

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Pentecost

by Benjamin (c.1992)

Pentecost Sunday
24 May 2026

Saint Cecilia

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24 MAY 2026

PENTECOST SUNDAY

PRELUDE | *Prière à Notre Dame*

Léon Boëllman
(1862-1897)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | O Spirit All-Embracing

THAXTED



1. O Spir - it all - em - brac - ing and coun - sel - or all - wise,
2. O Beau - ty ev - er blaz - ing in flow - er, field, and face,
3. Come, pas - sion's pow - er ho - ly, your in - sight here im - part,



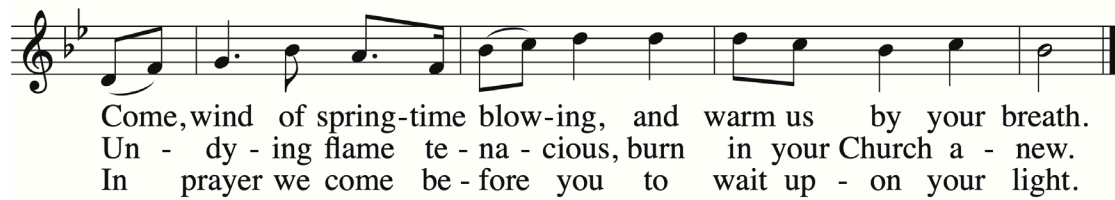
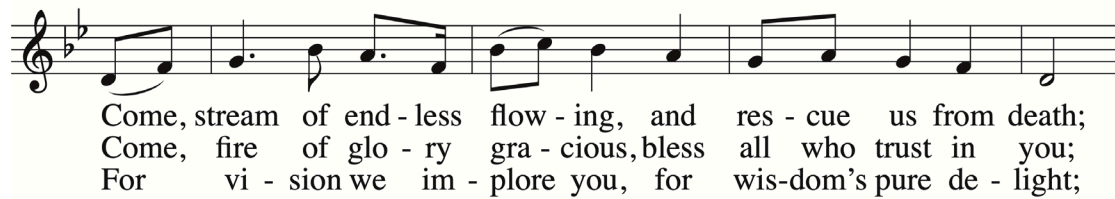
Un - bound - ed splen - dor grac - ing a shore - less sea of skies:
You show your - self a - maz - ing in un - ex - spect - ed place.
And give your ser - vants low - ly an un - der - stand - ing heart



Un - fail - ing is your treas - ure, un - fad - ing your re - ward;
We see you and re - mem - ber what once our dreams had been;
To know your care more clear - ly when faith and love are tried,



Sur - pass - ing world - ly pleas - ure, the rich - es you af - ford.
You fan the glow - ing em - ber and kin - dle hope with - in.
To seek you more sin - cere - ly when false i - deals have died:



