

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
23 July 2023

The Mustard Seed by Jen Norton

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

23 JULY 2023

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | *Herzlich tut mich erfreuen*, Op. 122, no. 4
Brett Maguire, *parish organist*

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Gather Us In

Marty Haugen



1. Here in this place new light is stream - ing,
2. We are the young— our lives are a mys - t'ry,
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter,
4. Not in the dark of build - ings con - fin - ing,



Now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way,
We are the old— who yearn for your face,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Not in some heav - en, light - years a - way, But



See in this space our fears and our dream - ings,
We have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
Here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
Call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
Now is the King - dom, now is the day.



Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
Give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
Nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
Gath - er us in— all peo - ples to - geth - er,



We shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
Give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
Lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CALL TO WORSHIP

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,



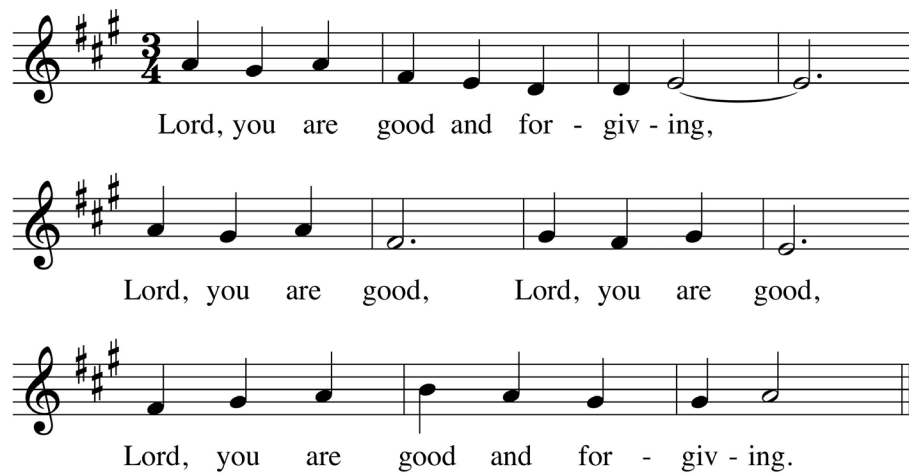
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a -

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 | Wisdom 12:13, 16-19



1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer, and attend to my voice in supplication.
2. All the nations you have made shall come; they will bow down before you, O Lord, and glorify your name, for you are great and do marvelous deeds, you who alone are God.
3. But you, O God, are compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, O Lord, abundant in mercy and fidelity; turn and take pity on me. O give your strength to your servant.

SECOND READING | Romans 8:26-27

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Remembrance

Marty Haugen



GOSPEL | Matthew 13:24-43

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

UNIVERSAL PRAYERS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

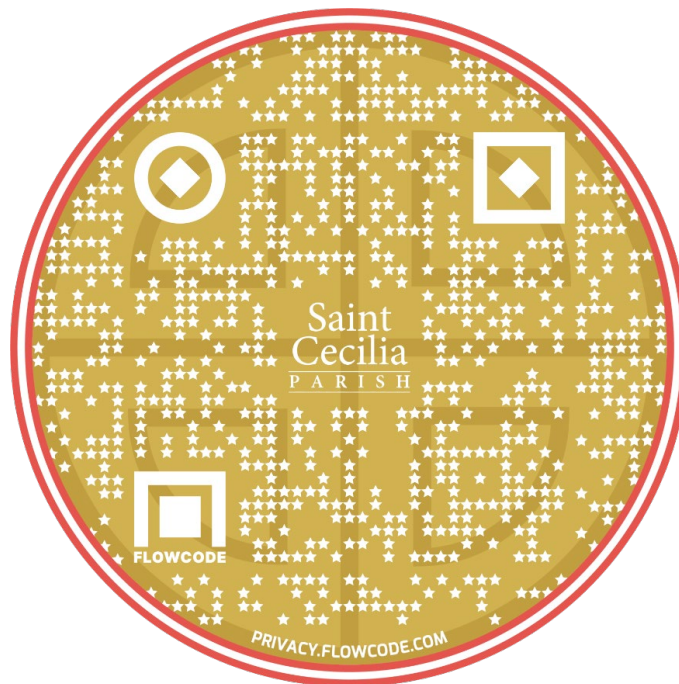
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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 | There is a Balm in Gilead

