

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4 August 2024

"Bread of Life" from St. James' Church, Glenbeigh, County Kerry, Ireland

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

4 AUGUST 2024

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | *Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist*
Brett Maguire, organist

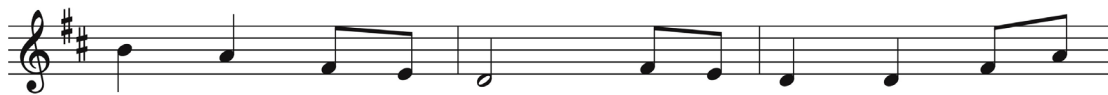
George Böhm
(1661-1733)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Sing a New Church

NETTELTON



1. Sum - moned by the God who made us Rich in
2. Ra - diant ris - en from the wa - ter, Robed in
3. Trust the good - ness of cre - a - tion; Trust the
4. Bring the hopes of ev - 'ry na - tion; Bring the
5. Draw to - geth - er at one ta - ble All the



our di - ver - si - ty, Gath - ered in the name of
ho - li - ness and light, Male and fe - male in God's
Spir - it strong with - in. Dare to dream the vi - sion
art of ev - 'ry race. Weave a song of peace and
hu - man fam - i - ly; Shape a cir - cle ev - er



Je - sus, Rich - er still in u - ni - ty:
im - age, Male and fe - male, God's de - light:
prom - ised, Sprung from seed of what has been.
jus - tice; Let it sound through time and space.
wid - er And a peo - ple ev - er free.



Let us bring the gifts that dif - fer And, in



CALL TO WORSHIP

- ✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.
- ✠ The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.

GLORIA | Mass of Renewal

Curtis Stephan



at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer -
cy, have mer - cy on us. For you a - lone are the
Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the
Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men, a - men.

COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Exodus 16: 2-4, 12-15

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 78: The Lord Gave Them Bread

Tony Alonso

The Lord gave them bread from
heav - en. The Lord gave them
bread from heav - en.

1. The things we have heard and understood, the things our fathers has told us, we will tell to the next generation: The glories of the Lord and his might, and the marvelous deeds he has done.

2. He commanded the clouds above, and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna to eat, and gave them bread from heaven.
3. Man ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food.
So he brought them to his holy land, to the mountain his right hand had won.

SECOND READING | Ephesians 4: 17, 20-24

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony Alonso



GOSPEL | John 6: 24-35

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!

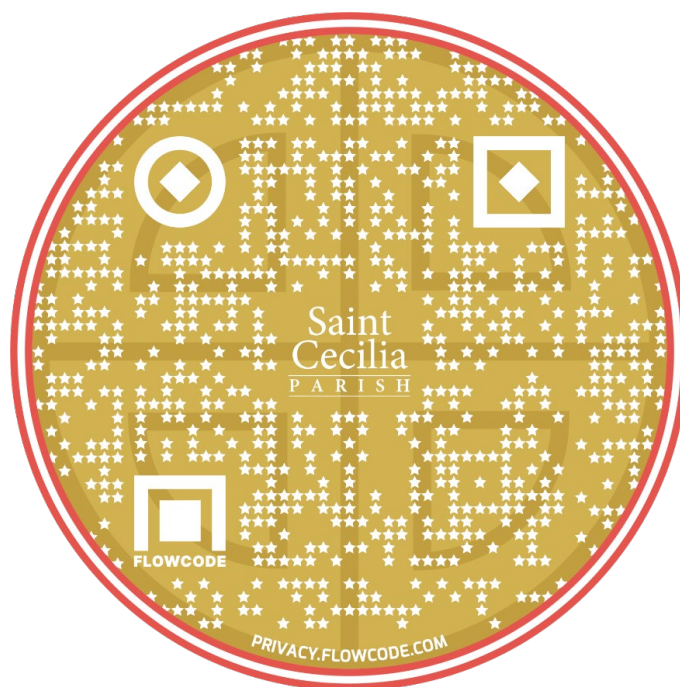
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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.

