Saint Cecilia
PARISH

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10 July 2022

Good Samaritan
He Qi
10 July 2022

THE 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | Élégie
Mykola Lysenko
(1842-1912)

Thomas Mellan, organ and Geoff Edwards, cello

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Christ, Be Our Light
Bernadette Farrell

1. Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness.
2. Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled.
3. Long-ing for food, man-y are hun-gry.
4. Long-ing for shel-ter, man-y are home-less.
5. Man-y the gifts, man-y the peo-ple,

Long-ing for truth, we turn to you.
Long-ing for hope, man-y de-spair.
Long-ing for wa-ter, man-y still thirst.
Long-ing for warmth, man-y are cold.
man-y the hearts that yearn to be-long.

Make us your own, your ho-ly peo-ple.
Your word a-lone has pow’r to save us.
Make us your bread, bro-ken for oth-ers,
Make us your build-ing, shel-ter-ing oth-ers,
Let us be ser-vants to one an-o-th-er,

light for the world to see.
Make us your liv-ing voice.
shared un-til all are fed.
walls made of liv-ing stone.
mak-ing your king-dom come.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the dark-ness. Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gath-ered to-day.
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 Renewal

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, Only 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
FIRST READING | Deuteronomy 30: 10-14

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 69: Turn to the Lord in Your Need

1. I pray to you, O Lord, for a time, a time of favor. In your great mercy, answer me, O God, with your salvation that never fails. Lord, answer, for your mercy is kind; in your great compassion, turn toward me.

2. As for me in my poverty and pain, let your salvation, O God, raise me up. Then I will praise God’s name with a song; I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

3. The poor when they see it will be glad, and God-seeking hearts will revive; for the Lord listens to the needy, and does not spurn his own in their chains.

4. For God will bring salvation to Sion, and rebuild the cities of Judah. The children of his servants shall inherit it; those who love the name shall dwell there.

SECOND READING | Colossians 1: 15-20
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Franciscan Alleluia Peter M. Kolar


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.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

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

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

If the Flowcode doesn’t work for you, please visit www.flowcode.com/page/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 | The Servant Song
Richard Gilliard

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
MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

GREAT AMEN | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

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 Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

It is a long-held Catholic belief that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an “Act of Spiritual Communion.” During this time when we are not able to celebrate the Eucharist together in person, Pope Francis invites Catholics to say this prayer as a source of grace. We can be assured that when we express our desire to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, God will be with us spiritually in a special way. Here is an Act of Spiritual Communion that we encourage you to pray as you participate in our live-streamed liturgies:

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION | *Ubi Caritas*

- Chris de Silva

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| Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

HYFRYDOL

1. Alleluia! sing to Jesus! His the scepter, his the throne; Alleluia!
2. Alleluia! not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia!
3. Alleluia! Bread of Angels, Here on earth our food, our stay! Alleluia!
4. Alleluia! King eternal, You the Lord of lords we own; Alleluia!

his the triumph, His the victory alone; he is near us, Faith believes, nor questions how: here the sinful Flee to you from day to day: born of Mary, Earth your footstool, heav’n your throne:

Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion Thunder though the cloud from sight received him, When the intercessor, friend of sinners, Earth’s re-

You, with in the veil, have entered, Robed in like a mighty flood; Jesus out of forty days were o’er, Shall our hearts for-

dee mer, plead for me, Where the songs of flesh, our great high priest; Here on earth both
every nation Has redeemed us by his blood, get his promise, “I am with you ever-more”? all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea, priest and victor In the eucharistic feast.

POSTLUDE| Study after Chopin’s Études No. 10

Léopold Godowsky (1870-1938)
arranged by Thomas Mellan

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.

