

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
17 September 2023

The Unforgiving Debtor by Jorge Cocco

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

17 SEPTEMBER 2023

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | *Chant du Paix*

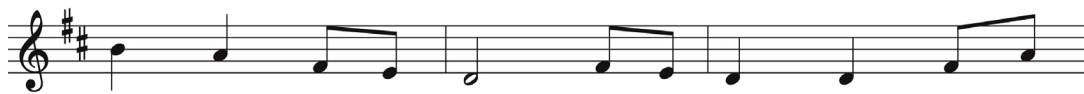
Jean Langlais
(1907-1991)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | As We Gather at Your Table

NETTLETON



1. As we gath - er at your Ta - ble, As we
2. Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness In the
3. Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon Oth - er



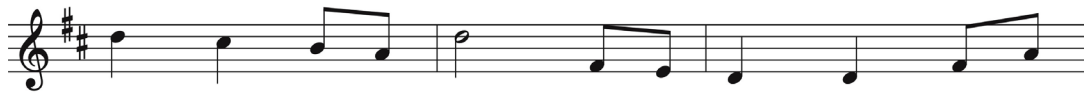
lis - ten to your word, Help us know, O God, your
sac - ra - ment of life; Send us forth to love and
guests to share that feast Where tri - um - phant Love will



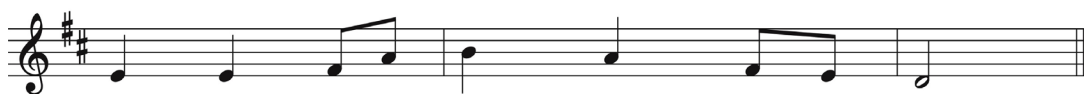
pres - ence; Let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nour - ish
serve you, Bring - ing peace where there is strife. Give us,
wel - come Those who had been last and least. There no



us with sa - cred sto - ry Till we
Christ, your great com - pas - sion To for -
more will en - vy blind us Nor will



claim it as our own; Teach us through this ho - ly
give as you for - gave; May we still be - hold your
pride our peace de - stroy, As we join with saints and



ban - quet How to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
im - age In the world you died to save.
an - gels To re - peat the sound - ing joy.

CALL TO WORSHIP

GLORIA | Missa Pacem

L. Randolph Babin



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.
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;
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.
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 | Sirach 27: 30-28:7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 103: The Lord is Kind and Merciful

Marty Haugen



Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits. *R.*

He does not treat us according to our
sins,
nor repay us according to our
faults. *R.*

It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and
compassion. *R.*

For as the heavens are high above the
earth,
so strong his mercy for those who
fear him.

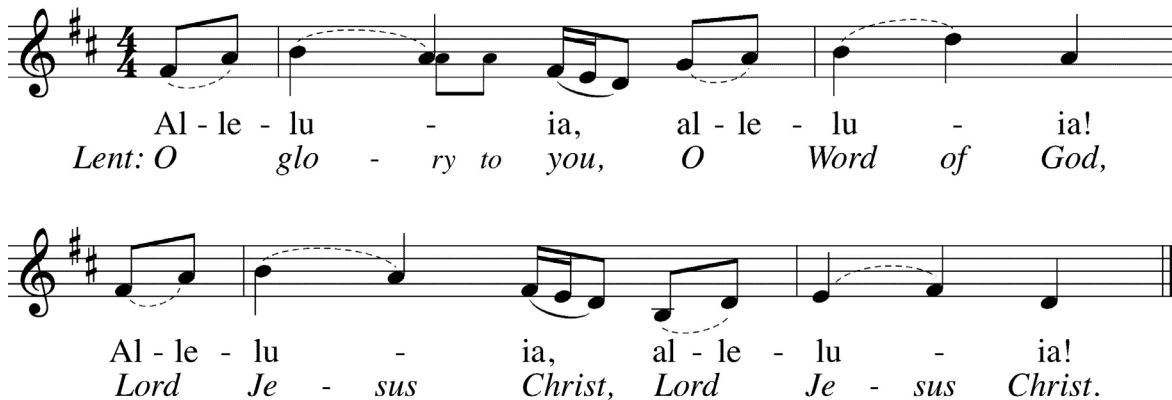
As far as the east is from the west,
so far from us does he remove
our transgressions. *R.*

He will not always find fault;
nor persist in his anger forever.

SECOND READING | Romans 14: 7-9

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Unity Mass

Norah Duncan IV



GOSPEL | Matthew 18: 21-35

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!