You can also mail a check to:

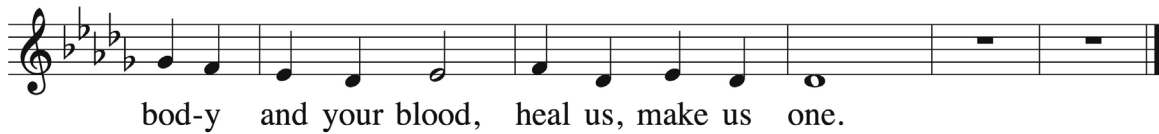
Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street
Boston, MA 02115



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | Make Us One

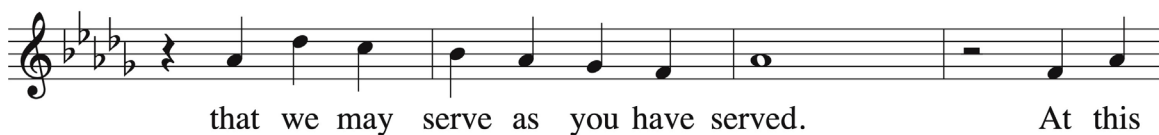
Chris De Silva



Verse 1



Verse 2



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.

D.C.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

✠ Lift up your hearts.

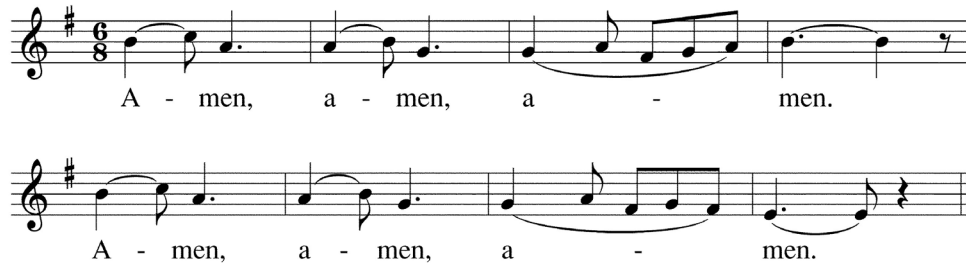
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

✠ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho -
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro -
fess your Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come a - gain.

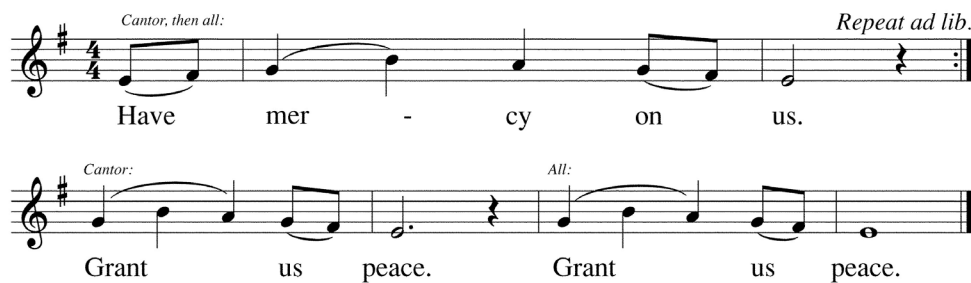


THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

LAMB OF GOD | Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven R. Janco



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

Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the

Lord. O taste and see, taste and see the

good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Verses

1. I will bless the Lord at all times.
 2. Glo - ri - fy the Lord with me.
 3. Wor - ship the Lord, all you peo - ple.

Praise shall al - ways be on my lips;
 To - geth - er let us all praise God's name.
 You'll want for noth - ing if you ask.

my soul shall glo - ry in the Lord
 I called the Lord who an - swered me;
 Taste and see that the Lord is good;

for God has been so good to me.
 from all my trou - bles I was set free.
 in God we need put all our trust.

D.C.

