

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Samaritana (Samaritan Woman)

by Julio Romero de Torres (c.1920)

Third Sunday of Lent
8 March 2026

Lent



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8 MARCH 2026

PRELUDE | Largo from Xerxes, HWV 40

Timothy Roberts, *cello* and Brett Maguire, *parish organist*

George Frideric Handel

(1685-1759)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Come to the Water

John Foley



1. O let all who thirst, let them come to the
2. And let all who seek, let them come to the
3. And let all who toil, let them come to the
4. And let all the poor, let them come to the



wa - ter. And let all who have noth - ing,
wa - ter. And let all who have noth - ing,
wa - ter. And let all who are wea - ry,
wa - ter. Bring the ones who are lad - en,



let them come to the Lord: With-out mon-ey,
let them come to the Lord: With-out mon-ey,
let them come to the Lord: All who la - bor,
bring them all to the Lord: Bring the chil - dren



with-out price. Why should you pay the price,
 with-out strife. Why should you spend your life,
 with-out rest. How can your soul find rest,
 with-out might. Eas - y the load and light:



ex - cept for the Lord?
 ex - cept for the Lord?
 ex - cept for the Lord?
 7 come to the Lord.

PENITENTIAL RITE

COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Exodus 17: 3-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 95: If Today You Hear His Voice

Marty Haugen



If to-day you hear his voice, hard-en not your hearts.



If to-day you hear his voice, hard-en not your hearts.

Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;
 hail the rock who saves us.
 Let us come into his presence, giving
 thanks;
 let us hail him with a song of praise. R.

O come; let us bow and bend low.
 Let us kneel before the LORD who
 made us,
 for he is our God, and we the people,
 the people of his pasture, the flock

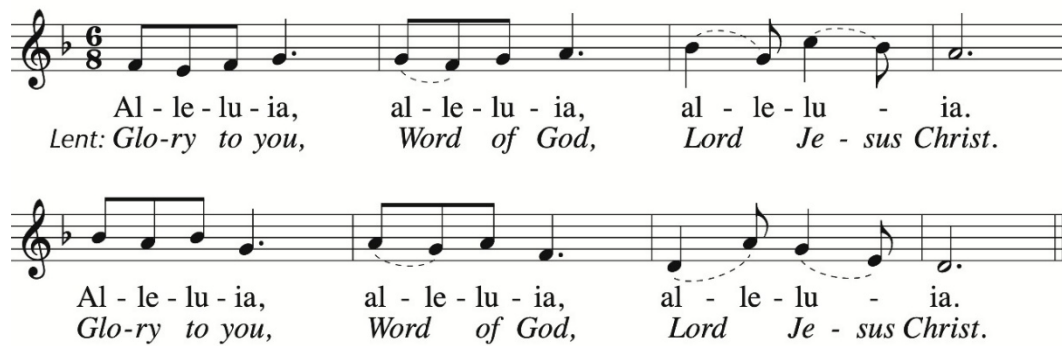
of his hand. R.

O that today you would listen to his
 voice!
 "Harden not your hearts as at
 Meribah,
 as on that day at Massah in the
 desert
 when your forebears put me to the test;
 when they tried me, though they
 saw my work." R.

SECOND READING | Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony Alonso



Al - le - lu - ia, *Lent: Glo-ry to you,* al - le - lu - ia, *Word of God,* al - le - lu - ia, *Lord Je - sus Christ.*

Al - le - lu - ia, *Glo-ry to you,* al - le - lu - ia, *Word of God,* al - le - lu - ia, *Lord Je - sus Christ.*

GOSPEL | JOHN 4: 5-42

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

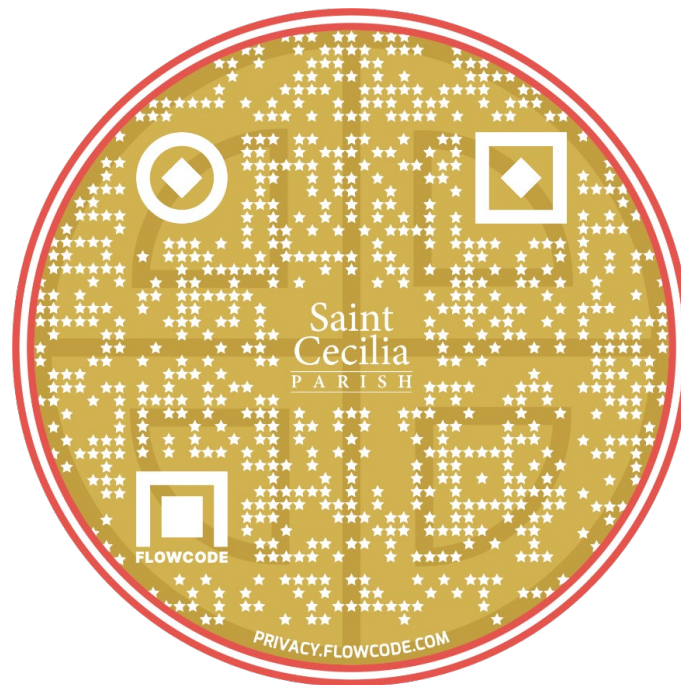
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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