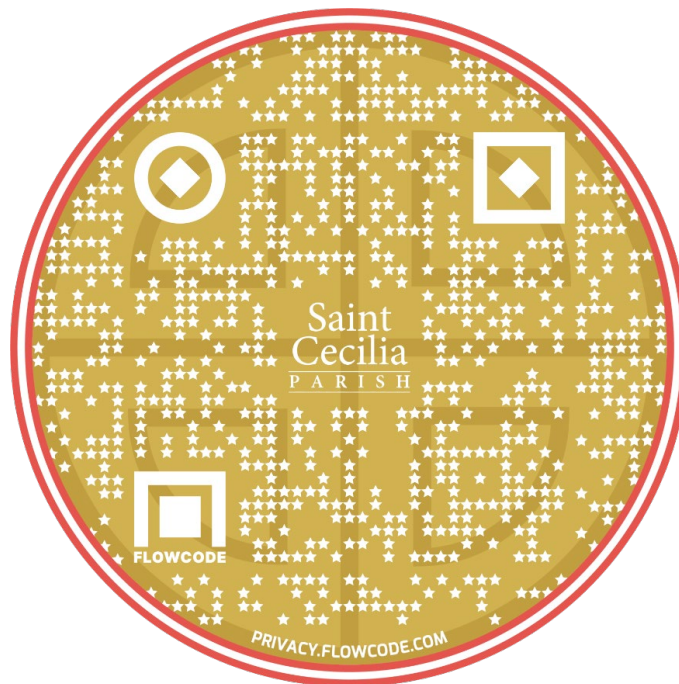
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

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 Me a Channel of Your Peace

Sebastian Temple

Verses 1, 2, 4 / Estrofas 1, 2, 4



1. Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
2. Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
4. Make me a chan - nel of your peace.

1. Haz - me un ins - tru - men - to de tu paz,
2. Haz - me un ins - tru - men - to de tu paz,
4. Haz - me un ins - tru - men - to de tu paz,



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your
Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring
It is in par - don - ing that we are
Don - de ha - ya o - dio lle - ve yo tu a -
Que lle - ve tu es - pe - ran - za por do -
Es per - do - nan - do que nos das per -



love.
hope.
par - doned,
mor,
quier,
dón,

Where there is in - ju -
Where there is dark - ness,
In giv - ing of our -
Don - de ha - ya in - ju - ria,
Don - de ha - ya os - cu - ri -
Es dan - do a to - dos



ry, your par - don, Lord,
on - ly light,
selves that we re - ceive,
tu per - dón, Se - ñor,
dad lle - ve tu luz,
que tú nos das,



And where there's doubt, true faith in
And where there's sad - ness, ev - er
And in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal
Don - de ha - ya du - da fe en
Don - de ha - ya pe - na, go - zo en ti, Se -
Y mu - rien - do es que vol - ve - mos a na -

1. 2. *To verse 3* 3.

you.
joy.
life.
ti.
ñor.
cer.

Verse 3 / Estrofa 3

3. Oh, Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek
3. Ma - es - tro, a - yú - da - me a nun - ca bus - car

So much to be con - soled as to con - sole,
El ser con - so - la - do si - no con - so -

lar, To be un - der - stood as to un - der - stand,
Ser en - ten - di - do si - no en - ten - der,

To be loved as to love with all my soul.
Ser a - ma - do si - no a - mar. 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.

HOLY, HOLY | Missa Pacem

J. Randolph Babin

4

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of
 hosts. Heav'n 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 who comes in the name, who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Missa Pacem

J. Randolph Babin

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro -
 claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

GREAT AMEN | Missa Pacem

J. Randolph Babin

A - men, a - men, a - men.

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.

LAMB OF GOD | Missa Pacem

J. Randolph Babin

Cantor or choir: *All:*

Lamb of God, Prince of Peace, God of Love, Bread of Life, you take away the sins of the

Repeat as needed

world, have mer - cy on us.

Last time *Cantor or choir:*

us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the

All:

world, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

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

Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has read-y for
 those who love him; Spir - it of love, come, give us the
 mind of Je - sus, teach us the wis-dom of God.

Verses 1-3

1. When pain and sor - row weigh us down, be near to us, O
 2. Our lives are but a sin - gle breath, we flow-er and we
 3. To those who see with eyes of faith, the Lord is ev - er
 Lord, for - give the weak - ness of our faith, and
 fade, yet all our days are in your hands, so
 near, re - flect - ed in the fac - es of
 bear us up with - in your peace-ful word.
 we re - turn in love what love has made.
 all the poor and low - ly of the world.