CONCLUDING RITES

- ✠ The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.
- ✠ May almighty God bless you, the Father, (+) and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.
- ✠ Go forth, the Mass is ended.
All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL | Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

ODE 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 | Prelude in G BWV 541
Brett Maguire, *organist*

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

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, August 3 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Cynthia Wanner, lector

Sunday, August 4 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Emily St. Germain, lector

Sunday, August 4 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Virgen Palermo, Zachary Boutin, and Cole Young, lectors

Sunday, August 4 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Catherine Horsley, Tom O'Brien, and Kelly McClintock, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 4 | 9:30 a.m.

Philip Galipeau, *Memorial*
Thomas Grealish, *Memorial*
Patrick Sheenan, *Memorial*

Friday, August 9 | 8:00 a.m.

Grant Barthelmes, *Special Intention*

TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15

Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

John 6:24-35

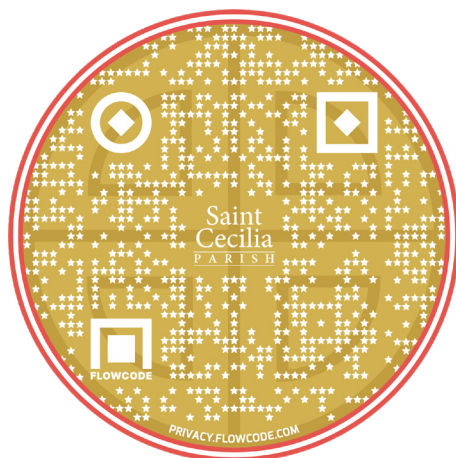
NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1 Kings 19:4-8

Ephesians 4:30-5:2

John 6:41-51

**PLEASE SCAN THIS CODE
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.**



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



PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially David Kennedy, Jacqueline Lavelle, Glenn Gallo, Marc Pelletier, Michele Maniscalco, and Fred Tufts.

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish!

We are pleased to welcome the following new registrants: **Katie and Frank LeBlanc** of New Hampshire, **Dianne Buzderewicz** of Chelsea, **Silvia and Cesar Armas** of Brookline, **Steve Fox** and **Connie Hua** of Cambridge, and **Danielle Juelis** of Boston. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at <https://www.stceciliaboston.org/joining-our-parish/>

Don't Wait: Registration for Children's Faith Formation 2024-2025 Is Now Open!

We are delighted to share that registration for our Children's Faith Formation classes for the coming year is now open. Please note that space is limited for a number of classes, and so please register as soon as possible to ensure your child(ren)'s/ teen's place in the class. To register, visit <https://stceciliaboston.org/cff-reg>. Classes begin on Sunday, September 22. Please note that the fee to register is \$200.

Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Last Wednesday, 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, Fr. Peter Gyves, and Fr. Terry Devino. May the Lord bless these generous sons of Ignatius.



AUGUST LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Please join us for Evening Prayer!

Monday, August 5 at 6:00 pm.
*Vespers for the Memorial of the
Dedication of Saint Mary Major*

Monday, August 12 at 6:00 p.m.
*Vespers for the Memorial of
Saint Jane Frances de Chantal*

Wednesday, August 28 at 6:00 p.m.
*Vespers for the
Memorial of Saint Augustine*

*Live on the Saint Cecilia
Facebook Page or via Zoom.*

*Please email
hoursandtaize@stceciliaboston.org
for details.*

VISIT OUR FAMILY FLEX CENTER!

As we gather to celebrate Mass, we are reminded of the importance of community and the shared experience of worship. However, we understand that attending Mass with young children can sometimes be challenging. That's why we encourage you to visit our Family Center, located to the left of the parish café and underneath the staircase on Saint Cecilia Street. The center is open during liturgies and provides a comfortable environment for parents with young children. Here, parents can watch Mass as their children play, and nursing mothers can enjoy a quieter, more private space. If you have any questions about the Family Center, please contact our Director of Facilities and Events, Lisa Pickering at her parish email address.