If the Flowcode doesn't work for you, please visit www.flowcode.com/page/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 | O God, You Search Me

Bernadette Farrell



1. O God, you search me and you know me. All my
2. You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis -
3. Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, You have
4. Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me, Still I
5. For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me, Gave me



thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze. When I
cern my pur - pose from a - far, And with
known its mean - ing through and through. You are
search for shel - ter from your light. There is
life with - in my moth - er's womb. For the



walk or lie down you are be - fore me: Ev - er the
love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me: In ev - 'ry
with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing: God of my
no - where on earth I can es - cape you: E - ven the
won - der of who I am, I praise you: Safe in your



mak - er and keep - er of my days.
mo - ment of life or death, you are.
pres - ent, my past and fu - ture, too.
dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.
hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

SANCTUS | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso

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

AMEN | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso

A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

AGNUS DEI | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso

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

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

It is a long-held Catholic belief that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an “Act of Spiritual Communion.” When we are unable to be physically present at the celebration of the Eucharist, Pope Francis invites Catholics to say this prayer as a source of grace. We can be assured that when we express our desire to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, God will be with us spiritually in a special way. Here is an Act of Spiritual Communion that we encourage you to pray as you participate in our live-streamed liturgies:

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION | Lead Us to the Water

Tom Kendzia and Gary Daigle



1. Lead us to the wa-ter, — bring us
2. Hold us in your mer-cy, — heal us
3. Fill us with your fire, — lead us
*4. We will be your spir-it; — we will
**Comm. Ref.: Lead us to the wa-ter, — bring us



1. to the feast. Wash us in the
2. with your pow'r. Lift us from the
3. from the night. Guide us in your
4. be your peace. Let us love each
to the feast. Fill us with your



1. riv - er and fill us with your peace.
2. dark - ness and teach us with your love.
3. wis - dom and draw us to your light.
4. oth - er. † Lead us to the feast.
Spir - it and we will be your peace.

COMMUNION MEDITATION | I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Bankson

CONCLUDING RITES

RECESSIONAL | There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE



1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy Like the wide-ness
2. For the love of God is broad-er Than the meas-ures
3. Trou-bled souls, why will you scat-ter Like a crowd of



of the sea; There's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice
of the mind; And the heart of the E-ter-nal
fright-ened sheep? Fool-ish hearts, why will you wan-der



Which is more than lib-er-ty. There is plen-ti-ty
Is most won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were
From a love so true and deep? There is wel-come



ful re-demp-tion In the blood that has been shed;
but more faith-ful, We should rest up-on God's word;
for the sin-ner, And more grac-es for the good;



There is joy for all the mem-bers
And our lives would be thanks-giv-ing
There is mer-cy with the Sav-ior,



In the sor-rows of the Head.
For the good-ness of our Lord.
There is heal-ing in his blood.

POSTLUDE | Cello Sonata, Op. 14, no. 3, *Allegro*
Timothy Roberts, *cello* and Brett Maguire, *parish organist*

Antonio Vivaldi
(1678-1741)

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@stceciaboston.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 7 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Rosaria Salerno, lector

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

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Emily St Germain, lector

Sunday, March 8 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Rev. Mr. Christopher Brolly, SJ, deacon
Letitia Howland, Michael Lake, Karen McMenamy, lectors

Sunday, March 8 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Rev. Mr. Christopher Brolly, SJ, deacon
Virgen Palermo, Megan Altendorf, Zachary Boutin, lectors

Sunday, March 8 | 6:00 p.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Karen Vachon, lector

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

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

Rev. Timothy McCarthy, *35th Anniversary*

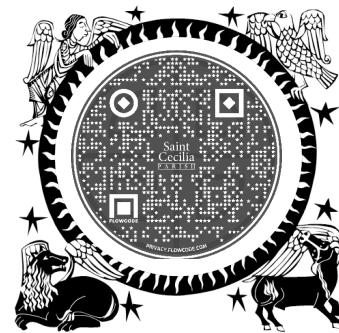
Sunday, March 8 | 9:30 a.m.

Maureen Hanley, *1st Anniversary*
Anthony A. Zankowski, *2nd Anniversary*
David Rowley, *7th Anniversary*
Bob Brkich Sr., *Memorial*
Casey Bonus, *Memorial*
Reg Stettinius, *Memorial*
Dr. Costos Lambrew, *Memorial*
William "Biff" Maclean, *Memorial*

Wednesday, March 11 | 8:00 a.m.

Robert "Bobby" Curran, *Memorial*

Scan this code for
offertory giving:



Thank you for your generous
support of Saint Cecilia Parish!

TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 17:3-7

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

John 4:5-42

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT READINGS

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41



PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Deceased

Frank LaPiana died on February 16. Pray for the repose of his soul and for the consolation of his family and friends. The funeral Mass will be celebrated at Saint Cecilia on March 12 at 11:00 a.m.

John Snyder died on February 17. Pray for the repose of his soul and for the consolation of his family and friends. The funeral Mass will be celebrated on March 27 at Saint Michael the Archangel Parish in Winthrop.

Our Sick

Pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Glenn Gallo, Marc Pelletier, Fred Tufts, Baby Eloise Josephine Mason, Kevin J. Owens, So Kwai Sim, Daria, Maureen McLaughlin, Anne Kenney, Margaret Flagg, Paul Surette, and Deirdre Sullivan.**

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish!