BALM IN GILEAD

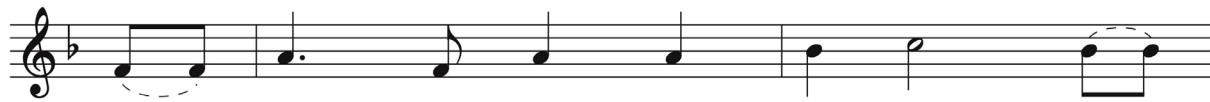


There is a balm in Gil-e-ad To make the wound-ed whole;

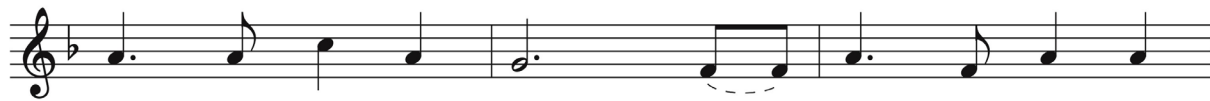


There is a balm in Gil-e-ad To heal the sin-sick soul.

Verses



1. Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged And
2. Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, For
3. If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, If you



think my work's in vain, But then the Ho - ly
Je - sus is your friend; And if you lack for
can - not pray like Paul, You can tell the love of



Spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
knowl - edge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.
Je - sus, And say, "He died for all!"

D.C.

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.



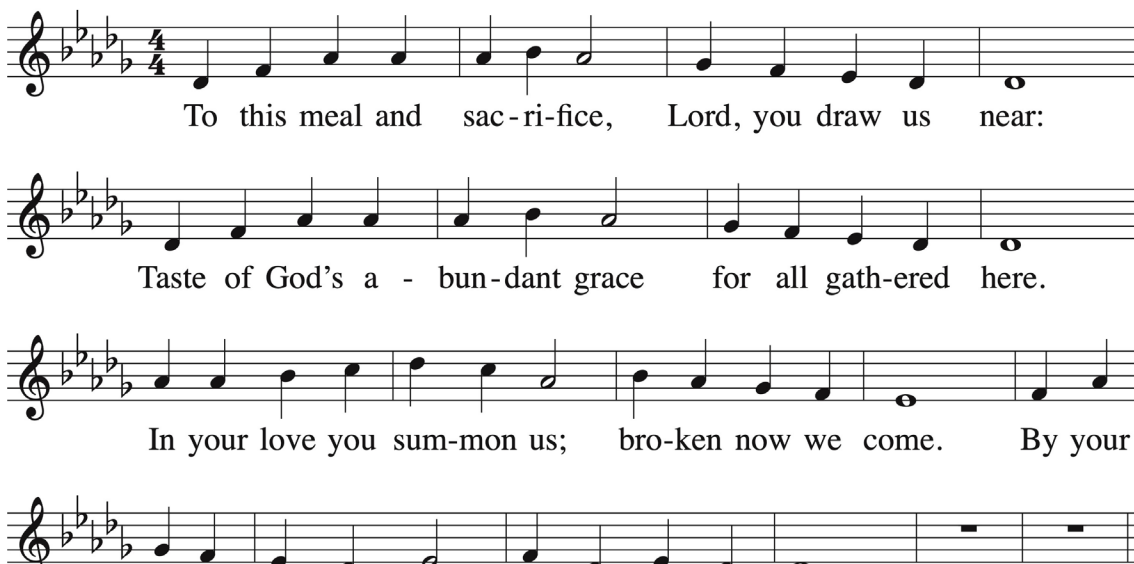
SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