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

*Join Father John and the Saint Cecilia Choirs
Under the Direction of Robert Duff on a*

2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy

June 15-23, 2025



We will participate in Mass at:

- The Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi
- St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City

**The Saint Cecilia Choir will
perform two evening concerts:**

- The Basilica di Sant'Andrea della Valle in Rome
- The Basilica di Santa Cecilia in Trastevere

Want to learn more/register?

Visit www.stceciliaboston.org/italy to learn more and to register! On this webpage, you'll find registration information, the trip itinerary, and a recording of a virtual information session with the hosting company, Music Celebrations International.

**We will visit Rome, Florence,
Assisi, and Vatican City.**

Highlights include:

- A visit to La Galleria dell'Accademia di Firenze, home to the largest number of Michelangelo sculptures in the world, including *David*
- A walking tour of the medieval town of Assisi, birthplace of Sts. Francis and Clare, including a visit to the Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi—one of the most important pilgrimage sites in all of Italy
- A tour of the Vatican Museums which house some of the world's most important collections of art (included will be a visit to the Sistine Chapel)
- A visit to St. Peter's Basilica, including the *Pietà*
- A tour of the Colosseum and its arena floor, the Roman Forum.
- A tentative weekly Papal Audience and Blessing (subject to the Holy Father's schedule)
- Visits to the Pantheon, Spanish Steps, Piazza Navona, and Trevi Fountain
- Visits to the Basilica of St. Mary Major, the Basilica of St. John Lateran, and the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA

AUGUST 4 – AUGUST 11

Sunday, August 4

Wisdom Group, 8:30 a.m. | Zoom
Far-Flung Flock Online Coffee Hour with Olivia
Hastie of FutureChurch: 4:00–5:00 p.m. | Zoom

Monday, August 5

Knitting and Crocheting Ministry Monthly
Meet-Up, 3:30–4:30 p.m. | Zoom
SCYA Women's Group, 7:30 p.m. | Zoom

Tuesday, August 6

Saint Cecilia Worship Night,
7:00–8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, August 7

Daily Mass, 8:00 a.m.
SCYA Men's Group: 7:30 a.m. | Zoom
Communion Circle, 3:30 p.m.
Susan Bailis House

Thursday, August 8

Daily Mass, 8:00 a.m.
Simeon & Anna Seniors Gathering, 10:30 a.m.
Communion Circle at Hale House, 4 p.m.

Friday, August 9

Daily Mass, 8:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 10

SCYA Summer Trip to Tanglewood!

Sunday, August 11

Wisdom Group, 8:30 a.m. | Zoom
SCYA Contemplative Prayer Group, 2:00 p.m.



AUGUST FAR-FLUNG
FLOCK COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, August 4 at 4:00 p.m. ET



The Far-Flung Flock leadership team is thrilled to welcome Olivia Hastie as their August speaker. Olivia is a first-year doctoral student in Boston College's Theology department focusing on theological ethics. She earned her Master of Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School and her Bachelor's in Religious Studies from the College of the Holy Cross. In addition to her academic pursuits, Olivia is a program associate at FutureChurch. This Cleveland-based nonprofit seeks to promote the inclusion, equality, and full participation of all people in the life of the Church. Her work at FutureChurch includes scheduling educational events, conducting research, and overseeing several projects. She spent a year managing the faith formation program at Saint Cecilia and has since become an active parishioner and a member of the Parish Pastoral Council. Join us for this inspiring coffee hour to hear more about Olivia's work with FutureChurch and to connect with fellow parishioners.

If you have not registered for any online coffee hour in the past, please register for the FFF email list with this link (<https://bit.ly/45pDVRa>). There is no need to re-register if you've attended in the past. If you have registered but are not receiving FFF email notifications, please email the ministry to confirm your email address.

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 so they can 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. They have mentioned to us that they always need donations of the following items for the 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)

So the next time you're out shopping or on Amazon, please consider picking up some of the items above and dropping them in the plastic bin identified for this purpose in the narthex. Thank you so much! **Please note: the last day we can accept donations for the Camp is Sunday, August 4!**

DONATIONS FOR DORCHESTER FOOD PANTRIES



With summer here, many of the families that have been faithful donors to our collection of food items for the Catholic Charities and Mary Ann Brett pantries will be away until September. We hope that you will consider participating in this important ministry during the summer months so that the volume of our donated food remains strong.

