

# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Pentecost Sunday

19 May 2024

Pentecost by Jennifer Allison

# Saint Cecilia

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## PENTECOST SUNDAY

PRELUDE | Fugue

Brett Maguire, *organist*

César Franck

(1822-1890)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Come Holy Ghost

LAMBILLOTTE



1. Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest, And in our  
2. O Com - fort - er, to thee we cry, Thou heav'n - ly  
3. O Ho - ly Ghost, through thee a - lone Know we the  
4. Praise we the Lord, Fa - ther and Son, And Ho - ly



hearts take up thy rest; Come with thy grace  
gift of God most high, Thou fount of life,  
Fa - ther and the Son; Be this our firm  
Spir - it with them one; And may the Son



and heav'n - ly aid To fill the hearts which thou hast  
and fire of love, And sweet a - noint - ing from a -  
un - chang - ing creed, That thou dost from them both pro -  
on us be - stow All gifts that from the Spir - it



made, To fill the hearts which thou hast made.  
bove, And sweet a - noint - ing from a - bove.  
ceed, That thou dost from them both pro - ceed.  
flow, All gifts that from the Spir - it flow.

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.

GLORIA | Mass of Joy and Peace

Tony Alonso

Refrain




Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high-est, — and on



earth peace, on earth peace to peo - ple of good will. *to verses*

Verse 1




We praise you, we bless — you, we a - dore you, we glo - ri-fy you, we



give you thanks for your great glo-ry, Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, O God, al-migh-ty Fa-ther.

Verse 2



Lord Je-sus Christ, On-ly Be-got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God,



Son of the Fa - ther, — you take a - way the sins of the world, have



mer-cy on us; you take a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer;



you are sea - ted at the right hand of the Fa - ther, — have mer - cy on us.



Verse 3

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the  
 Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ,  
 with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. \_\_\_

COLLECT

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Acts 2: 1-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 104: Lord, Send Out Your Spirit

Tony Alonso

Lord, send out your Spir-it, and re-new the face of the earth, send out  
 your Spir-it, send out your Spir-it, and re-new the face of the earth.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!  
 O LORD my God, how great you are,  
 clothed in majesty and honor,  
 wrapped in light as with a robe! *R.*

How many are your works, O LORD!  
 In wisdom you have made them all.  
 The earth is full of your creatures.  
 Bless the LORD, O my soul.  
 Alleluia! *R.*

All of these look to you  
 to give them their food in due season.  
 You give it, they gather it up;  
 you open wide your hand, they are  
 well filled. *R.*

You take away their breath, they die,  
 returning to the dust from which  
 they came.  
 You send forth your spirit, and they are  
 created,  
 and you renew the face of the earth. *R.*



SECOND READING | 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13

SEQUENCE | Come, Holy Spirit

*Veni Sancte Spiritus*  
Richard J. Clark

Come, Holy Spirit, come!  
And from your celestial home  
    Shed a ray of light divine!  
Come, Father of the poor!  
Come, source of all our store!  
    Come, within our bosoms shine.  
You, of comforters the best;  
You, the soul's most welcome guest;  
    Sweet refreshment here below;  
In our labor, rest most sweet;  
Grateful coolness in the heat;  
    Solace in the midst of woe.  
O most blessed Light divine,  
Shine within these hearts of yours,  
    And our inmost being fill!  
Where you are not, we have naught,

Nothing good in deed or thought,  
    Nothing free from taint of ill.  
Heal our wounds, our strength renew;  
On our dryness pour your dew;  
    Wash the stains of guilt away:  
Bend the stubborn heart and will;  
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;  
    Guide the steps that go astray.  
On the faithful, who adore  
And confess you, evermore  
    In your sevenfold gift descend;  
Give them virtue's sure reward;  
Give them your salvation, Lord;  
    Give them joys that never end. Amen.  
Alleluia.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Joy and Peace

Tony Alonso

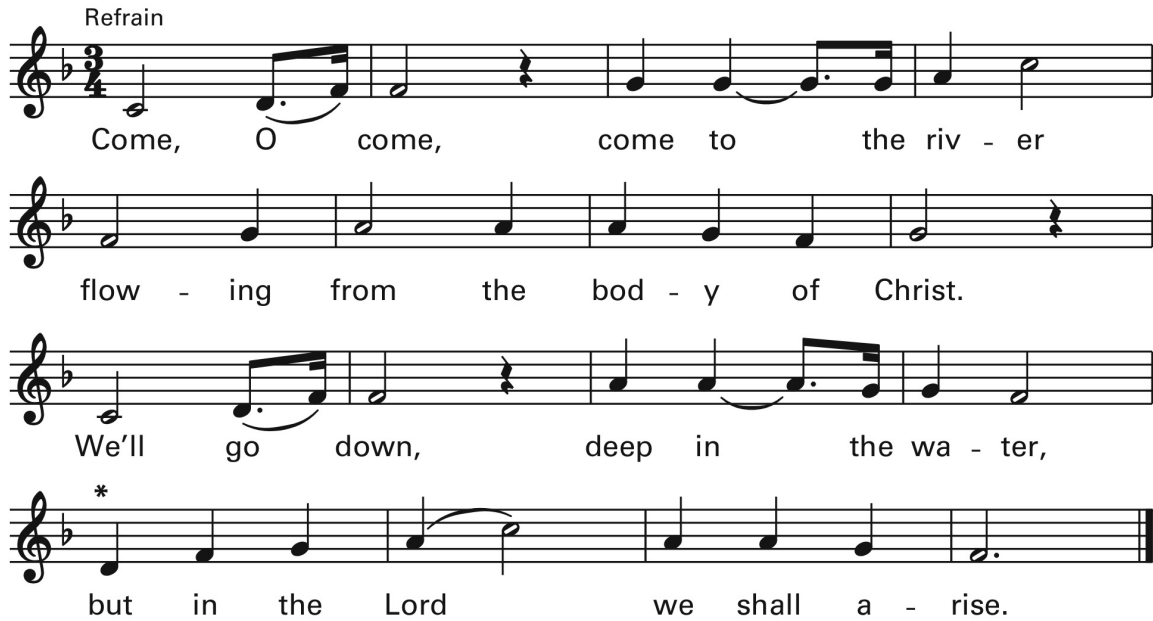
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL | John 20: 19-23