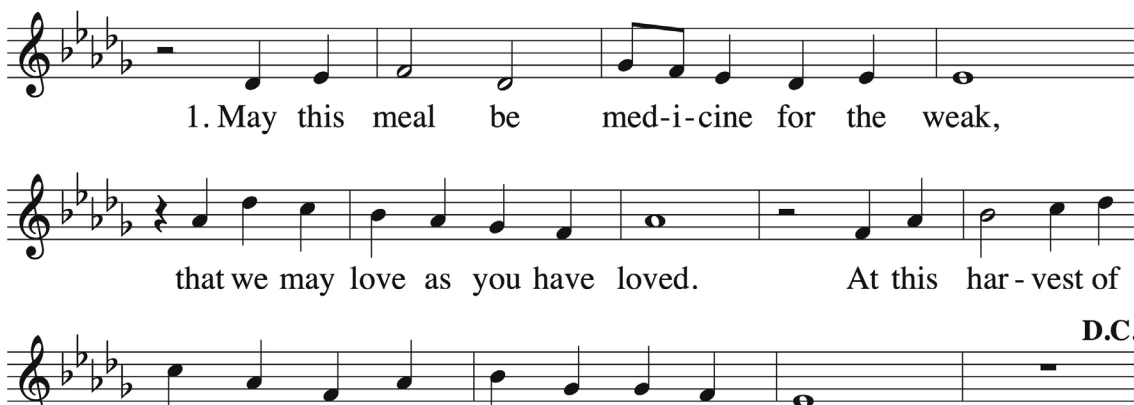
Loving Jesus,
I believe that you
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there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

Refrain



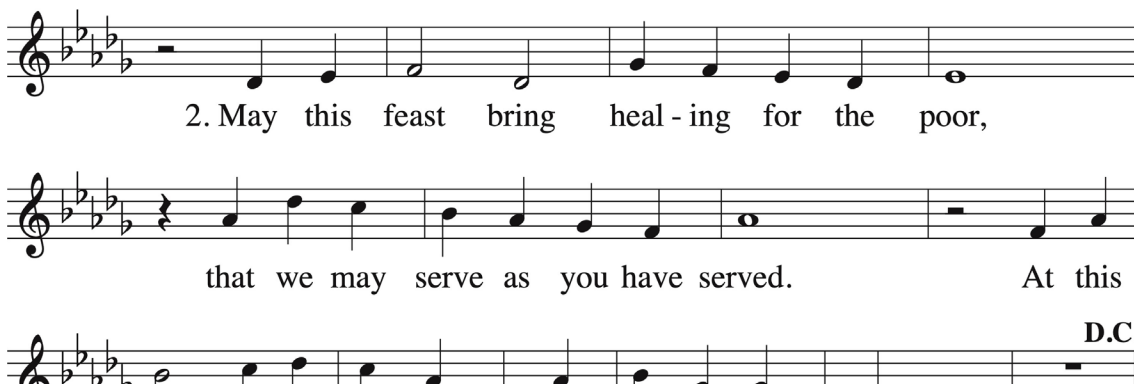
To this meal and sac-ri-fice, Lord, you draw us near:
Taste of God's a - bun-dant grace for all gath-ered here.
In your love you sum-mon us; bro-ken now we come. By your
bod-y and your blood, heal us, make us one.

