

# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time  
27 August 2023

Christ Giving the Keys to Saint Peter by Vincenzo Catena (ca. 1520)

# Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

27 AUGUST 2023

21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | *Allegretto* from Sonata, Op. 65, no. 4  
Brett Maguire, *parish organist*

Felix Mendelssohn  
(1809-1847)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | God is Here! As We His People

ABBOT'S LEIGH



1. God is here! As we his peo - ple  
2. Here are sym - bols to re - mind us  
3. Here our chil - dren find a wel - come  
4. Lord of all, of Church and king - dom,



Meet to of - fer praise and prayer,  
Of our life - long need of grace;  
In the Shep - herd's flock and fold;  
In an age of change and doubt,



May we find in ful - ler meas - ure  
Here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
Here, as bread and wine are tak - en,  
Keep us faith - ful to the Gos - pel;



What it is in Christ we share.  
Here the cross has cen - tral place.  
Christ sus - tains us as of old.  
Help us work your pur - pose out.



Here, as in the world a - round us,  
Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing,  
Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant  
Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion,



Wait the com - ing of the Spir - it  
Here, in new - ness and re - new - al,  
What it means in dai - ly liv - ing  
We, who can - not live with - out you,



In - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
God the Spir - it comes to each.  
To be - lieve and to a - dore.  
We a - dore you! We be - lieve!

CALL TO WORSHIP



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



COLLECT

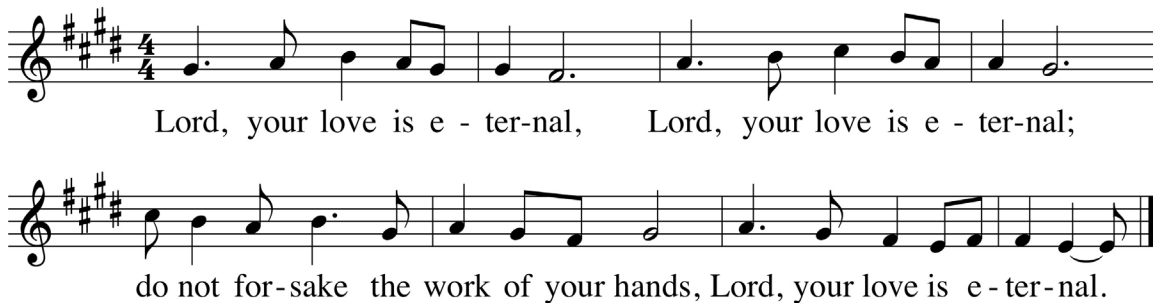
## LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Isaiah 22:19-23

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 138: Lord, Your Love is Eternal

Tony Alonso

Refrain



Verses

1. I thank you, LORD, with all my heart; you have heard the words of my mouth.  
In the presence of the angels I praise you. I bow down toward your holy temple.
2. I give thanks to your name for your merciful love and your faithfulness.  
On the day I called, you answered me; you increased the strength of my soul.
3. The LORD is high, yet he looks on the lowly, and the haughty he knows from afar.  
O LORD, your merciful love is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

SECOND READING | Romans 11:33-36

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Remembrance

Marty Haugen



GOSPEL | Matthew 16:13-20

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 PRAYERS



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

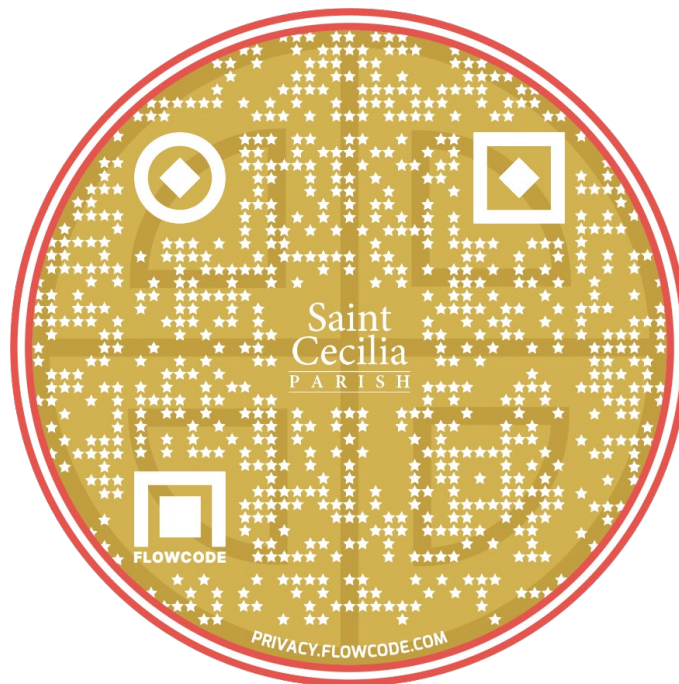
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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