We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our community: **Kathleen Ryan and Coleman Blakely, Katie Tschoepe and Jake Ross, Maya Talukdar, Amelia Chatlos, and Sharon Martin.** If you have not previously registered, you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

The First Scrutiny

This week at the 11:30 a.m. liturgy we will celebrate the first scrutiny of our Elect. Just as Christ raised Lazarus from the dead, we pray that He will dispel any darkness from our Elect, and draw Lena, Ronan, Olivia, David, Jared, Josie, Caroline, Nicholas, Natalie, and Quinn closer to his great love and light. Please pray for our Elect on their continued journey toward receiving the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Easter Flowers

We invite you to remember your loved ones by donating towards our Easter flowers. Please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/ZCB6ZC5Poig8raLB9>, which has the donation link: www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/easter-flowers-2026. 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 (March 29) will be the last opportunity to donate.



Lenten Accompaniment with Fr. Jim Shaughnessy, SJ

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

Lenten Wednesdays — Mass & Reconciliation

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

Catholic Appeal 2026: Commitment Weekend

This weekend, the 2026 Catholic Appeal launches across the Archdiocese of Boston! Please enter into solidarity with our brothers and sisters in need and spread hope by making a gift today. Thank you to those who have already responded generously to Father John's invitation to contribute. Through early support, our parish has already reached 38% of our financial goal and 19% of our donor goal. Together, we are on our way to greater success. To donate, head to bostoncatholicappeal.org. Thank you for your support!



Credit: He Qi

Samaritan Woman at the Well by He Qi

LENTEN PRAYER IN THE IGNATIAN TRADITION THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

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

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

WEEKLY LENTEN DEVOTIONAL SATURDAYS | MARCH 7, 14, 21, & 28 | 9AM COMMUNITY ROOM

Matthew's Gospel tells us that right after Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, he was led by the Spirit into the desert where he fasted for forty days and forty nights. Our own Lenten awakening is also a journey through the wilderness—a time of both struggle and promise. This Lent, we invite you to join us for a weekly Saturday morning devotional, "Have a Beautiful, Terrible Lent!" using resources created by Kate Bowler. Kate is a four-time *New York Times* bestselling author, award-winning podcast host, and professor of religious history at Duke University. Using Kate's resources, we will companion with one another as we embrace life's everyday struggles alongside its beauty and navigate the darkness as we move towards the light and promise of Easter.

Lent is a time of renewal and grace, but you don't have to go it alone. You are welcome to come when you can—no six-week commitment is necessary and drop-ins are always welcome. For more information, reach out to Mary Wessel at her parish email.

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN

A MORNING OF FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, AND COMPASSION

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

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

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

A CONCERT BY THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY GLEE CLUB

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7 | 7:30PM
SAINT CECILIA CHURCH**

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

FAST FOR A GREENER LENT

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

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



DOCTORS AGAINST GENOCIDE 2026 CALENDARS

SUNDAY, MARCH 8 | AFTER SUNDAY MASSES

Doctors Against Genocide wants to thank everyone at Saint Cecilia for your warm welcome and interest in our work. Thank you for helping to keep the voices of Gaza alive at a time when mainstream media has moved on.

Martha Miller will be here once again with Doctors Against Genocide 2026 calendars, t-shirts, and water bottles available for purchase.

SPACE TO SHARE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 | 6:30PM COMMUNITY ROOM

Space to Share is a place for LGBTQ+ parishioners to speak freely about the challenges and joys of being LGBTQ+ and Catholic (or whatever else is on our minds). Whether it's your first visit or you're a biweekly regular, we'd love to have you join us!

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | 9:30AM – 12PM SAINT MARGARET CHURCH (800 COLUMBIA ROAD, DORCHESTER, MA)

Join us for Dorchester's 17th Annual Saint Patrick's Day Brunch. This year, Congressman Stephen F. Lynch, General President Edward A. Kelly from the International Association of Fire Fighters, and WORK Inc. will be inducted into Dorchester's Hall of Fame. All proceeds from the brunch will go to the Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry. This year, the parish has purchased a table. If you would like to attend, please contact Scott Macdonald at his parish email.

17TH ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON SOCIAL JUSTICE CONVOCATION

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | 8AM - 3:30PM | BOSTON COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Join us for a day filled with reflection, dialogue, and action as we learn about Catholic Social Teaching and how to apply it to our faith. Don't miss out on inspiring workshops, community discussions, and meaningful networking with like-minded folks. Let's come together to make a difference!

To register, head to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1983573780574?aff=oddtcreator>.

