First Sunday of Lent

6 March 2022

Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness
James Tissot (1836-1902)
Saint Cecilia
PARISH

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
6 March 2022

PRELUDES | Sonata for Two Violins, Op. 3 (11:30 Mass)
Olivia White and Joel Zabel, violin
Jean Marie LeClair
(1697-1764)

We Shall Walk Through The Valley In Peace (11:30 Mass)
African American Spiritual
arranged by Moses Hogan

Prelude and Fugue on O Traurigkeit, o Herzeleid, WoO 7
Thomas Mellan, organ
Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Forty Days and Forty Nights (verses 1, 2, 4 & 5)
HEINLEIN

1. Forty days and forty nights You were fasting
2. Shall not we your sorrow share And from worldly
3. Then if Satan on us press, Flesh or spirit
4. So shall we have peace divine: Holier gladness
5. Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, Ever constant

in the wild; Forty days and forty nights
joys abstain, Fast ing with un ceasing prayer,
to as sail, Victor in the wild ness,
ours shall be; Round us, too, shall angels shine,
by your side; That with you we may appear

Tempted and yet undefiled.
Strong with you to suffer pain?
Grant we may not faint nor fail!
Such as served you faithfully.
At the eternal Easter tide.
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 | Deuteronomy 26: 4-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 91: Be With Me, Lord Marty Haugen

Verses

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Most High, who abide in the shadow of our God, say to the Lord: “My refuge and fortress, the God in whom I trust.”

2. No evil shall befall you, no pain come near, for the angels stand close by your side, guarding you always and bearing you gently, watching over your life.

3. Those who cling to the Lord live secure in God’s love, lifted high, those who trust in God’s name, call on the Lord, who will never forsake you. God will bring you salvation and joy.

SECOND READING | Romans 10: 8-13

HOMILY

DISMISSAL OF THE CATECHUMENS (II:30 Mass) Christopher Walker

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/stceciaboston.

You can also mail a check to:

Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street
Boston, MA 02115
PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | In This Place

Trevor Thomson

Verses

1. We are all hungry people, we need shelter and strength. We are one in our hurt ing, we are one in our pain. In our suf fering dwellings. As our hands
2. All our lives are a mystery; we see not where they lead. We are asked now to trust you and we know we must believe. As our feet
3. Though the world may tell us to look at ourselves, we reach out to another where suffering dwells. As our hands
4. In the bread that is broken is the Christ that restores. As we take, now receive him, we find love ever more. As the bread

Refrain

We are gathered at table as one in the Lord.

We are gathered as people who are living the Word.

Our hearts and our spirits are nurtured by grace. It is Jesus who fills us. He is here in this place.
EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

HOLY, HOLY | Missa Pacem  
L. Randolph Babin

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Missa Pacem  
L. Randolph Babin
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.” During this time when we are not able to celebrate the Eucharist together in person, Pope Francis invites Catholics to say this prayer as a source of grace. We can be assured that when we express our desire to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, God will be with us spiritually in a special way. Here is an Act of Spiritual Communion that we encourage you to pray as you participate in our live-streamed liturgies:

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

Now in this banquet, Christ is our bread;

Advent: God of our journeys, day-break to night;
Lent: Lord, you can open hearts that are stone;

Here shall all hungers be fed.
Lead us to justice and light.
Live in our flesh and our bone;

Bread that is broken, wine that is poured,
Grant us compassion, strength for the day,
Lead us to wonder, mystery and grace,

Love is the sign of our Lord.
Wisdom to walk in your way.
One in your loving embrace.

Verses 1, 2

1. You who have touched us and graced us with love,
2. Let our hearts burn with the fire of your love;

make us your people of goodness and light,
open our eyes to the glory of God.

Verse 3

3. God who makes the blind to see, God who makes the
Psalm 42:2: As the deer longs for flowing waters, so longs my soul for you, O God.

Verse 4
4. Hope for the hope-less, light for the blind,

“Strong” is your name, Lord, “Gen-tle” and “Kind.”

Verse 5
5. Call us to be your light, call us to be your love,

make us your peo-ple a-gain.

Verse 6
6. Come, O Spir-it! re-new our hearts!

We shall a-rise to be chil-dren of light.