You can also mail a check to:

Saint Cecilia Parish  
18 Belvidere Street  
Boston, MA 02115



# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

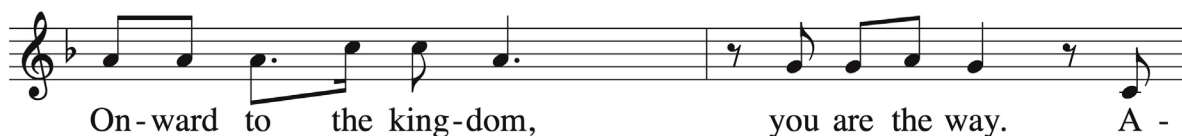
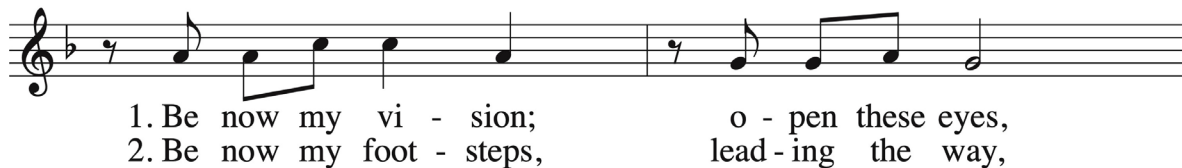
PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | Christ in Me Arise

Trevor Thomson

## Refrain



## Verses



D.C.



Bridge

You know my heart and you know my ways, you who  
formed me in my moth-er's womb. I live and move in  
you, my whole be-ing thrives in you. **D.C.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

✠ Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

✠ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

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.



1. — I am the Bread of life. You who  
 2. The bread that — I will give is my  
 3. Un - less — you — eat of the  
 4. — I am the Res - ur - rec - tion, —  
 5. Yes, Lord, — I be - lieve that —  
 1. — Yo soy el pan de vi - da. El que  
 2. El pan que — yo da - ré — es mi  
 3. — Mien - tras no co - mas el —  
 4. — Yo soy la re - su - rrec - ción. —  
 5. — Sí, Se - ñor, yo cre - o que —



come to me shall not hun - ger; — and who be -  
 flesh for the life of the world, — and if you  
 flesh of the Son of Man — and —  
 I — am the life. — If you be -  
 you — are the Christ, — the —  
 vie - ne a mí no ten - drá ham - bre. — El que  
 cuer - po — vi - da del mun - do, — y el que  
 cuer - po del hi - jo del hom - bre, — y —  
 Yo — soy la vi - da. — El que  
 tú e - res el Cris - to, — El —



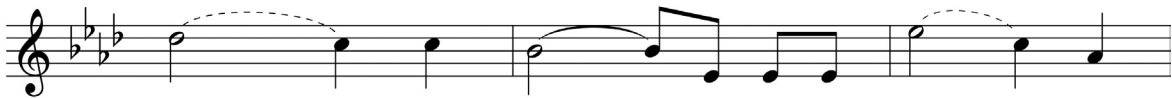
lieve in me shall not thirst. — No one can come to  
 eat — of this bread, — you shall — live for  
 drink — of his blood, — and drink — of his  
 lieve — in — me, — e - ven — though you  
 Son — of — God, — Who — has —  
 cree en mí no ten - drá sed. — Na - die — vie - ne a  
 co - ma — de mi car - ne — ten - drá — vi - da e -  
 be - bas — de su san - gre, — y be - bas — de su  
 cree — en — mí, — aun - que — mu - rie -  
 Hi - jo de Dios, — que vi - no al



me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons.  
ev - er, you shall live for ev - er.  
blood, you shall not have life with - in you.  
die, you shall live for ev - er.  
come in - to the world.  
*mí mien - tras el Pa - dre lla - me.*  
*ter - na, ten - drá vi - da e - ter - na.*  
*san - gre, no ten - drá vi - da en ti.*  
*ra, ten - drá vi - da e - ter - na.*  
*mun - do pa - ra sal - var - nos.*



