30 Mass will be in-person & YouTube livestreamed]

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday

7:00 a.m. *Morning Prayer*—Livestreamed to Facebook
7:30 p.m. *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper*
In-person & YouTube livestreamed
10:00 p.m. *Night Prayer*—In-person
following adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday

9:00 a.m. *Morning Prayer*—Livestreamed to Facebook
3:00 p.m. *Stations of the Cross*—In-person & YouTube
7:30 p.m. *Commemoration of the Lord's Passion*
In-person & YouTube livestreamed

Holy Saturday

9:00 a.m. *Morning Prayer*—Livestreamed to Facebook
8:00 p.m. *The Great Vigil of Easter*—In-person & YouTube livestreamed

Easter Sunday

8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m. *Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord*
[9:30 Mass will be in-person & YouTube livestreamed]
6:00 p.m. *Paschal Vespers*—Facebook



HOME REMEDY: A BREAKFAST TO BENEFIT PINE STREET INN



Pine Street Inn's Home Remedy fundraising breakfast brings together Greater Boston's corporate and philanthropic leaders. Thanks to dedicated partners like you, funds raised through this breakfast will assist over 2,000 individuals daily, who turn to Pine Street for help in rebuilding their lives. The event will take place on Thursday, April 27 at 7:15 a.m. at the Westin Copley Hotel. Individual tickets are \$250. If you are interested in joining a Saint Cecilia table at the event, please email Mark.Lippolt@gmail.com.

NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Tuesday, April 4 | 7:00—8:00 p.m.

Location: In-person in the sanctuary at Saint Cecilia

Open to: Everyone

Join Saint Cecilia Young Adults for an in-person evening of adoration and worship in the Saint Cecilia sanctuary. Please enter through the side entrance on Saint Cecilia Street, and ring the bell to be let in. All are welcome!

JOIN THE SAINT CECILIA YOUNG ADULTS!



Saint Cecilia's Young Adult Ministry is for parishioners between the ages of 20 and 40 who are looking to explore their faith while meeting new people and building community. Scan this QR code to sign up for their weekly e-newsletter and check out upcoming service, spirituality, and fellowship events. New members are always welcome!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Praying the Stations of the Cross is a wonderful Lenten tradition in the Church. We will pray them as a community on Good Friday, but you can pray the Stations online by visiting: www.stjames-cathedral.org/Prayer/jkblstations/stations.htm

ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY CAMPUS EVENTS/WEBINARS

21st ANNUAL EVELYN UNDERHILL LECTURE IN CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

“...To Labor and Not Seek to Rest”? Rest's Vital Place in Spirituality and the Work of Justice

Presenter: Christine Firer Hinze, Professor of Theological and Social Ethics, Department of Theology Chair, Fordham University

Saturday, April 1, 2023 | 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. | Boston College - Chestnut Hill Campus, Gasson Hall, Room 100 | Registration Required | Free of charge

To learn more or register, visit: <https://alumni-events.bc.edu/event/8da424fd-5eeb-43fe-ac26-520dc6396cc0/summary>

ONLINE COURSES

The Church: People of God on a Mission

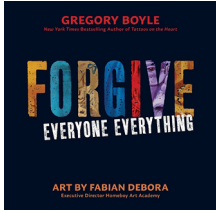
**March 22 – April 25, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course
Registration Required | \$60.00**

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



“LAZARUS, COME OUT!”

