

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

13 October 2024

Jesus and the Rich Young Man by Unknown, from 1879, Beijing, China

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H

13 OCTOBER 2024

THE TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRELUDE | *Dies sind die heiligen zehn Gebot*, BWV 678
Brett Maguire, organist

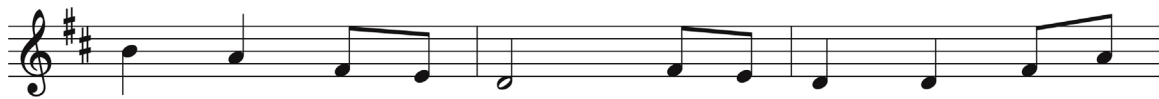
Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Sing a New Church

NETTLETON



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 | *Missa Pacem*

L. Randolph Babin



Verse 1



D.C.

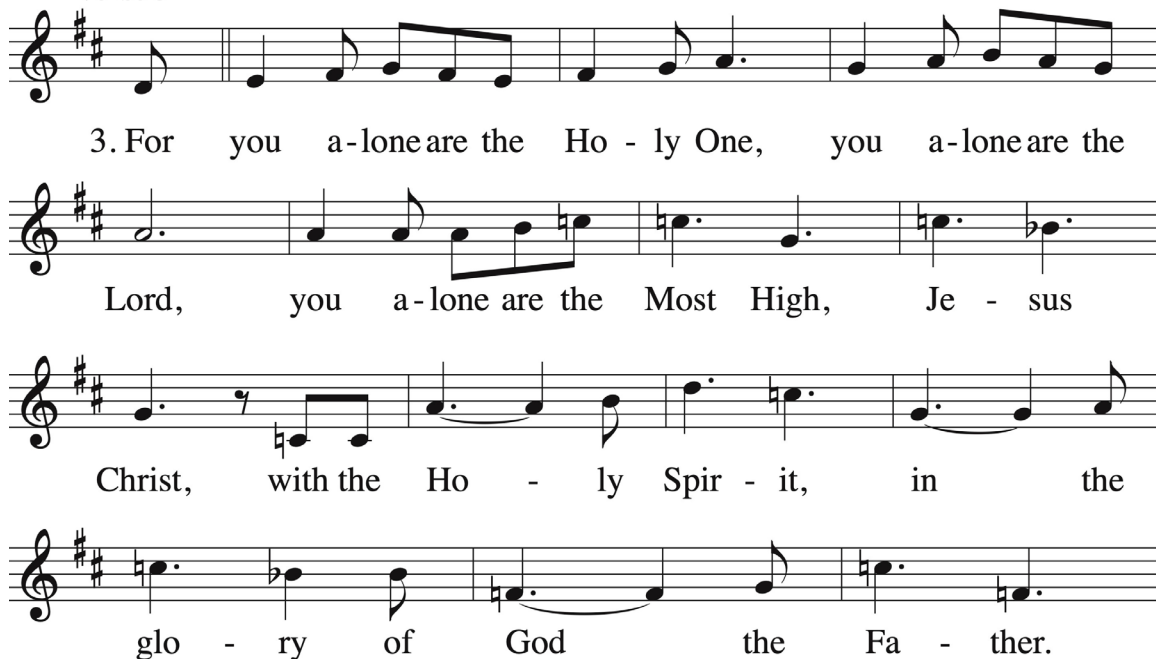
Verse 2



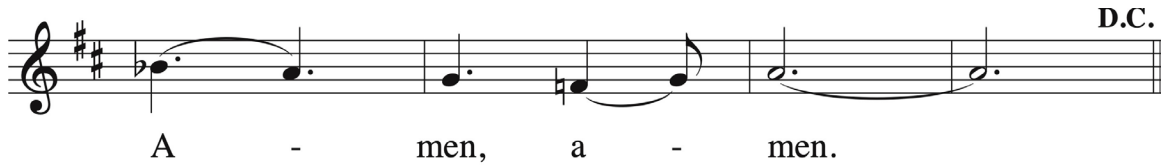
2. Lord Je - sus Christ, On-ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a-way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you
take a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive our
prayer; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us.

D.C.

Verse 3



3. 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.