And I will raise you up, and I will  
*Yo le re - su - ci - ta - ré, Yo le re -*



raise you up, and I will raise you  
*su - ci - ta - ré, Yo le re - su - ci - ta -*



up on the last day.  
*ré el di - a de El.*

# CONCLUDING RITES

RECESSIONAL | The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA



1. The Chur-ch's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her  
2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the  
3. Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her  
4. Yet she on earth has u - nion With God, the Three in



Lord; She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter  
earth; Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one  
war She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for -  
One, And mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion With those whose



and the Word. From heav'n he came and sought her To  
faith, one birth. One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par -  
ev - er - more Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her  
rest is won. O bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord,



be his ho - ly bride; With his own blood he  
takes one ho - ly food, And to one hope she  
long - ing eyes are blessed, And the great Church vic -  
save us by your grace That we, like saints be -



bought her, And for her life he died.  
press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.  
fore us, May see you face to face.

POSTLUDE | *Allegro maestoso e vivace* from Sonata, Op. 64, no. 2

Felix Mendelssohn

*Music in this worship aid is printed with permission under Onelicense.net #A700-137.*

For information on becoming involved or supporting the music program at Saint Cecilia,  
please contact Dr. Robert Duff at 617-536-4548 or email: [RDuff@stceciliaboston.org](mailto:RDuff@stceciliaboston.org).



# WELCOME!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**Saturday, August 25 | 5:00 p.m.**

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

**Sunday, August 26 | 8:00 a.m.**

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, celebrant  
Jim Dougherty, lector

**Sunday, August 26 | 9:30 a.m.**

Rev. John Unni, celebrant  
Zachary Boutin, Karen Vachon, and Chika Offurum, lectors

**Sunday, August 26 | 11:30 a.m.**

Rev. John Unni, celebrant  
Nikko Mendoza, Bob Mann, and Karen McMenamy, lectors

## SPECIAL INTENTIONS

**Saturday, August 26 | 5:00 p.m.**

Bridie Maloney, *Memorial*

**Sunday, August 26 | 9:30 a.m.**

Dave Macaulay, *Memorial*  
Sergio Bru, *Memorial*

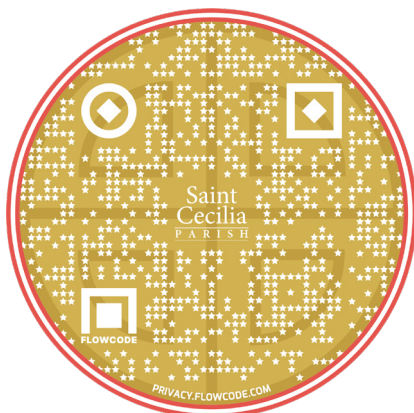
**Sunday, August 26 | 11:30 a.m.**

Maria Petruzzello, *Memorial*  
William, Gertrude, Joan,  
& Robert Kimball, *Memorial*

**Wednesday, August 30 | 8:00 a.m.**

Alice Doherty, *Memorial*

**SCAN THIS CODE  
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.**



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

## TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 22:19-23  
Romans 11:33-36  
Matthew 16:13-20

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 20:7-9  
Romans 12:1-2  
Matthew 16:21-27



# 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, Sue Ryan, Tim Finn, Glenn Gallo, 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: **Regina Pagani** of Brighton, **Sean Horrigan** of West Roxbury, **Victor Ascrizzi** of Boston, **Kathleen Rudicus** and **Niall Dillon** of South Boston, **Caitlin Jackson** of Boston, **Linda and Richard Duarte** of Naples, Florida, the **Suglia Family** of Fairhaven, **Mariette Murphy** of Cambridge, the **Crossan Family** of Boston, **Charlene Grattan** of Charlotte, North Carolina, **Michael Sessions** and **Bryan Torok** of Lansing, Michigan, and **Christine Donahue** and **Mario Giampetruzzi** of Somerville. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at [www.stceciliaboston.org](http://www.stceciliaboston.org).