Music in this worship aid is printed with permission under OneLicense.net #A700-137.
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 Massachusett 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.
SAINT CECILIA PARISH

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, July 9 | 5:00 p.m.
Rev. Ron Coyne, celebrant
Catherine Horsley, lector

Sunday, July 10 | 8:00 a.m.
Rev. Michael Simone, SJ, celebrant
Jim Dougherty, lector

Sunday, July 10 | 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Ron Coyne, celebrant
Cathy Anderson, Chika Offurum,
and Ben DeWinter, lectors

Sunday, July 10 | 11:30 a.m.
Rev. Michael Simone, SJ, celebrant
Bob Mann and Karen McMenamy, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, July 10 | 8:00 a.m.
John & Angelina Machado, Memorial

Wednesday, July 13 | 8:00 a.m.
Chuck Gamble, Memorial

FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute flowers for our sanctuary on a particular Sunday in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving to God, all you need to do is contact Scott MacDonald (smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org) a few days in advance of the weekend.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Please join us for Morning & Evening Prayer

Wednesday, July 6 at 7:00 p.m.
Vespers for the Memorial of Saint Maria Goretti

Thursday, July 14 at 7:00 p.m.
Vespers for the Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

Friday, July 22 at 7:00 a.m.
Lauds for the Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

Monday, July 25 at 7:00 p.m.
Vespers for the Feast of Saint James

Live on the Saint Cecilia Facebook Page or via Zoom
Email sc.hoursandtaize@gmail.com for details.

THIS SUNDAY’S READINGS
Deuteronomy 30:10-14
Colossians 1:15-20
Luke 10:25-37

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS
Genesis 18:1-10A
Colossians 1:24-28
Luke 10:38-42
PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick
Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially Charlie Naughton, Bob Haas, Bob Roppolo, Mary Walters, Marc Pelletier, Ray Cronin, Rosalind Sica, Rick Gaillardetz, Michael Mulrenan, Michele Maniscalco, Nick Hungerford, Fred Tufts, and Katherine Mylod Mainzer.

Happy Anniversary!
This week we celebrate the baptismal anniversary of Ann Marie Turo who was baptized on July 12. May the Lord continue to bless her with the grace to live out her baptismal call. Happy Feast Day, Ann Marie!

NOTABLE SAINTS OF THE WEEK

July 11 - Saint Benedict of Nursia
The sixth-century father of Western monasticism. We remember in prayer the Benedictine monks, nuns, and sisters who follow the Rule of Saint Benedict.

July 14 - Saint Kateri Tekakwitha
Known as the Lily of the Mohawks, Patron of the environment and ecology.

July 15 - Saint Bonaventure
Bishop and Doctor of the Church known as the Seraphic Doctor or Angelic Teacher, Minister General of the Franciscan Order.

Summer Prayers
For the safety of travelers, for rest and renewal for vacationers, and for a summer filled with joy and delight, reunions with dear friends, and encounters with beautiful places, we pray!

REMOTE FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY ZOOM MEETING
TODAY, July 10 | 4:00 p.m. ET | Zoom

Join the "Far Flung Flock" for this month’s Zoom coffee hour for an overview of The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius: 19th Annotation. The Spiritual Exercises flow from a life centered on the person of Jesus whose love is enacted in his incarnation, passion, death and resurrection. A love that is expressed in deeds rather than mere words, and a spirituality that finds God in all things. The Exercises provide those who journey through them an opportunity to develop a deeper relationship with the Triune God, a deeper sense of one’s own self, life goals and motivations. The directors of this Maine-based program, Ellie Flavin and Maureen Fulford, will be our guests, and have been offering the retreat for over a decade. Today the program is now offered on Zoom, and just like the "Far Flung Flock" of Saint Cecilia, the retreat now has participants from all over the world! We are excited to have Ellie and Maureen as our guests.

This online coffee hour is an opportunity for long-distance parishioners to connect! Anyone is welcome to join us. If you have registered or attended other online coffee hours, you will automatically get the link for July. If you have not attended or are unsure if you’re on our list, please email Mary Ann Gallagher at gallaghercomms@gmail.com for the link.

