

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



The Feeding of the 5000

by Laura James

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 August 2026

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

2 AUGUST 2026

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | *Herzlich Tut Mich Erfreuen, Die Liebe Sommerzeit*, Op. 122, no. 4

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | We Come in Joy in Jesus Christ

FOREST GREEN



1. We come with joy in Je - sus Christ, Who
2. A lit - tle bread is all we have, So
3. Like rip - ples in a pool, our gifts, How -

knows our hu - man need, Who, moved with pit - y
mea - ger our sup - ply; A lit - tle time, a
ev - er small they are, Will reach and heal a

for the poor, Would ev - 'ry hun - ger feed.
lit - tle love Can hard - ly sat - is - fy.
need - y world, Will com - fort near and far.

He blessed the fish and bar - ley loaves Till
But let us bring the best we have, De -
For Christ will bless our bit of bread, The

food was mul - ti - plied. His boun - ty o - ver -
spite our pov - er - ty, And of - fer all our
loaves our hands pro - vide, Till emp - ty bas - kets

flowed their want And all were sat - is - fied.
gifts to Christ, Im - per - fect though they be.
o - ver - flow And all are sat - is - fied.

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 Joy and Peace

Tony E. Alonso

Refrain

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the
high - est, and on earth peace, on earth peace to
peo - ple of good will. A - men.

Verses

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father. | you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father,
have mercy on us. |
| 2. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us; | 3. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen. |

COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Isaiah 55: 1-3

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 145: The Hand of the Lord Feeds Us

Tony E. Alonso

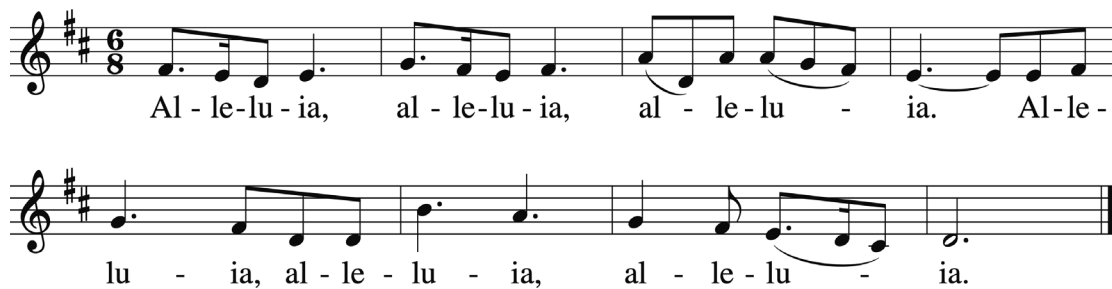


1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.
2. The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.
You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
3. The Lord is just in all his ways, and holy in all his deeds.
The Lord is close to all who call him, who call on him in truth.

SECOND READING | Romans 8: 35, 37-39

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Joy and Peace

Tony E. Alonso



GOSPEL | Matthew 14: 13-21

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!

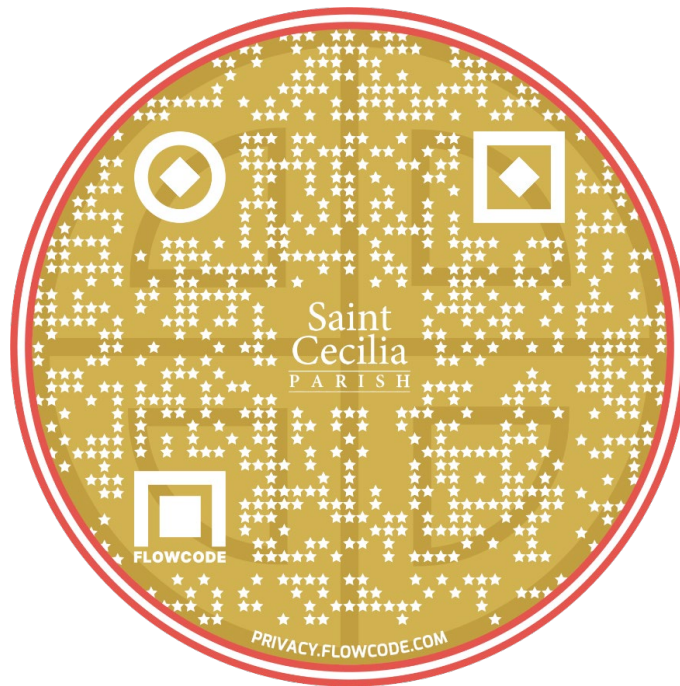
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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 | Come to the Water