## Special Collection For Maui This Weekend

Our special collection for the Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation is this weekend, August 26-27. To give to this important cause, you can write a check to Saint Cecilia Parish (18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115) with "Maui Relief" in the memo, or donate via our online giving hub: <https://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/special-collection-for-maui-relief>. Thank you for your generosity—it makes a difference in the lives of those affected by the wildfires in Maui. Your generosity will make a meaningful impact as we join hands in aiding those in need.

## Happy Anniversary!

This week we celebrate the baptismal anniversary of **Monika Hyatt** who was baptized on September 1. May the Lord continue to bless her with the grace to live out her baptismal call. Happy Feast Day, Monika!

## Happy Anniversary, Cardinal Seán!

**Cardinal Seán's** fifty-third anniversary of ordination to the priesthood is coming up! Cardinal Seán was ordained a priest in the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin on August 29, 1970. Please remember the Cardinal in your prayer.

## Evening Prayer This Week

We will pray Vespers for the Memorial of the Passion of

Saint John the Baptist on Tuesday, August 29 at 6:00 p.m. Join us live on the Saint Cecilia Facebook Page or via Zoom. Email our Hours and Taize ministry for details.

## For Those Returning to School

Pray for all students and teachers who are returning to the classroom. On September 10, we will resume our six o'clock liturgy and are looking forward to welcoming back our college students.

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## RCIA BEGINS NEXT MONTH!

**Tuesday, September 12 | 6:30 p.m.**



Are you interested in exploring the process for becoming Catholic, but not sure you want to commit? Were you raised Catholic, but never received Eucharist or Confirmation and now would like to learn more? Join the staff and some parishioners who have gone through the

RCIA process in the past to learn more! A welcome gathering and information session will be held on September 12th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Join us to see if it's the right time to begin your journey! Contact Tanya Rybarczyk at her parish email with questions!

## SEASON OF CREATION

### WEAR GREEN STARTING NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

The Season of Creation spans five weeks between the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (September 1) and the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4). At the Sunday liturgies, we invite you to wear green in support of this season. The color green has become the symbol of environmentalism, and in the Catholic Church it is the liturgical color for Ordinary Time, the season between Easter and Advent celebrating the life of Jesus in the world



throughout the year. Let us enter into the Season of Creation by wearing green and remembering that care for our environment should be part of our ordinary lives as Catholics.

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL DRIVE: BACKPACKS



While the beginning of the school year is an exciting time for kids and parents, it can also be stressful. For the families helped by the Mary Ann Brett Pantry in Dorchester, the beginning of the year can be especially intense. In hopes of alleviating stress and making the start of the school year sunnier for these families, Saint Cecilia is collecting new backpacks.

**The Brett Pantry has asked that we provide  
141 backpacks as shown below:**

**Grade K-4 (Ages 5-10)**

Girls—38 Backpacks

Boys—44 Backpacks

**Grade 5-8 (Ages 11-13)**

Girls—12 Backpacks

Boys—13 Backpacks

**Grade 9-12 (Ages 14-18)**

Girls—9 Backpacks

Boys—25 Backpacks

And to round out the backpacks, the Brett Pantry would also appreciate donations of: pens, colored pencils, glue sticks, index cards, and colored file folders. You can leave these donations in the baskets in the narthex or mail them to us via Amazon or another online retailer. You can send donations to *Saint Cecilia Parish, 18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115, c/o Mark Lippolt*. Thank you so much for your dedication to improving the lives of the kids in Greater Boston!

## A REMINDER TO PARENTS

While at Saint Cecilia, children should never go to the restrooms alone. We are happy that you feel so safe here, but please remember that we are in an urban building that is wide open and has multiple entrances. For the safety of our children, please do not allow them to wander around unsupervised and please do not ever allow them to go to the restroom unaccompanied by a parent.