HOMILY


RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Refrain



Come, O come, come to the riv - er  
 flow - ing from the bod - y of Christ.  
 We'll go down, deep in the wa - ter,  
 \* but in the Lord we shall a - rise.

Verses



1. Washed in wa - ters of re-birth,  
 2. Priest - ly peo - ple are we,  
 3. Blest are those who thirst  
 4. Let us walk in the light  
 5. Those who sow in tears

to Refrain

1. we have put on Christ Je - sus.  
 2. sealed and sent by the Spir - it.  
 3. for the reign of God's jus - tice.  
 4. of God's ho - ly prom - ise.  
 5. reap the har - vest re - joic - ing.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

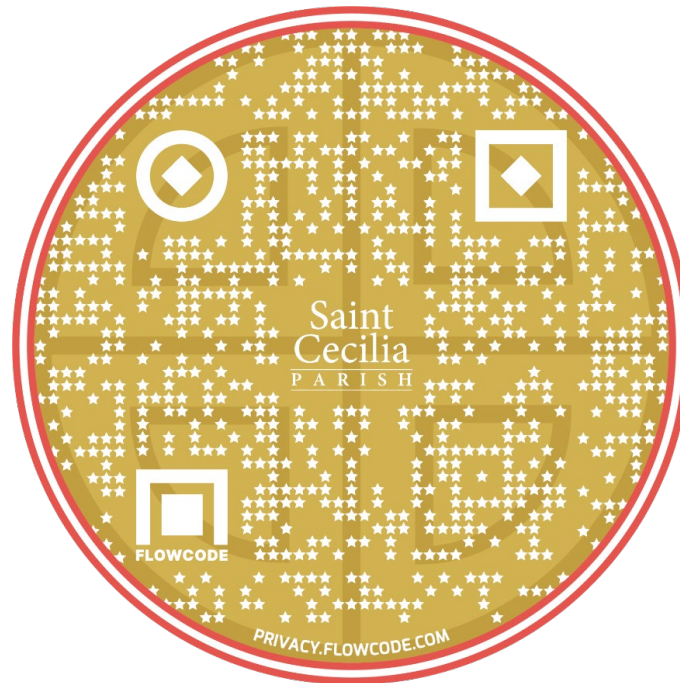
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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](http://www.flowcode.com/page/stceciliaboston).

You can also mail a check to:

