

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
18 June 2023

The Veteran in a New Field by Winslow Homer

Saint Cecilia

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18 JUNE 2023

IITH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | The Lord's Prayer
Kayleigh Bennett, mezzo-soprano

Herbert May Malotte
(1895-1964)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Come, You Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR



1. Come, you thank - ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of
2. All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to his
3. For the Lord our God shall come And shall take his
4. E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To your fi - nal



har - vest home. All is safe - ly gath - ered in
praise to yield; Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown,
har - vest home; From his field shall in that day
har - vest home. Gath - er all your peo - ple in,



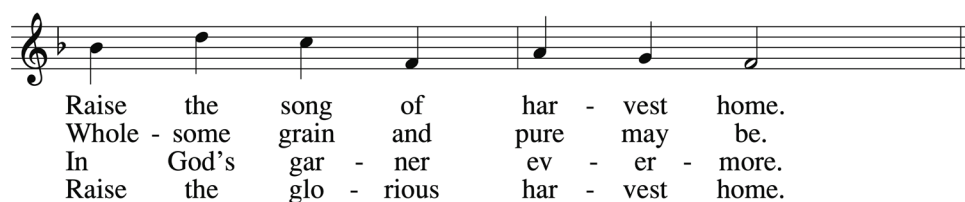
Ere the win - ter storms be - gin. God, our Mak - er,
Un - to joy or sor - row grown. First the blade, and
All of - fens - es purge a - way, Giv - ing an - gels
Free from sor - row, free from sin, There, for ev - er



does pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied.
then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.
charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
pu - ri - fied, In your pres - ence to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we
But the fruit - ful ears to store
Come with all your an - gels, come!



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 Remembrance

Curtis Stephan

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo-ple
of good will. 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, heav-en - ly
King, O God, al-might-y Fa - ther.
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 seat - ed

at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer -

cy, have mer - cy on us. For you a - lone are the

Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the

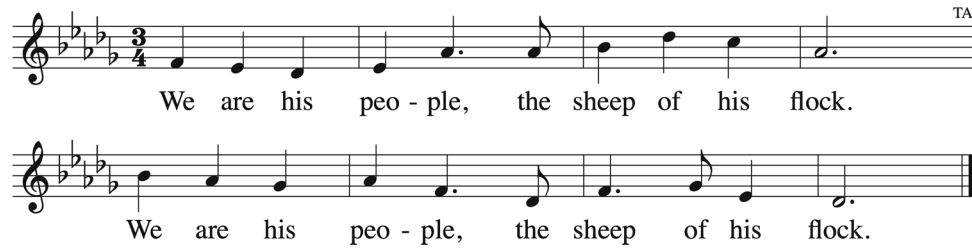
Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men, a - men.

COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Exodus 19: 2-6a



Cry out with joy to the LORD, all the earth.
 Serve the LORD with gladness.
 Come before him, singing for joy. *R.*

We are his people, the sheep of his
 flock. *R.*

Know that he, the LORD, is God.
 He made us; we belong to him.

Indeed, how good is the LORD,
 eternal his merciful love.
 He is faithful from age to age. *R.*

SECOND READING | Romans 5: 6-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Remembrance