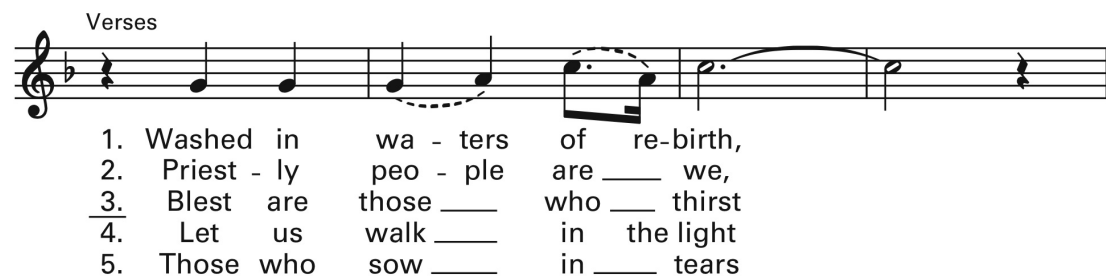
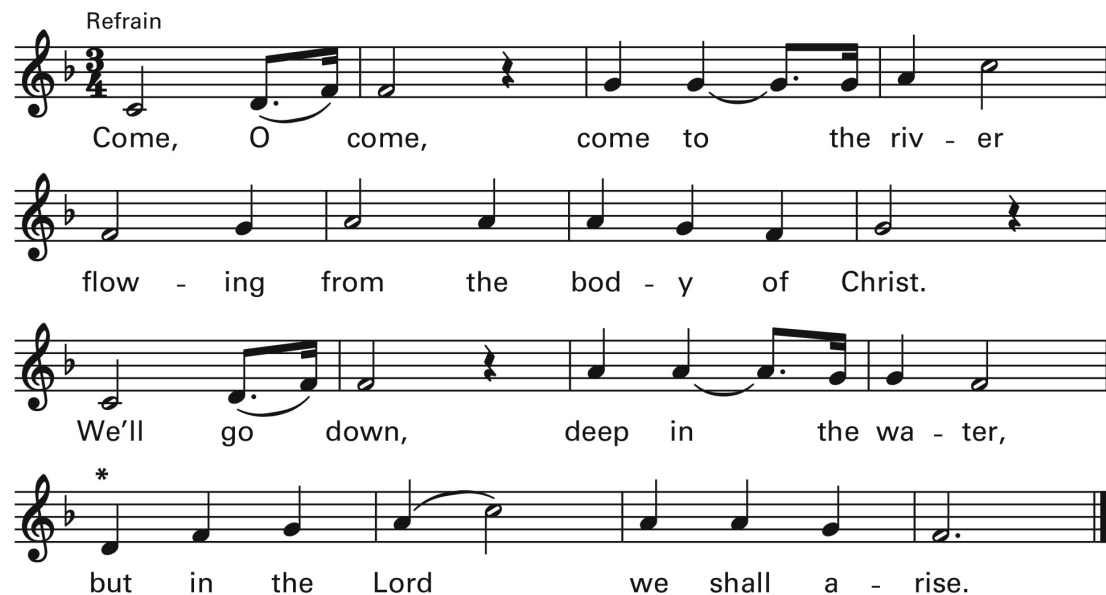
CALL TO WORSHIP

✠ 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.

SPRINKLING RITE | Come to the River

Bob Hurd





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.

GLORIA | Mass from Age to Age

Chris de Silva



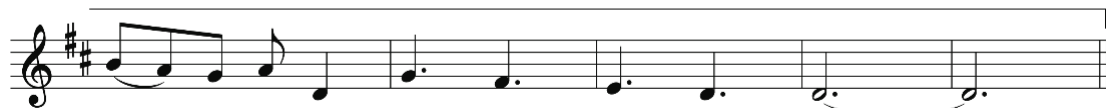
Glo - ry, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est,



glo - ry, glo-ry to God, and on earth peace to peo - ple,



peo - ple of good will. and on earth



peace to peo - ple, peo - ple of good will.

Verse 1

1. We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Verse 2

Cantor:

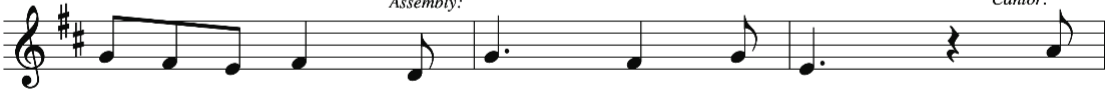


2. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of



God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the

Assembly: *Cantor:*



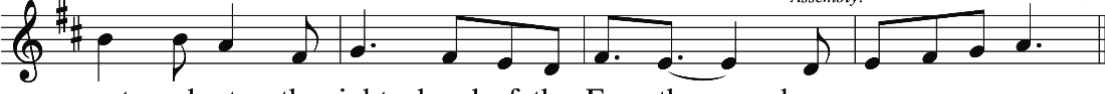
sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you

Assembly: *Cantor:*



take a-way the sins of the world, re-ceive our prayer; you are

Assembly: **D.C.**



seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer-cy on us.

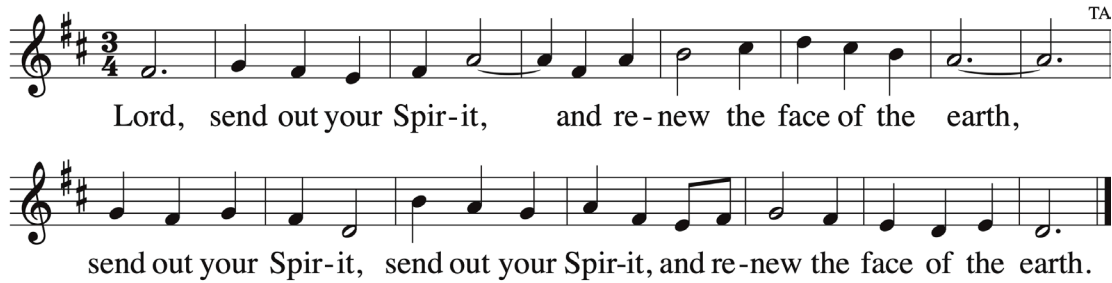
Verse 3

3. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Acts 2: 1-11



1. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, how great you are.
How many are your works, O Lord! The earth is full of your creatures.
2. 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.
3. May the glory of the Lord last forever! May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him. I will rejoice in the Lord.