Saint Cecilia Parish  
18 Belvidere Street  
Boston, MA 02115

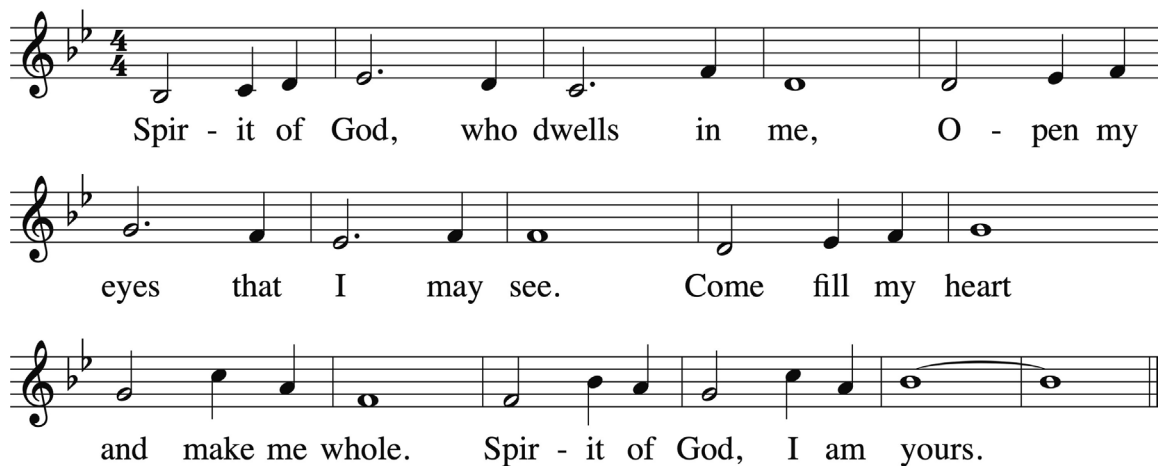




# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

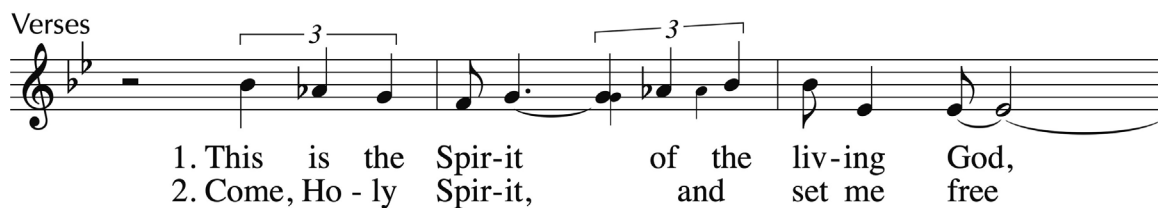
PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | Spirit of God

James E. Moore, Jr.

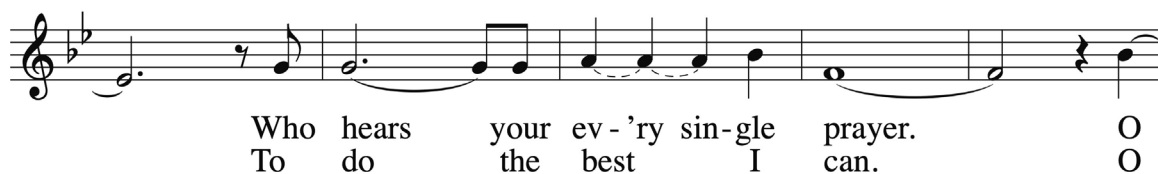


Spir - it of God, who dwells in me, O - pen my  
eyes that I may see. Come fill my heart  
and make me whole. Spir - it of God, I am yours.

Verses



1. This is the Spir-it of the liv-ing God,  
2. Come, Ho - ly Spir-it, and set me free



Who hears your ev - 'ry sin - gle prayer. O  
To do the best I can. O



this is the Spir - it of the liv - ing God,  
come, Ho - ly Spir - it, and set me free



Who is al - ways right there. D.C.  
To be all that I am.

## 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 | Mass of Christ, the Savior

Dan Schutte

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

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracket) on the first, third, and fourth staves. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ, the Savior

Dan Schutte

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

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final half note. The piece ends with a double bar line.

GREAT AMEN | Mass of Christ, the Savior

Dan Schutte

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

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a simple melody of quarter notes for the first two phrases and a longer note with a fermata for the final phrase. The piece ends with a double bar line.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

LAMB OF GOD | Mass of Joy and Peace

Tony Alonso

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and pastoral. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace." The notation includes a repeat sign for the phrase "world, have mer-cy on us." and a final double bar line for the phrase "world, grant us peace." Labels "Cantor" and "Assembly" are placed above the staff, and "Repeat as desired" and "Final" are placed above the repeat and final signs respectively.

## 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.





I re - ceive the liv - ing God, And my



heart is full of joy. I re - ceive the liv - ing

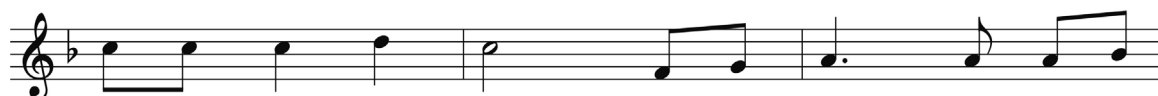


God, And my heart is full of joy.

Verses



- |             |       |   |    |     |        |            |      |
|-------------|-------|---|----|-----|--------|------------|------|
| 1. Je - sus | says: | I | am | the | Bread  | Sent       | to   |
| 2. Je - sus | says: | I | am | the | Vine,  | Far        | from |
| 3. Je - sus | says: | I | am | the | Way,   | And        | my   |
| 4. Je - sus | says: | I | am | the | Truth. | If         | you  |
| 5. Je - sus | says: | I | am | the | Life,  | Raised     | in   |
| 6. Je - sus | says: | I | am | the | Day,   | Shin - ing |      |



you	from	God	Most	High.	Take	and	eat,	and	you	will
whom	no	life	can	grow.	If	you	join	your - self	to	
path	is	straight	and	true.	Fol - low	me	to	where	I	
fol - low	close	to	me,		You	will	know	me	in	your
tri - umph	from	the	dead.		As	one	Bod - y	now	re -	
bright - ly	through	your	night.		Wel - come	me,		and	you	will

D.C.



live;	You	need	nev - er	fear	to	die.
me,	A	rich	har - vest	you	will	know.
lead;	There	my	Fa - ther	waits	for	you.
heart,	And	my	word	will	make	you
main,	Mem - bers	joined	to	me,	the	Head.
walk	By	the	Spir - it's	guid - ing		light.

