Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



HOLY SATURDAY

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

APRIL 19TH, 2025

19 April 2025

HOLY SATURDAY

On Holy Saturday the Church waits at the Lord's tomb in prayer and fasting, meditating on his Passion and Death and on his Descent into Hell, and awaiting his Resurrection. The Church abstains from the Sacrifice of the Mass, with the sacred table left bare, until after the solemn Vigil, that is, the anticipation by night of the Resurrection, when the time comes for paschal joys, the abundance of which overflows to occupy fifty days.

~ The Roman Missal

THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT

The service begins outside. Members of the congregation are invited to witness the blessing of the new fire, and to follow the paschal candle in procession into the church.

THE BLESSING OF THE FIRE, AND PREPARATION OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

If you are worshipping with us virtually, as the paschal candle is placed in its stand, we invite you to light a candle in your place of worship and consider placing candles in your windows, if safe, to bear witness to the light of Christ in the world.

THE BLESSING OF THE FIRE AND PREPARATION OF THE CANDLE

PROCESSION INTO THE CHURCH | Lumen Christi

Richard J. Clark



As the paschal candle is carried into the church, we share with one another the light of Christ.

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION (EXSULTET)

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph! Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness. Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice, arrayed with the lighting of his glory, let this holy building shake with joy, filled with the mighty voices of the peoples. V: Lift up your hearts.



R/: We lift them up to the Lord.

V/: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *R*/: It is right and just.

K. It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, with ardent love of mind and heart, and with devoted service of our voice,

to acclaim our God invisible, the almighty Father, and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his Only Begotten. Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father, and pouring out his own dear Blood wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness.

These then are the feasts of Passover.

in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb, whose Blood anoints the doorposts of believers.

This is the night, when once you led our forebears,

Israel's children, from slavery in Egypt

and made them pass dry-shod through the Red Sea.

This is the night that with a pillar of fire banished the darkness of sin.

This is the night that even now, throughout the world,

sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin,

leading them to grace, and joining them to his holy ones.

This is the night when Christ broke the prison-bars of death, and rose victorious from the underworld. Our birth would have been no gain, had we not been redeemed.

O wonder of your humble care for us!

O love, O charity beyond all telling,

to ransom a slave you gave away your Son!

O truly necessary sin of Adam, destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!

O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!

O truly blessed night, worthy alone to know the time and hour

when Christ rose from the underworld!

This is the night of which it is written:

The night shall be as bright as day, dazzling is the night for me, and full of gladness.

The sanctifying power of this night dispels all wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord, and brings down the mighty. On this, your night of grace, O holy Father, accept this candle, a solemn offering, the work of bees and of your servants' hands, an evening sacrifice of praise, this gift from your most holy Church.

But now we know the praises of this pillar, which glowing fire ignites for God's honor, a fire into many flames divided, yet never dimmed by sharing of its light, for it is fed by melting wax, drawn out by mother bees to build a torch so precious. O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth, and divine to the human. Therefore, O Lord, we pray you that this candle, hallowed to the honor of your name, may persevere undimmed, to overcome the darkness of this night. Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven.

May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who coming back from death's domain has shed his peaceful light on humanity and lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Genesis 1:1-2:2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 104: Lord, Send Out Your Spirit

Jeanne Cotter



Verses

- I praise you, Lord God, with all my heart.
 You are glorious and majestic.
 Our Lord, by your wisdom you made so many things;
 the whole earth is covered with your living creatures.
- 2. You created all of them by your Spirit, and you give new life to the earth.

 Our Lord, we pray that your glory will last forever and that you will be pleased with what you have done.

PRAYER

SECOND READING | Genesis 22: 1-18

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 16: You Are My Inheritance

Tony E. Alonso



You are my in - her-i-tance, O Lord. You are my in - her-i-tance, O Lord.

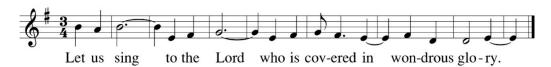
- O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; you yourself who secure my lot.
 I keep the Lord before me always; with him at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
- 2. And so, my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my flash shall rest in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to hell, nor let your holy one see corruption.
- 3. You will show me the path of life, the fulness of joy in your presence at your right hand, bliss forever.