The local economy might have improved for some of us, but the working poor and unemployed continue to face enormous economic challenges—especially in light of rising food prices. Saint Cecilia has 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. You may wish to follow the example of some of our parishioners and have some of the items above delivered to the parish via Amazon or a similar service. If you choose to, please have them delivered to *Saint Cecilia Parish, 18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115*. Thank you!



NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Tuesday, August 6, 7:00—8:00 p.m.

(First Tuesday of the Month)

Saint Cecilia Sanctuary | Open to Everyone!

Join the Saint Cecilia Young Adults for their monthly Night of Worship and Adoration. Come find rest and healing in God's presence in the Blessed Sacrament, with praise and worship music led by the Young Adult Ministry. Please use the St. Cecilia Street entrance and ring the bell to enter. All are welcome to join us!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL DRIVE FOR THE MARY ANN BRETT PANTRY

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 once again collecting backpacks and school supplies for the kids.

The Brett Pantry has asked that we provide backpacks for the following school grades:

- Grades K-4
- Grades 5-8
- Grades 9-12



In addition, the following items will be used to fill the backpacks: spiral notebooks, 3-ring binders, folders, dry-erase markers, and loose leaf filler paper. There will be bins in the narthex if you want to provide any of the items above. To make it easier to participate in the Back-To-School Drive, you can also access the pantry's wish list here: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/11Q135W4EGYE?ref_=wl_share or using this QR code. Thank you so much for your dedication to improving the kids' lives in Greater Boston!

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JOIN US FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL FAR-FLUNG FLUNG PARISH RETREAT

Friday, September 13—Sunday, September 15 | Parish Hall

Whether we live in the Boston area or around the world, Saint Cecilia parishioners are committed to responding to their shared responsibility to live out our Christian calling. Come share fellowship and prayer and listen to the speakers guide and encourage us to respond to the needs of others throughout the world at this year's retreat. This year's retreat theme is "Praying, Listening, Sharing: Ways to Live Out Our Faith Together."

If you're interested in participating, please register online at <https://www.stceciliaboston.org/fff-retreat/>. Please note: limited space is available, and there is a registration fee of \$50. If you would like more information or have questions, please contact the ministry at their parish email address. Thank you!

RETURNING CITIZENS MINISTRY: LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

Previously known as our Prison and After Ministry, the Saint Cecilia Returning Citizens group meets every other Monday evening from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. to provide a safe, welcoming space for men transitioning back into society following prison or jail. Each meeting consists of an opportunity to discuss challenges (and wins!) and gain support, followed by a shared meal. In particular, we welcome individuals from Coolidge House (the federal release center on Huntington Avenue) and Brooke House (the state release center in the Fenway). We are looking for more men to join us, so, if you know anyone who could benefit from this group, please personally invite them to join. You can refer any questions to the ministry's email address. Please remember that your quick referral could make a significant difference in someone's life!

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IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Looking for a fulfilling way to make a difference in the second half of life? IVC New England invites parishioners 50 years of age or better to explore a journey of spirituality and service. From September to June, participants will have the opportunity to share their unique gifts and talents with a local nonprofit partner assisting people in Greater Boston. For nearly 30 years, IVC has helped mature men and women find enriching service opportunities.

As an IVC Service Corps member, participants will commit to serving just 1 or 2 days a week, while also enjoying monthly gatherings for prayerful reflection and fellowship. It is a wonderful way to connect with others and deepen one's faith, all while making a meaningful impact on the community. Contact the regional director today at newengland@ivcusa.org to learn more about the Ignatian Volunteer Corps.



CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Generous parishioners have donated a supply of children's books that can be found in a box in the narthex. Please feel free to borrow these during one of our liturgies.