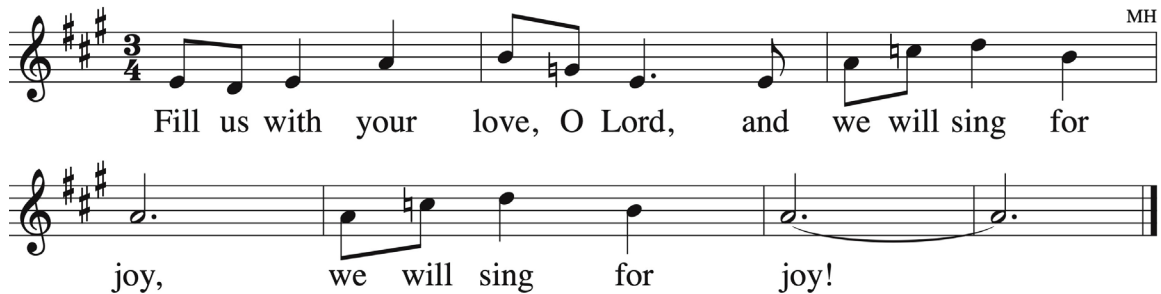
COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Wisdom 7: 7-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 90: Fill Us with Your Love, O Lord

Marty Haugen



Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Turn back, O LORD! How long?
Show pity to your servants. *R.*

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Give us joy for the days of our affliction,
for the years when we looked upon
evil. *R.*

Let your deed be seen by your servants,
and your glorious power by their
children.

Let the favor of the LORD our God be
upon us;
give success to the work of our
hands.

O give success to the work of our
hands. *R.*

SECOND READING | Hebrews 4: 12-13

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Unity Mass

Norah Duncan IV

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Lent: O glo - ry to you, O Word of God,

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Lord Je - sus Christ, Lord Je - sus Christ.

GOSPEL | Mark 10: 17-30

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

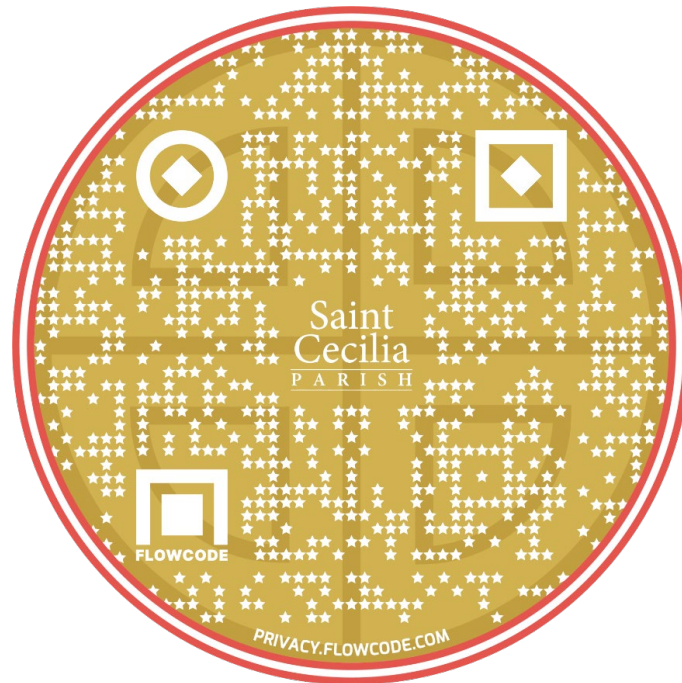
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

Using the Flowcode with the camera on your smartphone is as easy as Aim & Tap. Aim your camera at the Flowcode image and tap the notification banner when it appears on your phone's screen. You may need to zoom in a bit to focus on the code.

If the Flowcode doesn't work for you, please visit www.flowcode.com/page/stceciliaboston.

You can also mail a check to:

Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street
Boston, MA 02115



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | The Summons

KELVINGROVE



1. Will you come and fol - low me If I but
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind If I but
3. Will you let the blind - ed see If I but
4. Will you love the "you" you hide If I but
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true When you but



call your name? Will you go where
call your name? Will you care for
call your name? Will you set the
call your name? Will you quell the
call my name. Let me turn and



you don't know And nev - er be the same?
cruel and kind And nev - er be the same?
pris - 'ners free And nev - er be the same?
fear in - side And nev - er be the same?
fol - low you And nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, Will you
Will you risk the hos - tile stare Should your
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, And do
Will you use the faith you've found To re -
In your com - pa - ny I'll go Where your



let my name be known, Will you let my
life at - tract or scare? Will you let me
such as this un - seen, And ad - mit to
shape the world a - round, Through my sight and
love and foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and



life be grown In you and you in me?
an - swer prayer In you and you in me?
what I mean In you and you in me?
touch and sound In you and you in me?
live and grow In you and you in me.