PRAYER

THIRD READING | Exodus 14: 15-15: 1

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Exodus 15: Song at the Sea

Niamh O'Kelly-Fischer



Verses

- I will sing to the Lord, in glory triumphant; horse and rider are thrown to the sea.
 God of strength, of song, of salvation, God of mine, hear these praises.
- My God is a warrior whose name is "The Lord."
 Pharoah's army is thrown to the sea.
 Your right hand is magnificent in pow'r,
 your right hand has crushed the enemy.
- 3. In your mercy you led the people you redeemed. You brought them to your sacred home. There you will plant them on the mountain that is yours. The Lord shall reign for ever!

FOURTH READING | Isaiah 55: 1-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Isaiah 12: You Will Draw Water Joyfully

Tony E. Alonso



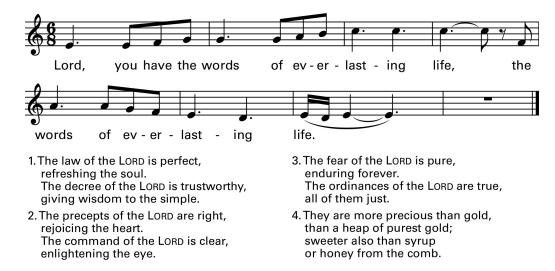
Verses / Estrofas

- 1. God indeed is my Savior; I am confident and fearless. My courage is the Lord, for God has been my savior!
- 2. Proclaim God's name to the nations, tell the world of God's works. Praise the Lord, all you people, how glorious is God's name!
- 3. Sing the wonders God works, make them known in ev'ry land. O people of Zion, shout: the holy one is among you.

PRAYER

FIFTH READING | Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 19: Lord, You Have the Words of Everlasting Life Rawn Harbor



PRAYER

SIXTH READING | Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Psalm 42: My Soul Is Thirsting

Tony E. Alonso

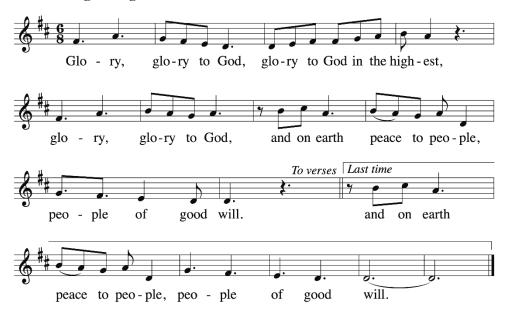


- 1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting.

 My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water.
- 2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise, speak your praise.
- 3. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy.
- 4. For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast, holds me fast!

PRAYER

After the last reading from the Hebrew Scriptures with its Responsorial Psalm and its prayer, the altar candles are lit, the bells are rung, and the Gloria in excelsis Deo is sung as the time of vigil ends and the First Mass of Easter begins.



Verse 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.





Verse 3

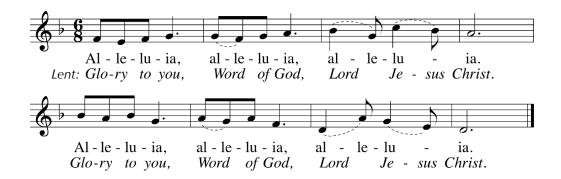
3. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

EPISTLE | Romans 6:3-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso



GOSPEL | Luke 24: 1-12

HOMILY

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION AND RITE OF RECEPTION INTO FULL COMMUNION

BAPTISMAL LITURGY

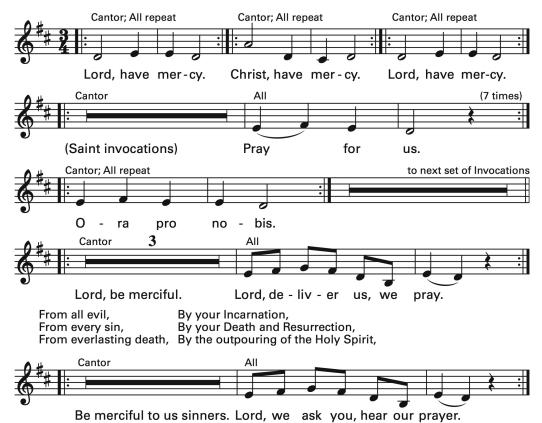
PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM

The candidates for baptism are called forward and their godparents present them:

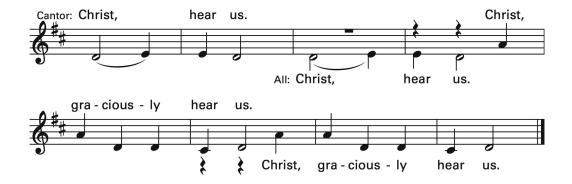
Mariam Fneiche Anna Gray Stephanie Loving Lewellen Jennifer Liang Gina Miranda Matthew Patton Corey Suglia Olivia Suglia Tina Marie Suglia Thomas van der Burg