COMMUNION MEDITATION| Sicut Cervus

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
(c. 1525-1594)

At the 11:30 Mass Palestrina’s setting of Psalm 42 will be sung by the Saint Mary’s University Chamber Singers and the Saint Cecilia Choir under the direction of Professor Patrick O’Shea from Saint Mary’s University. The translation is as follows:

Psalm 42:2: As the deer longs for flowing waters, so longs my soul for you, O God.
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 | Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days (verses 1, 2, 3 & 5) ST. FLAVIAN

Boris Lyatoshynsky was one of the great modernist composers of the early 20th century, and an important member of Ukrainian classical music history. He was a student and, from 1922, a professor at the Kyiv Music Conservatory. As a teacher he spearheaded the next generation of Ukrainian modernist composers. He was honored with many awards in his lifetime, including a Lenin Medal, and posthumously, such as the People’s Artist of the Ukrainian SSR (1968).

POSTLUDE | Prelude on Ukrainian Folk Melodies, Op. 38b

All 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.
AN EVENING WITH
MICHAEL O’LOUGHLIN

Tuesday, March 8 | 7 p.m.

Saint Cecilia Parish 18 Belvidere Street. Boston

Michael O’Loughlin will discuss his 2021 book, Hidden Mercy.

Michael J. O’Loughlin is the author of Hidden Mercy: Catholics, AIDS, and Untold Stories of Compassion in the Face of Fear, which is based on the America Media podcast series, Plague: Untold Stories of AIDS and the Catholic Church. The “Plague” series was honored with awards from the Catholic Press Association, the Religion News Association and NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ Journalists.

Michael J. O’Loughlin is the author of Hidden Mercy: Catholics, AIDS, and Untold Stories of Compassion in the Face of Fear, which is based on the America Media podcast series, Plague: Untold Stories of AIDS and the Catholic Church. The “Plague” series was honored with awards from the Catholic Press Association, the Religion News Association and NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ Journalists.

Mike is also the national correspondent and an associate editor at America.

O’Loughlin writes and speaks regularly about religion and politics, Catholic young adults, and the role of religion in the public square. He is also the author of The Tweetable Pope: A Spiritual Revolution in 140 Characters.

A former staff writer for the Boston Globe and its standalone Catholic news site, Crux, his work has also appeared in the New York Times, The Atlantic, the Washington Post, Foreign Policy, and The Advocate. He has been interviewed by a number of media outlets, including NPR, the BBC, ABC, CBS, Fox News, and MSNBC. He frequently gives talks on a range of Catholic issues.

He lives in Chicago.

This event is free, open to the public, and will be streamed live on YouTube.com/c/SaintCeciliaParish
"The idea that some lives matter less is the root of all that's wrong in the world."

Dr. Paul Farmer
1959-2022
SAINT CECILIA PARISH

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**Saturday, March 5 | 5:00 p.m.**
Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Richard Gaillardetz, lector

**Sunday, March 6 | 8:00 a.m.**
Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Jim Dougherty, lector

**Sunday, March 6 | 9:30 a.m.**
His Eminence
Seán P. Cardinal O’Malley, OFM Cap., celebrant
Rev. John Unni, concelebrant
Julie DesAutels, Rosaria Salerno,
and Christie Hedges, lectors

**Sunday, March 6 | 11:30 a.m.**
Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Moira Macdonald and Letitia Howland, lector

**Sunday, March 6 | 6:00 p.m.**
Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Spencer Dunne and Kelly McClintock, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

**Saturday, March 5 | 5:00 p.m.**
John F. Shanahan, Memorial

**Sunday, March 6 | 8:00 a.m.**
Art & Anne Handly, Memorial
John & Angelina Machado, Memorial

**Sunday, March 6 | 9:30 a.m.**
Dr. Paul Farmer, Memorial
Cindy Brophy Ward, 5th Anniversary
Casey Bonus, 6th Anniversary
Rose Tasillo-Mazzei, Special Intention
Henry Welch, Memorial

**Sunday, March 6 | 11:30 a.m.**
Mr. And Mrs. Charles Lohenry, Special Intention

**Sunday, March 6 | 6:00 p.m.**
Joseph Blunt, Memorial

**Wednesday, March 9 | 6:00 p.m.**
Mary Burns, Month’s Mind

**Friday, March 11 | 8:00 a.m.**
Clarita San Juan Pinto, Memorial
Laarni Payumo Monzones, Memorial

THIS SUNDAY’S READINGS
Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Romans 10:8-13

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS
Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18
Philippians 3:17—4:1

LENTEN VESPERS
JOIN US FOR EVENING PRAYER ON
WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 P.M.
March 9, 16, 23, 30
April 6 & 13