COMING UP AT SAINT CECILIA MARCH 5 - 12

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Weekly Lenten Devotional | 9am | Comm. Room
Women Helping Women Brunch | 10am | Parish Hall
USNA Glee Club Concert | 7:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

DAG Calendars For Sale | After Sunday Masses
Wisdom Group | 8:30am via Zoom
Small Groups | After 9:30 Mass | Classroom 3
Listening Sessions | After 8, 9:30, and 11:30 Masses

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

Belvidere Midday Tuesday | 12pm | Comm. Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Mass + Reconciliation | 6pm
Space to Share | 6:30pm | Comm. Room
Small Groups | 8pm ET via Zoom

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Lenten Prayer with Fr. Predmore, SJ | 7pm via Zoom
Wisdom Group | 7:30pm via Zoom

PLANNING, PACKING AND PREPPING FOR THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

MONDAY, MARCH 16 | 7PM VIA ZOOM

PILGRIMAGE, verb: the journey to a distant, sacred goal

A pilgrimage is a journey, both outwards to hallowed places and inwards to spiritual growth. The Camino de Santiago can be seen as a "moving retreat" ending at the tomb of Jesus' cousin, St. James in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Join Nancy Nee Hanifin, Coffee Czar Karen McMenemy and gregarious greeter Anna DeMare for the second of two presentations on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela.

Last month's talk was on the history & traditions of the Camino de Santiago, This presentation will focus on the practical: "Planning, Packing and Prepping" for the Camino de Santiago. To join the meeting, please use the link below.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86837729921?pwd=DmMokLXRpJw2gEes0bcJWVttwJa6qx.1>

WINTER WALK BOSTON

SUNDAY, MARCH 22 | 10AM | BOSTON COMMON

The Winter Walk is an initiative that believes ending homelessness is within our reach. The mission of the Walk is to raise awareness and funds towards that goal, and to support organizations that are working on prevention, support, and care for our homeless community.

We hope you can join us on March 22, 2025 on the Boston Common, where the Walk will begin and end. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. with the event starting at 10 a.m. Look for the tents on the corner of Charles Street and Beacon Street. It is hoped that each adult walker will raise \$100.00 -- either by paying it as a registration fee or raising it from friends and family. There is a Saint Cecilia Hunger & Homelessness team again this year -- we've participated each year since the event began. We have designated Capuchin Mobile Ministries as the recipient of the funds we raise again this year. If you would like to join or support our Team (donations from non-walkers gladly accepted) please go to: <https://fundraisers.winterwalk.org/mark-lippolt>.

Or a check made payable to Winter Walk can be sent to:

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

KNIT-A-LONG FOR ADULTS: NECK WARMERS FOR CHARITY

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 | 10AM - 2PM | PARISH HALL

We need you! The Saint Cecilia Knitting & Crochet Ministry strives to serve others with handmade acts of love. Through the simple yet meaningful work of knitting and crocheting, we create items such as prayer shawls, blankets, hats, scarves (and more) that provide warmth, comfort, and encouragement to those who are ill, grieving and in need.



To help bolster our efforts, we will be offering a "Learn to Knit" session on Saturday, March 28th from 10am to 2pm. The cost is \$25.00 (materials and reference guide will be provided). The project we will be working on is a neck warmer. Our goal is to expand our group and increase our outreach. By joining us, you will not only share your talent but also your heart, helping us extend kindness, encouragement, and hope to those around us. Together, we can make a meaningful difference - one stitch at a time. For more information, send an email to the ministry.



WISDOM & MATURE SPIRITUALITY GROUP

THURSDAY EVENINGS | 7:30-8:30 PM | ZOOM
SUNDAY MORNINGS | 8:30-9:30 AM | ZOOM

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

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

SMALL GROUP CONNECTIONS

IN PERSON:
2nd and 4th Sundays
After the 9:30 Mass
Classroom 3

ONLINE:
2nd and 4th Wednesdays
8pm EST
via Zoom



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

UPDATE FROM THE GBIO TEAM



LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

Have you participated in a listening session? Do you have a social or economic issue you'd like GBIO to address in their next campaign? The parish Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) team wants to hear from you. Share your thoughts and help shape the future of our community.

ABOUT GBIO

GBIO is an interfaith coalition working towards social and economic justice in Greater Boston since 1998. Saint Cecilia is part of a larger network of 60 member institutions and 107,000 individuals driving positive change.

FAITH AND ADVOCACY

GBIO's focus on advocacy aligns with our faith-based service efforts, recognizing that both are essential expressions of our faith. In Catholic Social Teaching, advocacy is about addressing systemic injustices and promoting policies that support the common good. It's rooted in the principles of human dignity, solidarity, subsidiarity, and the preferential option for the poor. By focusing on advocacy, GBIO can help create lasting change and promote a more just society.

FAQs

Does GBIO replace the existing ministries?

No, GBIO focuses on advocacy which is different than service. Service meets immediate needs, advocacy changes systems—both are important expressions of our faith.

What if I already participate in another parish ministry?

As St. Paul reminds us in his first letter to the church of Corinth, "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service, but the same Lord." Your participation in our GBIO efforts can take many forms: joining a listening session, sharing what you've learned with someone else, or praying for our efforts. Every gift matters!

Is anything happening right now?

Saint Cecilia is joining churches, temples, and mosques across the Greater Boston area in hosting GBIO listening sessions. Your input will help shape GBIO's next campaign, and we're aiming to gather insights by the end of March.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

ATTEND A LISTENING SESSION THIS SUNDAY

If you haven't yet participated in a listening session, we have sessions taking place this Sunday, March 8 after the 8:00, 9:30, and 11:30 liturgies. Come and share your ideas—we'd love to hear from you!