John Foley, SJ



1. O let all who thirst, let them come to the
2. And let all who seek, let them come to the
3. And let all who toil, let them come to the
4. And let all the poor, let them come to the



wa - ter. And let all who have noth - ing,
wa - ter. And let all who have noth - ing,
wa - ter. And let all who are wea - ry,
wa - ter. Bring the ones who are lad - en,



let them come to the Lord: With-out mon-ey,
let them come to the Lord: With-out mon-ey,
let them come to the Lord: All who la - bor,
bring them all to the Lord: Bring the chil - dren



with-out price. Why should you pay the price,
with-out strife. Why should you spend your life,
with-out rest. How can your soul find rest,
with-out might. Eas - y the load and light:



ex - cept for the Lord?
ex - cept for the Lord?
ex - cept for the Lord?
7 come to the Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

✠ Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

✠ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

SANCTUS | Mass of Joy and Peace

Tony E. Alonso

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

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

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

high - est. Bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who

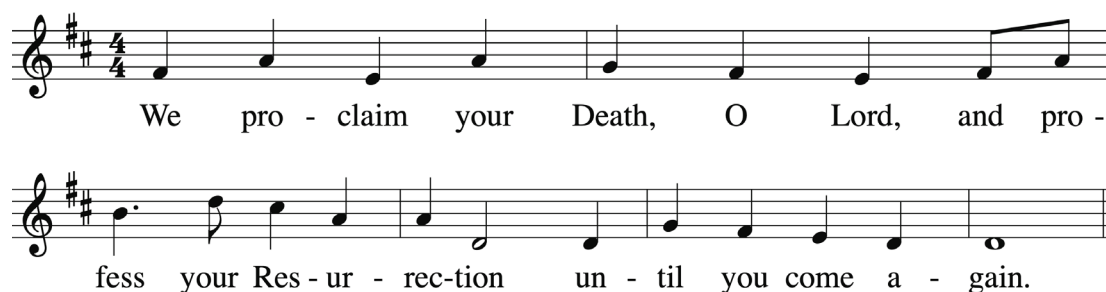
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

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

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Joy and Peace

Tony E. Alonso



AMEN | Mass of Joy and Peace

Tony E. Alonso



THE LORD'S PRAYER

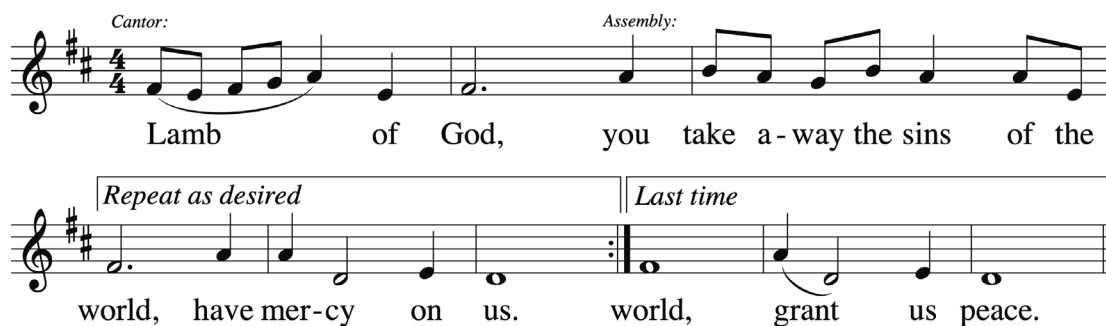
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,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

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
All: And with your spirit.