LENTEN LAUDS
JOIN US FOR MORNING LAUDS
Saturday, March 19 at 9:00 A.M.
Solemnity of Saint Joseph
Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 A.M.
Holy Thursday & the Conclusion of Lent
Join us live on the Saint Cecilia Facebook page or via Zoom.
Email sc.hoursandtaize@gmail.com for details.
Liturgy last approximately half an hour.
Our Sick
Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially Delia Alvarez, Charlie Naughton, Peter Tracy, MaryAnn Weber, Bob Haas, Bob Roppolo, Christopher Gobron, Joy Gilbert, Mary Walters, John Powers, Marc Pelletier, Larry Murphy, Josephine Mason, Marian Licameli, Ray Cronin, Rosalind Sica, Nicholas Collins, Liam Nedell, and Rick Gaillardetz.

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish
We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our parish who have recently registered: Kimberly Greco and Nicholas Teklits of Boston. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Wednesday Evening Mass During Lent
On all the Wednesday evenings of Lent we will celebrate Mass at 6:00. Following Mass confessions will be heard until 8:00 for anyone who wishes to celebrate the sacrament.

Catholic Charities
The Ash Wednesday Collection always goes to support the critical work of Catholic Charities in the areas of: Basic Needs (food pantries, shelters, clinics), Family & Youth Services (child care, mentoring programs, behavior health counseling, Sunset Point Camp), refugee & immigrant services, and adult education & workforce development (ESOL classes, nursing assistant programs). If you missed Ash Wednesday, we invite you to donate here: www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/funds/ash-wednesday-catholic-charities. There are also envelopes on the table in the narthex that you can use for making a donation by check. Thank you for your consideration.

Catholic Appeal
The 2022 Catholic Appeal is officially underway. In addition to supporting the programs and operations of our parish, the Appeal also puts faith into action in our schools and in our broader communities. We invite you to prayerfully consider making a generous gift to this year’s appeal. When our parish reaches its goal of $105,149 and 100 donors in paid pledges, a portion of the additional funds received will be returned to us for use in our parish. To make a gift online scan the QR code or visit www.bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate-now. Thank you!

National Catholic Sisters Week
Did you know that this is National Catholic Sisters Week? National Catholic Sisters Week (NCSW) is an annual celebration that takes place from March 8–14. This is a week to honor women religious and to shine the spotlight on the lives and ministries of these incredible women by recognizing their contributions to the Church and to society. Our community is blessed to have two women religious in our midst: Sr. Ann Marie Cook, SNDdeN, a member of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and Sr. Mary Ann Hinsdale, IHM, a member of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Say a prayer for them and for all women religious—they are the heroes of the Church! Say a prayer for them and women religious—they are the heroes of the Church!

High School Confirmation Retreat
This weekend our ninth and tenth grade confirmation students have been on retreat. As these young men and women continue to prepare to receive the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit, we pray that the Spirit will continue to enlighten, guide, and strengthen them. May their hearts be open so that they will truly know the deep and abiding love God has for each of them.

Coffee Hospitality Resumes!
We’ve all been looking forward to this Sunday when Coffee Hospitality in the Parish Hall will resume. We will need volunteers to support this life-giving, community building, and delicious ministry into the spring. Please email Lisa Pickering at lpickering@stceciliaboston.org to get involved. We hope to see you after Mass!

Notes On This Weekend’s Postlude Music
Boris Lyatoshynsky (1895–1968)—Ukrainian composer, conductor, and teacher, was one of the great modernist composers of the early twentieth century, and an important member of Ukrainian classical music history. As a teacher at the Kyiv Music Conservatory he spearheaded the next generation of Ukrainian modernist composers. Lyatoshynsky was honored with many awards in his lifetime, including a Lenin Medal, and posthumously, the People’s Artist of the Ukrainian SSR (1968). The first of his Two Preludes on Ukrainian Folk Melodies, op. 38b, will be featured as the postlude at this weekend’s liturgies.

Month’s Mind Mass for Mary Burns
On Wednesday March 9, Fr. Jim Shaughnessy will celebrate the 6:00 Mass for parishoner Mary Burns who died on February 2.
Lent

RITES OF SENDING
The First Sunday of Lent is always a very special moment in the life of the Church. In churches throughout the world, a special gathering takes place in which the catechumens who will receive the Easter sacraments at the Great Vigil of Easter gather to celebrate the Rite of Election, which closes the period of the catechumenate. It is an extraordinary sign of both the Church’s growth and the ministry of evangelization.