7. Jesus says: I am the Love  
Which can bind you close to me.  
Those who know this gift I bring  
Will find true community.
8. Jesus says: I am the Peace  
Which the world cannot bestow.  
Learn to love and live in me,  
And in you my Reign will grow.
9. Jesus says: I am the Lamb,  
And my death set sinners free.  
Those who drink the cup I drink  
Must take up this work with me.

COMMUNION MEDITATION | *Veni, Sancte Spiritus*, K. 47

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-1791)

*Veni sancte Spiritus:  
Reple tuorum corda fidelium:  
et tui amoris in eis ignem accende.*

*qui per diversitatem linguarum cunctarum  
gentes in unitate fidei congregasti.  
Alleluia.*

Come Holy Spirit:  
fill the hearts of your faithful,  
and kindle your love in them.

You, who through the diversity of many tongues,  
have gathered the nations together in the unity of faith.  
Alleluia.

## 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.



1. O Ho - ly Spir - it, by whose breath Life  
 2. You are the seek - er's sure re - source, Of  
 3. In you God's en - er - gy is shown, To  
 4. Flood our dull sens - es with your light; In  
 5. From in - ner strife grant us re - lease; Turn  
 6. Praise to the Fa - ther, Christ the Word, And



ris - es vi - brant out of death: Al - le - lu - ia,  
 burn - ing love the liv - ing source, Al - le - lu - ia,  
 us your var - ied gifts make known. Al - le - lu - ia,  
 mu - tual love our hearts u - nite. Al - le - lu - ia,  
 na - tions to the ways of peace. Al - le - lu - ia,  
 to the Spir - it: God the Lord, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia; Come to cre - ate, re - new, in - spire;  
 al - le - lu - ia; Pro - tec - tor in the midst of strife,  
 al - le - lu - ia; Teach us to speak, teach us to hear;  
 al - le - lu - ia; Your pow'r the whole cre - a - tion fills;  
 al - le - lu - ia; To full - er life your peo - ple bring  
 al - le - lu - ia; To whom all hon - or, glo - ry be



Come, kin - dle in our hearts your fire.  
 The giv - er and the Lord of life.  
 Yours is the tongue and yours the ear.  
 Con - firm our weak, un - cer - tain wills.  
 That as one bod - y we may sing:  
 Both now and for e - ter - ni - ty.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia; Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



POSTLUDE | Fugue in C Major, BWV 547  
Brett Maguire, *organist*

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

*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](mailto:RDuff@stceciliaboston.org).

# WELCOME!

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

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

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

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

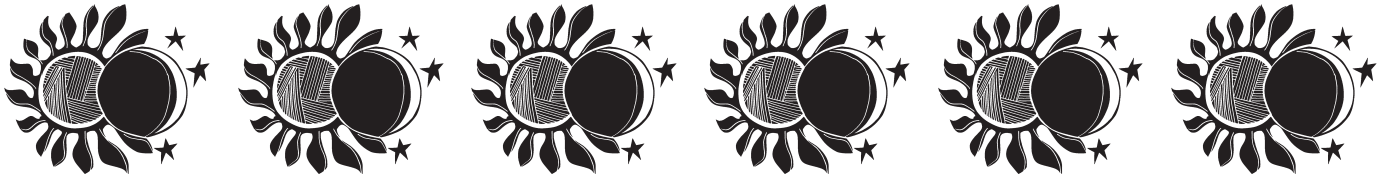
Fourteen circular and sixteen square panels adorn the nave and arches of the church. The square panels are decorated with the symbols of Our Lady taken from the Litany of Loreto and the circular ones with symbols taken from the lives of the apostles. The great window of the Assumption—framed by the two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

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

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

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

# OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**Saturday, May 18 | 5:00 p.m.**

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

**Sunday, May 19 | 8:00 a.m.**

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant  
Bobbi Moran, lector

**Sunday, May 19 | 9:30 a.m.**

Rev. John Unni, celebrant  
Letitia Howland, Nikko Mendoza, and Christie Hedges, lectors

**Sunday, May 19 | 11:30 a.m.**

Rev. John Unni, celebrant  
Cynthia Wanner, Mark Richburg and Kelly McClintock, lectors

## SPECIAL INTENTIONS

**Saturday, May 18 | 5:00 p.m.**

JoAnn Serpico, *Month's Mind*  
Bridie Maloney, *Memorial*

**Sunday, May 19 | 9:30 a.m.**

Tim Pert, *First Anniversary*  
Carol Ascrizzi, *Memorial*  
Brian McGraw, *Memorial*  
Anthony J. D'Arcangelo, *Memorial*

**Sunday, May 19 | 11:30 a.m.**

Richard Howland, *9th Anniversary*

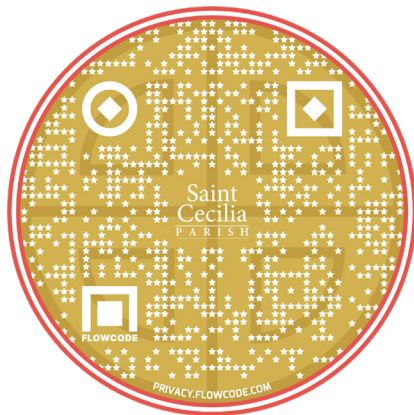
## TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 2:1-11  
1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13  
John 20:19-23