INVITATION TO PRAYER

LITANY OF THE SAINTS Orin Johnson



- *Bring these chosen ones to new birth through the grace of Baptism,
- **Make this font holy by your grace for the new birth of your children, Jesus, Son of the living God,



BLESSING OF BAPTISMAL WATER

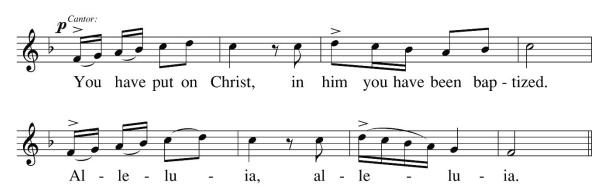
Tony E. Alonso



RENUNCIATION OF SIN & PROFESSION OF FAITH

Baptism | You Have Put on Christ

Howard Hughes, S.M.



PRESENTATION OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

SPRINKLING WITH BAPTISMAL WATER | You Will Draw Water Joyfully

Tony E. Alonso



- 1. God indeed is my Savior, I am confident and fearless. My courage is the Lord, for God has been my Savior!
- 2. Proclaim God's name to the nations, tell the world of God's works. Praise the Lord, all you people, how glorious is God's name!
- 3. Sing the wonders God works, make them known in every land. O people of Zion, shout: The Holy one is among you.

CELEBRATION OF RECEPTION

CALLING OF THE CANDIDATES FOR RECEPTION

Cameron Lee Beath Allyn Huntington Haynes Denise Huff Jessica Jeffers

INVITATION

PROFESSION BY THE CANDIDATES

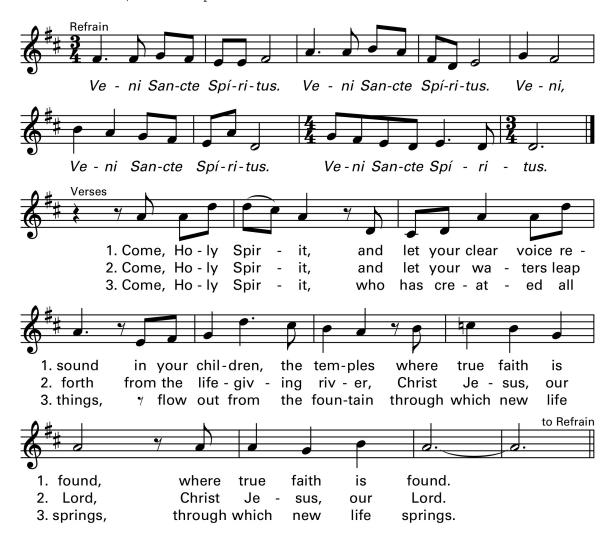
ACT OF RECEPTION

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION

CALLING OF THE CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION

Cameron Lee Clare of Assisi Beath Robert Edward the Confessor Cline Mariam Martha of Bethany Fneiche Maricarmen Elizabeth Ann Seton Rodriguez Garcia Anna Gianna Beretta Molla Gray Allyn Huntington Sophia Haynes Denise Bartholomew Huff Jessica Cecilia Jeffers Stephanie Cecilia Loving Lewellen Jennifer Colette of Corbie Liang George Albert the Great Martinez Miranda Leigh Maria Goretti Miller Gina Michael the Archangel Miranda Sydney Teresa Margaret Mullin Matthew Lawrence Patton Tina Marie Osanna of Mantua Suglia Thomas Joan of Arc van der Burg

INVITATION



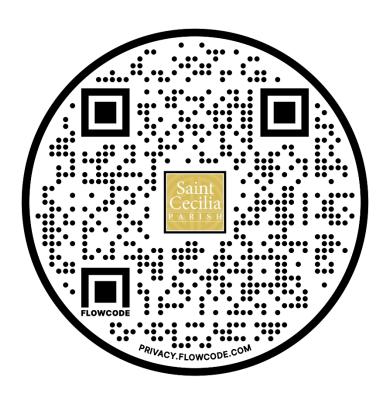
ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