Verse 4

4. We sing a mys-t'ry from the past in halls where saints have
 trod, yet ev - er new the mu - sic rings to
 Je - sus, Liv - ing Song of God.

CONCLUDING RITES

RECESSIONAL | There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE



1. There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy Like the wide - ness
2. For the love of God is broad - er Than the meas - ures
3. Trou - bled souls, why will you scat - ter Like a crowd of



of the sea; There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice
of the mind; And the heart of the E - ter - nal
fright - ened sheep? Fool - ish hearts, why will you wan - der



Which is more than lib - er - ty. There is plen - ti -
Is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were
From a love so true and deep? There is wel - come



ful re - demp - tion In the blood that has been shed;
but more faith - ful, We should rest up - on God's word;
for the sin - ner, And more grac - es for the good;



There is joy for all the mem - bers
And our lives would be thanks - giv - ing
There is mer - cy with the Sav - ior,



In the sor - rows of the Head.
For the good - ness of our Lord.
There is heal - ing in his blood.

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, September 16 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Catherine Horsley, lector

Sunday, September 17 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Bob Mann, lector

Sunday, September 17 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Eileen Maguire and Karen McMenamy, lectors

Sunday, September 17 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Pat Scofield, Virgen Palermo, and Cynthia Wanner, lectors

Sunday, September 17 | 6:00 p.m.

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



SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 16 | 5:00 p.m.

Vincent Hughes, *1st Anniversary*

Sunday, September 17 | 9:30 a.m.

Glenn Calmus, *Memorial*

Friday, September 22 | 8:00 a.m.

Roger Dumont, *Memorial*

TODAY'S READINGS

Sirach 27:30—28:7

Romans 14:7-9

Matthew 18:21-35

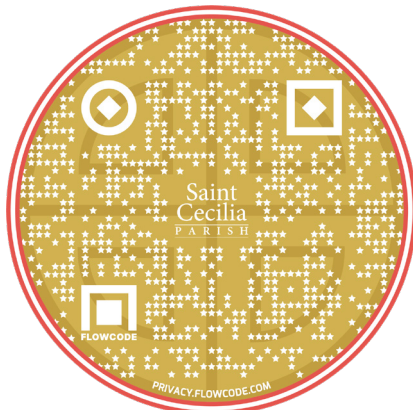
NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 55:6-9

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Matthew 20:1-16a

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 Theodore Mootos, 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: **Amy Eginton** of Boston, **Ryan Nicholson** of Boston, **Meaghan Browne** and **George McLaughlin** of Boston, **Paul Morse** of Newtonville, **Christina Walsh** of Boston, **Jill Reilly** of Boston, **Mary Curran** of Boston, **Blaise Cureg** of Boston, the **Kreder Family** of Boston, **Olivia Hastie** of Somerville, and **Marilou and Brian Radcliffe** of Franklin. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Happy Anniversary!

This week we celebrate the baptismal anniversary of **Joyce Isiminger** who was baptized on September 22. May the Lord continue to bless Joyce with the grace to live out her baptismal call. Happy Feast Day, Joyce!

Beginning of Children's Faith Formation

Children's Faith Formation will begin on Sunday, September 24 for grades K through 10. Our youngest class this year will be for children who are in kindergarten and who will be entering first grade in the fall of 2024. To register your children for faith formation, please go to: <https://bit.ly/45BWmLK>. Please note: we need baptismal certificates for all children enrolled in the program and all families must be registered parishioners. If you are not presently registered, there are registration forms in the narthex or you can register online by visiting: <https://www.stceciliaboston.org/joining-our-parish/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please email our new Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Carly-Anne Gannon, at her parish email address.

Clergy Trust

Each September, the Boston Archdiocese invites us to support the health and well-being of all our active and senior priests in good standing. The annual collection for Clergy Trust will take place this weekend. Clergy Trust allows the archdiocese to care for senior priests by providing health and wellness programs, a dedicated care team,

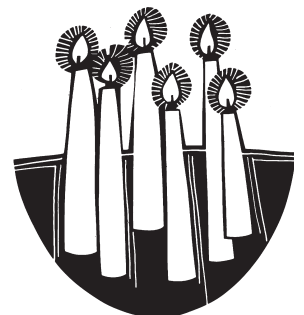
and a residence for senior priests. Contributing to this collection is a good way to give thanks for the many ways our priests continue to serve the People of God in parishes, schools, and communities. To make a gift to Clergy Trust, visit www.clergytrust.org. Thank you for your generosity!