WISDOM & MATURE SPIRITUALITY



The Wisdom and Mature Spirituality Group is reading Fr. Greg Boyle's latest book, *Forgive Everyone Everything*. Greg Boyle, SJ is the founder of Homeboy Industries, the largest gang rehabilitation and re-entry program in the world. The organization supports 10,000 men and

women annually as they work to overcome their pasts, reimagine their futures, and break the intergenerational cycles of gang violence. This book is a powerful collection of Fr. Greg's most poignant writings based on decades of experiences of loss and pain, redemption, and renewal. The Wisdom and Mature Spirituality Group is always happy to welcome new members who are in the second half of life. The group meets on the first Sunday of the month in the parish Community Room following the 11:30 liturgy. On the other Sundays of the month, they meet at 8:30 on Sunday mornings via Zoom. Whether on Zoom or in person, the meetings provide a space for participants to discuss what the group is reading and to have conversations that deepen their spiritual lives, help create friendships, and respond to the Spirit's promptings regarding social justice issues. Feel free to drop in on any first Sunday or, to get the link for one of the Zoom meetings, please email Deb Garcia at sc.wisdomandmaturespirituality@gmail.com.



DID YOU KNOW?

Pope Francis is very critical and discouraging of proselytization. The pope has said, "Never, never bring the gospel by proselytizing. If someone says they are a disciple of Jesus and comes to you with proselytism, they are not a disciple of Jesus. In front of an unbeliever, the last thing I have to do is try to convince him. Never. The last thing I have to do is speak. I have to live consistent with my faith."



HELP THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES HELPED BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES' FOOD PANTRY IN DORCHESTER

As you may know, the Catholic Charities' Yawkey Center in Dorchester also operates an infant and young child's daycare center. Two years ago, the pantry received a donation from a 4-year-old parishioner who sent cake mix through Amazon so that one of the families who receive assistance from Catholic Charities could make a birthday cake. That has sparked an interest in creating a "Birthday Pantry" within the food pantry so that families in need can have some of the items needed to have a birthday celebration for their children.

Here is the Catholic Charities' Amazon Wish List:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2VUJISQ0QS3P9?ref_=wl_share

Most of the items are reasonably priced and we hope that, by everyone doing just a little, we can turn this 4-year-old's generosity into an ongoing program. Let's see if we can amplify young Owen's giving by adding to it in the next week. If you send an item through Amazon, consider putting in a note saying, "Great idea, Owen!"

Transgender Day of Visibility Interfaith Service

Thursday, March 30th 6:30pm

St. Ignatius Church

28 Commonwealth Avenue
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

**Celebrate trans visibility through
prayer, music, and reflections with
various faith communities.**

All are welcome!

**Light refreshments will be available
following the service.**

Register:



A LENTEN CALL: COMMIT TO JESUS' GOSPEL OF NONVIOLENCE

BY ART LAFFIN



Humanity is at a critical crossroads.

The omnipresent nuclear danger. The climate crisis. Perpetual wars. Worsening tensions between the U.S. and Russia and China. Countless people worldwide continue to experience the effects of the pandemic and suffer and die daily from war, poverty and economic exploitation, environmental devastation, racial injustice, mass shootings and other acts of violence.

Today, Pope Francis asserts, we are living through a "Third World War"—one that is being fought piecemeal. More than 110 armed conflicts are currently taking place across the globe.

In calling for an end to the arms trade that help fuel these conflicts and in which the U.S. plays a leading role, Francis stated in his 2015 speech to the U.S. Congress: "Why are deadly weapons sold to those who would inflict untold suffering on individuals and society? Sadly, the answer, as we all know, is simply for money: money that is drenched in blood, often innocent blood."

On January 24, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists set the iconic Doomsday Clock to 90 seconds before midnight, the closest to global catastrophe it has ever been. This is due to the existential threats of nuclear war and the climate crisis, the mounting dangers of the Ukraine war, bio-threats and nuclear proliferation.

Regarding the climate crisis, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres asserted in February: "We must act decisively ... we must end the merciless, relentless, senseless war on nature ... 2023 is a year of reckoning. It must be a year of game-changing climate action."

Regarding the nuclear crisis, humanity is on the brink of nuclear catastrophe due to deteriorating relations between

the U.S. and Russia. Tension between those nations have been exacerbated by NATO expansion in eastern Europe, the deployment of U.S. nuclear weapons in five European countries and U.S./NATO missile defense systems that ring Russia, and the tragic Russian invasion of Ukraine.