At this morning’s eleven-thirty liturgy, we celebrate the Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election. In this rite, the parish community is invited to express its support of our catechumens by sending them forth to the Rite of Election.

We thank God for the gift of new life in our Church and commend to God’s care our catechumens who ask to be numbered among the Elect. During this rite, upon the testimony of godparents and catechists, the affirmation of Saint Cecilia parishioners, and the catechumens’ own affirmation of their desire to enter fully into the life of the Church, the Church makes its "election" of these catechumens to receive the Easter Sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist. This afternoon Cardinal Seán will declare them to be members of the Elect, to be initiated into the sacred mysteries at the Easter Vigil. They now begin a Period of Purification and Enlightenment—the final, intense preparation for the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation. On the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent, three scrutinies (rites for self-searching and repentance) will take place at the 11:30 liturgy. Please pray for these newest members of our community—both our catechumens and our candidates for full communion.

CATECHUMENS
(Those preparing for baptism, confirmation, & Eucharist)

Karim Arsanjani • Mackenzie Elvin •
Caroline Fish • Astrid Love

CANDIDATES FOR FULL COMMUNION
(Those already baptized in non-Catholic churches and who are preparing for confirmation, & Eucharist)

Susan Fugliese • Jason Knowles • Paul Quistberg •
Sabrena Tufts • Kaitlyn West • Doug Wilson •
Eric Dykes • Kian Riley

SAINT CECILIA PARISH

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

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU
On all the Wednesdays of Lent, from six-thirty to eight o’clock in the evening, Saint Cecilia and all the parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese of Boston will be open for individual confessions. Inviting Catholics to experience Christ’s healing love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation continues to be one of the major initiatives of Cardinal Sean and the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese has set up a website, www.TheLightsOnForYou.org, to help you prepare. This website has videos on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, information on how to make a good confession, answers to frequently asked questions, and more. Please consider coming on Lenten Wednesdays (March 9, 16, 23 and 30; April 6 and 13) and help us spread the word about this special outreach of mercy. If you’ve been away from the sacrament for a long time, rest assured, the clergy will guide you through the sacrament 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.

LENT WITH DEACON DAVID
Deacon David Kiblinger, SJ is giving an online Lenten Retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola for The Jesuit Post. The theme is the Vine and the Branches. Every Saturday starting March 5, a video reflection and points for prayer will be released. Find it soon at https://thejesuitpost.org/, or on TJP’s social media pages.
ONLINE COFFEE HOUR – TODAY

The next Online Coffee Hour for our Remote Fellowship Community is this Sunday, March 6, at 4:00 p.m. EST. We’re excited to take the opportunity in March to spend the entire hour getting to know one another better! We will break into groups based on region in the hopes attendees will discover other Saint Cecilia remote parishioners from their own area or state. How fun would that be? Think of this as your online “coffee hour” with fellow long-distance parishioners! Anyone is welcome to join us. If you have registered or attended any online coffee hour in the past, you will automatically get the link for March. If you have not attended or are unsure if you’re on our list, please email Mary Ann Gallagher at gallaghercomms@gmail.com for the link.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A TOWN HALL WITH FATHER JOHN

Sunday to Sunday is an Emmy-award-winning television and video series that promotes great preachers. The series creates a town hall-like space for conversation between a homilist and the people of his parish. We are excited to report that we have been invited to be the subject of an upcoming episode on the Second Sunday of Lent (next Sunday, March 13). We will host a town hall Zoom meeting beginning at 4:00 and lasting for about one hour. During this Zoom town hall meeting, participants will be shown the proclamations of the Sunday Gospel and then will watch Father John’s homily. After watching the homily, the host of Sunday to Sunday, Father Mike Russo, will facilitate a conversation between Father John and participants. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your thoughts about the Gospel text and homily and to ask Father John all the questions you’ve been saving up! If you would like to participate, we’d love to have you! Join the Zoom town hall meeting by using the following ID and passcode information: Meeting ID: 886 6258 6575; Passcode: 436951. To learn more about Sunday to Sunday, visit: sundaytosunday.net. Please note that participants should log on to Zoom several minutes before 4:00. We hope you’ll take part in this exciting opportunity!

TRIDUUM & EASTER CHOIR

The Saint Cecilia Choir invites any parishioner interested in singing at Triduum and/or Easter to join the choir for these moving liturgies. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:00–9:00 p.m. If you are interested, please contact our director of music, Robert Duff, at rduff@stceciliaboston.org.