As We Get Closer to the Global Synod

In just over two weeks, the first session of the Church's Global Synod will commence. This session will take place at the Vatican beginning on October 4 and ending on October 29. For the first time in our Church's memory, in addition to bishops, voting members of the assembly will include women religious, priests, deacons, lay women, lay men, and young people. As an outcome of the Church's recent global listening process, those in attendance will be tasked with continuing to listen to the Holy Spirit as it is revealed in the hopes and dreams of the People of God. One of those dreams, heard again and again, is that we rethink women's participation in the life of the Church. How can we better honor the equal baptismal dignity of women, including the possibility of returning to the practice of ordaining women to the diaconate. In commemoration of the recent September 3 feast of St. Phoebe, a first-century deacon of the Church in Greece, we have invited Olivia Hastie to offer a lay reflection following an abbreviated homily at this Sunday's 11:30 Mass. Olivia was our children's faith formation coordinator last year and is presently a parishioner who is in a master's program at Harvard Divinity School and is planning to pursue doctoral study in theological ethics. We are grateful to Olivia for helping us celebrate the voices and gifts of women leaders in our communities.

Faith and Blue Weekend

In three weeks, we're welcoming members of the Boston Police Department and their furry friends from the K-9 unit for a meet and greet following the 9:30 Mass on October 1 as part of National Faith and Blue Weekend. This provides the perfect opportunity for folks to meet with officers in the spirit of building bridges and breaking biases, along with blessing the officers' canines as part of the Blessing of the Animals! We look forward to seeing you there.



CALLING ALL MARRIED
COUPLES—OUR MARRIAGE
MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!

Saturday, October 21/28 | Hybrid

Since our Marriage Ministry's reboot in 2018, our parish has provided bi-annual marriage prep courses for engaged couples planning to marry in the Church. These hybrid courses, held on two consecutive Saturdays, are offered every October and March. The next course is on October 21 (Zoom) and October 28 (in-person). Saint Cecilia's course is based on the archdiocese's *Transformed in Love* model, in which married couples in the parish serve as witnesses that lead engaged couples through the coursework.

To shepherd young couples through this significant process, our Marriage Ministry needs your help! Whether you've been married for a short time or for decades, we'd love you to share your knowledge and experience with our group. Again, our next course is in October; commitment time is flexible, and we will provide guidance on how to relay your experience and wisdom. This is a wonderful opportunity to inspire future couples and nurture your own marriage! Also—this year we hope to expand our Marriage Ministry with additional gatherings, and activities such as speakers, book clubs, and a marriage mentoring program. We need help to get these new initiatives up and running, so please reach out if you're interested!

Please contact Julianne and Michael Lavelle at the Marriage Ministry email address to learn more. We hope you will join this rewarding ministry!

THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA
SEPTEMBER 18-21

Wednesday, September 20

SCYA Men's Group, 7:30 a.m. via Zoom
SCYA Women's Group, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thursday, September 21

Wisdom Group, 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Sunday, September 24

Wisdom Group, 8:30 a.m. via Zoom
Young Families Gathering after 9:30 a.m. Mass

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

Sunday, September 17, 11:00 a.m. Community Room

VIRTUS is the umbrella term for a two-part training designed to keep children safe in the parish setting. The Archdiocese requires this two-part training of all volunteers and staff who have the potential for direct contact with children or the vulnerable due to their involvement in the parish. The first part, Protecting God's Children, is a training on how to recognize the signs and symptoms that a child is being abused and how to talk with children about these issues. The second part is a mandated reporter training. All parish staff and volunteers are mandated reporters and are required to attend this one-time training. Please plan to attend if you've not done so in the past and you intend to volunteer in the future. Both parts will be covered in Sunday's session and the training will be approximately 3 hours, including videos and group discussion. Help us by officially registering for this course on September 17 at 11:00 a.m. at <https://www.virtusonline.org/>. Doing so will create a permanent record of your participation and completion of the training. If you can't register online, please come a few minutes early so you can be registered in the system.

THERE'S STILL TIME TO JOIN
OUR RCIA MEETINGS!

Tuesday, September 19 | 6:30 p.m. | Community Room

It's not too late! If you are interested in becoming Catholic, but missed our information session last week, you can still join our group! Our next meeting will be Tuesday evening, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Parish Community Room. For more details please contact Tanya Rybarczyk at her parish email address.