DONATIONS FOR DORCHESTER FOOD PANTRIES

With summer here and our Faith Formation classes on summer break, many of the families that have been faithful donors to our collection of food items for the Catholic Charities and Mary Ann Brett pantries will be away until September. We hope 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 has 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 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.

You may wish to follow the example of some of our parishioners and have some of the items above delivered to the parish via Amazon.com or a similar service. If you choose to do so, have them delivered to: Hunger and Homelessness Ministry, Saint Cecilia Parish, 18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115. Thank you so much!

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HELP US SEND A KID TO CAMP!

As you may know, Saint Cecilia has a long-standing relationship with the Huntington YMCA and many social service programs they offer. 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: Hunger and Homelessness Ministry, Saint Cecilia Parish, 18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115. Thanks as always for your accustomed generosity!



REFLECTION FOR EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BY ARIELL WATSON SIMON

I have to admit that I hate daily chores. So many of the tasks that keep life running smoothly involve doing the same thing every day, day in and day out. Watering the plants. Doing the dishes. And perhaps the most non-negotiable: figuring out what's for dinner.

This is the beauty of leftovers. If I'm going to the trouble of making a recipe, why not double it so I can eat it tomorrow...or better yet, triple it so I can freeze some for next week! I try to skirt the daily demands of meal preparation by stocking up and planning ahead. There's something so appealing about working a little harder today so that I don't have to do it again tomorrow.

Apparently, some of the people of ancient Israel had the same idea. The book of Exodus recounts the story of their escape from captivity in Egypt. As relieved as they were to be free, freedom came with a lot of discomfort and uncertainty. The Israelites found themselves camping out in the desert, unsure of where their next meal would come from. Today's first reading recounts how God sent manna and quail—bread and meat that fell from the sky to provide for their needs.

The book of Exodus describes the manna as God's "test" for the Israelites. I don't think this was a test to trick them, but rather like testing a bridge to see if it is strong enough to hold weight. The manna tested the strength of the relationship between God and God's people, and then continued to build it through daily gratitude.

You see, the manna came with a stipulation: God instructed them to gather just enough to feed their household for that day. One day's ration—no leftovers. That was the deal. In fact, those who tried to keep some extra discovered that it molded and got maggots overnight. So every day—with the exception of the Sabbath—the Israelites had to gather a fresh supply of manna. I can imagine them waking up in their tents every morning, stomachs rumbling, and wondering "will there be manna again today? What if there's not enough?" They had no leftovers and no backup plan. But God was building a relationship of trust with the

Israelites. Every day, their hunger brought them out of their tents, looking toward the heavens for nourishment. And every day, when the manna was there as promised, the Israelites had another reason to trust in their God.

Now let's fast forward to today's Gospel reading from the book of John, when Jesus makes the claim "I am the bread of life." The day before, Jesus had miraculously fed a huge crowd of people using only five loaves of bread and two small fish. Just as God had miraculously fed the ancient people of Israel with manna, Jesus fed their descendants with the loaves and fish. Again, we see God developing a relationship of trust with humanity through meeting physical needs. But when the crowd follows Jesus, hoping for another free meal the next day, Jesus redirects them. He tells them that he has something better to offer: himself. Jesus tells them "I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever be hungry. No one who believes in me will ever be thirsty."

I struggle with this statement. At face value, it seems to imply that if I simply believe in Jesus, I will never again experience spiritual hunger. Could Jesus really mean that once we have received Christ's presence, we are supposed to be satisfied and "set" for the rest of our days? I seriously doubt it! In fact, experience shows just the opposite: the more I taste God's presence, the more I crave it. The psalmist describes this feeling as panting after God like a deer looking for a stream of water. An encounter with God is just the beginning—it whets the appetite, then keeps us coming back for more.

You see, there are no "leftovers" in the spiritual life. No matter how hard I pray on Sunday, I'll still need God's presence with me on Monday morning. Going on a great retreat won't "tide me over" spiritually for years to come. Sacraments of initiation give us a tantalizing taste of God's presence, but they are just the beginning. We celebrate First Communion in hopes that it will be the first of many times we commune with God.