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

SEQUENCE | *Veni, Sancte Spirit*

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.

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 20: 19-23

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!

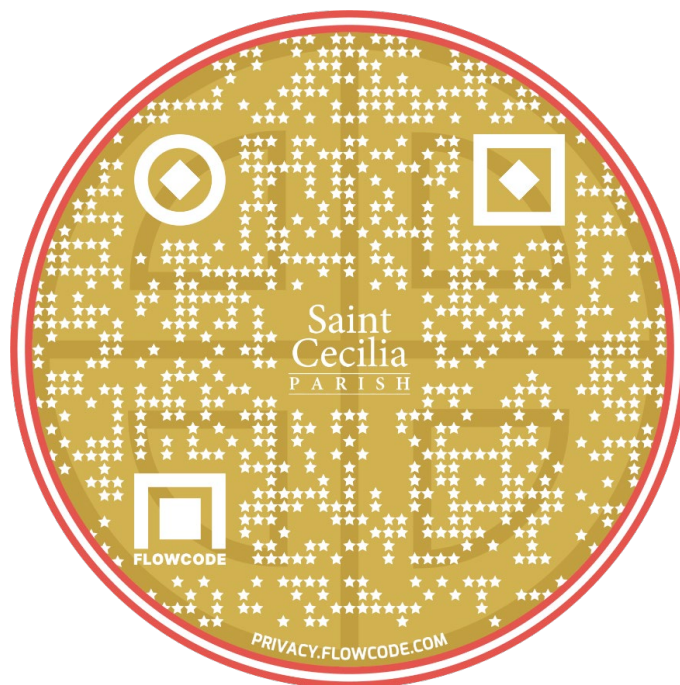
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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 | Spirit of God

James E. Moore, Jr.

Refrain

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

✕ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

✕ Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

✕ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

SANCTUS | Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven R. Janco

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the

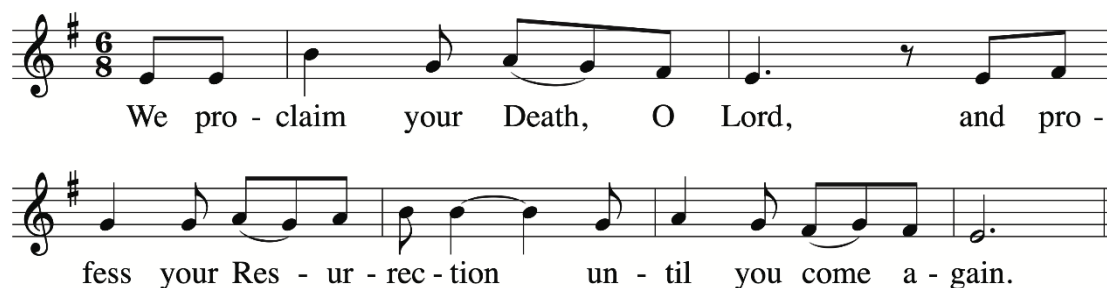
high - est, ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho -

san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



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.

Cantor: Have mer - cy on us. *All:* Have mer - cy on us. *Repeat ad lib.*

Cantor: Grant us peace. *All:* 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.

Refrain

Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the

Lord. O taste and see, taste and see the

good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Verses

1. I will bless the Lord at all times.
2. Glo - ri - fy the Lord with me.
3. Wor - ship the Lord, all you peo - ple.

Praise shall al - ways be on my lips;
To - geth - er let us all praise God's name.
You'll want for noth - ing if you ask.

my soul shall glo - ry in the Lord
I called the Lord who an - swered me;
Taste and see that the Lord is good;

for God has been so good to me.
from all my trou - bles I was set free.
in God we need put all our trust.

D.C.