JOIN OUR YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTRY

The Young Families Ministry (SCYF) has their next group meeting on Sunday, September 24 in the Family Flex Center following the 9:30 Mass. They'll provide a wonderful arts and crafts activity for all ages so please feel free to drop in! The group is also reserving Saturday, September 30 for their first whole family gathering—outdoors at a local park/playground. You can get in the loop about this location and other meet-ups and activities by clicking through the ministry's Linktree: <https://linktr.ee/scyfboston>. The group is also looking for folks to join the SCYF Planning Committee, so if you're interested in lending your time and talents, please reach out to Danielle Domingue Sumi at the Young Families Ministry email address.



You're invited to

NATIONAL FAITH & BLUE WEEKEND

Join your local law enforcement and members of your community for a weekend of resolution and reconciliation. National Faith & Blue Weekend is a collaborative effort to build bridges and break biases.

Hosted By:

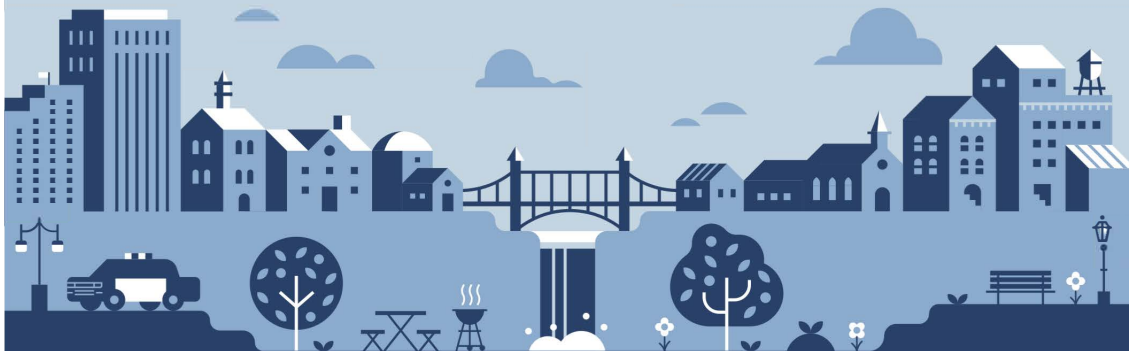
Boston Police Department, Area D-4
&
Saint Cecilia Church, Back Bay

When & Where:

**AFTER MASS MEET & GREET
WITH D-4 OFFICERS**

Sunday, October 1, 2023
9:30 a.m. Mass

Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere St., Boston



Learn More: WWW.FAITHANDBLUE.ORG



FAITH & BLUE

BostonPolice
DEPARTMENT

Signature
BOSTON



FIRSTNET.
Built with AT&T

**MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS
FOUNDATION**



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.



Songs of Life Public Concert

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

7:00 PM

St. Cecilia's Parish, Boston

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 Trestler. 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 for this event, please visit www.sheltermusicboston.org/2023-songs-of-life-public-concert. We hope to see you at this free event! A light reception will follow the concert program.

Shelter Music Boston is proud to employ professional classical musicians and citizen artists to deliver high-quality chamber music concerts. They provide 60-70 live concerts and monthly virtual concert recordings each year to organizations dedicated to serving men, women, and children experiencing homelessness/housing insecurity, or those in substance misuse recovery throughout Greater Boston. Among the agencies for Shelter Music Boston musicians perform are our non-profit partners at Boston Health Care for the Homeless and the Pine Street Inn.



WONDERING WHAT OUR YOUNG ADULTS WERE UP TO THIS SUMMER?

This ministry hosted a variety of service projects, social events, and opportunities for spiritual growth. This summer, events included a trip to Tanglewood, a tie-dye event that served as a fundraiser collecting book donations for a prison ministry, a scavenger hunt at the MFA, and volunteering trips to Cradles to Crayons and Boston Healthcare for the Homeless.

This rainy summer put a damper on several outdoor gatherings, including happy hours, hiking trips, beach days, and movie nights, but this fall presents more opportunities for getting together!

Want to get involved in this growing ministry?

Learn more at the Saint Cecilia Young Adult's (SCYA)

Linktree: <https://linktr.ee/scyoungadultsboston>



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 plan to attend and would like to sit at the Saint Cecilia table, please email the Rainbow Ministry email account. It is also possible to purchase a ticket so that an asylum seeker can attend the event.