## LGBT ASYLUM TASK FORCE GALA

One of our Rainbow Ministry's non-profit partner agencies is the LGBT Asylum Task Force, located in Worcester. The LGBT Asylum Task Force welcomes LGBTQ people of all faith traditions from throughout the world. They provide housing, food, and connection to legal, medical, and mental resources at other local agencies. Legal asylum seekers aren't allowed to work for up to two years after arriving in the United States and this vital ministry provides comprehensive support for this two-year period.

LGBT Asylum Task Force's annual gala takes place on Saturday, September 30 from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA. Each ticket is \$125 and there will be tables of eight. Buy tickets: <https://one.bidpal.net/taskforcegala2023/ticketing> If you would like to sit at the Saint Cecilia table, please email reception team and they'll put you in touch with Mark Lippolt. It is also possible to purchase a ticket so that an asylum seeker can attend the event.

## "MUSIC FOR FOOD" CONCERT TO BENEFIT WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE

**Sunday, September 24 | 2:00 p.m.**

**New England Conservatory's Brown Hall**

"Music for Food" is a musician-led initiative to fight hunger in our local communities. According to Project Bread: "Prior to the pandemic, household food insecurity in Massachusetts was at 8.2%. The coronavirus pandemic fueled a hunger crisis unlike any other in our lifetime, at its peak rendering 19.6% of households food insecure." Music for Food's concerts have raised funds to create more than 1.5 million meals.

Music for Food's 14th season begins at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 24, in New England Conservatory's Brown Hall. The season opens with Stravinsky's *L'histoire du soldat* and a world premiere for viola by Lingbo Ma!

Admission is free, and all donations will benefit Women's Lunch Place (WLP), which is celebrating its 40th anniversary of providing needed resources to vulnerable women in Boston. Suggested donation is \$30+ and \$10+ for students, collected at the door. 100% of donations will benefit Women's Lunch Place. Donate here: <https://bit.ly/3KNNv81>

# PARISH OPERATING STATEMENT & 2024 OPERATING BUDGET

We are pleased to present the Parish Operating Statement for our last fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and our Operating Budget for the upcoming fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. We ended the fiscal year on a very positive note, with a surplus of \$447,680. This surplus allowed us to transfer \$150,000 to the Capital Repairs Reserve Account which we use for ongoing repair and upkeep of our church property, leaving a net surplus of \$297,680 available for operations.

The budget for the new fiscal year includes several significant building maintenance projects which began during the previous fiscal year. We have begun a major waterproofing project for the walls of the building. This requires that we also install a pumping system to prevent flooding in the low-lying areas of our plant. All these types of repairs are expected with a building of Saint Cecilia's age. The anticipated cost of these projects is approximately \$700,000. We expect to be able to fund some of the cost through our Operations account, with the balance being charged to the Capital Repairs Reserve Account referenced above. Despite these major expenditures, we continue to believe the parish will be able to break even this year, thanks in part to our ability to use funds from the Capital Repairs Reserve Account.

While these large building maintenance expenditures are necessary and important, we feel that it is equally important that Saint Cecilia continues to allocate a portion of its surplus to the care of the poor. This charitable giving takes two forms. First, Father John is frequently made aware of individual cases of extreme need. These are often one-time situations involving relatively small amounts of money, and Father John is equipped with a budget to provide this assistance. Secondly, we make more significant donations to large institutions which are well known to Father John and have his confidence in carrying out the mission of Saint Cecilia.

All of this is possible because of your generosity. Saint Cecilia does a great deal of good in our community because of all of you. Please know how very much you are appreciated!

## **Saint Cecilia Finance Council**

Father John Unni, Pastor  
Matt Maguire, Chair  
Bonnie Blanchfield  
David Castaldi  
Alicia Cooney  
Mark Duggan  
Jason Grapski  
Mark Lippolt  
Cole Young  
Colleen Melaugh, Director of Finance  
Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien, Pastoral Director of Operations