Verse 1



1. May this meal be med-i-cine for the weak,
that we may love as you have loved. At this har - vest of
good-ness, may we feast in u - ni - ty. **D.C.**

Verse 2



2. May this feast bring heal - ing for the poor,
that we may serve as you have served. At this
ta - ble of jus-tice, may we serve in u - ni - ty. **D.C.**

Verses 3-6



3. May our hearts be o - pen to your pres - ence,
4. May this food be wel - come for the "oth - er,"
5. May our hands bring com - fort to the sick,
6. May this bread trans - form our hearts for peace,



that we may share as you have shared. At this
em - brac - ing all hu - man - i - ty. At this
em - pow'r - ing all who gath - er here. At this
re - viv - ing hope for all our days. At this



gath - 'ring of na - tions, may we live in u - ni - ty.
ban - quet of glad - ness, may we work for u - ni - ty.
al - tar of heal - ing, may we sing for u - ni - ty.
tem - ple of mer - cy, may we pray for u - ni - ty.

CONCLUDING RITES

RECESSIONAL | Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

HYMN TO JOY



1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry,
2. All your works with joy sur - round you, Earth and heav'n re -
3. You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing,
4. Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus, Which the morn - ing



Lord of love; Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore you,
flect your rays, Stars and an - gels sing a - round you,
ev - er blest, Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing,
stars be - gan; God's own love is reign - ing o'er us,



O - p'ning to the sun a - bove. Melt the clouds of
Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise. Field and for - est,
O - cean - depth of hap - py rest! God our Fa - ther,
Join - ing peo - ple hand in hand. Ev - er sing - ing,



sin and sad - ness; Drive the dark of doubt a - way;
vale and moun - tain, Flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Christ our broth - er, Let your light up - on us shine;
march we on - ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day!
Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain Sound their praise e - ter - nal - ly!
Teach us how to love each oth - er, Lift us to the joy di - vine.
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward In the tri - umph - song of life.

POSTLUDE | *In dir ist Freude*, BWV 615

Brett Maguire, *parish organist*

Johann Sebastian Bach

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.

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, July 22 | 5:00 p.m.

Most Rev. Peter Paul Angkyier, celebrant
Rosaria Salerno, lector

Sunday, July 23 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Most Rev. Peter Paul Angkyier, homilist
Jordan Barnes, lector

Sunday, July 23 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Most Rev. Peter Paul Angkyier, homilist
Karen McMenemy, Nikko Mendoza,
and Mary Ann Hinsdale, IHM, lectors

Sunday, July 23 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Most Rev. Peter Paul Angkyier, homilist
Letitia Howland and Pat Scofield, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, July 23 | 9:30 a.m.

Peter Paul Wheatley, *Memorial*
Susanne Papa, *Memorial*
Martha McMahon McCaffrey, *Memorial*

Wednesday, July 26 | 8:00 a.m.

Mary A. & Joseph G. Maciora, *Memorial*
Mary G. Maciora-Jacobs, *Memorial*

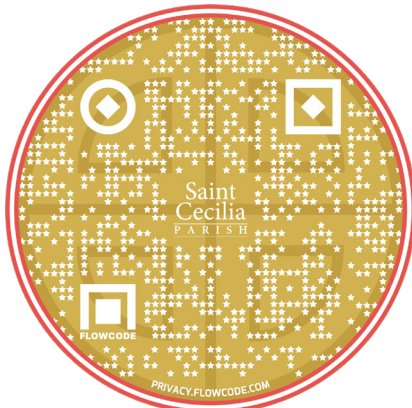
TODAY'S READINGS

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

SCAN THIS CODE
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH!



"The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened."

—Matthew 13:33

PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Fr. Roman Galadza, 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: **Sheila Michaels** of Boston, the **Bauer Family** of Medfield, the **Schweitzer-Hemm Family** of Boston, **Thomas Fontaine** and **Maureen Sullivan** of Newton, and **Kathleen Boozang** of South Dennis. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Missionary Cooperative Plan

Each year every parish in the Archdiocese is asked to host a visitor from some part of the global Church for a weekend appeal. This weekend we are pleased to welcome the **Most Reverend Peter Paul Angkyier**, Bishop of Damongo in Ghana. He will be preaching at all of the Masses and will tell us about the status of the Church in Ghana, asking for our prayers and financial support. The second collection this weekend will be for the Church in Damongo, which you can support via this link: <https://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/missionary-cooperative-plan>. Thank you in advance for your warm welcome of the bishop and for your generous support!