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. In hopes of alleviating stress and making the start of the school year sunnier for the families helped by the Mary Ann Brett Pantry in Dorchester, Saint Cecilia is collecting new backpacks.

The Brett Pantry has requested 141 backpacks:

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 kids' lives in Greater Boston!



PIE SELLERS NEEDED!

As part of our ongoing relationship with Community Servings, we are looking for parishioners willing to assist with their annual Pie in the Sky fundraiser. Every Thanksgiving pie sold feeds a Community Servings client suffering from a life-threatening illness for one week. The delicious pies—apple, pecan, and pumpkin—are the perfect dessert for your Thanksgiving table. If you are willing to help sell pies at Saint Cecilia liturgies as well as to your friends and colleagues, please email Mark Lippolt at the Hunger and Homelessness email.

SEPTEMBER IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH

According to Feeding America: "In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, unemployment and food insecurity soared. In 2022, 49 million people turned to food banks and community programs for help putting food on the table. According to the USDA, more than 34 million people, including 9 million children, in the United States are food insecure." And we in the Commonwealth face similar challenges. From the Greater Boston Food Bank website: "According to the 2023 state-wide study on hunger in Massachusetts, as many as 1 in 3 children in Massachusetts (36%) experienced food insecurity at some point in 2022."

All of the Hunger & Homelessness Ministry non-profit partner agencies are recipients of food from the Greater Boston Food Bank. The Greater Boston Food Bank operates from the 117,000-square foot Yawkey Distribution Center in South Boston. From this facility 109 million pounds of healthy food passes through before being distributed across Eastern Massachusetts through more than 600 partner agencies and direct distribution sites, such as: food pantries, soup kitchens and meals programs, and senior centers.

If you would like to support the important work of the Greater Boston Food Bank, go to: www.gbfb.org.



The Greater Boston LGBTQIA Catholic Collective
invite you to the Boston Premiere
of the film

Wonderfully Made LGBTQ+R(eligion)

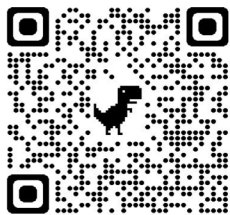
Directed by Yuval David
Produced by Mark McDermott

Tuesday, October 24 at 6:30 PM
St. Cecilia Church
18 Belvidere St.
Boston, MA 02115

Q&A with the creatives and advocates following the screening

Light reception immediately follows.

For more information email lgbtqministry@stanthonyshrine.org



Scan me for tickets!

Wonderfully Made - LGBTQ+R(eligion) is a feature-length documentary striking at the root of anti-LGBTQ attitudes by exploring the challenges and aspirations of LGBTQ+ Catholics. The film focuses on the Catholic Church because it is one of the largest religious organizations and its anti-LGBTQ+ stance is known and growing more hardline. It features interviews with leading advocates rarely seen all together, including clergy, organizational leaders and activists. The narrative of the film is shaped by the process of a fine art project creating unprecedented, photographic iconography depicting Jesus as a member/ally of the LGBTQ+ community, represented by multiple LGBTQ+ models.

[#WonderfullyMadeMovie](#) [#LGBTQreligion](#) [#LGBTQplusReligion](#)

www.wonderfullymadefilm.com



@WonderfullyMadeLGBTQreligion



@Wonderful_Made_



@WonderfullyMadeFilm

"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>

Join Us for a Global Synod Gathering



ENLARGE THE SPACE OF YOUR TENT: RETHINKING WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

Saturday, September 23rd 2 - 5 pm
Hosted at the Archdiocese of Boston
Pastoral Center

All are welcome to participate in this discernment gathering which includes invitational liturgy, small group sharing and a Vigil Mass celebrated by Fr. Richard Lennan

Animated by:



Preregistration is required at: www.sjspwellesley.org/enlargethespace

ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY & MINISTRY

CAMPUS EVENTS/WEBINARS

Pathways to Holiness: Early Christianity and Ethics

Presenter: James F. Keenan, S.J., Vice Provost for Global Engagement; Director of The Jesuit Institute; Canisius Professor, Boston College Theology Department
Wednesday, September 27 | 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. | Hybrid
Boston College, Corcoran Commons, Heights Room, Chestnut Hill Campus | Registration Required | Free

To learn more and register, visit the STM website: <https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education/featured-events.html>