Let's think about when we experience spiritual hunger. Perhaps it is when we glance at the news, see ecological destruction around us, or experience inequality. Perhaps

it's when we are overwhelmed or lonely. Every time we experience a gap between the world as it should be and the world as it is, that craving for peace and justice is our soul's way of saying "I'm not satisfied." It's the spiritual equivalent of our stomach rumbling. That's our cue to turn toward God for spiritual nourishment. So pray. Go for a walk in the woods. Receive Christ's presence in word and sacrament. Be filled by the presence of the Divine.

And tomorrow, when you feel the pangs of spiritual hunger again, go back for more. That feeling of holy discontent doesn't mean that yesterday's prayer didn't work; it means that God is building a relationship of trust with you. Just like the Israelites' physical hunger kept them looking to the heavens for manna, our spiritual hunger turns us toward God.

Hunger grounds us in the everyday. It's in this everyday hunger that God will meet us, giving us this day—each day—our daily bread.

~ Ariell Watson Simon, M.Div. is a healthcare chaplain who lives, writes, and serves in central Missouri. Ariell was raised in the evangelical church, which instilled in her the value of scripture and the importance of lay ministry. After falling in love with Catholic Social Teaching as an undergraduate student at Loyola University Maryland, she entered the Catholic Church in 2011. Ariell received a Masters of Divinity from Boston College School of Theology and Ministry in 2018. She completed her chaplain residency at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, focusing on psychiatry and spiritual care. Ariell currently works as a chaplain at Valley Hope Association, where she provides spiritual care to people in early recovery from drug and alcohol addiction. Ariell also serves as a spiritual director, adjunct instructor of religious studies, liturgical coordinator for FutureChurch, and regular contributor to New Ways Ministry's blog. She enjoys using her eclectic gifts to foster a theological imagination for an inclusive Church. Ariell lives on 60 acres of woods and pastureland outside of Sedalia, Missouri with her wife Rachele, her in-laws, and a host of wildlife.



MOTHERS OF CHILDREN EXPERIENCING ADDICTION

Tuesday, August 20 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

You are invited to join a Zoom support gathering specifically tailored for mothers whose children are struggling with substance abuse issues. This session aims to provide a supportive space where we can share experiences, insights, and faith, helping each other navigate the stress of dealing with a loved one in active addiction or recovery. Sponsored by Recovering Connections, a Catholic Charities Program, the gathering will take place on Tuesday, August 20, from 7-8 pm. It offers coping strategies and the opportunity to share experiences in a confidential and compassionate space. Free of charge. To register and get the Zoom link, email Mary Campion at Mary_Campion@ccab.org.



JOIN OUR WISDOM & MATURE SPIRITUALITY GROUP

Our Wisdom and Mature Spirituality Group holds two online gatherings each week on Zoom. They meet on Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Sunday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. to share how faith informs and enriches the second half of life. This group is not a book club, but their conversations are often informed by shared spiritual reading. The group's next book is *The Beatitudes of Peace* by John Dear. To request information or be added to their mailing list, email the ministry at their parish address.

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

Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor
Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support
Christine Burns, Digital and Print Media Coordinator
Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate
Robert Duff, Director of Music
Joe Ebbert, Director of Emerging Adult Ministries
Carly-Anne Gannon, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation
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 and Events

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV | Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ

Music Ministry

Tyler Cesario, Assistant Director of Music
Daniel Lamoureux, Vigil Organist
Brett Maguire, Parish Organist
Pendexter Macdonald, Assistant Organist

Audiovisual Support

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

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 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.

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 Faith Formation, contact our Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Carly-Anne Gannon, at her parish email.

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team

The CAP Team is responsible for training all parish staff and volunteers in mandated reporting laws and the Protecting God's Children program (VIRTUS). They provide consultation and support to anyone who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Maria Roche, Letitia Howland, Kathy Sanders, MD, 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.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

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.

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!