# 2023 PARISH OPERATING STATEMENT

## FY23 Q4 OPERATING STATEMENT

	Quarter Ending June 30,2023	Quarter Ending June 30,2023	Variance \$	Variance %
<u>INCOME</u>	ACTUAL	BUDGET		
Sunday Offertory Income	\$ 1,995,504	\$ 1,850,000 <sup>1</sup>	\$ 145,504	8%
Special Donations Income	\$ 890,357	\$ 759,000 <sup>1</sup>	\$ 131,357	17%
Operating Income	\$ 316,690	\$ 330,000 <sup>2</sup>	\$ (13,310)	-4%
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 89,618	\$ 52,445 <sup>1</sup>	\$ 37,173	71%
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 3,292,169	\$ 2,991,445	\$ 300,724	10%
<u>EXPENSES</u>				
Personnel Expenses	\$ 1,126,238	\$ 1,261,664 <sup>3</sup>	\$ 135,426	11%
Office Expenses	\$ 225,545	\$ 233,550	\$ 8,005	3%
Liturgy Expenses	\$ 93,645	\$ 98,950	\$ 5,305	5%
Building Expenses	\$ 980,113	\$ 724,000 <sup>4</sup>	\$ (256,113)	-35%
Other Expenses	\$ 418,948	\$ 501,445 <sup>5</sup>	\$ 82,497	16%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,844,489	\$ 2,819,609	\$ (24,880)	-1%
TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES	\$ 447,680	\$ 171,836	\$ 275,844	
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL REPAIRS ACCT	\$ (150,000)	\$ (150,000)	\$ -	
FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OPERATIONS	\$ 297,680	\$ 21,836	\$ 275,844	

### Notes:

1. Due to the generosity of our parishioners and the FFF we exceeded our expected income this year.

2. We donated the space to a number of organizations for events and therefore came in under budget and collected less revenue from rentals.

3. Hiring of positions to return to prior year levels occurred at the end of the fiscal year, and therefore came in under budget.

4. The parish underwent unbudgeted waterproofing on exterior walls to protect the building from the elements.

5. We came in underbudget as some of our ministries and events are still returning to pre-pandemic levels.

# 2024 PARISH OPERATING BUDGET

## FYE JUNE 30, 2024 BUDGET OPERATING STATEMENT

	FISCAL YEAR ENDING June 30,2023	FISCAL YEAR ENDING June 30,2024
<u>INCOME</u>	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Sunday Offertory Income	\$ 1,995,504	\$ 2,050,000
Special Donations Income	\$ 890,357	\$ 987,000
Operating Income	\$ 316,690	\$ 333,500
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 89,618	\$ 127,500
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 3,292,169	\$ 3,498,000
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Personnel Expenses	\$ 1,126,238	\$ 1,380,527
Office Expenses	\$ 225,545	\$ 217,750
Liturgy Expenses	\$ 93,645	\$ 107,650
Building Expenses	\$ 980,113	\$ 1,077,000
Other Expenses	\$ 418,948	\$ 564,938
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,844,489	\$ 3,347,865
TRANSFER FOR CAPITAL REPAIRS ACCT	\$ (150,000)	\$ (150,000)
TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES	\$ 297,680	\$ 135



## JOIN OUR MUSIC MINISTRY

As we look toward the fall, we're looking for folks to join our music ministry! In particular, we are looking for additional singers and instrumentalists to participate in music ministry at both the 9:30 and 11:30 liturgies. Choir rehearsals take place weekly on Thursdays from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the church. If you are interested, please see our Director of Music, Rob Duff, after Mass or email him at his parish email address.



## JOIN US AT COMMUNITY SERVINGS

**Friday, September 1 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**  
**Community Servings in Jamaica Plain**

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 Friday, September 1 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 our reception team, who will put you in touch with Mark Lippolt.

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

### BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY & MINISTRY ONLINE COURSES

#### Finding a Moral Compass

September 20–October 17, 2023 | 4-Week Online Course  
Registration Required | \$30.00

#### Spirituality Matters

September 20–October 24, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course  
Registration Required | \$60.00

#### The Engaged Parish

September 20–October 24, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course  
Registration Required | \$60.00

To learn more and register, visit the STM Crossroads website: [https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education.html#tab-stm\\_online\\_crossroads](https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education.html#tab-stm_online_crossroads)