Contact GBIO to join the parish team or to request an additional listening session.

What social or economic issues spark hope and action in you? Perhaps this is the time to get involved and be part of the holy work of the building of God's Kingdom in the Greater Boston area.

A GOOD WAY TO PRACTICE ALMSGIVING THIS LENT

WELCOME HOME BASKETS FOR DISPLACED PINE STREET INN RESIDENTS

"If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but shows them no compassion, how can the love of God be in that person?" -1 John 3:18

As Christians we're called to have compassion towards others, especially the most vulnerable in our society. And almsgiving is one of the three traditional pillars of Lent—alongside prayer and fasting—that help foster a closer relationship with God.

This Lent, join us in practicing almsgiving by preparing a welcome basket for displaced residents returning to one of Pine Street Inn's supportive housing sites after a recent electrical fire. Thirty residents are waiting for renovations to be complete before they can move back to their homes. You are invited to fill a laundry basket with essentials like kitchenware, toiletries, and cleaning supplies that will be given to the residents when they return.

If you'd like to participate in this effort, please see the following page for more information and for a detailed list of what Pine Street is requesting.

Please note that items purchased through Amazon should NOT be delivered to the church. When you scan the QR code to access the Amazon wish list, please be sure to select this shipping address:

**Pine Street Inn – Volunteer Department
Boston, MA**

This project will continue until the end of March. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Pickering at her parish email address. Thank you in advance for your generosity!





Pine Street Inn
Ending Homelessness

Welcome Home Baskets



If you are interested in collecting new items for individuals moving into Pine Street's housing, please contact the Pine Street Inn Volunteer Department (contact information below).

Please consider including the following new items in a laundry basket:

Bedroom:

- 1 New Pillow
- 1 Sheet Set (Full, Twin, or Queen)
- 1 Comforter
- 1 Clock Radio
- 1 Fan

Kitchen:

- 2 Dish Towels 1 Can Opener 1
- Box of Trash Bags 2 Pot Holders
- 1 Dish Scrubber 1 4-Piece Dish
- Set 4 Reusable Storage
- Containers 1 set of Silverware 1
- Kitchen Utensil Set (wooden
- spoon, spatula, measuring cups)

Bathroom:

- 2 Bath Towels
- 2 Hand Towels
- 1 Vinyl Shower Curtain
- 1 Set of Shower Curtain Rings
- 1 Bath Mat
- 1 Package of Toilet Paper
- 1 Full-size Shampoo and
- Conditioner
- 1 Full-size Liquid Bodywash

Cleaning:

- 1 All-Purpose Cleaner
- 1 Package of Disinfecting Wipes
- 1 Package of Paper Towels
- 2 Sponges
- 1 Small Dustpan and Broom
- 1 Liquid Dish Soap



To learn more about this opportunity, please contact:
Volunteer Programs at volunteer@pinestreetinn.org or call **617.892.9184**

Pine Street Inn
444 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02118

RITE OF ELECTION

On February 22nd, we celebrated the Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election. In this rite, the parish community expressed its support of our catechumens by sending them forth to the Rite of Election. Following 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 made its "election" of these catechumens to receive the Easter Sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist. Archbishop Henning declared them to be members of the Elect, to be initiated into the sacred mysteries at the Easter Vigil. Now, our Elects are in the Period of Purification and Enlightenment (the final, intense preparation for the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation).

We thank God for the gift of new life in our Church and we ask that you pray for our community's newest members! Looking forward, three Scrutinies of the Elect will happen at the 11:30 liturgy on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent.



SCRUTINIES



On the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent, the newly "Elect" participate in three successive rites called "the Scrutinies." These rites date back to the early Church, and the three passages from the Gospel of John that accompany them are powerful depictions of the hidden transformation God accomplishes not only in our Elect but also in each of us. This week, we celebrate the first scrutiny of the following Elect:

**Lena Brown · Ronan Foley · Olivia Olson
David Pepin · Jared Richards · Josie Judge Sawhney
Caroline Sha · Nicholas Ward
Natalie Viyaran · Quinn Zhang**

While the word "scrutiny" can have negative connotations, for our purposes it is closer to what a jeweler does when he discovers a beautiful gem, turning it over and over to discover its hidden beauty and potential. The Scrutinies are God's way of taking a close, loving look at the Elect, to heal what is hurting, sick, or sinful and to bring forth all that's beautiful, good, and true. God "scrutinizes" us with Divine Light, revealing what is valuable within each of us.

IN A TIME OF US RETREAT, DR. PAUL FARMER'S LEGACY CALLS US TO STAND UP

BY CHELSEA CLINTON

Twenty years ago, the mother of one of my closest friends was in the hospital on and off for months, battling a wicked cancer that would ultimately claim her life. When my longtime friend Dr. Paul Farmer and I were catching up on the edge of a meeting, I shared how worried I was and that all I knew how to do was to keep showing up, hoping I could offer help before it was asked of me. Paul first asked if he could help and then asked which hospital. I told him, and he said he happened to be staying nearby for his UN-related work and would be around more frequently in New York. Only later did I recognize that he was practicing what he taught so many of us about accompaniment: that presence, offered steadily and without condition, is one of the most powerful forms of care. And then he extended that same presence to me.