Ve - ni San-cte Spí-ri-tus. Ve - ni San-cte Spí-ri-tus. Ve - ni,



Ve - ni San-cte Spí-ri-tus. Ve - ni San-cte Spí - ri - tus.



1. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, and let your clear voice re -
 2. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, and let your wa - ters leap
 3. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, who has cre - at - ed all



1. sound in your chil-dren, the tem-ples where true faith is
 2. forth from the life - giv - ing riv - er, Christ Je - sus, our
 3. things, ♪ flow out from the foun-tain through which new life



1. found, where true faith is found.
 2. Lord, Christ Je - sus, our Lord.
 3. springs, through which new life springs.

CONCLUDING RITE

✠ 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.

RECESSIONAL | 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.

POSTLUDE | Toccata (*Pièces de Fantaisie*, Suite No. 2, Op. 53)
Brett Maguire, organ

Louis Vierne
(1870-1937)

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.

HAPPY EASTER!

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 23 | 5:00 p.m.

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

Sunday, May 24 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. John Predmore, SJ, celebrant
Dede Simon, lector

Sunday, May 24 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Letitia Howland, Rosaria Salerno, Natasha Bolton-Pierre,
lectors

Sunday, May 24 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Julie DesAutels, Kevin Dumas, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 24 | 9:30 a.m.

Maureen Cristello McDermott, *6th Anniversary*
Lucy Thérèse Garvey, *Memorial*
Christopher C. Mansfield, *Memorial*
Christian Rivera, *Memorial*
Edward Hastings, *Memorial*
Michael and Molly Dunphy, *Memorial*



Scan this code for
offertory giving:



Thank you for your generous
support of Saint Cecilia Parish!

TODAY'S READINGS

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

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
John 20:19-23

PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Deceased

John Reynolds died on February 8. There will be a visitation at Saint Cecilia on Thursday, May 28 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. The funeral Mass will be celebrated that same day at 11:00 a.m. Pray for John's eternal repose and for the consolation of his friends and loved ones. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Welcome to Saint Cecilia!

We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our community: **Mary Catherine DePond**, **Ellie** and **Evan Prochniak**, and **Margaret Golden Sheehan**. If you have not previously registered, you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Pentecost Sunday

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

Special Collection for Seminarians

This week's second collection supports the formation and training of seminarians in the Archdiocese of Boston for service, we pray, as future priests. We are blessed that many are responding to the call to serve as priests. Please be generous and support these seminarians on their journey toward their ordination to the priesthood. For more information, please visit www.VocationsBoston.org. To donate online, use the following link: www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/special-collection-for-seminarians-2026.

Memorial Day Weekend

Memorial Day is a day for remembering and honoring those who have died in service to our country. Originally, this day was known as Decoration Day because of the custom of placing flags and decorating the graves of members of the armed services who died in the Civil War. We give God thanks for all those who have laid down their lives to protect our peace and security. And we remember the sacrifices made by their families and loved ones in order to preserve our democratic way of life. Please note there will be no Coffee Hospitality in the Parish Hall this Sunday (May 24th); our parish offices will also be closed on Monday, May 25th in observance of Memorial Day.

Attention, Graduates!

We want to acknowledge and celebrate all our graduates this spring. Please email the names of the parishoners who are graduating from high school or college to Anastassia Kolchanov at her parish email and use the word "graduate" in the subject line. Feel free to include the school's name and the degree awarded.

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GBIO TEAM UPDATE & NEXT STEPS



In April, our parish Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) team completed its listening sessions and submitted parishioner feedback to GBIO as part of the discernment process for its next campaign. We are grateful to the more than 60 parishioners who participated in nine listening sessions, helping us reach 100% of our parish goal. Across Greater Boston, GBIO gathered over 1,100 stories highlighting concerns such as housing, education, child care, and food security.

GET INVOLVED

The next step is research and community organizing. All are welcome to participate.

- **May 29, 30, or 31:** Introductory organizing trainings covering relationship-building, leadership, and community organizing skills. Each session offers the same content; choose the date that works best for you.

For training registration links or to learn more, contact the parish GBIO team at gbio@stceciliaboston.org.

Catholic Social Teaching reminds us that we are called to uphold the dignity of every person and work for the common good. Join us as we continue learning, organizing, and putting our faith into action together.