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Deuteronomy 4:32-34. 39-40  
Romans 8:14-17  
Matthew 28:16-20

**SCAN THIS CODE  
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS  
SUPPORT OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH!**



# PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

## Our Sick

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

## Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish

We are pleased to welcome the following new registrants: **Stephen and Lolita McKenna** of Southern Shores, NC, **Ann and Chris Van Damm** of Tillson, NY, **Joyce Calogero** of Lynnfield, **Susan Johansen** of Cambridge, the **Braga Family** of Winthrop, **Jessica Crawford** and **Nancy McGhee** of Amesbury, and **Sebastian Bryant, Ed and Alicia O'Connor, Matthew Henegan, Colleen Murray, David Passafaro**, and the **Barraford Family**, all of Boston. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at [www.stceciliaboston.org/joining-our-parish/](http://www.stceciliaboston.org/joining-our-parish/).

## Pentecost Sunday—Wear Something Red!

The Easter season draws to a close on Sunday, May 19 with the Solemnity of Pentecost and the liturgical color is red. Help add to our celebration by wearing red to Mass.

The Holy Spirit is described in the Acts of the Apostles as a "strong, driving wind" which fills the house in which the disciples are staying, and, in the Gospel of John, as a gentle breath when the Risen Christ "breathes" on the disciples and gives them the gifts of the Spirit. Both of these passages are read today. The Holy Spirit works in many ways in our lives—at times with great force and also with subtle gentleness. Pray for the ability to listen and be receptive to both the dramatic manifestations, as well as to the quieter ones. They are both God's voice.

## Second Collection

This week's second collection supports the formation and training of seminarians in the Archdiocese of Boston for service as future priests. Please be generous and support these seminarians on their journey toward their ordination to the priesthood. You can donate online here: <https://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/second-collection-for-seminarians-2024>. For more information, please visit [www.VocationsBoston.org](http://www.VocationsBoston.org).

## Attention, Graduates!

We want to acknowledge and celebrate all our graduates. Please email the names of graduating parishoners to Christine Burns at her parish email address and use the word "graduate" in the subject line. Feel free to include the school's name and the degree awarded.

## Be Sealed With the Gift of the Holy Spirit!

This Sunday, we celebrate the sacrament of confirmation for nineteen young men and women who have been preparing to receive the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit. May the Holy Spirit enlighten each of our confirmands with the gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, awe, and wonder!

**Annabelle Mae Catherine Bagley**  
**Cecilia Marie Bagnall**  
**Matthew Lachlan Michael Baird**  
**Keira Antonella Maria Cantor**  
**Christine Patricia Veronica DesAutels**  
**Angie Jayne Margaret Fischer**  
**Colin Michael John Fisher**  
**Charlotte Ann Cecilia Fisher**  
**Cecilia Maria Jose Dominguez Gray**  
**Lily Charlotte Joan Growdon**  
**Corinne Elizabeth Maria Kreder**  
**Siena Patricia Therese Marconi**  
**Gregory Peter Joseph McGrath**  
**Filippo Edwards Francesco Montanari**  
**Olivia Marley Madeleine Sophie Powers**  
**Zachary Allen Gomez Catherine Rogers**  
**Hank Chester Francis Shertenlieb**  
**Gregory Michael Peter Timilty**  
**Kaia Maria Eulalia Triola**

## Welcome to Our Adult Confirmands

This weekend we also celebrate the ten adult parishioners who will be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. After participating in classes to prepare to receive the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit, these men and women are now full members of the Catholic Church!

**Katherine Brianna Margaret of Castello Fleischmann**  
**Mario Louis Christopher Giampetruzzi**  
**Pedro Damian Juan Diego Rodriguez Jimenez**  
**Denisse María John Bosco Joniaux**  
**Yanisel Elizabeth of Hungary Luna**  
**Devin Anne Anthony Mullaney**  
**Chinelo Jennifer Catherine of Siena Odobulu**  
**Maya Sophia Rakoczy**  
**Brennan William Spencer**  
**Christopher Matthew Stanley**



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## SAINT CECILIA PARISH

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### WELCOME TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS!

Last weekend, we joyfully welcomed twenty-nine youngsters to the Eucharistic table for the first time. These children had long been faithful participants with us at the Sunday Eucharist, and they celebrated a new level of relationship with the Body of Christ. A special thank you to our second-grade catechists, Mr. Mark Lippolt and Ms. Anna DeMare, who have shepherded our children on their faith journeys. Thank you to everyone who helped make this day so special!



### THANK YOU FROM OUR MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE TEAM!

What an incredible success! We are overjoyed to announce that our parish community has not only met but exceeded our goal for the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's Mother's Day Walk for Peace! Thanks to the boundless generosity of parishioners, their loved ones, and our parish match, we've raised a remarkable \$9,450 to support the mission of healing and peace building. Moreover, this year's walk saw an inspiring surge in participation, with more individuals joining our Saint Cecilia Team than ever before! From lively toddlers to robust grandparents, our team embodied the spirit of unity and compassion as we walked together for peace. Reflecting on this year's success, we're filled with gratitude and hopeful anticipation for even greater involvement next year. Thank you to everyone who joined us in making a difference!