While the U.S. has always maintained a "first-use" nuclear weapons policy, Russia has said it would consider using nuclear weapons if it feels endangered by increased U.S. and NATO intervention in the Ukraine war. The U.N.'s Guterres has stated that "humanity is just one misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation."

Let us never forget that the U.S. is the only country ever to have used nuclear weapons. The U.S. has never repented for and apologized to Japan for the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, criminal acts that ushered in the nuclear age.

Jesus commands his followers for all time to love, put away the sword and never to kill. On the cross, as Jesus is undergoing the most excruciating form of death imaginable, he gives witness to a new way to live and respond to unspeakable violence. He embodies what it means to love one's enemies by asking God to forgive those who were killing him.

His nonviolent example on the cross marks a turning point in human history. Through his cross and resurrection, Jesus has forever overcome the forces of violence, sin and death and inaugurated a new nonviolent era for humanity. Jesus' self-emptying unconditional love is the cornerstone of Gospel nonviolence.

While growing numbers of followers of Jesus pursue the way of Gospel nonviolence, many Catholics and Christians are either directly or indirectly involved in military conflicts, support political and economic systems of domination and

oppression, or endorse the existence and threatened use of nuclear weapons purportedly to protect national security interests.

Many justify the existence of nuclear weapons despite the fact that Francis has stated that the possession of nuclear weapons is immoral and that the U.N. *Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons*, or TPNW, deems nuclear weapons illegal.

In our society and world, war, killing, and violence have tragically become the norm. In the 20th century, at least 108 million people were killed in wars. Since then, countless people have been killed and injured in wars and conflicts. And so many more have suffered and died early deaths because of money and resources that were wasted on weapons and war instead of meeting urgent human needs.

How many more people will suffer and die because of war, systemic oppression and other acts of violence?

What would happen if all followers of Jesus were totally committed to living out his command to love their neighbor and their enemies? What if they practiced Gospel nonviolence?

As I have pondered and prayerfully reflected on this question, I acknowledge my own shortcomings and complicity in the culture of violence. I recognize what more I need to do to practice Jesus' way of nonviolence.

Many people, past and present, have powerfully exemplified the meaning of Gospel nonviolence and can be important guides for us now. Among them are St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, Ben Salmon, Franz Jagerstatter, Martin Luther King Jr., Dorothy Day, and Phil and Dan Berrigan.

Numerous national and global organizations also actively promote nonviolence and are involved in nonviolent campaigns for social, racial and environmental justice, upholding human rights, and abolishing nuclear weapons and war.

If followers of Jesus totally subscribed to Gospel nonviolence, these are just some of the things that would occur, and in fact, already are being practiced today by many of Jesus' followers:

They would not kill, exploit, oppress or harm one another. They would renounce white supremacy, racial profiling, police violence against African Americans and people of color and declare that Black Lives Matter.

They would not make, use or sell any weapons, including handguns, killer drones and nuclear weapons.

They would refuse to be part of any military, or follow a government law or decree that would require them to kill, torture, oppress and wage war.

They would renounce the just war doctrine and embrace the way of just peace.

They would practice the works of mercy, welcome the immigrant and actively work to create a social order based on respect for human rights and the common good, proclaim a jubilee where all debts are canceled, and establish social, economic, racial and environmental justice.

They would call for the U.S. government to make just reparations to American Indians, African Americans and to all its victims of violence, war-making and occupation, including in Iraq (March 19 marks the 20th anniversary of the start of the U.S.-led invasion) and Afghanistan.

They would adopt a simple lifestyle, actively work to end greenhouse gas emissions, keep fossil fuels and carbon in the ground, promote renewable energy and sustainable transportation, and develop an equitable low-carbon economy.