COMING UP AT SAINT CECILIA MAY 24 - 28

SUNDAY, MAY 24

Wisdom & Mature Spirituality | 8:30am via Zoom
Small Group Connections
After the 9:30am Mass | Classroom 3

MONDAY, MAY 25

Memorial Day | Parish Offices Closed

TUESDAY, MAY 26

Belvidere Midday Tuesday | 12pm | Comm. Room

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

Small Group Connections | 8pm ET via Zoom

THURSDAY, MAY 28

Wisdom & Mature Spirituality | 7:30pm via Zoom

MENTAL HEALTH DROP-IN GROUP

SUNDAY, MAY 31 | 1PM | COMMUNITY ROOM

The mental health ministry at Saint Cecilia exists to offer positive support and spiritual accompaniment for those who struggle with mental health issues in their lives or in the lives of loved ones. For more information, please contact Mary Wessel at her parish email.

CHERISHED BELONGING WITH FATHER GREG BOYLE, SJ

TUESDAY, JUNE 2 | 5PM CRISTO REY BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Join us for a powerful evening with Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ—founder of Homeboy Industries—as he shares stories of hope, healing, and radical compassion alongside members of his community. Cherished Belonging invites us to witness the Gospel in action and reflect on the transformative power of kinship.

This free event will be held on Tuesday, June 2 at 5:00 PM at Cristo Rey Boston High School, 100 Savin Hill Avenue, Dorchester, MA 02125. Space is limited. Advance registration is requested at www.cristoreyboston.org/frboyle.

SMALL GROUP CONNECTIONS

IN PERSON:

5/10, 5/24, 6/7, & 6/21
After the 9:30 Mass
Classroom 3

ONLINE:

5/13, 5/27, 6/10, & 6/24
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!

The Greater Boston LGBTQIA Catholic Collective

Composed of: The Paulist Center, St. Anthony's Shrine,
St. Cecilia Parish (Boston), Blessed Trinity Parish (Littleton/Westford),
St. Susanna Parish (Dedham), St. Ignatius (Chestnut Hill),
Dignity Boston, and Mary Queen of Martyrs Parish (Plymouth)

Invites everyone to the annual **All Are Welcome Mass**

Friday, June 5 at 6:30 pm

The Paulist Center
5 Park Street, Boston, MA 02108

Festive reception to follow

For more information please email:

greaterbostonlgbtqiatholics@gmail.com

SIT & KNIT

SUNDAY, JUNE 7 | 9AM-12PM | PARISH HALL

The next and last "Sit & Knit" for the summer will be Sunday, June 7, 2026 from 9:00-12:00. Please bring all WIP, and any projects that need to be turned in. Sit & Knit will resume in the fall on September 6, 2026.

A REQUEST FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES

For over 100 years, Sunset Point Camp in Hull 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 letting them 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 (we have been told the higher the SPF number, the better)
- Bug spray
- Flip flops (boys/girls ages 6-15)

So the next time you are shopping or on Amazon.com, 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!

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3 | 6PM VIA ZOOM

When a loved one dies, everything changes. At Saint Cecilia, we believe no one should walk alone in grief and loneliness. Wherever you are in your grief, you're welcome here. No pressure. No timeline. Just an open, steady invitation to join a supportive community. Please contact Mary Wessel at her parish email for the Zoom link.

SPACE TO SHARE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10 | 6:30 PM | 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! To learn more, please email the Rainbow ministry.

VOLUNTEER ESOL TEACHERS & ASSISTANTS NEEDED (SUMMER 2026)

BEGINNING JULY 6 | IN-PERSON + VIRTUAL

A Faith That Does Justice is seeking volunteer ESOL Teachers and Assistants for an 8-week session beginning July 6, 2026. Serve adult learners at all levels through virtual classes and in-person classes in Boston. Classes meet two mornings or two evenings per week (two-hour classes). We provide curriculum, textbooks, training/orientation, and classroom support. Teaching experience is welcome but not required, and strong English fluency is especially helpful.



Apply by scanning the QR code or by visiting bit.ly/4rsCOWf.

Learn more at faith-justice.org/volunteer-opportunit/esol.

KNITTING & CROCHET MINISTRY MEETINGS

JUNE 1, JULY 6, & AUGUST 3 | 3:30-4:30PM VIA ZOOM

The Knitting and Crochet Ministry will meet all summer on the first Monday of the month from 3:30-4:30pm. The dates are:

- Monday, June 1
- Monday, July 6
- Monday, August 3

For more information, please email the Knitting Ministry.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, JUNE 13 | 9:30AM | PARISH HALL

The Women's Ministry breakfast is a time set aside for faith, fellowship, and encouragement. Each month, women of all ages and stages of life gather around the table to share a simple meal, deepen their relationship with Christ, and build meaningful connections through prayer, reflection, and discussion.