CALENDAR NOTES ON PENTECOST

Pentecost is the fiftieth and final day of Eastertide. It is, curiously to us, a harvest feast in its origins. This doesn't seem like harvest time here, but around the Mediterranean the apricots, cherries, and strawberries are ripe and ready for the market. Winter wheat is the principal harvest of the year and, if all goes well, yields a crop that can feed people all year long. Even in the north, we have asparagus, rhubarb, the first peas, spinach and salad greens. Winter's fast is now springtime's feast. So, the Jewish people kept a feast of "first-fruits" fifty days after Passover. This feast, called *Shavuot*, is a time of celebrating the harvest and also God's covenant made on Mount Sinai. Since the first Christians would have kept *Shavuot*, it is easy to see how Christian meaning was assigned to this Jewish feast.

So, Pentecost sets a seal on Easter; it is a grand finale, and our liturgy should reflect that energy as we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The liturgy begins with the account in Acts of the Apostles of the coming of the Spirit Jesus promised. The Spirit descends in fire and wind, just as God appeared to Moses on Mount Sinai. Over and over again in the Gospel of Luke we hear that Jesus was filled with the power of the Spirit. Pentecost is made anew at every baptism, every eucharist, every time two or more gather in Jesus' name. This is the last Sunday when the Mass begins with the blessing and sprinkling of holy water.

There are many customs around the world that can extend Pentecost into your home. In some places, people decorate their homes with red roses and peonies and fresh green leaves. Years ago the Vigil of Pentecost was observed with caroling and dancing outdoors near churches. It is a day for flying kites or walking a wind-swept beach. Strawberry shortcake is a traditional Pentecost dessert. People wear red when they go to Mass in many places. In Red Sox Nation, it shouldn't be so hard to find something red to wear to church!

— Rev. James Field

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

*Are you or is someone you know searching for a spiritual home? Are you interested in learning more about what it means to be Catholic? If you would like to explore Catholicism or are already Catholic but have not yet received Eucharist, we would be honored to accompany you in your journey. For more information, email Tanya Rybarczyk at her parish email, or call her at 617-536-4548 X117.*

PRAY AND PLAY

May 18, 3:00 p.m. | Lincoln Park, Somerville

Open to families with kids who enjoy a good playground!

Join the Saint Cecilia Young Families (SCYF) Ministry for their first "Pray and Play"—a gathering for children who enjoy a good playground and their parents who want to upgrade their playground chitchat. The group will have playground time, snacks, and prayerful discussion for parents. Sign up here (<https://bit.ly/4a5EOQc>) to receive updates and information about the location.



SUMMER COFFEE HOSPITALITY PAUSES

We will not have coffee hospitality for three holiday weekends in the summer—Memorial Day weekend, the Fourth of July weekend, and Labor Day weekend—so we can give our hardworking hospitality staff some time off to enjoy these holidays.

THE GOLDEN SEQUENCE

*Veni Sancti Spiritus*, known as "the Golden Sequence," is the sequence for the Mass for Pentecost. It is commonly regarded as one of the greatest masterpieces of sacred Latin poetry ever written. Its beauty and depth have been praised by many. This beautiful poem addresses the Holy Spirit with many different titles and images: the Holy Spirit is "Father of the poor," "comforter," "sweet refreshment," "solace," and "light." The multitude of images suggests the free play of the Holy Spirit: gentle, yet never static, and impossible to be contained or controlled. The poem has been attributed to different authors, the most likely being Stephen Cardinal Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury (1207—1228). This setting was composed by Richard Clark in 1994. Richard was organist and music director at Saint Cecilia for 28 years.





ALL ARE WELCOME MASS:  
CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH

Friday, June 7, 6:30 p.m.

The Paulist Center | 5 Park Street, Beacon Hill

"God is Father and he does not disown any of his children. And 'the style' of God is closeness, mercy, and tenderness. Along this path, you will find God." – Pope Francis responding to Fr. James Martin's question, "What would you say is the most important thing for LGBTQ people to know about God?"



The Greater Boston LGBTQIA Catholic Collective, representing the Saint Cecilia Rainbow Ministry; the Paulist Center Community; Saint Anthony Shrine; Blessed Trinity Parish, Westford/Littleton; and Saint Susanna Parish, Dedham invite you to honor our LGBTQ siblings at an ALL ARE WELCOME Mass at the Paulist Center on Friday, June 7 at 6:30 p.m. Help commemorate the beginning of Pride Month by celebrating the unique diversity of God's children at this liturgy. Join us after the Mass for a reception.



THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA  
MAY 19 – MAY 24

**Sunday, May 19**

Wisdom Group, 8:30 a.m. | Zoom  
High School and Adult Confirmation, 2:00 p.m.