## ONLINE COFFEE HOUR

**Sunday, September 10 | 4:00 p.m. ET**

The Saint Cecilia Remote Fellowship Ministry is excited to announce that Sebastian Gomes, executive editor of Audio and Video at America Media, will be the guest speaker at our September FFF online coffee hour! Since joining America in 2019, Sebastian has created several podcasts, including *The Gloria Purvis Podcast* with Catholic commentator and radio personality Gloria Purvis, which addresses contentious issues in the Catholic Church from a consistent life ethic. Other podcasts include *Jesuitical*; *Inside the Vatican*; *Hark!*; *The Stories Behind Our Favorite Christmas Carols*; and *Preach*. Sebastian wrote and directed America's first feature documentary, *People of God: How Catholic Parish Life is Changing in the United States*, released in 2022. Saint Cecilia is one of four parishes featured in this documentary. If you'd like to join the conversation, learn more about America, or ask Sebastian a question, please join us at the coffee hour on September 10 at 4:00 p.m. ET!

**Please note:** To receive the link to our coffee hours each month, you must register for the FFF email list with this link ([bit.ly/45pDVRa](https://bit.ly/45pDVRa)), even if you registered to be a parishioner. Be sure to fill out the registration form correctly—some people have inadvertently omitted their email address or typed their address incorrectly and, therefore, will not receive any communications.







## THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION: OUTWARD, NOT INWARD

BY KELLY BROWN DOUGLAS

I was asked recently what frustrates me most about theology. I am a theologian, and love doing theology. Nevertheless, I do have my moments of frustration with the theological enterprise. I am most frustrated when theology loses its dynamic edge and focus. Too much of theological reflection has become “navel gazing” falling prey to the infamous accusation of Medieval theology, that is, wondering “how many angels can dance at the end of a pin.” It seems to me, that we must not lose sight of the fact that the foundation of theological reflection is the revelation of god, which is nothing less than god’s movement that is god’s dance, in human history. All that we know about the transcendent reality is made known to us by that reality making itself known by entering into our world. The best of theological reflection, then, is a response to that revelation, wrestling with the meanings and challenges of god’s revelation to us. Again, far too often our theology is consumed by intellectual strivings as opposed to struggling with god. We, as theologians and religious thinkers, find ourselves debating the essence of god—who god is in god-self, what we call the godhead—as opposed to who god is in relationship to us and our world. Too often we focus our attention on the appropriate pronouns and nouns that we should use to define god as opposed to the verbs that describe the very movement of god in our world. And so, despite the fact that we do not know god in “god-self” or in the god head, theological reflection is spent debating it, and has a long history of debating it. In the meantime, the world stays just as it is—which is anything but a reflection of the gods/goddesses we claim to follow. Even as we can assume that who god reveals god-self to be is a reflection of the very essence of god, theological reflection is best served not by this upward, inward turn to god, but by following god outward into our world. As god moves toward us and into our world, so too are we to move toward one another and into the world, for this is where we will find god. Theological reflection must not be about who god is in god-self, but rather about who god is for us and who we are to be for god. Theology, as it is essentially grounded in the notion that god acts first, is at best an attempt to discern how god is acting so that we can act back in a responsive and responsible way. So what does this mean?

It means that in many respects theology must be as disruptive as the revelation of god is disruptive. To engage in god-talk is to engage in the kind of talk that exposes, deconstructs and disrupts those “demonic” structures, systems, ideologies and ways of our world and living that keep us far from reflecting the justice and compassion of the transcendent beings whom we claim to follow. Our theologies should, put simply, disrupt our world for the better, not the worse. And, so too should our religions.

Far too often our religions are at war with each other—be it a war of words or an actual life and death battle—as opposed to being at war with those things that oppose the good and loving compassionate justice that is no doubt the measure of the gods/goddesses in our lives. Karen Armstrong has rightly reminded us that as religions emerged during what she identifies as the “axial age” they were not about a way of believing but a way of being in the world. This is a way defined not by right beliefs, orthodoxy, but by right acting, that is orthopraxis. This surely is what Jesus meant as he pronounced on many occasions that he was the way. He was, for those who choose to follow him, the way to a better world, again a world defined by compassionate justice for all, such a way was for Jesus a way that would bring his followers closer to the ways of god.