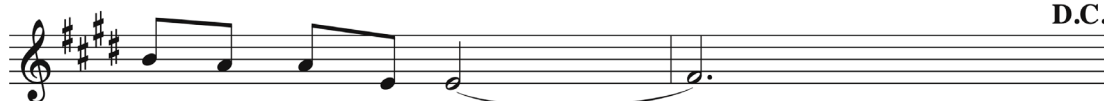
AGNUS DEI | Mass of Joy and Peace

Tony E. Alonso





God. Come in joy to sa - vor the
wheel. God's own hand has fash - ioned the
dawn. Trust in God's pro - vid - ing, who
springs: Quench your hearts in glad - ness for
thirst. Love pre - pares a ta - ble where
peace. Fill the earth with jus - tice as
high. Christ our Host has ris - en, and



boun - ty of our Lord.
ves - sels for our meal.
of - fers Christ the Son.
green - ing life God brings.
last are served as first.
wa - ters fill the seas.
nev - er more shall die!

CONCLUDING RITE

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

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

All: Amen.

Refrain

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

Verses

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r To
2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous-ness. Be my
3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am

help me o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the
aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press. I am put - ting
blind with - out thy Light to see. Lord, just al - ways

dark-ness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
let me thy ser - vant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

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, August 1 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Christina Dominique-Pierre, lector

Sunday, August 2 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Jim Shaughnessy, SJ, celebrant
Emily St Germain, lector

Sunday, August 2 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Peter Haley, Elli St George, Erin Young, lectors

Sunday, August 2 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Pat Scofield, Jeremy Shields, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 2 | 9:30 a.m.

Carolyn B. Tolman, *Memorial*
Ralph Edward Pascarelli, *Memorial*
Dr. Michael O'Leary, *Memorial*
Dr. Ronald McCaffrey, *Memorial*
Marcia Harol, *Memorial*
Irene Faldetta, *Memorial*

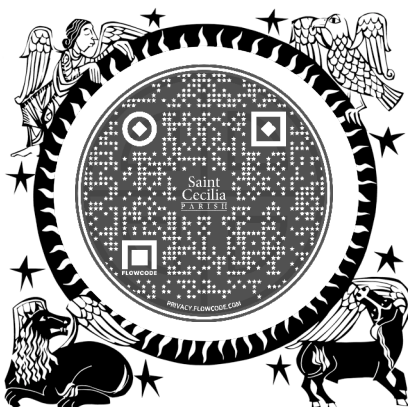
Wednesday, August 5 | 8:00 a.m.

Charles Z. Millan, *1st Anniversary*

Friday, August 7 | 8:00 a.m.

Rosemary Dominick, *Memorial*

Scan this code for
offertory giving:



Thank you for your generous
support of Saint Cecilia Parish!



TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 55:1-3
Romans 8:35, 37-39
Matthew 14:13-21

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish!

We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our community: **Abby Sylvester**, **Ann** and **Christopher Houseman**, and **Ethan Young** and **Jared Martin**. If you have not previously registered, you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Remembering the Children of Gaza (8/9)

In this time of ongoing humanitarian suffering, we continue to pray for peace in the Holy Land and throughout the world. We hold especially in prayer the children and families of Gaza who have endured unimaginable loss, displacement, hunger, and the constant search for safety. As Pope Leo has said, *"From the Gaza Strip, the cries of mothers and fathers rise to the heavens as they hold the lifeless bodies of their children and are forced to constantly move in search of a bit of food and a safer shelter from the bombings."*

Saint Cecilia has been invited to participate in the Children's Shroud, an interfaith memorial in which Christian, Muslim, and Jewish communities inscribe the names of children who have died in Gaza. The completed shroud will be displayed during a public prayer vigil in Washington, DC, as a witness to the dignity of every human life and a prayer for peace. We have been entrusted with 500 names. After the 9:30 and 11:30 liturgies on August 9, parishioners are invited to join us in the Classroom 1 to prayerfully inscribe these names. We hope you'll take part in this simple act of remembrance, prayer, and hope.

Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola

On Friday, we celebrated the Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and a spiritual leader who dedicated his life to the greater glory of God. Known for his profound insights into spiritual discernment, Saint Ignatius developed the Spiritual Exercises, a guide for meditation and prayer that continues to inspire and transform lives.