**Monday, May 20**

SCYA Women's Group, 7:30 p.m. | Zoom

**Wednesday, May 22**

SCYA Men's Group, 7:30 a.m. | Zoom  
Communion Circle, 4:00 p.m. | Mount Pleasant  
Rainbow Ministry LGBTQ+ Space to Share, 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, May 23**

Wisdom Group, 7:30 p.m. | Zoom  
Communion Circle, 4:00 p.m. | Hale House

**Sunday, May 26**

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

A REQUEST FROM  
CATHOLIC CHARITIES

For over 100 years, Sunset Point Camp has provided a dream vacation at the seashore to over 40,000 low-income, at-risk children aged 6-13 from Greater Boston without regard for their race, nationality, or religious affiliation. Nearly 450 city-based boys and girls travel to Hull, Massachusetts each summer for a one or two-week overnight camp experience so they can enjoy the fresh air, learn new talents, receive academic summer support, and simply have fun!

Sunset Point Camp is operated by our friends at Catholic Charities. They have mentioned to us that they always need donations of the following items for the kids at the camp:

- Sunblock (the higher the SPF, the better)
- Bug spray
- Flip flops (boys/girls ages 6-15)
- Underwear (boys/girls ages 6-15)

So the next time you're shopping or on Amazon, please consider picking up some of the items above and dropping them in the plastic bin identified for this purpose in the narthex. Thank you!



FRIENDSHIPWORKS'  
ELDERBRATION WALK

On Sunday, May 19, the 9th Annual Walk and Fundraiser to End Elder Isolation will take place at the beautiful Jamaica Pond! The Walk begins at Rogerson House, 434 Jamaica Way, Jamaica Plain (9:00 a.m. check-in). The Walk continues from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This special Elderbration honors and celebrates older adults and helps them feel connected and treasured in their community. The celebration will include food, live music, cultural performances, and fun! Here's a link if you would like to join the Saint Cecilia Walk Team or make a donation to the team: <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/elderbration2024/team/957709/>





*Are you a senior looking to connect in person with other elders in the Saint Cecilia faith community?*

## Simeon & Anna Seniors Gathering

Join our new, biweekly **Simeon and Anna Seniors Gathering**. Join us for prayer, song, and communion, followed by coffee, cookies, and conversation! Our inaugural meeting is on May 30.

**Simeon** and **Anna** are the two elders who greet Mary and Joseph when they bring their newborn infant to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. Moved by the Holy Spirit, they immediately recognize and witness to God in their midst. Together they represent the crucial role of older people who, as Pope Francis writes, "have the courage to dream."

.....  
**What:** Simeon and Anna Seniors Gathering

**When:** Thursday, May 30, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

*Every Other Week Following*

**Where:** Saint Cecilia Parish

**Questions?** Email Lucy Conroy  
(seniors@stceciliaboston.org)

### DONATIONS FOR DORCHESTER FOOD PANTRIES

Now that our Faith Formation classes have ended for the academic year (and with summer approaching!), many of the families that have been faithful donors to our collection of food items for the Catholic Charities and Mary Ann Brett pantries will be away until September. We hope that you will consider participating in this important ministry during the summer months so that the volume of our donated food remains strong. The local economy might have improved for some of us, but the working poor and unemployed continue to face enormous economic challenges—especially in light of rising food prices.

Saint Cecilia has committed to providing these items to the food pantries: Cheerios or cornflakes, peanut butter, white flour pasta and spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, canned tuna fish, canned chicken breast, cooking oil, and tomato sauce. While any canned or shelf-stable items are appreciated, it is particularly helpful when parishioners can help with the staples listed above. Unfortunately, we cannot accept donations of baked items or produce in the narthex.

You may wish to follow the example of some of our parishioners and have some of the items above delivered to the parish via Amazon or a similar service. If you choose to, please have them delivered to Saint Cecilia Parish, 18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115. Thank you!



# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

Join Father John and the Saint Cecilia Choirs  
Under the Direction of Robert Duff on a

## 2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy

June 15-23, 2025



We will participate in Mass at:

- The Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi
- St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City

The Saint Cecilia Choir will  
perform two evening concerts:

- The Basilica di Sant'Andrea della Valle in Rome
- The Basilica di Santa Cecilia in Trastevere

**Want to learn more/register?**

Visit [www.stceciliaboston.org/italy](http://www.stceciliaboston.org/italy) to learn more and to register! On this webpage, you'll find registration information, the trip itinerary, and a recording of a virtual information session with the hosting company, Music Celebrations International.

**REGISTRATION OPENS  
ON MAY 20, AT 9:00 A.M.**

We will visit Rome, Florence,  
Assisi, and Vatican City.

*Highlights include:*

- A visit to La Galleria dell'Accademia di Firenze, home to the largest number of Michelangelo sculptures in the world, including *David*
- A walking tour of the medieval town of Assisi, birthplace of Sts. Francis and Clare, including a visit to the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi—one of the most important pilgrimage sites in all of Italy
- A tour of the Vatican Museums which house some of the world's most important collections of art (included will be a visit to the Sistine Chapel)
- A visit to St. Peter's Basilica, including the *Pietà*
- A tour of the Colosseum and its arena floor, the Roman Forum.
- A tentative weekly Papal Audience and Blessing (subject to the Holy Father's schedule)
- Visits to the Pantheon, Spanish Steps, Piazza Navona, and Trevi Fountain
- Visits to the Basilica of St. Mary Major, the Basilica of St. John Lateran, and the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.