God Bless Our Grandparents and the Elderly!

On July 23, the Church celebrates the third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Established by Pope Francis in January 2021, the observance is celebrated each year on the fourth Sunday of July, coinciding with the feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary's parents and Jesus' grandparents, Saints Joachim and Anne.

The theme for this year's World Day is "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk 1:50). According to Vatican News, the theme was chosen to be in tune with that of World Youth Day in Lisbon, which takes place in early August. In his message for the third World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, Pope Francis writes: "The Lord trusts that young people, through their relationships with the elderly, will realize that they are called to cultivate memory and recognize the beauty of being part of a much larger history. Friendship with an older person can help the young to see life not only in terms of the present and realize that not everything depends on them and their

abilities. For the elderly, the presence of a young person in their lives can give them hope that their experience will not be lost and that their dreams can find fulfilment. Mary's visit to Elizabeth and their shared awareness that the Lord's mercy is from generation to generation remind us that, alone, we cannot move forward, much less save ourselves, and that God's presence and activity are always part of something greater, the history of a people."

Loving God, on this special occasion of World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, we offer our heartfelt gratitude for the blessing of grandparents and the elderly in our lives. We recognize the wisdom, love, and guidance they generously bestow upon us. May your grace surround them, granting them strength, joy, and the knowledge that they are cherished and valued members of our community, inspiring us to honor and care for them with kindness and compassion. Amen.



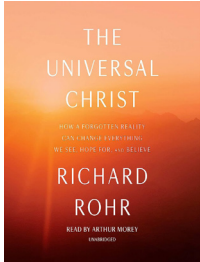
PINE STREET INN'S SUMMER INN THE CITY



Join Pine Street Inn's Innbassadors for Summer Inn the City! You are invited to take part in this evening of food, drink, and fun that connects you with the next generation of leaders in Greater Boston while raising significant funds to

benefit Pine Street's mission to end homelessness. Saint Cecilia is a proud sponsor of this event which will take place on Wednesday, August 2, from 6 to 9 p.m. It will be held at Artists for Humanity, 100 West 2nd Street, Boston. Tickets are \$60/person until August 1. You can register for the event and purchase tickets at: <https://www.pinestreetinn.org/about-us/summer-inn-the-city>

WISDOM & MATURE SPIRITUALITY



The Wisdom and Mature Spirituality Group invites you to join us in reading Richard Rohr's 2019 title, *The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe*. Drawing on scripture, history, and spiritual practice, Rohr articulates a transformative view of Jesus Christ as a portrait of God's constant,

unfolding work in the world. "God loves things by becoming them," he writes, and Jesus's life was meant to declare that humanity has never been separate from God—except by its own negative choice. When we recover this fundamental truth, faith becomes less about proving Jesus was God, and more about learning to recognize the Creator's presence all around us, and in everyone we meet. We are always happy to welcome new members who are in the second half of life. We meet every Sunday morning at 8:30 via Zoom. On the first Sunday of the month, we also meet in person at 1:00 in the Community Room. Though our time together we deepen our spiritual lives, encounter the God who loves us deeply, create friendships, and, when moved by the Spirit, discuss social justice issues. Feel free to drop in at any time. For more information, please email Deb Garcia at sc.wisdomandmaturespirituality@gmail.com.

DONATIONS FOR DORCHESTER FOOD PANTRIES



Summer is here and many of the families that have been faithful donors to our collection of food items for the Catholic Charities and Mary Ann Brett pantries are 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.