NIGHT OF WORSHIP
Tuesday, March 15 | 7:00–8:00 p.m. | At the Church & on Zoom

Come take an evening to give thanks for the wonderful things God has done in our lives. Together we will pray the Rosary and have opportunities for quiet prayer and song. We will be gathering in person in the church at St C’s! For those who want to participate virtually, we will also be livestreaming prayer. We also welcome musicians to join us for our rehearsals two weeks before Night of Worship. If you’d like to join the music team or you have a song you’d like to hear at adoration, email pcharles0615@gmail.com.

JOIN (OR MEET) THE YOUNG ADULTS!

IN-PERSON COFFEE HOUR
Sunday, March 13 | After Mass | Parish Hall

Join us for coffee hospitality after Mass. Come meet some of the leadership team, hear about upcoming events, enjoy coffee and pastries, and (re)connect with friends!

TRIVIA NIGHT
Thursday, March 31 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. | Parish Hall

Spring is on its way and so are our in-person gatherings! Come join us for dinner and trivia. We’ll form teams on the night, so don’t be concerned if you don’t know anyone yet. Please RSVP at https://rb.gy/cyh1h. All young adults ages 18–40 are welcome!

JOIN THE SOCIAL AND RACIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

GOD’S PLAN(ET): HEAL OUR COMMON HOME AND RESPOND TO THE CRY OF THE POOR
March 12 | 11:00–12:30 | Virtual Workshop

This virtual workshop, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Boston Social Justice Ministry, the Diocese of Worcester Environmental Stewardship Ministry, and the Boston Catholic Climate Movement, will help us learn actions we can take to combat climate change and to promote environmental justice. Join us to hear how Catholics are taking steps to build the Vatican’s “Laudato Si’ Action Platform” globally and right here in Massachusetts. You can help provide a safe and thriving world for future generations of all species. For details and to register, visit https://tinyurl.com/Home-3-12-22
OPERATION RICE BOWL

This weekend we will be distributing Rice Bowls from Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Sometimes mistaken as a children’s project, Operation Rice Bowl is a Lenten discipline for the entire parish. In solidarity with the poor, participants are encouraged to eat more sparingly during Lent and to donate the money saved to CRS. Each of us can make sacrifices: ordering lower on the menu at Starbucks, skipping a snack, having a meatless meal, forgoing wine with dinner, or fasting on Good Friday. The money saved in your Rice Bowl supports the worldwide efforts of CRS and 25% of the funds collected goes to support the local anti-poverty work of our friends at Catholic Charities of Boston. On a designated Sunday during the Easter season, you will be invited to bring your filled bank back to church and we will send the money we collect to CRS. For more information, please visit http://orb.crs.org/.

RECOMMENDED READING

In speaking of the death of his friend Dr. Paul Farmer, founder of Partners in Health, last Sunday, Father John recommended a couple of books. The first was Tracy Kidder’s Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World (2003). A biography, Kidder’s book recounts Dr. Farmer’s Boston birth, childhood in Florida, and battle against tuberculosis in countries like Haiti and Peru. Interestingly, Kidder also wrote House, a book about the architect William Rawn who designed the Berklee tower on the corner of Belvidere and Mass. Ave.) There is a teen and young adult version of Mountains Beyond Mountains edited by Michael French and Tracy Kidder. Father John also mentioned a book written by Dr. Farmer, about ebola: Fevers, Feuds, and Diamonds (2021). Donations in Dr. Farmer’s memory can be made at: https://www.pih.org/
LENTEN ACTION OPPORTUNITY 
ON CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

During Lent, our Social and Racial Justice Ministry Book Club will focus on articles and action. We’ll be leveraging the Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching developed by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops to frame our focus. All parishioners are welcome to join us any week(s) you like. We meet Wednesdays, beginning March 9 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. EST via Zoom. Register at https://bit.ly/BookClubLent22 for the Zoom link.

During each meeting, we’ll explore and exercise one or two Catholic Social Teaching principles. We will provide brief articles and questions to get us started, and actions suggested to get us moving. You do not have to read, watch, or think about every suggestion. If you’ve already explored the resources we provide, swap them for more meaningful equivalents of your own. Register at https://bit.ly/BookClubLent22.

Week 1: Life and Dignity of the Human Person
As Catholics, we believe that human life is sacred. The belief in the dignity of humanity is the foundation of all Catholic Social Teaching, and we believe that every life is precious, humans are more important than things, and institutions should enhance the lives and dignity of humans.