Pentecost, meaning fifty in Greek, is an extraordinary memorial. The Greek name, little used today, for the Jewish holiday of Shavuot, “the Feast of Weeks,” recalls the presence of God coming down in fire on Mount Sinai on the day the Torah was given (Ex 19:18). It is also the name of the Christian solemnity on which the Spirit descended like “tongues of fire” on the early community of faith. The Holy Spirit “speaks” to all peoples in their own tongue. It might be helpful to reflect on one unique symbol of the Spirit among the many present in the biblical tradition.

In today’s first reading from Acts of the Apostles, two verses provide an array of descriptions for the Spirit of God. “Suddenly,” the author writes, “there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire” (Acts 2:2-3). Fire and wind remain familiar images of the Spirit even today. These images have a long biblical pedigree. Fire appeared to Moses in the burning bush, and a mighty wind swept over the waters of creation and became the breath God breathed into Adam and Eve, the first human lives.

There is another lesser-known image that describes the Spirit as a “noise” and is perhaps far more significant for discipleship than fire and wind. The elements of fire and wind bring to mind the beauty and power of the natural world used to communicate the presence of God. A “sound” has the advantage to allow the divine to communicate directly in speech. One must receive the sound, be open to hear the sound and believe that the source of this sound comes from the Spirit.

When the sound becomes speech, as in today’s first reading, divine communication flows among humanity unhindered. We must listen to each other to hear the sound of the Spirit. The timing of the feast day was a perfect opportunity for the Spirit’s voice to break through. Pentecost is a time of pilgrimage to the Holy City, and Jews from around the world had gathered with a desire to be close to Jerusalem. “At this sound,” reads the passage for this Sunday, “they gathered in a large crowd...each

one hearing them speaking in his own language” (Acts 2:6). All those gathered on that first Pentecost of the Spirit recognized that the community of faith was praising God. That they spoke different languages did not play a factor in hearing one Spirit speak.

The idea that the presence of God manifests through sound and speech stands within a long biblical and mystical tradition. “And God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light,” reads the Genesis creation narrative (Gen 1:3). Recall the opening line from the Gospel of John, which can be translated, “In the beginning the Word already existed” (Jn 1:1). The tradition of divine speech and Word as the in-breaking of the God’s Spirit at work in the world is firmly set within the tradition of Scripture.

A genuine concern for the church of tomorrow is the capacity to hear the sound of the Spirit speaking today. It might be worthwhile to reflect on all the distractions that keep us from hearing the Spirit’s echo in our lives. A reflection on the distractions that contribute to this “hearing loss” is a worthwhile examination. But even if we do not do such a reflection, God will find a way to get our attention. Even though the disciples, for example, had locked themselves in a room, the resurrected Jesus found a way to break into it. But it was not Jesus’ apparition that promoted courage, it was the sound of his greeting given twice, “Peace be with you” (Jn 20:19-23).



~ *Victor M. Cancino, S.J., lives on the Flathead Indian Reservation in western Montana and is the pastor-delegate for St. Ignatius Mission. He studied Sacred Scripture at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome.*

A PRAYER FOR PENTECOST

On this feast of Pentecost, pray that the Spirit of God who breathed over the dark chaos at the moment of creation and brought forth light and life, breathe forth in our time and in our troubled, too violent world, gifts of wisdom, courage, compassion, and right judgment—gifts that can heal wounds no matter how old, and memories no matter how painful; gifts that can turn adversaries into allies, and enemies into friends; gifts that can renew the face of the earth!

# PARISH RESOURCES

## Parish Office & Mailing Address

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

## Parish Staff

*Rev. John J. Unni*, Pastor  
*Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ*, Pastoral Support  
*Christine Burns*, Digital and Print Media Coordinator  
*Mark Donohoe*, Pastoral Associate  
*Robert Duff*, Director of Music  
*Carly-Anne Gannon*, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation  
*Scott MacDonald*, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility  
*Colleen Melaugh*, Director of Finance and Development  
*Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien*, Pastoral Director of Operations  
*Lisa Pickering*, Director of Facilities and Events  
*Tanya Rybarczyk*, Pastoral Associate

## Assisting Clergy

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

## Music Ministry

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

## Audiovisual Support

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

## Schedule for Liturgy

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

## Hearing Assistance in Church

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

## Building Accessibility

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

## For Those with Celiac Disease

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

## Parking

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

## Baptism for Infants

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

## Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for Faith Formation, contact our Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Carly-Anne Gannon, at her parish email.

## 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, Le-titia Howland, or Erin Young if you have any questions. The Archdiocese of Boston has in place a vigorous program to protect children from harm and to educate its ministers and faithful about the nature of abuse, with a goal of increasing knowledge, creating a safe environment for children, and recognizing and reporting potentially dangerous situations. The full policy is available in the narthex, Parish Office, and on our website.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

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

## Marriage

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

## Care of the Sick

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

## Order of Christian Funerals

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

## Joining Our Community

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

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● **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 po-  
● tential phishing scams. If you need a staff member's email  
● address or ministry email address, please call our reception  
● desk (617-536-4548) and our receptionists would be happy to  
● pass along the appropriate information. Thank you for help-  
● ing us maintain our parish security online!  
● .....