Marty Haugen



GOSPEL | Matthew 9: 36-10: 8

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

UNIVERSAL PRAYERS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

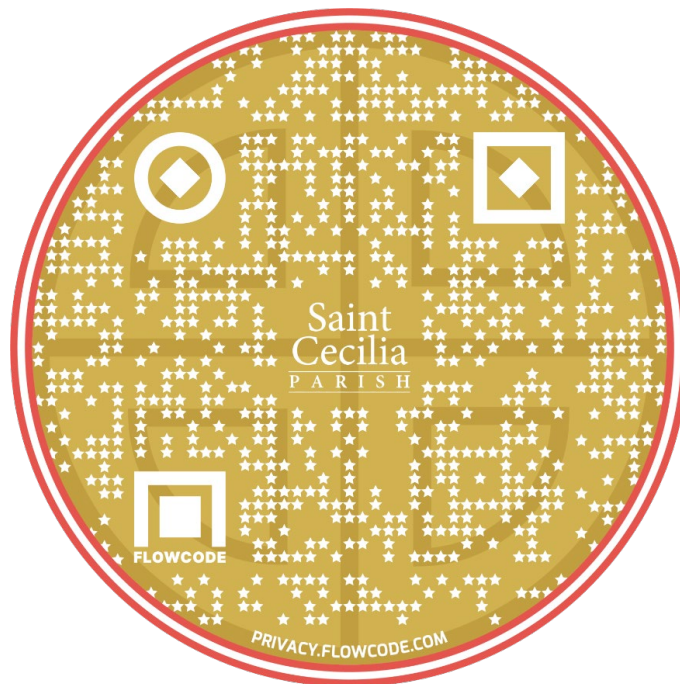
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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:

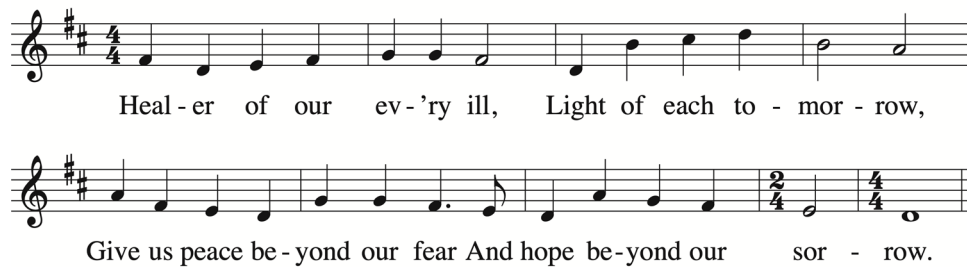
Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street
Boston, MA 02115



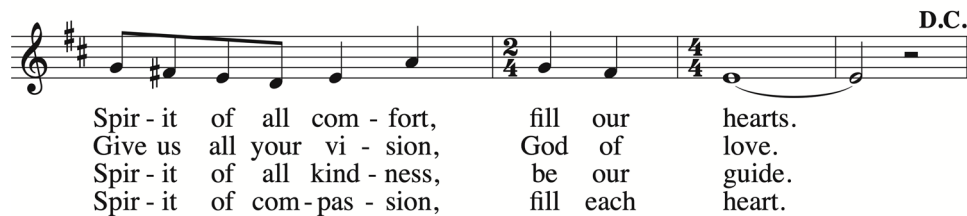
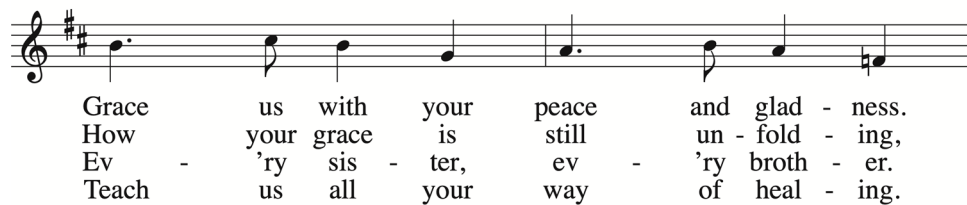
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | Healer of Our Every Ill

Marty Haugen



Verses



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.

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 -

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.

GREAT AMEN | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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




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.

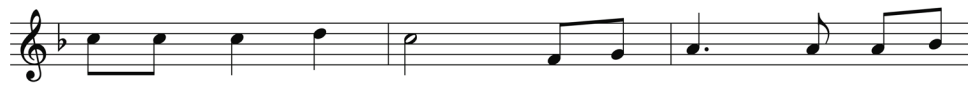


I re - ceive the liv - ing God, And my
heart is full of joy. I re - ceive the liv - ing
God, And my heart is full of joy.