Portrait of You as the Good Samaritan, James B. Janknegt
WORKSHOP WITH AQUINNAH WAMPANOAG HISTORIAN
Saturday, July 23 | 2:00-5:00 p.m.
Community Room

Join us for an interactive workshop led by Aquinnah Wampanoag author and educator Linda Coombs, to learn the history and life ways of our Native American neighbors. This workshop will take place in person at Saint Cecilia. Co-sponsored by the Social & Racial Justice Ministry & MA Catholics for Indigenous Rights, space is limited to 25 participants. To register and for more information contact Linden Jenkins at linda-jenkins177@yahoo.com.

TRAVEL SIZE TOILETRIES

Please keep in mind that two of our nonprofit partner agencies have an ongoing need for donations of travel-size toiletries. Individual size shampoo, conditioner, body lotion and soap are always needed. Toothpaste, toothbrushes, and deodorant (none of which can typically be found in a hotel room!) are also always in demand. Donated toiletries need to be unused, of course, and there are plastic bins in the narthex for donations. The two agencies are: Women’s Lunch Place (www.womenslunchplace.org) and Y2Y Youth Shelter (www.Y2YNetwork.org).

COME JOIN THE KNITTING MINISTRY VIRTUALLY THIS SUMMER
Mondays July 11 and August 1 | 3:30-4:30 p.m. | Zoom

New to knitting? Join the Community Service Knitting Ministry this summer and earn to make knitted fingerless mitts and knitted caps. These are both travel projects and can be worked anywhere! Once items are completed we will donate them to the Knitting Connection. Seasoned knitters are also welcome! For more information, contact Ann Marie Turo annmarie@integratedmindandbody.com.

SUNSET POINT CAMP DONATIONS

For nearly 100 years, Sunset Point Camp, operated by our friends at Catholic Charities, has provided a dream vacation at the seashore to over 40,000 children from low-income, aged 6-13 from Greater Boston. 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 seeking sunscreen donations. So the next time you’re out, please pick up an extra tube of sunscreen and dropping it in the plastic bin identified for this purpose in the narthex. The higher SPF number, the better. They also need kids' flip-flops for boys and girls ages 6 to 12.

HEARING ASSISTANCE IN CHURCH

The church is equipped with an FM listening device. Small receivers are available for anyone who may have trouble hearing the sound system. Simply request a receiver from one of our greeters before Mass.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIRTUAL EVENTS

SUMMER EVENTS AT BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

THE 13TH ANNUAL SAINT MARY OF MAGDALA CELEBRATION

The Struggle for a Place at the Table: Jesus and the Syrophoenician Woman
Presenter: Maria Pascuzzi, CSJ, Director of Spirit Alive: Institute for Faith Inquiry and Education, Sisters of Saint Joseph, Brentwood NY.
Friday, July 22 | 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. | Saint Ignatius Church | Attend in person (space is limited) or virtually
Registration Required | Free of charge

For further details or to register for these events, please check the STM Online: Continuing Education website: https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education/campus-events

ONLINE COURSES

The Engaged Parish
July 20 – August 23 | 5-Week Online Course
Registration Required | $60.00

Teaching Religion to Children
July 20 – August 23 | 5-Week Online Course
Registration Required | $60.00

Teaching Religion to Adolescents
July 20 – August 23 | 5-Week Online Course
Registration Required | $60.00

For further details or to register for this event, please check the STM Online: Crossroads website: https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/stm/sites/crossroads.html
Catholics across the ideological and political spectrum responded with joy, anger and trepidation to the U.S. Supreme Court's June 24 decision that overturned its earlier 1973 decision in Roe v. Wade that had guaranteed a constitutional right to abortion.

In prepared statements issued through their dioceses and state-level Catholic conferences, several U.S. Catholic bishops praised the high court's ruling in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, in which the court's conservative majority said the Constitution does not confer the right to an abortion.

"This is a historic day in the life of our country, one that stirs our thoughts, emotions and prayers," Archbishop José Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the conference's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said in a written statement.