From Church Teaching:
“As offenses against life itself... all violations of the integrity of the human person... all offenses against human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children, degrading working conditions where men are treated as mere tools for profit rather than free and responsible persons: all of these and the like are criminal: they poison civilization... and militate against the honor of the creator.”
- Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, no. 27.

From Scripture:
John 4:1-42 Jesus broke with societal and religious customs to honor the dignity of the Samaritan woman.

Explore:
Read Pope Francis, “No to an economy of exclusion,” The Joy of the Gospel [Evangeli Gaudium], no. 53

Reflect:
• Do I put limits on human dignity? Where can I challenge myself to grow in my understanding and acceptance of human dignity for all?
• If you’d like to discuss this first principle, please join us Wednesday March 9 from 6:00–7:00 p.m. EST via Zoom. Register at https://bit.ly/BookClubLent22

Take Action:
• Find lists of global resources on poverty and health equity through Saint Cecilia’s Beyond Boston Ministry

For additional connections to scripture, links to resources to explore, and actions to take, go to https://bit.ly/SRJMlentWeek1

Image Credit:
Life and Dignity of the Human Person, Br. Mickey McGrath, OSFS
When the news of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine broke on Wednesday, I was scrolling through Twitter. What had been a mindless activity quickly became furious refreshing in a quest for more details and developments. Interspersed among the news and commentary—videos of a CNN reporter changing into protective gear as explosions rocked Kyiv and partisans away—were prayers.

“[I]n earnest prayer that no blood is shed and that if it must be our country does not intervene in such a way as to make it worse,” Elizabeth Bruenig, a staff writer at The Atlantic, said in a tweet. I hit the like button.

“Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us,” the Catholic writer Shannon Last said. Heart emoji.

I liked a screenshot of President Joe Biden’s prayer for the people of Ukraine and a call from a Jesuit priest for Catholics to “get your Masses on.”

Then I asked myself the same question I always do in the wake of a tragedy that plays out in real-time on Twitter: What am I actually doing? Does liking a tweet count as praying?

I got into bed and said an actual Hail Mary. But that too felt rather futile in the face of Vladimir Putin’s apparent threat of nuclear war against anyone who dares come to the defense of innocent civilians in Ukraine.

This, of course, is not a new problem. After every mass shooting in the United States, there are those who offer prayers for the victims and for sane gun laws—and those who deride “thoughts and prayers” as empty words. Those prayers, however, can be offered alongside support for universal background checks. And prayers for the end of abortion can be matched by material support for pregnant women. You can pray in the face of climate change and make adjustments to your lifestyle to reduce your carbon footprint.

But in the case of Ukraine, most Americans are unable to influence President Putin or the course of the war (though we can donate to humanitarian groups on the ground). So prayers are really all that’s left. But what do they achieve? What am I supposed to say or feel when I pray for Ukraine? Is this about convincing God to intervene or simply softening my own heart so I can suffer with my Ukrainian brothers and sisters?

To get answers to these questions, I turned to my colleague at America, James Martin, S.J., who not only wrote the book Learning to Pray but has been a spiritual guide who, for the past eight years, has helped me process the (many) insecurities I have around my prayer life.

**AM: Why should Catholics pray for peace in Ukraine?**

**JM:** First of all, peace is something that Jesus desires. One of the most common phrases in all his public ministry is “Peace be with you.” In fact, it is the first thing that the Risen Christ says to the disciples after the Resurrection. Notice he does not say, “Believe that nothing is impossible with God” or “The Father has raised me from the dead” or even “I have conquered death,” all of which are true, but something simpler: “Peace be with you.” Christ desired peace for the disciples and desires peace for us. Christ also desires unity. “That they all may be one,” he prays elsewhere in the Gospels. And so peace and unity are at the heart of the Christian message. We should beg God to help us effect this peace, especially in war-torn places like Ukraine.

Are the prayers meant to ask God to change the course of events? To convert our own hearts toward peace? Something else?

That’s a hard question. On the one hand, there is the classical notion of God as unchanging and immutable, and so what God wants to do, God will to do. And, in this line of thinking, there is little we can do to influence that. On the other hand, there is the equally important notion of a God who responds to human needs and desires.

In the face of these two approaches, I think the best image of
God is Jesus, who is of course the Incarnation of God. And in Jesus, we see a God who desperately wants to be close to us, so much so that he becomes one of us. And in the Gospels, Jesus asks us to name our desires. Remember in the story of Bartimaeus, the blind beggar, he says, “What do you want me to do for you?” So God wants to know what we want.