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	free.
main,	Mem - bers joined to	me,	the	Head.
walk	By the Spir - it's	guid - ing		light.

CONCLUDING RITES

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

✠ May almighty God bless you, the Father, (+) and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

✠ Go forth, the Mass is ended.

All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL | Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris M. Akers

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, For if you
lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each
day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Verses

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r To
2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous - ness. Be my
3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am
help me o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the
aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press. I am put - ting
blind with - out thy Light to see. Lord, just al - ways
dark-ness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
let me thy ser - vant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

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, June 17 | 5:00 p.m.

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

Sunday, June 18 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Nicholas Hayes-Mota, lector

Sunday, June 18 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Julie DesAutels, Christie Hedges, and Letitia Howland, lectors

Sunday, June 18 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Virgen Palermo, Kelly McClintock, and Eileen Maguire, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Saturday, June 17 | 5:00 p.m.

Phyllis Huff, *Memorial*
Michael Huff, *Memorial*

Sunday, June 18 | 9:30 a.m.

Susan R. Szum, *14th Anniversary*
Eleanor Appleyard, *Memorial*

Sunday, June 18 | 11:30 a.m.

Joan Arms, *Memorial*

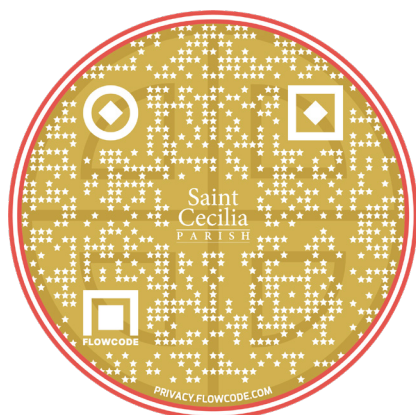
TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 19:2-6a
Romans 5:6-11
Matthew 9:36-10:8

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 20:10-13
Romans 5:12-15
Matthew 10:26-33

SCAN THIS CODE
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH!



"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few;
so ask the master of the harvest
to send out laborers for his harvest."

Matthew 9:37-8

PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Elizabeth Kennedy, Jeff Hommes, Anastaja Lee, Sue Ryan, Necee Regis, Tim Finn, Glenn Gallo, Carol Tebo, John Hosang, Mary Walters, Marc Pelletier, Ray Cronin, Rick Gaillardetz, Michele Maniscalco, Nick Hungerford, and Fred Tufts.**

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish

We are pleased to welcome the following newly-registered members of our parish: **Deirdre Flanagan** of Boston, **Lisa DeMoranville** of Boston, **Mark Dufour** of Boston, and **Grace Stromberg** of Boston. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Register for 2023/24 Children's Faith Formation!

Don't wait! Now is the time to register your children and teens for our 2023/24 children's faith formation program. The season begins on September 24. Remember that high school confirmation is a two-year program, beginning in ninth grade. To register, please fill out this Google form: <https://forms.gle/5KKbrSm2HWEbpm7V6>. Please note that the fee to register is \$200 and you can pay via our iGive platform: <https://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/faith-formation-registration-fee>

Second Collection This Week

This week's second collection will be shared by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) and the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). These two organizations communicate the Gospel by promoting works of justice, education and the dignity of human life. Your generous donations will give those in poverty the support they need to make lasting changes and will support our local communications needs, such as Catholic TV programming. You can donate here: <https://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/cchd-ccc-second-collection-2023>

Happy Father's Day!

Today is Father's Day—a good time to give thanks to God for our dads, living and deceased. We remember all fathers, stepfathers, foster fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, and all those men who have been like fathers to us. May St. Joseph pray for all of them. Some years ago, a study demonstrated that while spirituality is transmitted to children primarily through a mother's influence, religious "practice" was most effectively passed along through a father's example. Happy Father's Day to all who are celebrating!