Today's collection will benefit Clergy Trust which provides programs and support to care for the health and well-being of all active and senior diocesan priests in good standing. By supporting this collection, you are helping to ensure that our active priests receive the care they need to continue their important work and our senior priests have support and access to quality care. This collection is a critical source of funding for the Trust and your generosity is greatly appreciated. On behalf of Father John and the priests of the Archdiocese who benefit from the support of Clergy Trust, thank you so much for your continued support and generosity. To donate online visit

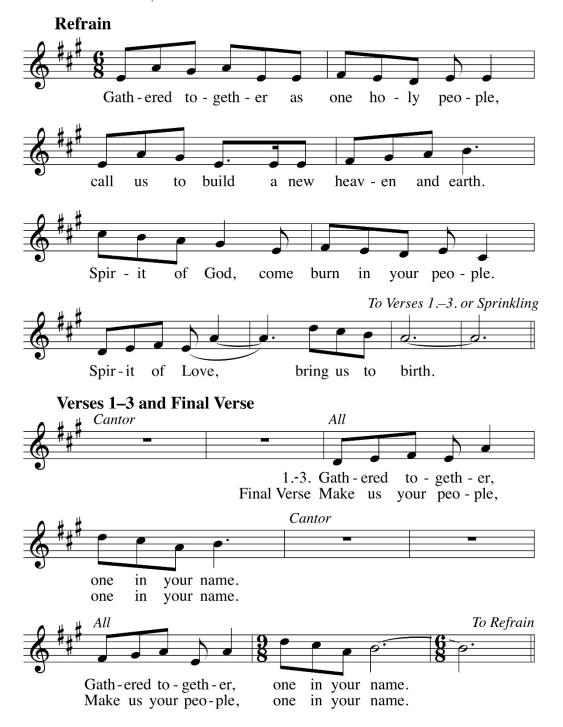
https://clergytrust.org/easter/ or https://clergytrust.org/easter/ or https://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/easter-2025-clergy-trust.



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | One in Your Name

Ian Callanan



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

▼ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

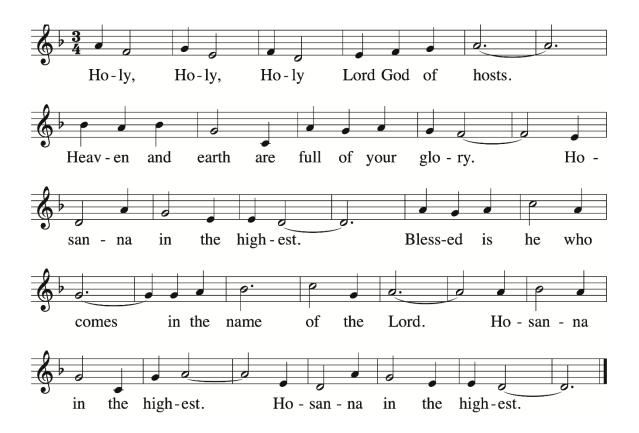
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

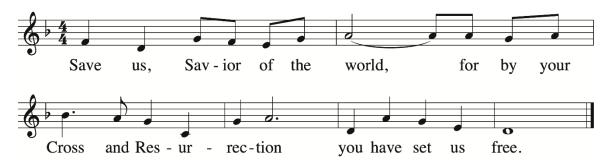
⚠ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

HOLY, HOLY | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

Tony E. Alonso





GREAT AMEN | Mass of Christ, Light of the Nations

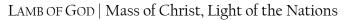
Tony E. Alonso



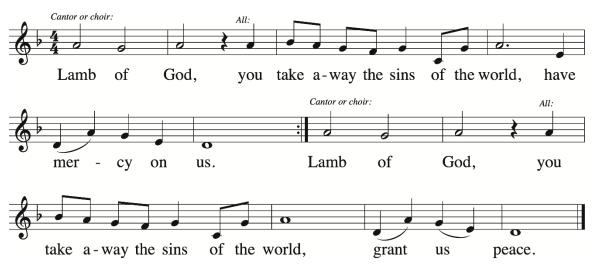
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.



Tony E. Alonso



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, the church 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.

COMMUNION | This Is the Day

Michael Joncas



This is the day the Lord has made; let us re-joice and be glad.