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.

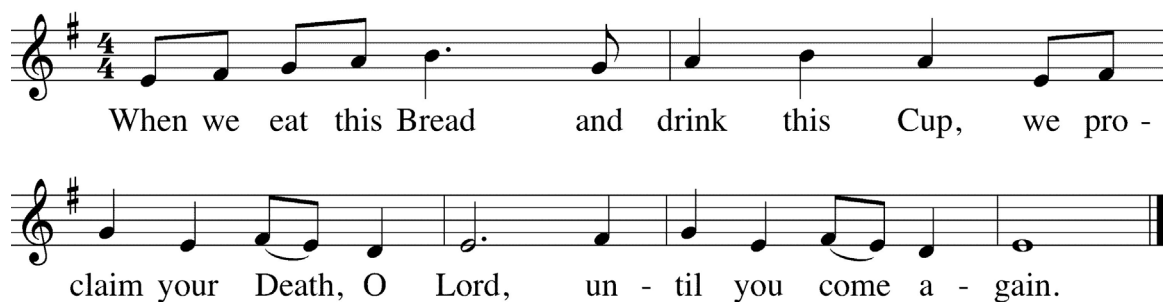
HOLY, HOLY | *Missa Pacem*

L. Randolph Babin

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*

L. Randolph Babin

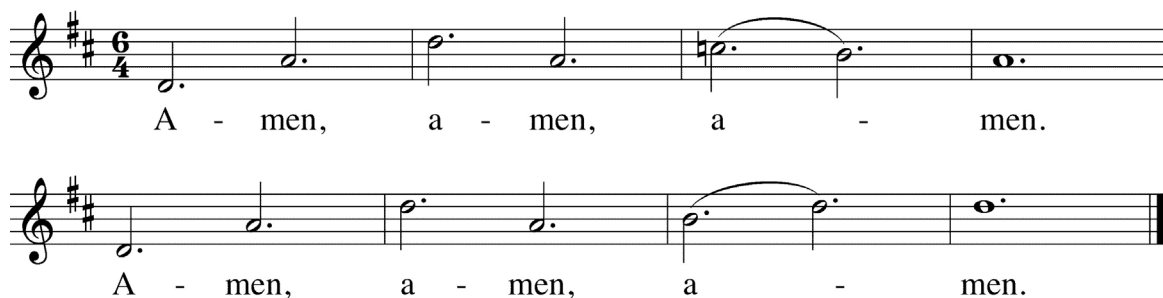


When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro -
claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with a final half note and a double bar line at the end of the second line.

GREAT AMEN | *Missa Pacem*

L. Randolph Babin



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

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 6/4 time. The melody features a long note with a slur over it, indicating a sustained sound. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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.

Cantor or choir: *All:*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
 Prince of Peace,
 God of Love,
 Bread of Life,

Repeat as needed

world, have mer - cy on us.

Last time *Cantor or choir:*

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the

All:

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

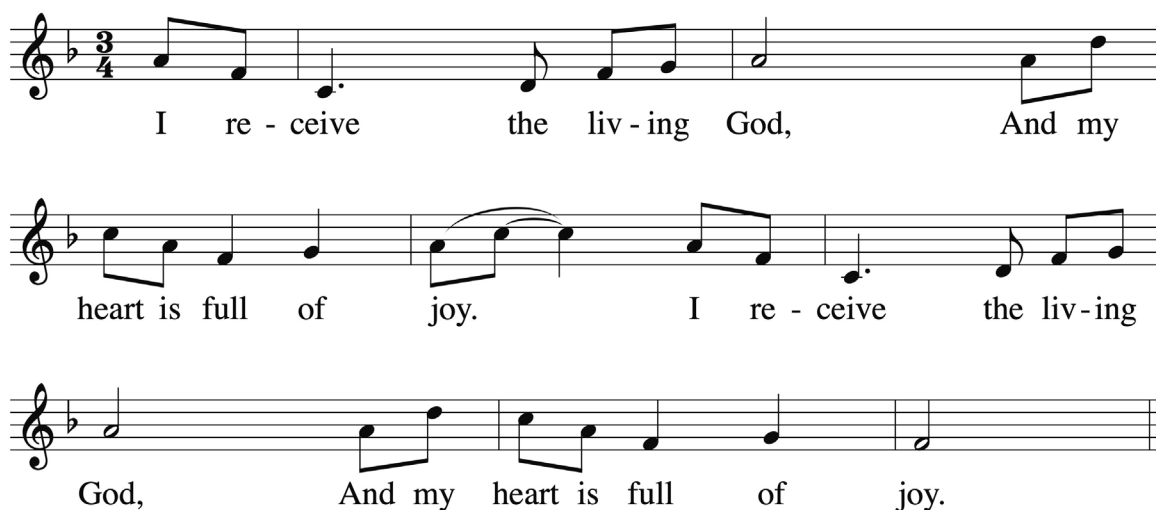
take a - way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