As we honor his legacy, let us reflect on his teachings and strive to find God in all things. May Saint Ignatius inspire us to live with purpose, compassion, and a commitment to serving others, especially the marginalized and those in need. And, in a special way, we pray for the members of the Society of Jesus who give so much of their time to us at Saint Cecilia: Fr. Jim Shaughnessy and Fr. John Predmore. May the Lord bless these generous sons of Ignatius.

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Bulletin Artist Spotlight: Laura James



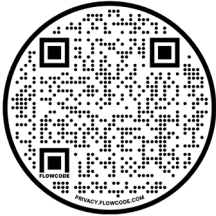
Laura James is a Bronx-based artist who has spent more than three decades blending her Antiguan heritage with Ethiopian Christian iconography, African diasporic traditions, and contemporary storytelling. Her

distinct style is informed by her experiences growing up in a devout Antiguan household and being painfully aware of the racial bias she saw in Eurocentric illustrations of the Bible. When she was 19, she was mesmerized by Jacques Mercier's *Ethiopian Magic Scrolls*, and began modeling her work after the indigenous art she encountered in the text. James strives to help shape a contemporary vision of sacred art that is inclusive and uplifting.

Browse through Laura James' work here:
www.laurajamesart.com

SUMMER CHORAL SESSIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 | 2PM - 4PM | CLASSROOM 1



This summer, the parish will offer free Sunday afternoon sessions on singing and choral music from June 14-August 23 taught by Tyler Cesario and Kayleigh Bennett. Open to all parishioners, topics include sight-singing, vocal technique, diction, vocal anatomy, harmony and balance, choral stylization, and audition/performance preparation. To register, scan the Flowcode below or visit www.tinyurl.com/summer-choral-sessions.

TEEN PROGRAMMING SURVEY

As we begin working on putting together teen programming in the parish, we want to include as many voices as possible. If you are a caregiver of a high school student, please take a few minutes to fill out the brief survey listed below about teen programming and ask them to do the same. Thank you!

- **Caregiver Survey:** <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdcG7yL6KfRjv1M8Fu0TR0wIDTPKzPmsL-LuC46LKLvIa-jAQ/viewform>
- **High School Student Survey:** <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScrmwIASJ6sK2pHNF-9eWPwEhy8F6nCLGBwBrZ13CHOyynWLg/viewform>

A REQUEST FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES

For over 100 years, Sunset Point Camp in Hull has provided a dream vacation at the seashore to over 40,000 low-income, at-risk children aged 6-13 from Greater Boston without regard for their race, nationality, or religious affiliation. Nearly 450 city-based boys and girls travel to Hull, Massachusetts each summer for a one or two week overnight camp experience letting them enjoy the fresh air, learn new talents, receive academic summer support and simply have fun.

Sunset Point Camp is operated by our friends at Catholic Charities. **At the moment, there is a particular need for soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, & shampoo for kids at the camp.**

Catholic Charities has also requested donations of sunblock (the higher SPF number, the better) and bug spray. Next time you are shopping or on Amazon.com, please consider picking up a few items from the list above and dropping them in the plastic bin identified for this purpose in the narthex. Thank you!

COMING UP AT SAINT CECILIA AUGUST 2 - 6

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

Wisdom & Mature Spirituality | 8:30am via Zoom

Choral Workshop | 2pm | Classroom 1

FFF Coffee Hour | 4pm ET via Zoom

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

Worship Night | 7pm | Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

Bereavement Group | 6pm ET via Zoom

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

Wisdom & Mature Spirituality | 7:30pm via Zoom

FAR-FLUNG FLOCK COFFEE HOUR: DR. KATHLEEN DOYLE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 | 4PM ET VIA ZOOM

Please join us for our coffee hour as we welcome Dr. Kathleen Doyle, a parishioner of Saint Cecilia Church and an integral part of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. Kathleen was a recent guest on our May coffee hour. She is an attending physician and palliative care doctor at Massachusetts General Hospital. As a palliative care physician and Director of the Harvard Interprofessional Palliative Care Fellowship, Kathleen will offer a presentation on what palliative care is and why it matters. She will explore how palliative care can improve quality of life, support patients and families facing difficult medical decisions, and address the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of people living with serious illness and those who love them.