SHAKESPEARE ON THE COMMON & PARISH PICNIC/POTLUCK

For years, Saint Cecilia parishioners have gathered for a parish picnic/potluck prior to Shakespeare on the Common. This year, we invite you to join us for *Macbeth* on Tuesday, July 25 on the Boston Common near the Parkman Bandstand. We'll reserve space and have a potluck picnic beforehand, which is a great opportunity to (re)connect with other parishioners! The picnic is at 6:30 p.m. and the play begins at 8 p.m. For more information, please email Jenny Jones, at jennyinjp@gmail.com. The play is free, though donations to the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company are appreciated: <http://www.commshakes.org/>

HELP US SEND A KID TO CAMP

As you may know, Saint Cecilia Parish has a long-standing relationship with the Huntington YMCA and many of the social service programs offered in that facility. What you may not know is that the Huntington Avenue Y is the oldest in the United States and the cornerstone for the building was laid by President William Howard Taft in 1912.

Through our combined donations, we would like to see if we can collect enough (\$2,500) to send one inner-city kid (aged 8 to 16) to Y camp this summer. The YMCA overnight camp in New Hampshire is a life-changing experience for those fortunate enough to attend.

To make a donation by check—in any amount—please make it payable to "YMCA of Greater Boston" and indicate in the memo line: "Summer Camp." Checks should be mailed to:

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

Thank you, as always, for your accustomed generosity.

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!



SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT RCIA!

Are you or someone you know searching for a spiritual home? Are you interested in knowing more about what it means to be Catholic? Our "no strings" inquiry group begins Tuesday, September 19th from 6:30–8:00 p.m. If you would like to explore Catholicism or are already Catholic but have not yet received Eucharist and/or Confirmation, we invite you to journey with us! For information contact Tanya Rybarczyk at trybarczyk@stceciliaboston.org, or at 617-536-4548 x117. We will gather for a welcome/information session on September 12th, from 6:30–7:30 p.m. Join us to learn more!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

ONLINE COURSES AT BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

A Church of and For the Poor

**August 2 – August 22, 2023 | 3-Week Online Course |
Registration Required | \$30.00**

St. Mary of Magdala

**August 2– August 29, 2023 | 4-Week Online Course |
Registration Required | \$30.00**

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



JOIN SAINT CECILIA CARES!

"...I was sick and you visited me..."

Does your heart stir at the idea of visiting the sick or elderly, but you feel nervous about what to say or how to pray? Would you like to bring the compassion and communion of Saint Cecilia Parish to those who can no longer physically attend Mass? Do you feel called to bring Christ's presence to others through the Eucharist?

Saint Cecilia's CARES Ministry serves the sick and homebound of our Parish through friendly visits, prayer, and the Eucharist. To learn more, please contact Tanya Rybarczyk, Pastoral Associate and head of our CARES Ministry. She can be found at: trybarczyk@stceciliaboston.org; 617-536-4548 X117.



WHEN WERE YOU BAPTIZED?

Do you know when you were baptized? Have you ever even wondered about it? If you are like most people, the answers to those questions are "I don't know" and "No." Over the years, we have collectively downsized our understanding of baptism, in particular, our own baptism.

Like all sacraments, there is a proper ritual for baptism involving specific words, symbols, and actions. But make no mistake, baptism is no mere formality. Baptism is the means in which we become the daughters and sons of God. This should stop us in our tracks—through baptism we become People of God. Baptism is also the great equalizer as it is administered to all—gender, ethnicity, age, and socioeconomic status are of no consequence. Everyone is baptized in the very same manner and all of the baptized are equal members of God's family of faith. Unfortunately, distinctions and classifications have been established within the Church which have unintentionally diminished our appreciation of what baptism makes us to be and calls us to do.

It would be wonderful if our parish community committed to deepening our understanding and appreciation of our own baptism. One way to do a little "baptism consciousness-raising" would be to celebrate the anniversary of our baptisms, much the same way we mark our birthday each year. To that end we are inviting everyone in the parish to investigate

when they were baptized. If you know where you were baptized, it's as easy as calling that parish and asking them for either a copy of your baptismal certificate or simply for the date. If you don't know the name of the church, you can also contact the diocese in which you were baptized, and they should be able to help.