And I do believe God hears our prayers and responds, though sometimes the response is not through a sudden turnabout of events but by turning our own hearts: softening them, awakening in us a sense of compassion or even a righteous anger over injustice. So I think God both acts and also moves us to act.

What if I don’t feel or hear anything in response to my prayers?

That is another hard question. And we have to admit that this happens more frequently than we would like. I talk about this a great deal in Learning to Pray. For example, if we pray for someone to be healed of an illness and they die, our prayers were not answered as we would have liked. Of course, there are many answers to the question of unanswered prayers: God is testing us; God is giving us something else or something “better” (like patience); God is answering us in ways that we cannot see; and so on. But none of those answers satisfy every person who is facing deep suffering. That is, you can’t say to the parent of a child with cancer, “God is giving you something better.”

In my life, I think it is an invitation to believe in a God whom we do not understand. The relationship is more important than the results. So again, can you believe in a God who is mysterious?

What advice do you have for someone who feels like their prayers for peace are futile?

First, to remember that God is mysterious and we don’t know how prayers “work” exactly. In other words, God is not a cosmic gum-ball machine where you “insert” a prayer and out comes a candy-coated result. God is always a mystery, ever beyond us. But that doesn’t mean that God is not interested in our lives. Christians don’t believe in the distant Aristotelian God as “Thought thinking thought.” No, God loved us so much that he became one of us, in Jesus Christ. And was willing to die for us. How much more “evidence” could we have of God’s desire to be near us?

Also, we may not get what we ask for immediately, in this case peace, but we must trust that God is at work in the world and that our prayers are heard. These days I am praying fervently for peace, especially in Ukraine. How will these prayers be answered? Perhaps by God’s opening hearts and moving thoughts to ways of peace, concord and reconciliation. Perhaps by awakening in us an intense compassion for the victims of war. Perhaps by filling us with outrage over the suffering caused by war.

Remember that this is one way that God “works,” by moving hearts to action. How else would God act in the world?

Do you pray on Twitter? What’s the point of doing that?

Sometimes I write prayers and post them on Twitter. I hope that this helps some people to focus their prayers and pray together, even though there are many other places to go for prayers. And this morning, I was very moved by seeing footage on Twitter, from AP, of a Ukrainian woman being forced from her home and saying, through tears: “We have to leave our houses! What’s going on?” The look on her face, and the thought of this elderly woman fleeing her home in the unforgiving cold, moved me to prayer. So you could say that Twitter moved me to prayer.

What is your prayer for Ukraine?

Peace, peace, peace. And let’s be blunt: We pray that Vladimir Putin’s heart be moved so that he could see what immense suffering he is causing. He is Christian, apparently. I pray that he understands that Jesus Christ desires peace.

~Ashley McKinless is an executive editor at America.
~The Rev. James Martin, S.J., is a Jesuit priest, author and editor at large at America.
SAINT CECILIA PARISH

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
Rev. Mr. David A. Kiblinger, SJ, Deacon
Keith Brinkley, Mike Currier, Rudy Flores, Lauren Healy, Tim Rozier-Byrd, Maureen Sullivan, Reception
reception@stceciliaboston.org

Leah Bennett, Communications and Operations Manager, lbennett@stceciliaboston.org
Christine Burns, Digital Media Coordinator, cburns@stceciliaboston.org
Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate, mdonohoe@stceciliaboston.org
Robert Duff, Director of Music, rduff@stceciliaboston.org
Giovanna Franchi, Pastoral Minister, gfranchi@stceciliaboston.org
David Girardin, Assistant Music Director, dgirardin@stceciliaboston.org
Scott MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility, smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org
Colleen Mellaugh, Director of Finance, cmellaugh@stceciliaboston.org
Thomas Mellan, Organist, tmellan@stceciliaboston.org
Lisa Pickering, Director of Facilities and Events, lpickering@stceciliaboston.org

Assisting Clergy
Rev. Terrence Devino, SJ
Rev. Peter Grover, OMV
Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ

Schedule for Liturgy
Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday | 8:00 a.m.
Lord’s Day | Sat 5:00 p.m.; Sun 8:00, 9:30*, 11:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
Holy Days | 8:00 a.m.
* Please note that the 9:30 Mass is both in-person and livestreamed.