If you'd like to receive the Zoom link please follow the link below: <https://mailchi.mp/stceciliaboston/far-flung-flock-mailing-list>.



WORSHIP NIGHT

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4 | 7-8PM | SANCTUARY

All parishioners, regardless of age, are invited to spend an hour with the Lord before the Blessed Sacrament. Praise and worship music led by the Young Adult Ministry will guide your meditation and enrich your prayer in adoration. Please enter from the side door on Saint Cecilia Street and ring the bell to be let in. Can't join us in person? We'll be live-streaming our worship service over Zoom. Register to receive a Zoom link each month here: www.tinyurl.com/stc-night-of-worship.

BEREAVEMENT ONLINE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5 | 6PM VIA ZOOM

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

WOMEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 8 | 9:30AM - COFFEE
10AM - DISCUSSION | PARISH HALL**

Join the Women's Ministry for a morning of faith, fellowship, and meaningful conversation as we gather for breakfast and reflect on the life and witness of Dorothy Day. A convert to Catholicism, journalist, social activist, and co-founder of the Catholic Worker Movement, Dorothy Day challenged

the Church to live the Gospel through radical hospitality, compassion for those on the margins, and unwavering trust in God.

Together, we'll explore how her example continues to inspire us to love our neighbors, seek justice with mercy, and discover Christ in the ordinary moments of our lives. Whether you are familiar with Dorothy Day or encountering her story for the first time, all women are warmly welcome. For more information, contact Mary Wessel at her parish email.

SPACE TO SHARE

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12 | 6:30PM
COMMUNITY ROOM**

Space to Share is a place for LGBTQ+ parishioners to speak freely about the challenges and joys of being LGBTQ+ and Catholic (or whatever else is on our minds). Whether it's your first visit or you're a biweekly regular, we'd love to have you join us! To learn more, please send an email to the ministry.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT IN-PERSON

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 | 1PM | COMMUNITY ROOM

The death of a loved one can feel confusing and isolating. No one should suffer alone. The bereavement group at Saint Cecilia supports anyone coping with loss. Feel free to grab some coffee and food and join us for an informal group discussion and prayer. If you'd like to learn more about bereavement at Saint Cecilia, please contact Mary Wessel at her parish email.

OCIA INFORMATION SESSION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19 | 6PM VIA ZOOM

Interested in becoming Catholic? Order of Christian Initiation of Adults The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) the primary process for adults to become full members of the Catholic Church. OCIA welcomes inquirers at all levels of knowledge, faith, and intent.

The process culminates in the reception of one or more of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist. OCIA could be for you if you are an adult who has never been baptized, if you were baptized in another Christian denomination, or if you are seeking First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

To learn more or get the Zoom link, please contact Mary Wessel at her parish email.

*Support Our Coffee
Hospitality Ministry!*

Thank you for your generosity!

*If you're interested in joining
our coffee hospitality ministry,
please contact Lisa Pickering
(lpickering@stceciliaboston.org).*

TEACH ENGLISH THIS FALL

HELP IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS BUILD A FUTURE

Every fall, adults across Greater Boston sit down in an ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classroom because English stands between them and a job, a doctor's appointment, or a parent-teacher conference. A Faith That Does Justice is seeking volunteers to help bridge that gap. AFTDJ's ESOL program offers free English classes for adult immigrant learners, taught entirely by volunteers. No professional teaching experience or bilingual skills are required. Volunteers receive curriculum, training, and support. Members of all faiths and backgrounds are welcome as both students and teachers.

There are two ways to serve:

- **Teacher:** Lead a class of adult learners through the semester, teaching two 2-hour sessions each week.
- **Teacher Assistant:** Support teachers by working with individuals and small groups.

The Fall 2026 session runs September 21, 2026 through February 3, 2027. Classes are offered Monday and Wednesday evenings (6:30–8:30 p.m.) or Tuesday and Thursday mornings (9:30–11:30 a.m.), either online via Zoom or in person at Emmanuel Church in Back Bay. To learn more and apply by August 31, visit faith-justice.org/esol/.