This might seem silly or irrelevant, but in fact it is a first, small step at beginning to reflect on the significance of baptism in our lives. When we remember and celebrate our baptism, we remember our future. Baptism sends us into the world, to live as God's sons and daughters, even as we live among our family, friends, and colleagues.

In his 2015 book, *Walking with Jesus: A Way Forward for the Church*, Pope Francis says,

"The danger of not knowing [the date of our baptism] is that we can lose awareness of what the Lord has done in us, the memory of the gift we have received. ... Let us, then, ask the Lord, from our hearts ... to experience ever more, in everyday life, this grace that we have received in baptism. And do not forget your homework today: find out the date of your baptism. As I know my birthday, I should know my baptism day, because it is a feast day."

Once you forward your baptismal information (just the month and day) to Christine Burns at cburns@stceciliaboston.org, we will include the names and days of baptismal anniversaries in the bulletin each week so the entire parish family can pray for and celebrate with you. And Pope Francis will be very pleased!





FATHER MARTIN HOPES TO BRING LGBTQ VOICES IN SYNODAL DISCUSSIONS

BY CLAIRE GIANGRAVÉ

The Rev. James Martin, an American Jesuit priest who has championed the cause of the Catholic LGBTQ community, said he intends to use his appointment as a representative to the upcoming Synod on Synodality in Rome as a chance to bring more attention to LGBTQ experiences.

But in an email interview on Tuesday (July 11), Martin, the founder of Outreach, a group that promotes inclusivity and welcome for LGBTQ Catholics in the church, said that listening at the synod will be just as important as speaking. “It’s a two-way street,” said Martin. “I hope, if possible, to be able to be one of the voices for LGBTQ people; and at the same time, I hope to listen to voices in the church that I have perhaps not heard before,” he said.

The gathering of bishops, whose theme is “Towards a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission,” is the culmination of a worldwide, multiyear consultation of Catholics in parishes, bishop’s conferences and continental assemblies and will take place October 4–29 at the Vatican. A second meeting will follow in the fall of 2024.

The synod will address topics ranging from church hierarchy and female leadership to LGBTQ inclusion. For the first time in church history, the synod will include a large number of Catholic lay and religious who will have a right to vote on these topics alongside the bishops.

The Vatican released the list of participants on Friday, July 7. Most were nominated by bishop’s conferences and religious organizations, with some selected directly by Pope Francis. Martin said he was “honored and surprised” to be invited by the pope.

The question of LGBTQ inclusion was among the questions and reflections of the *Instrumentum Laboris*, a document summarizing the discussions held by Catholic faithful around the world in preparation for the synod that will serve as a

guide for synodal discussions.

“For many LGBTQ people, so long accustomed to not even being mentioned—far less listened to—this was an historic step forward,” Martin said. “As such the Synod has been, in a church of light and shadow for LGBTQ people, a definite light.”

In his ministry, Martin has experienced a significant degree of backlash for his advocacy for LGBTQ members of a church that officially condemns homosexuality. At the synod, he will likely be sitting next to some of those critics, who include some high-ranking clergy. “As ever, I think that the best way forward is simply to share stories, and to tell of the ‘joys and hopes and griefs and anxieties,’ to quote Vatican II, of this community,” Martin said.

The synod is being considered by many a sequel to the Second Vatican Council, the synod that met from 1963 to 1965 and sought to reconcile the Catholic Church with the fast-changing realities of Western society at the time. Today the church faces new challenges as society’s understanding of religion, technology and sexuality continues to evolve quickly.

Martin admitted that some “far-right” Catholics, who “seem dead set against the synod,” may be resistant to hearing stories from their LGBTQ counterparts. But he said he holds out hope that “by seeing so many people coming together from a variety of countries and backgrounds—including some well-known figures on the ‘right’—even critics might think, ‘Maybe there is something to listen to here.’”