We would have dinner together at a little French restaurant near the hospital every few weeks for months and would always sit at the same table. We called it Table 33. Looking back, I can't remember if the restaurant called it Table 33 or we decided it was a fitting number. I don't think there were 33 tables. The restaurant is no longer around, so I can't ask. When I heard Paul had died, I walked that block and was distraught to learn that the restaurant had since closed. Though what I was really mourning was the loss of Paul—my mentor, hero, friend, and one of the people I could, and did, talk to about the big, the mundane, the absurd.

I think about Paul Farmer often, and especially have this past year.

I think about him in moments when the scale of suffering in the world feels overwhelming, when the distance between what we know how to do and what we are willing to do feels painfully wide. I think about him when public choices widen that distance—when lifesaving programs are scaled back, research slowed, or partnerships abandoned. When the current administration decimated funding for USAID, research projected that, if those cuts remained in place, more than 14 million preventable deaths could occur by 2030. We know that hundreds of thousands of people, per

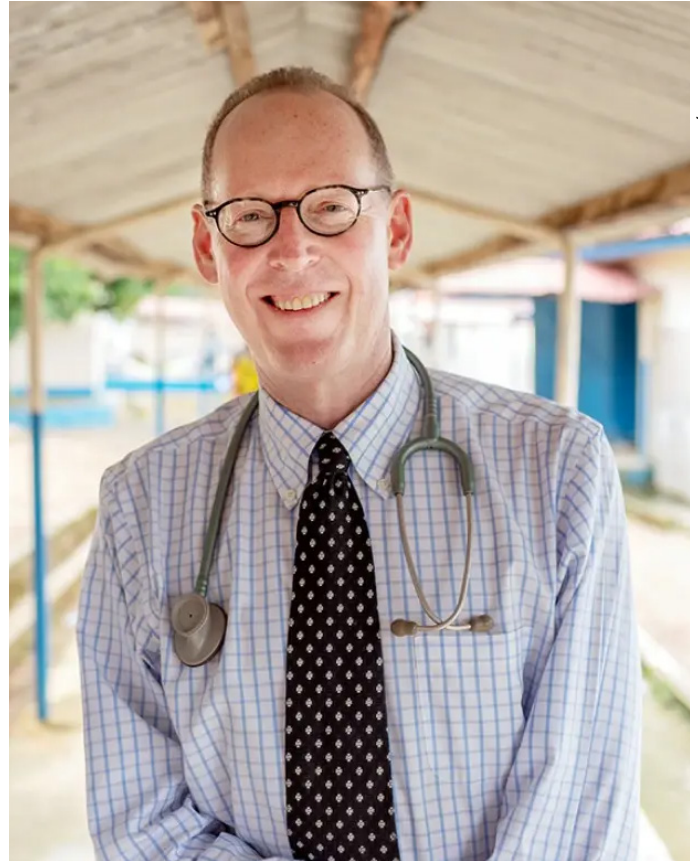


Photo: John Ra / Partners In Health

Paul Farmer

estimates, have already died due to the lack of funding, roughly two thirds of them children. Such outcomes reflect decisions, not inevitabilities. When research halts, clinical trials slow, or scientists are pushed out of their work, it puts real people at risk by delaying the cures for which they're waiting. The same is true when new policy weakens vaccination programs despite clear evidence that vaccines save millions of lives every year. Dismantling these systems not only threatens health, but also undermines trust, often for reasons that have more to do with self-interest than science, with seeming imperviousness to the real costs in human lives lost.

However, and perhaps more instructively, I think about him in moments of hope, such as the graduation of the first medical-degree class last month at the University of

Global Health Equity, an institution he helped found—a reminder that investments in health systems are not abstractions but lifelines, for individuals, communities, and countries. I think of him when I see people choosing solidarity over individual maximization, the work over performative presence, and persistence over despair. This is clear every day in the continued work of Partners in Health (PIH), the international public health nonprofit he cofounded. In Sierra Leone, for example, PIH and thousands of supporters helped hasten one of the fastest declines in maternal mortality and this month opened the Paul E. Farmer Maternal Center of Excellence, a large, cutting-edge facility with the country's first neonatal intensive care. I think about him in quieter moments too, when I find myself returning to the principles Paul taught so many of us to live by: accompaniment over distance, partnership over hierarchy, and never to accept the status quo as inevitable. And I think about him when I look at my children and send prayers into the night that they forge lives of purpose and find friends to help make them meaningful.

I first encountered Paul through his ideas. As a junior at Stanford, I read *Infections and Inequalities* and felt, with the confidence—and audacity—of a college student, that he had gotten so much right and just a few things wrong. To my great mortification and slight bemusement, I wrote him a long email full of thoughts, questions, and critiques. To my great surprise, he wrote back. That exchange became a correspondence, and eventually a friendship, that shaped how I think about health, justice, and responsibility. It is an enduring family joke that while my father and Paul might have worked together on infectious diseases and post-disaster recovery, everywhere from Haiti to Rwanda, and traveled thousands, if not millions, of miles together, my mother and I both admired and knew of Paul first.