As a theologian, I admit that I have grown weary concerning the debates about what to call god, what god looks like etc. and whose theology or religion is better than the other. These debates become about us, and not about that which is divine, that which is god, and thus, these debates take us away from the very tasks of theology and the very meaning of god for us. And so, I would rather be engaged in a debate over where god is acting in the midst of a world where girls are deprived from education and thrown into slavery, where a pregnant woman can be killed because of her religion, where women are killed because of presumed adultery and where women and men are killed because of their gendered identities and sexual orientations. If theology is faith seeking understanding, (faith, i.e. pistis, meaning loyalty, commitment to a way of life) then we must strive to understand the meaning of our faith in this, our broken and

violent world. It is not about god being on the side of angels, it is about god being on the side of women and men who cry out for dignity and life. It is about god being on the side of compassionate justice. The challenge of our theological reflections is not to wrestle with the dance of angels on the end of a pin but rather to wrestle with the dance of god in a broken world.

~ *The Very Reverend Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas was named Dean of the Episcopal Divinity School at Union Theological Seminary and Professor of Theology at Union in 2017. She also serves as the Canon Theologian at the Washington National Cathedral and Theologian in Residence at Trinity Church Wall Street.*

*Dr. Douglas' academic work has focused on womanist theology, Black theology, sexuality and the Black church, and racial and social justice. Dean Douglas is widely published in national and international journals and other publications. Her most recent book, Resurrection Hope: A Future Where Black Lives Matter, was published in November 2021 (Orbis Books). Her groundbreaking and widely taught book Sexuality and the Black Church: A Womanist Perspective (1999) was the first to address the issue of homophobia within the Black church community. Her Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God (2015) examines the challenges of a "Stand Your Ground" culture for the Black church. In addition to preaching in pulpits and speaking at universities and other institutions around the globe, Dr. Douglas is a frequent and vocal presence in today's print, broadcast, and digital public square, speaking on racial and social justice, among other matters.*



## SONGS OF LIFE PUBLIC CONCERT

**Wednesday, September 27 | 7:00 p.m. | Saint Cecilia**

Join Shelter Music Boston for an evening of music celebrating the culmination of the 2023 Julie Leven Artistic Project: *Songs of Life*, featuring world premiere commissions by Che Buford, Anthony Green, Sato Matsui, and Francine Trester. These commissions and arrangements for string quartet are inspired by songs of significance shared by Shelter Music's audiences that relate to their identity, life stories, and connection to music. For more information and to register, please visit SMB's website or enter <https://www.sheltermusicboston.org/2023-songs-of-life-public-concert>. We hope to see you at this free event! A light reception will immediately follow the concert program.

## 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 the Wisdom and Mature Spirituality ministry email.



## 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 her parish email or at 617-536-4548 X117.

# PARISH RESOURCES

## Parish Office & Mailing Address

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

## Parish Staff

*\*To email parish staff, please use the following formula:  
First Initial + Last Name @stceciliaboston.org*

**Rev. John J. Unni**, Pastor  
**Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ**, Pastoral Support  
**Christine Burns**, Digital and Print Media Coordinator  
**Tyler Cesario**, Assistant Director of Music  
**Mark Donohoe**, Pastoral Associate  
**Robert Duff**, Director of Music  
**Olivia Hastie**, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation  
**Daniel Lamoureux**, Vigil Organist  
**Scott MacDonald**, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility  
**Brett Maguire**, Organist  
**Colleen Melaugh**, Director of Finance and Development  
**Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien**, Pastoral Director of Operations  
**Lisa Pickering**, Director of Facilities and Events  
**Tanya Rybarczyk**, Pastoral Associate

## Assisting Clergy

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

## Audiovisual Support

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

## Reception

**Keith Brinkley, Eli Geruschat, Joe O'Brien, & Corey Ortiz**

## 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.

## Parking

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

## Building Accessibility

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

## Hearing Assistance in Church

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

## For Those with Celiac Disease

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

## 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.

## 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.

### Please note:

According to online safety guidelines released by the Archdiocese of Boston, we have removed email addresses from our online parish bulletin to avoid the danger of potential phishing scams. If you need a staff member's email address or ministry email address, please call our reception desk (617-536-4548) and our receptionists would be happy to pass along the appropriate information. Thank you for helping us maintain our parish security online!