ONLINE COURSES

Finding a Moral Compass

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

Spirituality Matters

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

The Engaged Parish

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

Mission And Spirituality: A Xaverian Journey

October 4 – November 14 | 6-Week Online Course
Registration Required | \$60.00

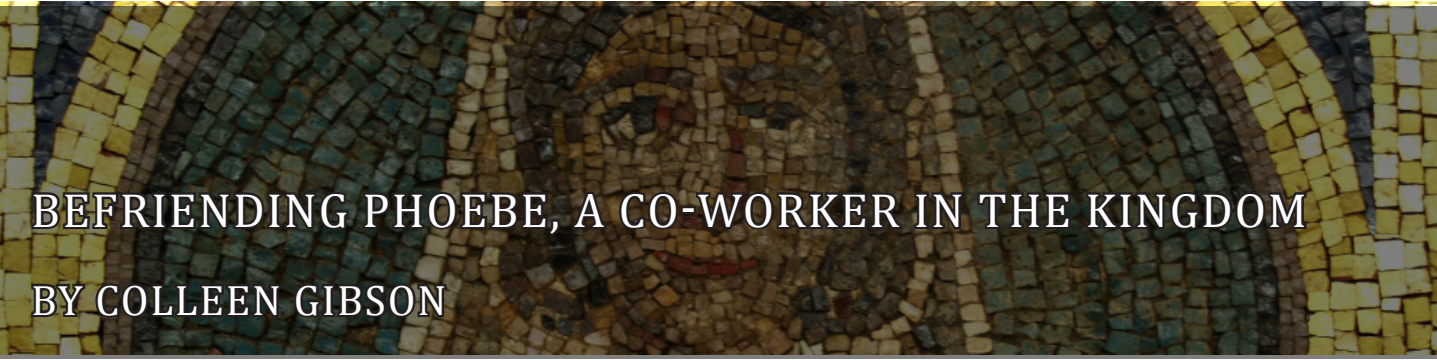
To learn more and register, visit the STM Crossroads website: https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education.html#tab-stm_online_crossroads

SAINT SUSANNA PARISH — DEDHAM

Life Behind Prison Walls and the Need for Reform

Presenters: Ruth Raichle, of Bethany House Ministries, Dr. Kathleen Dennehy and Paul Robinson
Monday, October 2 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Zoom

For further details on this presentation, please check the website: https://www.saintsusanna.org/adult_faith_formation.html



BEFRIENDING PHOEBE, A CO-WORKER IN THE KINGDOM

BY COLLEEN GIBSON

Bulletin Editor's Note: This article was published on August 28, 2020.

Growing up, I never heard about St. Phoebe. She, like so many women of the early church, was lost to me for a long time.

The female doctors of the church—Catherine, Teresa, Thérèse, and, later, Hildegard—were beacons whose wisdom, faith and example I was drawn to. As a young adult, I grew to know and love Mary Magdalene, the apostle to the apostles, as well as a number of other women saints, who, each in her own way, invited me to be more fully myself and more fully engaged with my faith.

Not until my late 20s do I recall Phoebe's name surfacing in my consciousness and even then, I couldn't place her beyond the heading "women of the early church." The reasons she remained in the shadows of my consciousness are as much a reflection of my own life and learning as of the institutions that have taught me and their conscious and unconscious influence on our wider perspectives as individuals and a church.

Phoebe appears in Paul's letter to the Romans, in which he exhorts the Romans: "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae." Paul writes, "I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of his people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me" (Romans 16:1-2).

Brief though it is, this introduction is full of import. In these two verses, Paul provides critical information about the woman he has entrusted to deliver his letter to Rome.

Calling her sister, deacon and benefactor, Paul signals that Phoebe is his co-worker in the kingdom. He has chosen her to convey his message and it is his hope that they, like her, will come to believe and to support the Christian mission. By identifying Phoebe as a deacon, Paul indicates that she was a preacher and teacher of the faith and gives us the

earliest written record of women's ordained ministry in the church.

When I first heard about Phoebe's ministry, I wondered how I hadn't heard about it sooner. A search of the Scriptures used at daily Mass revealed why Phoebe hadn't crossed my path. "In the continuous reading from Romans, verses one and two of chapter 16 are omitted," Benedictine Sr. Ruth Fox writes in her work on women in the Bible, "Thus churchgoers will never hear in our liturgy of Phoebe, a woman who was a deacon."

One can't be sure of the reason for this omission, but by excluding Phoebe (and the stories of many other women) from the lectionary, the church makes a distinctive choice about the models of church and stories of faith it chooses to lift up. Phoebe's absence from daily readings obscures the history of women deacons in our church and directs popular consciousness away from considering women's place in ordained roles of leadership in the church.