What struck me then, and continued to strike me over the years, was how seriously Paul took ideas, precisely because he understood that ideas shape systems and power, and systems and power shape lives. They shape what is understood to be possible, what is thought too radical, what is urgent and what is not. Paul also was equally clear that ideas were never enough on their own and that the ones that deserved to be taken most seriously originated from the people whose lives would be most impacted by their adoption or rejection. For Paul, the work was always about closing the gap between moral clarity and material reality, between what we claim to value and what we actually build, between what we assert we will defend and where we actually mount a defense.

Over time, my understanding of Paul's work and that of Partners in Health deepened. Early on, I was drawn to the moral force of his argument: that all lives matter and that the people with the least deserve a preferential option for excellent health care and public health. As I worked alongside him, including through our partnerships at the Clinton Foundation and the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), I came to appreciate something even more demanding, a belief Paul embodied so fully—of which his colleague Jim Yong Kim so powerfully reminded us: that optimism itself is a moral choice. Not optimism rooted in wishful thinking, but optimism continuously grounded in evidence, partnership, and a bias toward action. I often find myself almost accidentally thinking of Paul's five s's of what makes a strong health system—staff, stuff, space, systems, and social support. It is a heuristic that works well in other arenas too. Paul was clever, yes, and even more so wise in his ability to be both very specific and universal. That framing is one example out of arguably an encyclopedia's worth of them.

Paul had no patience for cynicism masquerading as wisdom. He believed despair was a luxury the world could not afford—and that partnership was partly strategy, partly mutual accountability, and partly an inoculation against hopelessness. Some of the most consequential moments of his life, and of the movements he helped build, came through collaboration across disciplines, borders, and generations: from Haiti to Rwanda, from clinics to classrooms, from ideas to implementation. His life also modeled that real collaboration contains threads of humility. He was more willing to admit mistakes, to ask questions, to learn from others than most people I have ever met or read about.

Paul was not perfect. He was famously bad at resting, at slowing down, at protecting his own limits. He liked sugar way too much. He dismissed concerns that he flew too often. He generally hated going to the doctor. He asked more of himself and of others than most people thought reasonable. He could get angry, *so angry*, at injustice, yes, but also when he thought people weren't trying hard enough or pushing fast enough, even if maybe they were just slightly more human and needed a few more hours of rest before they could indeed work with such intensity and purpose. So while Paul might have said he knew that urgency wasn't a personality trait but rather a response to injustice, I am not sure he believed it. At least not all the time.

Paul and I talked about what made us angry, what made us hopeful, what made us laugh. I teased him and my husband, Marc, about their love of *Game of Thrones*—far predating the HBO series. Paul and his wife, Didi, were at our wedding, and Paul was one of the first people to meet our daughter, Charlotte. I am lucky enough to have spent time with Paul's

children and his chosen family from PIH, Harvard, CHAI, and more. At his memorial service in Boston, someone shared Paul’s family tree, and it had more branches and subbranches than could be counted in scant minutes and through tears, containing the multitude of research efforts, organizations, and activism that he directly inspired through teaching, mentorship, and, yes, accompaniment. A life well lived and a life cut far too short.

Paul’s work reminds us that injustice is not immutable and that progress depends on our willingness to keep showing up, especially during the darkest days. His insistence on accompaniment—on staying, listening, and remaining accountable over time—feels essential to this moment, for citizens of our country and our world, as well as for family members and friends.

It never occurred to me to question whether Paul was really staying near the hospital where my friend’s mother was often admitted. I know he would have come to dinner whether it was blocks away or farther. I wish we’d had more conversations. I am grateful for all the ones we shared.

Paul’s life as a doctor, academic, teacher, doer, and optimist created a demanding legacy. And it is a gift I will treasure always.



Originally published in Vanity Fair on February 24, 2026.

Chelsea Clinton is the Adjunct Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health and the Vice Chair of the Clinton Foundation.



THE RITE OF ELECTION



THANK YOU FROM SAINT CECILIA'S HOUSE AND ROBERT MCBRIDE HOUSE

St. Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street
Boston, MA 02215

Dear Fr. Unni and the Parishioners of St. Cecilia Parish,

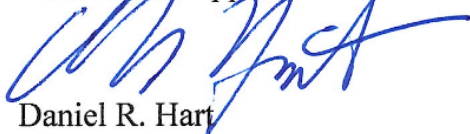
On behalf of the residents and staff of St. Cecilia's House and Robert McBride House, thank you for your extraordinary generosity and kindness.

Your recent donations of food brought comfort and joy to our residents, and we are especially grateful for the gift cards you so thoughtfully contributed. These gift cards provide our residents with dignity, choice, and the opportunity to meet personal needs during the season and throughout the year.

Your compassion and commitment to serving others truly reflect the spirit of St. Cecilia Parish. Because of your support, our residents feel remembered, supported, and cared for in a very meaningful way.

Thank you again for your generosity and for keeping our community in your prayers and actions. We are deeply grateful to walk alongside such a caring parish.

With sincere appreciation,



Daniel R. Hart
President
Board of Directors



LENT IS A MARATHON, NOT A SPRINT

BY ELIZABETH FOSS

Lent is a marathon. I think that we often get to third week or so and start to recognize that it's a marathon, but that we approached it from the beginning as if it were a sprint. We set lofty goals, and we went after them with great ardor. And now, we're spent. Our resolutions are looking a little rough around the edges. We're discouraged because we're not making the spiritual progress we'd hoped to make, but the calendar is marching onward towards Easter.