The synod will be attended by nonvoting “experts and facilitators” whose role is to help guide the discussions. Among them is the Rev. David McCallum, another Jesuit priest. McCallum directs the Discerning Leadership Program, which instructs lay and religious members of the church on

how to engage in a synodal style of leadership. Some of the other facilitators have also gone through his program.

Instead of sitting before a speaker, synod participants will sit at round tables in Paul VI Hall at the Vatican to listen to speeches before breaking into working groups. In an interview with Religion News Service, McCallum compared the dynamics of this synod to a dance that moves attendants from the general assembly to individual conversations, from the public speeches to watercooler chats. This flow should inspire a sense of intimacy and understanding among those attending the synod, he explained.

“The space has to be hospitable and open to marginalized voices, for people who feel their experience has not been heard and welcomed in the church,” McCallum said. “To make that a fact and not an intention is of critical importance.”

McCallum will act as a kind of “synod sherpa,” he said, keeping participants on track in their sessions and “holding space” for open conversations in a way that acknowledges the sacredness of the synodal meeting.

“I wouldn’t be surprised if really strong tensions emerge. I think that is the intention of the synod,” said McCallum. “The role of a good facilitator is to hold and frame the tensions so they can be generative and not destructive.”

He will guide participants to first speak from their own experience and prayer, then listen to others with intention and lastly discern what consensus emerged from the discussions.

When it comes to polarizing topics such as inclusion or access to Communion, McCallum said, “the fear people have is that the other side will carry the day and things will go too far and what we hold precious will somehow be lost.” What they forget, he said, is that creating new spaces for discussion “can be a very invigorating creative exercise.”

While the synod can “feel like a roller-coaster sometimes,” McCallum said, “it’s about helping people be patient with processes even when people really want to get to outcomes.”

~ Claire Giangravé is the Religion News Service Vatican correspondent.



LEND YOUR TIME & TALENT WITH IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS

Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) New England is interviewing applicants now for fall openings. IVC Service Corps Members combine direct service opportunities at local non-profits serving those in need in our communities with monthly spiritual reflection in the Jesuit tradition. Volunteers, 50 years of age and better, serve two full days/week from September through June. For more information and an application, contact IVC New England Director Dave Hinchin at dhinchin@ivcusa.org.

Saint Cecilia
P A R I S H

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Please join us for Morning & Evening Prayer

Tuesday, July 11 at 6:00 p.m.
Vespers for the Memorial of Saint Benedict

Tuesday, July 25 at 6:00 p.m.
Vespers for the Feast of Saint James

Saturday, July 29 at 9:00 a.m.
Lauds for the Memorial of
Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

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



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

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Tanya Rybarczyk, Pastoral Associate

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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

Reception

Keith Brinkley & Corey Ortiz, reception@stceciliaboston.org

Schedule for Liturgy

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

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

Holy Days | 8:00 a.m.

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

Hearing Assistance in Church

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

Building Accessibility

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

For Those with Celiac Disease

If you have celiac disease, please let us know. We have a supply of low-

gluten altar bread available for those who cannot tolerate gluten.

Parking

There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski's Tavern), for \$13, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and \$13 after 4:00 every day of the week. To 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.

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.

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 (maria.roche15@gmail.com), Letitia Howland (L_howland@hotmail.com), or Erin Young (erin.t.young@gmail.com) if you have any questions. The Archdiocese of Boston has in place a vigorous program to protect children from harm and to educate its ministers and faithful about the nature of abuse, with a goal of increasing knowledge, creating a safe environment for children, and recognizing and reporting potentially dangerous situations. The full policy is available in the narthex, Parish Office, and on our website.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

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.

Marriage

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

Care of the Sick

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

Order of Christian Funerals

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

Joining Our Community

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