The prelates said the Dobbs decision was "the fruit of the prayers, sacrifices, and advocacy of countless ordinary Americans from every walk of life," and said that "now is the time to begin the work of building a post-Roe America."

"It is a time for healing wounds and repairing social divisions; it is a time for reasoned reflection and civil dialogue, and for coming together to build a society and economy that supports marriages and families, and where every woman has the support and resources she needs to bring her child into this world in love," they said.

Also through a prepared statement, the Society of Jesus in the United States said it welcomed the court's ruling, adding that abortion "is a massive injustice in our society, and today's ruling is a critical step toward the legal protection of all unborn children."

Meanwhile, Jamie Manson, the president of Catholics for Choice, an organization that supports abortion rights, and other activists were headed to the Supreme Court to protest what they consider to be an unjust overreach by a politicized court.

"We'll be witnessing with our bodies, with our words and with our presence that this decision is radically unjust," said Manson, who told NCR that the Dobbs ruling doesn't "reflect the beliefs of the majority of Catholics" that she said believe abortion should be kept legal, as indicated in several public opinion polls.

"I don't think the bishops and other anti-choice Catholics have reckoned with the fact of how pervasive abortion is, how ordinary it is, and how much a part of life it is in the church, and how Catholics who have abortions are participating in the life of the church in their midst, and they don't even know it," Manson said.

The Vatican’s Pontifical Academy for Life also issued a statement praising the Court's decision, but notably also called for "developing political choices that promote conditions of existence in favor of life without falling into a priori ideological positions."

"This also means ensuring adequate sexual education, guaranteeing health care accessible to all and preparing legislative measures to protect the family and motherhood, overcoming existing inequalities," the academy said.

By striking down Roe and the subsequent 1992 decision in Planned Parenthood v. Casey that affirmed the constitutional right to an abortion, the Supreme Court effectively returns the issue to state legislatures. Abortion is expected to be illegal in about half of the 50 states. Within hours of the court's ruling in Dobbs, Missouri Gov. Mike Parson signed a proclamation declaring most abortion procedures to be illegal in that state.

Abortion will remain legal in Democratic-controlled states, several of which passed laws in recent years to "codify" or
strengthen abortion access given the appointment of three conservative justices to the high court by then-President Donald Trump.

Valerie Lewis-Mosley, a pastoral theologian and adjunct professor of theology at both Caldwell University in Caldwell, New Jersey, and Xavier University’s Institute for Black Catholic Studies in Louisiana, told NCR she’s concerned about a myriad of issues after the June 24 ruling, including high mortality and morbidity rates of pregnant African American women.

"I'm authentically pro-life and believe in the sanctity of life from conception until the last breath on earth," said Lewis-Mosley. "But there's a difference between saying we are pro-life and focusing on what goes into caring for life, saving life and restoring life. I don't believe the pro-life cause has been truly pro-life but instead anti-abortion."

Lewis-Mosley, who was also a nurse for more than four decades, working at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center in high-risk obstetrics, said "the degree and severity of what happens to Black and Latino women who are pregnant is distressing and the Catholic Church has not addressed it."

"So with this ruling, I want to know: How will we be authentically pro-life and address these issues?" said Lewis-Mosley.

Natalia Imperatori-Lee, a theologian at Manhattan College, said the June 24 decision "will endanger women's lives."

Referencing the Court's earlier decision on June 23, which struck down a New York state gun control law, Imperatori-Lee said: "On the heels of the court's ruling on guns yesterday, it is difficult to fathom whether 'pro-life' has any meaning at all beyond a continuation of this destructive culture war."

MT Dávila, a theologian at Merrimack College in Massachusetts, said the Court's decision made her reflect on the role of Catholic theological ethics.

"It is more important than ever to pursue ethical priorities and argumentation that centers the experiences of women and other gender minorities in considering the morality of contraception and other dimensions of reproductive health," she said. "We must clearly, compassionately, and legitimately declare that the term 'reproductive justice' implies that there are profound links between justice for persons who can get pregnant and racial, migrant, gender, economic, political, and social justice."