The battle for Lent is being waged in our heads—that's where most marathons are finished, or not. In an effort to throw off the trappings of the world and to put on the love of Christ, we have to be transformed by the renewal of our minds (Romans 12:2). Renewal is an ongoing, lifelong process. God wants us to be transformed by the renewal of our minds so that we know and act upon His will for our lives. Did your "Lent list" look like a to-do and "to-don't" list? It's helpful to stop now, at roughly the midpoint, and remind ourselves that Lent is not about the checklist. The checklist is the training plan for the marathon. Lent is about transformation. It's about transfiguration. It's about becoming more and more like Christ. It's about uniting our hearts and souls with Him in order to shine like the sun in the kingdom of our Father (Matthew 13:43).

We resolved to get up earlier to do some spiritual reading every day. But around the end of the second week of Lent, winter returned with a vengeance and we stayed under the covers first one day, and then the next. Four days later, we've given up on our "something extra" because now it's a lost cause.

No it's not! You lost four training days. That's not the end. Pick up where you left off.

The renewal of your mind is a lifelong process; you will keep renewing until you breathe your last breath. Every day, we have the opportunity to begin again. Every day, we are given the opportunity to ask for the fruits of the spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—in order to help us finish the marathon. Think of them as the Gatorade stations along the way. Replenish. Refill. Begin again. Ask Him.

The point of the marathon isn't to collect the medal



Photo: Margot Murphy | Massachusetts Governor's Press Office | Wikimedia

Marathoners crossing the Boston Marathon finish line in 2025.

at the end, to check the distance off on your daily running calendar (though that no doubt would be very satisfying). The point is to become a runner. The point isn't to become a Lenten ninja, able to leap out of bed in the still dark morning in a single bound. The point is to become more like God. Learning to leap out of bed is the means to making your heart more like His.

And it requires His help.

Struggling with Lenten discipline isn't failure. It's opportunity. Every time we struggle, we get to ask for fruits of the spirit. Every time we ask, and He answers, we see the boundless generosity of God. And every time we take the fruits and use them for His glory, we are a few steps further in the marathon of our lives.



Originally published on Elizabeth Foss' website In the Heart of my Home on March 5, 2024.

Elizabeth Foss is a Catholic author and life coach based in Washington D.C.

PARISH RESOURCES

Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115

Hours | Seven days a week, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Phone | 617 536 4548; Fax | 617 536 1781

Website | www.stceciliaboston.org

Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support

Rev. Mr. Christopher Brolly, SJ, Deacon

Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate

Robert Duff, Director of Music

Anastassia Kolchanov, Digital and Print Media Coordinator

Scott MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility

Colleen Melaugh, Director of Finance and Development

Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien, Pastoral Director of Operations

Lisa Pickering, Director of Facilities Operations & Events

Mary Wessel, Pastoral Associate

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV

Rev. John Predmore, SJ

Music Ministry

Tyler Cesario, Assistant Director of Music

Daniel Lamoureux, Vigil Organist

Brett Maguire, Parish Organist

Pendexter Macdonald, Assistant Organist

Audiovisual Support

Maureen Deery, Parish Photographer & Creator of Weekly Slide Show

Geoffrey Edwards, Livestream Videographer

Ben Worthley, Audio Engineer

Schedule for Liturgy

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

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

Holy Days | 8:00 a.m.

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Father Jim Shaughnessy, SJ is available by appointment for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To schedule an appointment, please call the Parish Office. On all the Wednesday evenings of Lent, Mass is celebrated in the sanctuary at 6:00 and following Mass, Father Shaughnessy will hear confessions until 8:00—no appointment necessary.

Hearing Assistance in Church

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

For Those with Celiac Disease

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

Building Accessibility

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

Baptism for Infants

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

Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for Faith Formation, contact our Pastoral Director of Operations, Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien.

Parking

There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski's Tavern), for \$15, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and \$15 after 4:00 every day of the week. To get this discount, ask a greeter for a chaser ticket at Mass or ask a staff person during the week. Chaser tickets must be used at the machine at the exit gate. To obtain the discount, place the ticket you received upon entering the garage into the machine, then follow it with the chaser ticket.

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team

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

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

This is the communal process through which non-baptized men and women become members of the Catholic Church. It is also suitable for those baptized in different faith traditions who are interested in becoming Catholic, or, for those who were baptized Catholic, but have yet to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and confirmation. For more information, contact Mary Wessel in the Parish Office.

Marriage

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

Care of the Sick

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

Order of Christian Funerals

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

Joining Our Community

We're happy that you're with us! Our parish offers a warm, spiritual home for a diverse group of Catholics from many neighborhoods in and around Boston; we also have friends from around the country and the world. We invite local individuals and families to fill out a new parishioner form on our website. No matter your present status in the Catholic Church, current family or marital situation, gender or gender expression, sexual orientation, personal history, age, race, or self-image, you are invited and will be welcomed, accepted, loved, and respected here at Saint Cecilia. We are here to accompany and serve you.

Please note:

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