Juneteenth & Office Closure

In 2021, President Biden declared June 19th a national holiday in commemoration of the day news of the abolition of slavery finally reached Texas. It took nearly two and a half years after President Lincoln declared emancipation. On this day, let us reflect on the ways that racism continues to oppress, and pray for change, both big and small. In observation of Juneteenth, the parish offices will be closed on Monday. For pastoral emergencies, please call 857-317-3833. Otherwise we will get back to you on Tuesday!

About This Week's Bulletin Cover Art

This week's bulletin cover art is *The Veteran in a New Field* by Winslow Homer. Completed in 1865, following the surrender of General Robert E. Lee and the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, this deeply symbolic painting embodies the tension between grief and hope that followed the Civil War. A discarded Union Army jacket and canteen in the lower right corner identify the farmer as a veteran, and the "new field" of the title reminds us of his old one, the battlefield. This return to productive, peaceful pursuits echoes Isaiah 2:4, "They shall beat their swords into plowshares."

This week, we thought it was fitting to include imagery from this Sunday's Gospel that is also contemporary with the formation of Juneteenth. With this artwork, we hope to remind people that Juneteenth is a multifaceted holiday; it celebrates independence for enslaved people and all it took to win that independence. Furthermore, let us remember that this independence did not equal equality. Juneteenth isn't a straightforward story of emancipation, nor did it necessarily improve conditions for many African Americans the next day or even the next decade.

The post-emancipation period known as Reconstruction (1865-1877) marked an era of great hope, uncertainty, and struggle for the nation as a whole. Formerly enslaved people immediately sought to reunify families, establish schools, run for political office, push radical legislation, and even sue slaveholders for compensation. Given the 200+ years of enslavement, such changes were nothing short of amazing. Not even one generation out of slavery, African Americans were inspired and empowered to transform their lives and their country despite the myriad of obstacles placed in their way.

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 that allows them to enjoy fresh air, learn new talents, receive academic summer support, and simply have fun! Sunset Point Camp is operated by our friends at Catholic Charities and they need donations of the following items for 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)

The next time you're shopping or on Amazon.com, please consider picking up some of the above items and dropping them in the labeled plastic bins in the narthex. Thank you!



DONATIONS FOR DORCHESTER FOOD PANTRIES

With summer almost here, 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 is 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.

JOIN US AT COMMUNITY SERVINGS



Do you have some spare time and are you looking to make a difference in the lives of others? We have an upcoming opportunity for volunteers to assist in preparing and packaging free, nutritious meals for those who are homebound with life-threatening illnesses throughout the Commonwealth. **12 volunteers are needed on Monday, July 3 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please feel free to join us even if you can't be there until a bit later than 4:00 p.m.** No culinary skills are needed to make a difference, but volunteers need to be at least thirteen years of age and free of COVID and its symptoms. Community Servings is conveniently located next to the Stony Brook T Station in Jamaica Plain. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Mark Lippolt at mark.lippolt@gmail.com.



Juneteenth, Savannah GA by Amiri Farris

A PRAYER FOR JUNETEENTH

We pray, O Lord, for change.
 Jesus, you revealed God through
 your wise words and loving deeds,
 and we encounter you still today in the faces of those
 whom society has pushed to the margins.
 Guide us, through the love you revealed,
 to establish the justice you proclaimed,
 that all peoples might dwell in harmony and peace,
 united by that one love that
 binds us to each other, and to you.
 And most of all, Lord, change our routine worship
 and work into genuine encounter with you
 and our better selves so that our lives will be
 changed for the good of all.
 Amen.

CATECHISM STUDY - IN-PERSON LITURGY DISCUSSION

Thursday, June 22 | 6:00—8:00 p.m.

Location: Saint Cecilia Parish Hall

Open to: Everyone



The Saint Cecilia Young Adults (SCYA) Catechism Study Group is starting a new section of the Catechism, on liturgy and the sacraments. Join us in person in the Saint Cecilia Parish Hall for food and fellowship as we discuss what we believe about the liturgy (Why and how do we celebrate

Mass the way we do? What does "liturgy" mean and encompass?). All newcomers, ages, and opinions are welcome! Scan this QR code with your smartphone to sign up for this event (click on the Catechism link to RSVP), and check out other upcoming SCYA events.

NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Tuesday, June 27 | 7:00—8:00 p.m. In-person

Location: Saint Cecilia Church

Open to: Everyone

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

HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS MINISTRY: DRIVERS NEEDED



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

ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

SUMMER EVENTS AT BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

THE 14th ANNUAL SAINT MARY OF MAGDALA CELEBRATION

This celebration of the Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene begins with Mass and lunch, followed by a lecture.

Rereading Biblical Women

Presenter: Dr. Jaime L. Waters, Associate Professor of Old Testament, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

Thursday, July 20, 2023 | 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

St. Ignatius Church and Heights Room, Corcoran Commons, Chestnut Hill Campus | Hybrid, attend in person (space is limited) or virtually | Registration Required | Free of charge

For further details or to register for this event, please check the STM Online: Continuing Education website: https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education.html#tab-events_webinars

ONLINE COURSES

Liturgy Essentials

July 19 – August 22, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course

Registration Required | \$60.00

Teaching Religion to Adolescents

July 19 – August 22, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course

Registration Required | \$60.00

Teaching Religion to Children: Creative Strategies and Best Practices

July 19 – August 22, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course

Registration Required | \$60.00

For further details or to register for these events, please check the STM Online: Crossroads website: https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education.html#tab-stm_online_crossroads





JUNE: CELEBRATING THE SACRED HEART AND CELEBRATING PRIDE

BY JAMES MARTIN, S.J.

Every June the same thing happens. I will write something about June as the Month of the Sacred Heart, when Catholics focus on the way that Jesus loves, and a few LGBTQ people will ask, “What about Pride Month?” Or, more frequently, I will post something about Pride Month, when LGBTQ people mark their place in society, and some Catholics will ask, “What about the Sacred Heart?” Often the latter question is asked in anger, saying how heretical, blasphemous, or disgusting it is that someone would mention Pride Month during the month of the Sacred Heart. But, as I see it, the two events are not contradictory but complementary. Because each tells us something about how Jesus loves. And it is providential that both are marked in June.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus

June is the month of the Sacred Heart because it is the month in which we celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart, which falls on the Second Sunday after Pentecost. Ever since I entered the Jesuit novitiate 30 years ago and heard the story of the Sacred Heart, I have counted it as one of my fondest devotions. (I wrote about it in my book *Awake My Soul*, on Catholic devotions.)

My devotion started very early in my life as a Jesuit. A few months into my novitiate, I was sent to work with Mother Teresa’s Sisters in Kingston, Jamaica, and live with the Jesuits in the city, for four months. In the courtyard of the Jesuit residence was an immense concrete statue of Jesus pointing to his exposed heart. So I saw, and prayed to, the Sacred Heart every day.

As many know, this popular devotion began with the mystical visions of Jesus and his Sacred Heart as revealed to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690), a Visitation Sister who was living in the French town of Paray-le-Monial, France. As is sometimes the case in religious orders, the sisters in her community were highly doubtful about her reported visions. At one point Margaret Mary, in desperation, was told in prayer that God would send her “his faithful servant and perfect friend.” Shortly afterward, the mild-mannered St. Claude la Colombière (1641-1682), a Jesuit priest living nearby, was assigned to serve as her spiritual director. When Margaret Mary first met Claude, she heard an interior voice

tell her, “This is he whom I have sent to you.” (*Perfect Friend* is the title of a wonderful biography of Claude that I read while in the novitiate.) Later, Margaret Mary would have a vision that showed their two hearts (hers and Claude’s) united with the heart of Jesus.

From that point, the two worked together to spread the devotion, which became strongly associated with the Jesuits, who promoted it with vigor in the following centuries. (Their near contemporary and compatriot, St. John Eudes, also spread devotion to the Sacred Heart.)