They would actively work to stop exorbitant military spending (the U.S. government will spend \$858 billion on the 2023 defense budget and proceed with an estimated \$1.7 trillion nuclear modernization program over the next several decades), and demand the transfer of these funds to provide health care, meaningful work, affordable housing, food, clean water, education for all the world's poor.

They would advocate for the economic conversion of all weapons plants and facilities to make products that serve life and protect the environment.

They would actively work to get the U.S. and the other eight nuclear nations and 32 nuclear weapons endorsing nations to ratify the TPNW, already ratified by 68 nations.

They would actively work, without considering the cost, to be, as Francis states, "the conscience of peace," to make God's reign of love, justice and peace a reality and to create the beloved community.

The *hibakusha* (Japanese nuclear bombing survivors) plead to the world: "Humanity and nuclear weapons cannot coexist."

Dorothy Day declares: "Love is not the starving of whole populations. Love is not the bombardment of open cities. Love is not killing; it is the laying down of one's life for one's friends."

Jesuit Fr. Daniel Berrigan asserts: "Our plight is very primitive from a Christian point of view. We are back where we started. Thou shalt not kill. Everything today comes down to that—everything."

Martin Luther King Jr. exhorts: "Our only hope today lies in our ability to recapture the revolutionary spirit and go out into a sometimes-hostile world declaring eternal hostility to poverty, racism and militarism." He says: "Love even for enemies is the key to the solution to the problems of our world."

Pope Francis states: "Abolish war now, before war erases humanity from history."

To help foster a deeper commitment to Gospel nonviolence, peace, and justice during this holy season of Lent and beyond, one can consider a range of actions, including taking the vow of nonviolence; becoming actively involved in one or more of the organizations listed here; and, together with others from your church and area, engaging in regular acts of nonviolent public witness and resistance.

Global catastrophe can be averted if enough people act to prevent it. Social transformation can occur and, in fact, is happening, little by little, in many places. The victims and people worldwide cry out for justice and peace!

For followers of Jesus, Lent is a time for personal and societal repentance, radical conversion, renewal and transformation. It is an opportunity, as St. Oscar Romero reminds us, to be "transfigured" into people of God.

Inspired by the Holy Cloud of Witnesses, let us strive to live and act in the biblical hope that "all things can be done for the one who believes" (Mark 9:23) and that "nothing will be impossible with God!" (Luke 1:37)

~ Art Laffin is a member of the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker Movement in Washington, D.C. He is the author of the new edition of *The Risk of the Cross: Living Gospel Nonviolence in the Nuclear Age* and editor of *Swords Into Plowshares*.



THE FOURTH ANNUAL DANIEL J. HARRINGTON, S.J. LECTURE

*Basements, Potlucks, and the Orange Line:
Listening for God in an Urban Parish*



Susan B. Reynolds, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of
Catholic Studies
Candler School of Theology

Emory University

Thursday, April 13
5:30-7:00 p.m. ET

CORCORAN COMMONS, HEIGHTS ROOM
CHESTNUT HILL CAMPUS

ATTEND IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY

Please RSVP: bc.edu/stmreg



REGISTER HERE

Weaving together stories drawn from years of ministry and ethnographic research in a parish in Boston's Roxbury neighborhood, in this lecture Dr. Susan Bigelow Reynolds reflects on what it means to do theology in community. Lifting up the theological agency of communities on the margins of church and society, it invites us to rethink our understanding of how—and where—the work of theology unfolds.

Presentation of the Alumni Distinguished Service Award



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Rev. Peter Grover, OMV
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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 (VIR-TUS). They also provide consultation and support to anyone in the parish who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Lois Flaherty (loisflaherty@gmail.com), Maria Roche (maria.roche15@gmail.com), Letitia Howland (L_howland@hotmail.com), or Erin Young (erin.t.young@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

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

For Those with Celiac Disease

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

Hearing Assistance in Church

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

Building Accessibility

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

Parking

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