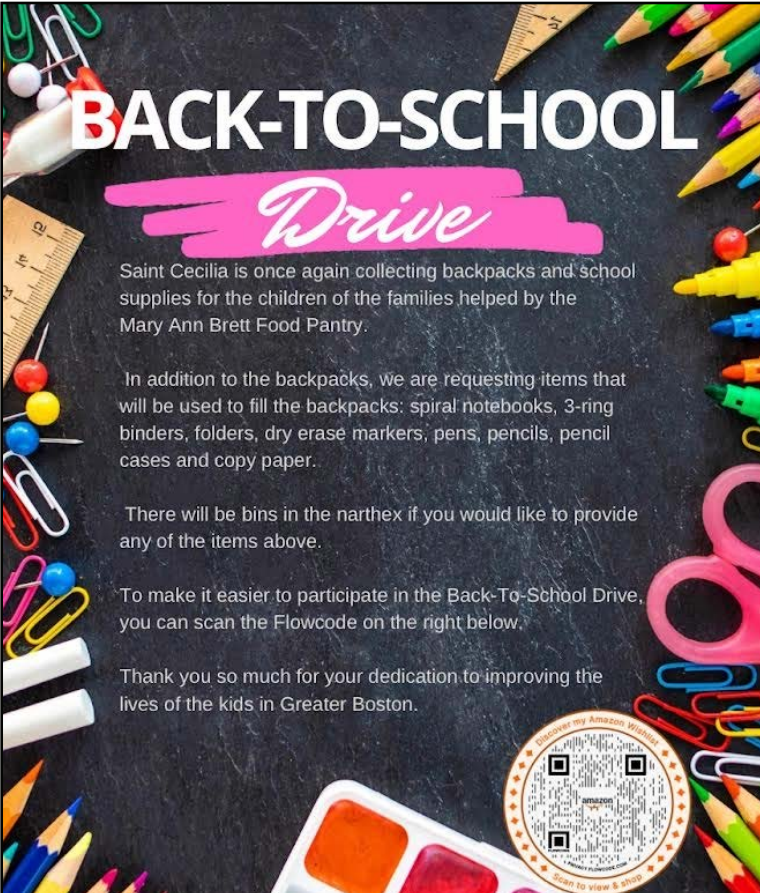
HELP US SEND A KID TO CAMP

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. Through our combined donations, we would like to see if we can collect enough (\$2,500) to send one inner-city kid, ages 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:

Hunger & Homelessness Ministry
Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street
Boston, MA 02115

Thank you!



BACK-TO-SCHOOL
Drive

Saint Cecilia is once again collecting backpacks and school supplies for the children of the families helped by the Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry.

In addition to the backpacks, we are requesting items that will be used to fill the backpacks: spiral notebooks, 3-ring binders, folders, dry erase markers, pens, pencils, pencil cases and copy paper.

There will be bins in the narthex if you would like to provide any of the items above.

To make it easier to participate in the Back-To-School Drive, you can scan the Flowcode on the right below.

Thank you so much for your dedication to improving the lives of the kids in Greater Boston.

To access the Amazon Wishlist, scan the Flowcode above or use the following link: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/11Q1I35W4EGYE?ref_=wl_share

2026 SUMMER CHOIR SUNDAYS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23 | 8:30AM | CLASSROOM 1

Join Robert Duff, Brett Maguire and members of the Saint Cecilia Choir at 8:30am to learn a piece of choral music and sing with the choir at the 9:30am Mass. Open to all singers of all ages and experience! We will meet in Classroom 1 at 8:30am.

A SYSTEMATIC READING OF THE ENCYCLICAL "MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS"

TUESDAYS | 8:00AM - 9:00AM VIA ZOOM

Join Fr. John Predmore, SJ, for a chapter-by-chapter reading of Pope Leo XIV's new encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas ("Magnificent Humanity"). Over the course of eight weeks, the group will read and discuss the encyclical together via Zoom on Tuesdays from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. A brief study guide with chapter notes will be emailed to participants before each session. If you would like to join the group, please send an email to Fr. Predmore, SJ.