As the devotion flourished, the paintings, mosaics, sculptures, and other imagery so familiar to Catholics today proliferated. So did parishes, hospitals, retreat centers, schools, and universities named in its honor. Everything you know that is named “Sacred Heart” (including the great church of *Sacré Coeur* in Paris) stems from these two people—and from Jesus’s own heart of course.

Pride Month

Pride Month began as a commemoration of the Stonewall Riots, when on June 28, 1969, police raided a popular gay bar in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of New York (called the Stonewall Inn) and hauled out many patrons, leading to several days of protests. It is seen as a landmark event in LGBTQ history. Today Pride Month is celebrated around the world, with some cities holding “Pride parades” on the final weekend of June. As it happens, they sometimes occur on or around the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The most common objection to mentioning Pride Month during the Month of the Sacred Heart is two-fold. The first objection is that pride is a sin, and sin should never be celebrated. But as I’ve written, it’s important to remember that there are two kinds of pride. The first is the satisfaction that can come from your own accomplishments. This can turn into vanity, which is something to avoid. That brand of pride says, “Look how great I am!” It’s the opposite of humility, a key virtue in the Christian life.

But the second kind of pride is a consciousness of one’s own human dignity. That’s closer to what Pride Month is meant

to be for the LGBTQ community: a recognition of the human dignity of a group of people who have, for centuries, been treated with contempt, rejection, and violence.

The other, more common, objection is that LGBTQ people are simply sinful or are always in conflict with church teaching. But that's false for two reasons. To begin with, it ignores the fact that many LGBTQ people aren't doing anything at all against church teaching. Imagine a young LGBTQ person who is not in any sort of sexual relationship but simply wants to be loved and accepted. Where is the sin? Second, it ignores the fact that all of us are imperfect. Who among us is in conformity in all parts of our lives with church teaching on all matters?

Pride Month, as I see, it is more about human dignity than about personal vanity. It's about marking the place in society for a group of people who have long been excluded. As an aside, that doesn't mean that you have to like every event or parade or float or meme during Pride Month. It does mean, however, that you're invited to see the human dignity of each LGBTQ person in a special way during those 30 days. There are also some surprising resonances between the story of Sacred Heart and the story of Pride Month.

Saints Margaret and Claude

As I mentioned, Margaret Mary was initially not believed by the sisters in her convent and was also unable to convince several theologians about the authenticity of her mystical experiences. She suffered a great deal from the responses from her sisters in particular. As for Claude, he wasn't always held in high regard by his brothers either. Jesuit communities used to have house historians who would record the events of the community life. The final few days before Claude's death were recorded as follows by the house historian: "Nothing worthy of note."

In both Margaret Mary and Claude we see people who understood what it meant to be rejected or sidelined. Moreover, they understood what it meant to be faithful to who they were, to what they had seen, and to how God was at work in their inner lives, experiences that will resonate with many LGBTQ people today.

At heart, then, both of these commemorations have to do with love. The Sacred Heart reminds us how Jesus loved: fully, openly, radically, to the point of his death. In the countless images of the Sacred Heart, his own heart is always exposed: bloody, vulnerable, close to us.

Pride is about love too. Not simply the love that LGBTQ

people have for one another, but the love that society has for them, and the love that God has for them.

How Jesus Loves

Moreover, I see Pride Month as revealing the kind of love that God has for LGBTQ people specifically. When we look at the Gospels, whom do we see Jesus reaching out to most often? Those on the margins.

In the story of the Roman centurion, Jesus heals a soldier's beloved servant in the Jewish fishing town of Capernaum (Mt 8:5-13; Lk 7:1-10). But notice that the centurion is not only not Jewish; he is not even a monotheist. He most likely believes in the multiple Roman gods. He is, in short, a pagan. Even though the townspeople tell Jesus that he built their synagogue (the ruins of which can still be seen), the centurion is probably as far outside the Jewish milieu as possible. Nonetheless, Jesus reaches out to him with a heartfelt love, praises his faith, and heals his servant. It is an early example of the way that Jesus loves.