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

Faith Formation for Children
To register your child for our Faith Formation Program, please contact Scott MacDonald in the Parish Office.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Parking
There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski’s Tavern), for $11, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and $14 after 4:00 every day of the week. To take advantage of this discount, ask one of our greeters for a chaser ticket at Mass or ask a staff person during the week. Chaser tickets must be used at the machine at the exit gate. To obtain the discount, first place the ticket you received upon entering the garage into the machine, then follow it with the chaser ticket.

Joining Our Community
We’re happy that you’re with us! Our community offers a warm, spiritual home for a diverse group of Catholics. We come from many neighborhoods in and around Boston, but also have long distance parishioners from around the country and 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.
Worried about managing your bill payments? Take the month off, on us.

SilverBills eliminates the stress and hassle of managing bills.
- Each client is paired with a dedicated, U.S.-based account manager who advocates for your household.
- All household bills are guaranteed to be paid on time.*
- No computer needed to use our service.

Call today for a free month trial or custom quote:
866-928-1099
* as long as appropriate funds are available

DENTAL Insurance

If you’ve put off dental care, it’s easy to get back on track. Call Physicians Mutual Insurance Company now for inexpensive dental insurance. Get help paying for the dental care you need.

Getting back to the dentist couldn’t be easier!

CALL TODAY
1-866-615-0296
Dental50Plus.com/pilots

Get your FREE Information Kit

Product not available in all states. Includes the Participating (in GA: Designated) Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN). Rider kinds: B438, B439 (GA: B439B).

SilverBills eliminates the stress and hassle of managing your bill payments. Take the month off, on us.

Call to get an ADT Security System + Get a $100 ADT Visa Reward Card FREE*

ADT’s 24/7 monitoring plus top of the line security cameras help ensure your loved ones are safe – whether you’re out and about or in the next room.

*With 36-month monitoring contract. Early termination and installation fees apply. Reward card issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC. Card terms and expiration apply. For full terms, see below.

Call today to speak with a home security expert
1-877-460-2036

“Be a Servant” Matthew 20:26

Dartmouth College graduate. 30 years a priest. Fr. Jim Laughlin continues to build stronger communities as pastor of St. John – St. Paul Catholic Collaborative and St. John School in Wellesley.

donate at clergytrust.org — OR —

For Advertising call 617-779-3771
Pilot Bulletins
Saint Cecilia, Boston, MA 4338
Find the right senior living option for your mom or dad with our personalized process
Our service is free, as we’re paid by our participating communities and providers.

1-866-670-0132

aPlaceforMom.

THE PLACE FOR SENIOR LIVING ADVICE

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
855-401-9893

FREE
7-Year Extended Warranty*
A $695 Value!

Limited Time Offer - Call for Details

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval
*T to qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

MAKE YOUR DREAM KITCHEN A REALITY WITH SHELFGENIE

Enjoy up to 50% more space in your kitchen and better access to your most-used items with our custom pull-out shelves installed in your existing cabinets

50% OFF INSTALLATION*

*Limit one offer per household. Must purchase 5+ Classic/Designer Shelves. EXP 6/30/21

Schedule Your FREE Design Consultation:
(855) 625-9032

Schedule Your FREE Design Consultation:
(855) 625-9032

Schedule Your FREE Design Consultation:
(855) 625-9032

Schedule Your FREE Design Consultation:
(855) 625-9032

Schedule Your FREE Design Consultation:
(855) 625-9032

Schedule Your FREE Design Consultation:
(855) 625-9032

Schedule Your FREE Design Consultation:
(855) 625-9032
Rosaries from Flowers
“Handmade from the Flowers of your Loved One”
www.rosariesfromflowers.com

“He has risen.” Matt 28:6

W. C. Canniff & Sons, Inc.
Monuments & Lettering
531 Cummins Hwy • Roslindale
617-323-3690
Since 1896
www.CanniffMonuments.com

LOCAL BAR. GLOBAL KITCHEN. NEIGHBORHOOD CHARMS.
120 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02116  (617) 425-3400

All of our services are available to this wonderful parish community here in this beautiful worship space.

Honoring.
Remembering.
Celebrating.

1020 Dorchester Avenue, Dorchester, MA
617-263-9840 • tpmurphy77@gmail.com • www.JMurphyFH.com

For Advertising call 617-779-3771

Pilot Bulletins
Saint Cecilia, Boston, MA 4338
The Albrecht Family is a proud supporter of
St. Cecilia’s
Thank you for all you do.

781.933.1100 • ALBRECHT AUTO.com