A PASTORAL REFLECTION

BY BISHOP DANIEL E. GARCIA
& BISHOP BRENDAN J. CAHILL

As Catholics, we believe that all persons are created in the image and likeness of God and, therefore, grieve all situations where human life is brought to an unnatural end. This is a core teaching of our faith and one we can never grow weary of proclaiming as disciples of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As the bishops of the United States affirmed last November, ‘We are disturbed when we see among our people a climate of fear and anxiety around questions of profiling and immigration enforcement.’ Racial profiling in particular not only violates God-given dignity¹ but also inflicts profound harm on individuals, families, and communities by fostering fear, eroding trust, and increasing the risk of unjust and even tragic outcomes. Our pastoral concerns are distinct from what the civil law itself may permit.

Acts that diminish or disregard the dignity of any person or group of people should never be normalized in our society. The dehumanization of immigrants, regardless of their legal status, is one such example of this; the vilification of law enforcement officers is yet another.

We continue to affirm the legitimate role of civil authorities to implement the law in a humane manner and with respect for fundamental human rights, including the rights to life and due process. The power of the state must always be exercised within the limits of the moral law. To that end, we call for accountability, transparency, and justice, which require that meaningful reforms be made to our immigration system.

We join in praying for the souls of those killed and for their families, for our nation, and for all those entrusted with the duties of public service. We pray for an end to dehumanizing rhetoric, racial prejudice, and violence and for a renewed commitment to recognizing the inherent dignity of every person as a child of God. We plead for the intercession of Mary, Our Mother, who is the model of perfect faith in times of grief, hardship, and uncertainty.



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Bishop Daniel E. Garcia is the chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Subcommittee for the Promotion of Racial Justice and Reconciliation and Bishop Brendan J. Cahill is the chairman of the Committee on Migration.

¹Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love - A Pastoral Letter Against Racism, pg.4

PARISH RESOURCES

Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115

Hours | Seven days a week, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Phone | 617 536 4548; Fax | 617 536 1781

Website | www.stceciliaboston.org

Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support

Kate Burns, Director of Family and Youth Faith Formation

Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate

Robert Duff, Director of Music

Anastassia Kolchanov, Digital and Print Media Coordinator

Scott MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility

Colleen Melaugh, Director of Finance and Development

Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien, Pastoral Director of Operations

Lisa Pickering, Director of Facilities Operations & Events

Mary Wessel, Pastoral Associate

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV

Rev. John Predmore, SJ

Music Ministry

Tyler Cesario, Assistant Director of Music

Daniel Lamoureux, Vigil Organist

Brett Maguire, Parish Organist

Audiovisual Support

Maureen Deery, Parish Photographer & Creator of Weekly Slide Show

Geoffrey Edwards, Livestream Videographer

Christian Chanderdatt, Audio Engineer

Schedule for Liturgy

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

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

Holy Days | 8:00 a.m.

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Father Jim Shaughnessy, SJ is available by appointment for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To schedule an appointment, please call the Parish Office.

Hearing Assistance in Church

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

For Those with Celiac Disease

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

Building Accessibility

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

Baptism for Infants

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

Parking

There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski's Tavern), for \$15, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and \$15 after 4:00 every day of the week. To get this discount, ask a greeter for a chaser ticket at Mass or ask a staff person during the week. Chaser tickets must be used at the machine at the exit gate. To obtain the discount, place the ticket you received upon entering the garage into the machine, then follow it with the chaser ticket.

Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for Faith Formation, contact our Director of Family and Youth Faith Formation, Kate Burns.

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

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

This is the communal process through which non-baptized men and women become members of the Catholic Church. It is also suitable for those baptized in different faith traditions who are interested in becoming Catholic, or, for those who were baptized Catholic, but have yet to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and confirmation. For more information, contact Mary Wessel in the Parish Office.

Marriage

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

Care of the Sick

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

Order of Christian Funerals

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

Joining Our Community

We're happy that you're with us! Our parish offers a warm, spiritual home for a diverse group of Catholics from many neighborhoods in and around Boston; we also have friends from around the country and the world. We invite local individuals and families to fill out a new parishioner form on our website. No matter your present status in the Catholic Church, current family or marital situation, gender or gender expression, sexual orientation, personal history, age, race, or self-image, you are invited and will be welcomed, accepted, loved, and respected here at Saint Cecilia. We are here to accompany and serve you.

Please note:

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