Or consider Jesus's beautiful encounter with the Samaritan woman drawing water from a well, as recounted in the Gospel of John (4:1-42). She has been married five times and is living with a man who is not her husband. In other words, she has an irregular sexual past and present. Again, Jesus treats her with infinite love, engaging with her in one of the longest conversations recorded in the Gospels, revealing himself to her as the "Living Water" and commissioning her to spread the Good News among the Samaritan people. Here Jesus's heart is once again on display.

Finally, in the story of Zacchaeus, a wealthy tax collector most likely hated by the townspeople in Jericho for his collusion with Roman authorities, Jesus invites himself to the man's house, a sign of public welcome—and love (Lk 19:1-10). Luke's Gospel tells us that Jesus offers Zacchaeus welcome despite the "grumbling" of the crowd. His Sacred Heart is too big to be bothered by grumbling. In all these situations, we see the activity of the Sacred Heart: a heart ready to go beyond boundaries, beyond prejudices and beyond hatreds, to welcome those living on the margins.

Think of how often LGBTQ people are still forced to live on the margins of both society and the church. In ten countries you can be executed for being gay. In some 70 others you can be jailed. Even in the West, LGBTQ people are regularly harassed, beaten, and killed. They are one of the most marginalized and despised groups in the world today. And think of how often they are rejected and sidelined in the church today. Who is more on the margins in the church?

Where would the Sacred Heart be today? It would be poured out in love on these people who seek love and acceptance. So in the end the two celebrations—the Month of the Sacred Heart and Pride Month—not only are not in conflict but are deeply complementary. One shows us how Jesus loved. The other shows us whom Jesus calls us to love.

~ Father James Martin, S.J., is the editor of *Outreach*, an LGBTQ Catholic Resource, and the editor at large of *America Media*.

HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS MINISTRY SHOUT OUT

Last Saturday, a group of Saint Cecilia Parish volunteers from our Hunger & Homelessness Ministry and our First Communion families bagged groceries for food pantry clients at Catholic Charities and assembled Comfort Kits for the refugees being resettled by Catholic Charities of Boston's Refugee and Immigration Services. Shout out to all these folks who lent their time this weekend—your dedication and hard work make a difference!



ALL ARE WELCOME MASS

On June 9, we welcomed over 150 people for our ALL ARE WELCOME Mass. Hosted by our Rainbow Ministry (in collaboration with the Paulist Center Community; St. Anthony Shrine and the Franciscan friars; Blessed Trinity Parish, Westford/Littleton; Saint Joseph Parish, Boston; and Saint Susanna Parish, Dedham), this event celebrated the beginning of Pride Month by creating a space dedicated to celebrating our LGBTQ+ siblings and the diversity of God's children.

PARISH RESOURCES

Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115

Hours | Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. & By Appointment

Phone | 617 536 4548; Fax | 617 536 1781

E-mail | info@stceciliaboston.org

Website | www.stceciliaboston.org

Parish Staff

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Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support

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trybarczyk@stceciliaboston.org

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Terrence Devino, SJ

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ

Audiovisual Support

Maureen Deery, Parish Photographer & Creator of Weekly Slide Show
mcdeery@gmail.com

Geoffrey Edwards, Livestream Videographer
gedwards@stceciliaboston.org

Vasily Izumchensky, Livestream Sound Engineer
vizumchensky@berklee.edu

Schedule for Liturgy

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

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

Holy Days | 8:00 a.m.

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

Baptism for Infants

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

Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for our Faith Formation Program, please contact our Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Olivia Hastie, at ohastie@stceciliaboston.org.

Marriage

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

Order of Christian Funerals

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

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

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

Care of the Sick

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

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team

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

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

For Those with Celiac Disease

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

Hearing Assistance in Church

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

Building Accessibility

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

Parking

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

Joining Our Community

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