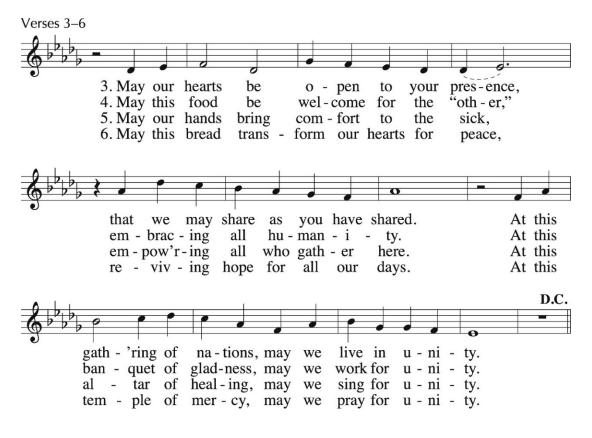
This is the day the Lord has made; let us re-joice and be glad.

Verses

- 1. Give thanks to the LORD for he is good, his mercy endures for ever; let the house of Israel say: "His mercy endures for ever."
- 2. The LORD's right hand has struck with power, the LORD's right hand is exalted; I shall not die, but live and declare the works of the LORD.
- The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
 By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes!

Make Us One Chris de Silva





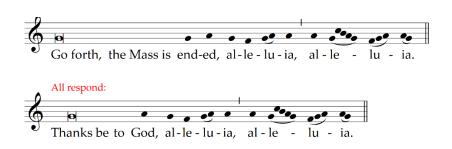
Pilgrims of Hope

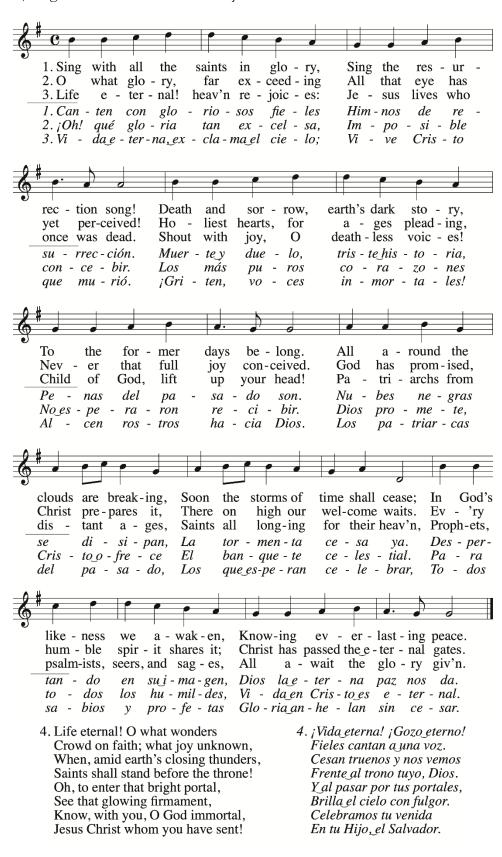
Francesco Meneghello



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

EASTER SOLEMN DISMISSAL





Brett Maguire, organ

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to everyone who helped to make our Triduum celebration so meaningful and prayerful. Thank you to all who have given of their time and talent to plan the liturgies and create such a beautiful worship space.

Thank you to all our liturgical ministers: our lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, altar servers, greeters and ushers and to those who have prepared and decorated the Church.

A special thank you to our Order of Christian Initiation Team (OCIA) who prepared our candidates this year: Mary Wessel, Christopher Brolly, SJ, and Joe O'Brien.

Thank you to our Triduum Choir and instrumentalists under the leadership of Robert Duff for their countless hours of preparation to help us celebrate and pray the music with reverence and joy:

Brett Maguire (organ), Elijah Baradi (piano), Anna Fisher-Roberts (flute), Coleton Morgan (oboe), Andrés Celis (cello), Reynolds Martin and Jake Hepler (trumpet), Laura Santamaria-Mendez (soprano), Kayleigh Bennett (mezzo-soprano), Tyler Cesario (tenor), Martin Ryan (baritone).

SAINT CECILIA PARISH STAFF

Rev. John Unni, Pastor Nicole Pascarelli O'Brien, Pastoral Director of Operations Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate Scott MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation & Parish Visibility Lisa Pickering, Director of Facilities & Events Colleen Melaugh, Director of Finance & Development Robert Duff, Director of Music Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support Mary Wessel, Pastoral Associate Anastassia Kolchanov, Digital and Print Media Coordinator Carly-Anne Gannon, Children's Faith Formation Coordinator Geoff Edwards, Livestream Videographer Maureen Deery, Parish Photographer Tyler Cesario, Assistant Music Director Brett Maguire, Parish Organist Daniel Lamoreux and Pen MacDonald, organists