Phoebe is part of a much larger story of women deacons. In the Western church, from the first Christian communities through the 12th century, women carried out the ministry of the diaconate in its fullness, serving in the diaconal ministries: baptizing and anointing, proclaiming and preaching on the Gospel, caring for those on the margins, assisting in liturgy, and helping to sustain the life of the church through their ordained ministry.

Yet, in the 12th century, when the diaconate became a transitional ministry exclusively for men pursuing priesthood, women deacons ceased to be ordained.

For 800 years, the permanent diaconate lay dormant. Without the presence of permanent deacons, the diaconate became synonymous with the priesthood, with the transitional diaconate serving as a step on the way to priestly ordination. As time went on, this association became ingrained in the popular understanding of who deacons were and what deacons did.

Not until the time of the Second Vatican Council did the permanent diaconate again find its footing in the church.

Noting that a permanent diaconate would bolster the identity of the church as servant and address issues of decreasing priestly vocations, ecumenical relations, and relations between lay Catholics and clergy, the council fathers recommended the restoration of the permanent diaconate in 1965, opening the vocation of deacon to single and married men after Pope Paul VI's 1967 approval of the restoration.

Since then, the ministry of the diaconate as a permanent vocation has continued to take shape.

Fifty years later, we continue to witness the implementation and lived interpretation of Vatican II. In the last four years, the issue of women deacons has resurfaced with two papal commissions being assembled, and a rising awareness of the long-forgotten history of women deacons in our church.

As the synod for the Amazon so clearly pointed out, women in the Amazon are already doing the work of deacons, just without the official recognition and sacramental grace of the church. The same could be said of women around the world—whether lay ecclesial ministers or vowed women religious—whose ministry embodies the church's call to servant leadership and without which the body of Christ would be significantly deprived.

In his commendation, St. Paul told the Romans to graciously receive Phoebe and give her any help she needed. At this time in our world and our church can't we ask the same, that women be received in the Lord and given all the help they need to truly share their gifts in ministry in the church? Can we think creatively about what has been and what could be?

Could we imagine, in the words of Thomas Baker, "the energy that would be released by another 18,000 or 36,000 deacons, many of them younger, many of them women, half of them of Hispanic and Asian heritage, asked by their bishops to open up new ways and places for people to encounter Christ?"

Just over 50 years into the implementation of the reforms of Vatican II, we must recognize that our understanding of the ministry of the permanent diaconate is still taking form. Now is the time to consider not only the historical precedence of women deacons but the hope creative thinking about this ministry and vocation offers for the life of the church and the world. In the words of Phyllis Zagano, "Can the

Church accept an ordained woman deacon? If history is the predictor, the answer is yes. If the present is the predictor, the answer is also yes. There is no need for the ministry of women to be restricted by misogyny; there is no reason that women cannot be icons of Christ."

Lifting up women as icons of Christ begins with valuing the ministry of women. It is to recognize and affirm with Pope Francis that "women have put up a sign and said, 'Please listen to us. May we be heard.' And I pick up that gauntlet."

Picking up that gauntlet means listening to and lifting up the voices and needs of today, learning the stories of the past, and praying for the Spirit's guidance for the future.

As we celebrate the feast of St. Phoebe on September 3, a group of women will do just that through a virtual prayer service hosted by ReceiveHerInTheLord.org. Praying for the current papal commission on women deacons and for the ongoing renewal of the ministry of the diaconate, they are following in the footsteps of Phoebe in spreading the good news by witnessing to their call to serve, to preach and to share Christ's love.

"When the people of God risk becoming comfortable, deacons constantly press the body of believers into the presence of a suffering, homeless, incarcerated, sick, marginalized Christ. And when the people of God risk becoming defeated and forlorn, deacons constantly draw up the healing, consoling, nourishing, resurrecting power of Christ," the organizers of the event write.

At this time in our church and our world, that is just what we need—people willing to go to the ends of the earth with the good news, bearing it with their own experience and creating a space where it can come alive for everyone.

~ *A Sister of St. Joseph of Philadelphia, Colleen Gibson is the author of the blog Wandering in Wonder and has been published in various periodicals, including America, Commonweal and Give Us This Day. She currently serves as coordinator of services at the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Center in Camden, New Jersey.*

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

**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

Carly-Anne Gannon, 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, Carly-Anne Gannon.

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, Letitia 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.

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!