We believe the world needs the bold witness of women to build communities of hope, dignity, and courage. All are welcome to help us shape this new ministry. At 9:30 there will be coffee/tea and connection; at 10:00, Cheryl McDevitt and Maggie Giles will lead a conversation on belonging.

For more information, please contact Mary Wessel at her parish email.

FAITH IN ACTION: IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS NEW ENGLAND

NOW INTERVIEWING FOR SEPTEMBER PLACEMENTS

Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) New England, a yearlong volunteer opportunity for women and men 50 years of age and better, is seeking service corps members for the upcoming (September to June) year. IVC service corps members give one or two full days/week of service and commit to a monthly spiritual reflection program in the Jesuit tradition.

IVC works with nonprofits in the Boston/Worcester/Providence areas that address problems of homelessness, education, immigration and more. Get info and application by checking out the IVC New England website at www.ivcusa.org/newengland.

DONATIONS FOR DORCHESTER FOOD PANTRIES

Now that our Faith Formation classes have ended for the academic year, please consider donating to Catholic Charities and Mary Ann Brett pantries this summer so that they can remain well-stocked. The rise in gas prices has, unfortunately, challenged local families who are already food insecure.

Saint Cecilia has committed to providing these items to the food pantries: Cheerios or corn flakes, 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.com or a similar service. If you choose to do so, have them delivered to:

Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street
Boston, MA 02115
Att: Mark Lippolt

MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE: THANK YOU!



Heartfelt thanks to all who supported Saint Cecilia's team in the Mother's Day Walk For Peace. Not only did we meet our \$10,000 fundraising goal, we also nearly doubled the number of walkers participating from the parish. We were blessed with beautiful weather and were so glad to show solidarity with all those across the city who have been impacted by gun violence. As always, it was a day filled with both reflection and hope. We so appreciate your support!

JOIN THE SAINT CECILIA CYO BASKETBALL TEAM FOR 2026/2027

Join the St. Cecilia Parish CYO Basketball program as we build on a great first season and look ahead to 2026–27! We are now accepting registrations for players and team managers, with girls teams in grades 3–4, 5–6, and 7–8 and boys teams in grades 3–4, 5–6, 7–8, and 9–12.

Our program emphasizes teamwork, sportsmanship, and community, and we welcome athletes of all experience levels. We are also seeking dedicated volunteers to serve as head and assistant coaches, as well as help with scorekeeping during games—your involvement makes this program possible.

Please use the registration link below to sign up and be part of another exciting season: <https://forms.gle/D7sW31WRNyGdavWE9>.

"COMMUNION" SCREENING: RAINBOW MINISTRY MOVIE NIGHT SUNDAY, JUNE 28 | 4-6PM | SAINT CECILIA PARISH



Rainbow Ministry is organizing a Pride Month screening of *Communion*, a documentary following a beloved gay Catholic school teacher who is fired for marrying his husband and refuses to disappear quietly. Through music and personal storytelling, *Communion* follows his path from heartbreak to resolve, inviting audiences to wrestle with faith, conscience, and the true meaning of love and Church.

The screening is open to everyone (LGBTQ and straight allies alike!). To stay up to date, email the Rainbow Ministry.



CONFIRMATION

May the Holy Spirit enlighten each of our confirmands with the gifts of wisdom, understanding, and piety!



CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

We invite you to make your voice heard by voting for THREE new members of our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC).

As a reminder, elections will be held on the weekend of **May 30/31**. If you cannot be present that weekend, you may also submit your vote via e-mail at until 1:00 p.m.(ET) on Sunday, May 31.



STEPHEN FOLEY: Saint Cecilia is a place of comfort, community, and spiritual growth — a sanctuary where I find a deep sense of belonging and connection with others who share my values and faith. Through worship, prayer, and fellowship, I draw strength and guidance to navigate life's challenges, and I am continually inspired by this parish's spirit of kindness, compassion, and service.