The Catholic social justice advocacy group Network, founded in 1972 by a coalition of Catholic sisters, said in a statement that the court decision "will have deep ramifications in people's lives, many of whom may not even realize it yet."

"Undoing nearly half a century of precedent and jurisprudence will undoubtedly have a disorienting and destabilizing impact on our laws, the provision of maternal health care, and our already fraught civil discourse," the group said.

For those who have "made ending federal protections for abortion the singular focus of their political activity," Network said it is urging they expand their focus "to include the economic realities of women and families. Now is the time to listen to the experience of women, particularly women living in rural, low-income communities and women of color."

Catholic Charities USA said in a statement it "remains committed to walking in solidarity with all those who come to our doors, whether they are girls or women in crisis pregnancies or families facing challenging social, economic or housing circumstances."

Democrats for Life, a political advocacy organization that has sought to help elect anti-abortion Democrats to Congress, said they were grateful for the Court's ruling and hope it will help pro-life Democrats nationally.

Kristen Day, the group's executive director, told NCR she hoped Democrats "can take a more moderate approach and that both parties can come together and do what they can to support women, particularly low-income and minority women."

Dominican Fr. Nicanor Austriaco, a molecular biologist who teaches biology and theology at Providence College in Rhode Island, said that after the Court's June 24 decision he expects to see "a hodgepodge of abortion legislation throughout the land."

Austriaco told NCR that he believes Dobbs will "send a message" to his students and challenge them to think through the ins-and-outs of the abortion debate since he suggested they will no longer be able to rely on Roe's premise that abortion is a constitutional right.

"I think Roe v. Wade was a conversation stopper," he said. "I think that once it returns to the state, arguments are going to have to be made on both sides of this discussion. My students therefore will have to be challenged to consider the reasons for one side or the other, not simply take it for granted the judicial fiat, that is what it is."
Approaching the issue from what he said was a pro-life perspective, Austriaco added: "Whenever we move to an arena where reasons are considered, I'm incredibly hopeful because I believe that the pro-life position is a reasonable one, not necessarily a religious conviction."

Gloria Purvis, a longtime Catholic pro-life activist and podcast host for America Media, said: "We have a lot of work ahead of us. This is just the beginning."

Purvis told NCR she hopes that activists who have pushed for an end to abortion also focus their efforts now on advocating for family-friendly public policies that will support young mothers and women facing crisis pregnancies.

She mentioned paid family leave and stricter enforcement of anti-pregnancy discrimination laws as helpful measures, and suggested that anti-abortion activists can work with those who support abortion rights to lobby for those kind of policies.

"I'm actually looking forward to working with a lot of women who are pro-choice and want full equality for women in our society," Purvis said.

~ Brian Fraga and Katie Collins Scott are both NCR staff reporters.

Our stained glass windows add immeasurably to the beauty of Saint Cecilia Church and they serve an important purpose in reminding us of the communion of saints—those who were friends of God and who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. This week we celebrate the feast day of Saint Veronica, whose stained glass window is on the west side of the church. Our window depicts Veronica with her eyes downcast, gazing on the cloth or veil she holds in her hands which has been imprinted with the image of Jesus' face. Veronica was a woman of Jerusalem who, upon seeing Jesus struggling with the weight of his cross as he walked to his crucifixion on Golgotha, offered him a cloth to wipe his face. When Jesus returned the cloth to Veronica she saw that it bore a portrait of his face. In 1297, Veronica's veil was brought to Saint Peter's in Rome by order of Pope Boniface VIII. Although little is known about Veronica and she is not referenced in the canonical Gospels, her simple, quiet act of charity towards Jesus encourages us to treat those we encounter on their journeys with compassion. Veronica's encounter with Christ is commemorated in the Sixth Station of the Cross. Veronica is the patron saint of photographers and laundry workers.
Parish Resources

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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