I have been a registered parishioner for three years and a familiar face at the 9:30 AM Sunday Mass. I currently serve the community as a Eucharistic Minister, a ministry that has deepened my faith and commitment to this parish family. It is because of all that Saint Cecilia has given me that I feel called to give back by serving on the Parish Pastoral Council — to help shape and strengthen the community that has meant so much to me.



PETER HALEY: St. Cecilia is for me both a refuge from the pressures and trials outside the church, a place where I can think more clearly about my own life and orient myself towards the beliefs that animate our faith, and also a place to engage with other members of the community in an effort to share our strength as a group with each other. To be in church with others is for me a way to share my faith with others and offer my support for others. I believe that through service on the Council I can make myself useful to others by working to support the tradition of making our community a source of strength for others inside and outside the parish. I have been a registered parishioner at St. Cecilia since 2019. I am a Lector and usually attend the 9:30 am Mass on Sundays.



AUBREY HARTNETT: I have been a parishioner at Saint Cecilia since 2012, and it is truly my parish home where I got married and have baptized my three children. Over the years, I have been involved in the Young Adults and Young Families ministries, as well as the Racial Equity Team and even the choir. We have been longtime 9:30 Mass-goers, but have also added the 8am to our rotation with the religious education schedule. As a lay Marianist, the culture of Saint Cecilia felt immediately at home for me, and the community is unparalleled. Saint Cecilia has challenged me, supported me, and been a place where I have grown so much. I look forward to serving on the Council bringing my own experience as a mother of young children and a part of a mixed-faith and multiracial household, and also listening to and learning from the community around me to better serve the community in the pews and joining online. Whether we see you in the pews or around the city (we join from East Boston!), I am excited to serve this parish community.



PETER LIN-MARCUS: As a 20+ year parishioner at Saint Cecilia Parish, I would welcome the chance to serve on the Parish Council. For me, our faith is not only about the 2–3 hours we spend together on Sunday, but about the remaining 6½ days each week. Through the Journey to Racial Justice, the Racial and Social Justice Ministry, and parish life, I supported Saint Cecilia’s ongoing work to become an antiracist parish rooted in the Gospel.

As a GBIO-trained community organizer, I hope to help Saint Cecilia deepen its engagement with the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization and empower parishioners to live the Gospel through action, relationship, and beloved community. Our parish is called to cultivate a culture of ownership rooted in the truth that every person is created in the image of God and entrusted with gifts to help build the Kingdom of God. I will help Saint Cecilia continue building systems and ministries with maximum feasible inclusion of all people—including BIPOC communities, youth, LGBTQ+ people, neurodiverse individuals, disabled people, immigrants, and those feeling excluded from church life.

The Gospel calls us not simply to welcome people, but to empower them as co-creators of our parish community and mission, ultimately to be full participants in God’s creation work. I invite all of us to join together to make this happen.



KIDISTI (KAY) MAMMO: Saint Cecilia is my spiritual home and the place where I reflect and learn about putting my faith into action and how to apply the lessons of the Gospel in my life. Coming to Saint Cecilia has provided me with a church community that also believes that our job as Christians is to stand with the marginalized. The folks at Saint Cecilia teach me everyday how easy it is to be welcoming. I have been coming to Mass since 2023 and regularly, (almost) every weekend, for the past year and quickly made close friends. I attend Young Adult Ministry events, church retreats, and special events our parish hosts, such as special speakers like Father James Martin, folks from Doctors Against Genocide, and more. You typically see me at 11:30am! I look forward to applying my professional experience in sustainability and management into my role on the Parish Council!



SARAH MURPHY TRAVIS: My name is Sarah Murphy Travis, and my husband and I have been parishioners of Saint Cecilia Parish since returning to Boston in 2022. From our very first Mass, we felt a genuine sense of welcome and belonging that has stayed with us. We regularly attend the Sunday 9:30 AM Mass, which I cherish for its mix of generations and young families. When we attend the Sunday 6:00 PM Mass, I am equally moved by the music, homilies, and the presence of so many young people. Both experiences have deepened my love for the parish.

That feeling of being welcomed inspired me to serve. I joined the Greeters and Ushers Ministry last year, and it has become one of the most meaningful parts of my week. I truly enjoy offering a warm welcome to others. I also participate in the Knitting and Crochet Ministry, where I have found both friendship and a shared sense of care for others.

After a recent trip away, returning to Saint Cecilia felt like coming home. Thank you for considering me for the Parish Pastoral Council. It would be a privilege to serve.

Any questions can be sent to Scott MacDonald at his parish email address.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

BY MARY M. MCGLONE, CSJ



Credit: Art and Theology

The Pouring Spirit by Wisnu Sasongko (c. 2012)

"Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth!"

What kind of renewal are we anticipating? Do we really want the sort of renewal the Spirit might bring?

Popes Francis and Leo XIV have had a lot to say about our current need for renewal as individuals, church and societies. Francis used variations on the word renew at least 39 times in his first apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*. In Paragraphs 2 and 3, he explained his purpose saying, "I invite

all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ." This is what will form us as a missionary church, rooted in Christ and closeness to the poor in the kind of relationships that save people from "the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience."

Later, in Paragraph 208, Francis admitted that his warnings about the dangers of wealth might offend some. Expressing his genuine affection for everyone, he said that, rather than

offend, "I am interested only in helping those who are in thrall to an individualistic, indifferent and self-centered mentality to be freed from those unworthy chains and to attain a way of living and thinking which is more humane, noble and fruitful, and which will bring dignity to their presence on this earth."

Scripturally, that sounds more prophetic than offensive.

Leo's first apostolic exhortation, *Dilexi Te*, sharpened Francis' message. He said: "I am convinced that the preferential choice for the poor is a source of extraordinary renewal both for the Church and for society, if we can only set ourselves free of our self-centeredness and open our ears to their cry."

Clearly, they are calling us to a renewal that comes primarily through a "preferential option for the poor." This renewal will be as earthshaking as the wind and fire that overwhelmed the disciples in the Pentecost event.

As Paul reminds the Corinthians in the chapter we hear excerpted today, the Spirit has created us as one body. Our sacramental life intensifies that reality: Through our worship, we choose to live as baptized Christians and we drink of the one Spirit who draws us together and into Christ.

The Gospel of John views the gift of the Spirit from a different angle than we hear in Acts. In John's narrative, Jesus' resurrection happened not on the third day, but on the "first," the day of the New Creation. This is the day when fear dissipates, door locks are futile. This is the day when Jesus breathes his Spirit into the disciples just as God breathed life into Adam.

What happens with the newly intense presence of the Spirit? Forgiveness.

Customarily, we understand "whose sins you forgive" and "those you retain" as the power to give or withhold divine forgiveness, but the original Greek is open to a significantly different interpretation. A literal translation of Jesus' words says: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If any of you 'let go' the sins of others, they are let go for them, if any you 'embrace' [hold, retain] they are embraced."

Here "the divine passive," indicates that God is doing something without mentioning God's name. Thus, when disciples free people from sin, so does God. When disciples embrace or hold fast to someone, so does God. Put another way, urged by the power of the Spirit in them, disciples incarnate God's work of freeing and embracing people who feel bound or isolated for whatever reason.

After centuries of understanding words like forgive and retain in a juridical way, it might be time to think of them as words of empowerment and tenderness, an approach that sounds more like the Gospel message Jesus preached. (Remember, "I came that they may have life in abundance.")

Applying these readings to our times and places brings us

right back to the question: What kind of renewal does the Spirit bring to the face of Earth? Our official church teaching offers an answer that will not be comfortable for all of us.

Today, the Spirit's renewal will lead more and more of us to realize that we are but one body in Christ. Therefore, our most urgent priority is inevitably to embrace the ailing and most vulnerable parts of our body: the malnourished, poor and marginalized, victims of local and international bullies — in sum, the poor, including those who are "in thrall" and chained to dehumanizing ways of thinking and acting.

Be careful about what you ask for. The kind of renewal the Spirit offers sends us on an earthshaking mission of solidarity to embrace and free our world from all that ails the body of Christ.

If we dare, let us ask the Spirit for the courage and generosity to genuinely pray, "Come! Renew the face of the Earth!"



Originally published in the National Catholic Reporter on May 5, 2026.

Mary M. McGlone, CSJ, is a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet who gives retreats and days of reflection. She is also a writer and interpreter/translator.



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
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

Schedule for Liturgy

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

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.

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.

Faith Formation for Children

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

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team

The CAP Team is responsible for training all parish staff and volunteers in mandated reporting laws and the Protecting God's Children program (VIR-TUS). They provide consultation and support to anyone who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Maria Roche, Letitia 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.

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.