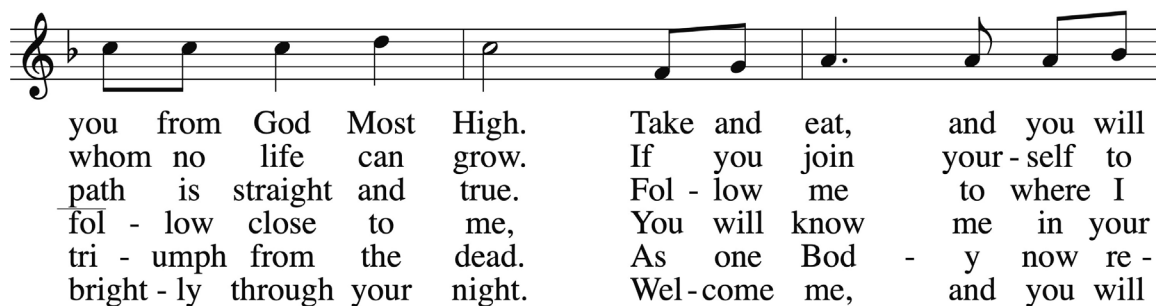
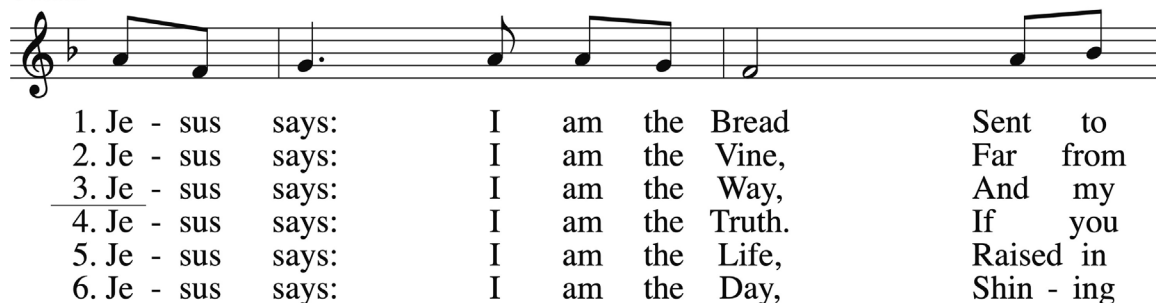
It is a long-held Catholic belief that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an "Act of Spiritual Communion." When we are unable to be physically present at the celebration of the Eucharist, Pope Francis invites Catholics to say this prayer as a source of 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.



Verses



D.C.

7. Jesus says: I am the Love
Which can bind you close to me.
Those who know this gift I bring
Will find true community.
8. Jesus says: I am the Peace
Which the world cannot bestow.
Learn to love and live in me,
And in you my Reign will grow.
9. Jesus says: I am the Lamb,
And my death set sinners free.
Those who drink the cup I drink
Must take up this work with me.

COMMUNION MEDITATION | As the Deer Longs for the Waterbrooks

Michael Bedford

As the deer longs for the water brooks, so my soul longs my soul after you, O God.

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.



1. Come to me, all you wea - ry, with your bur - dens and
 2. Though we walk through the dark - ness, e - vil we do not
 3. We de - pend on God's mer - cy, mer - cy which nev - er
 4. Do not fear death's do - min - ion, look be - yond earth and
 5. At the door there to greet us, mar - tyrs, an - gels, and



pain. Take my yoke on your shoul - ders and
 fear. You are walk - ing be - side us with your
 fades. We re - mem - ber our cov - e - nant and the
 grave. See the bright - ness of Je - sus shin - ing
 saints, And our fam - 'ly and loved ones, ev - 'ry -



learn from me: I am gen - tle and hum - ble,
 rod and your staff. On - ly good - ness and kind - ness
 prom - ise Je - sus made: If we die with Christ Je - sus,
 out to light our way. Lov - ing Fa - ther and Spir - it,
 one freed from their chains. We shall feel their ac - cep - tance,



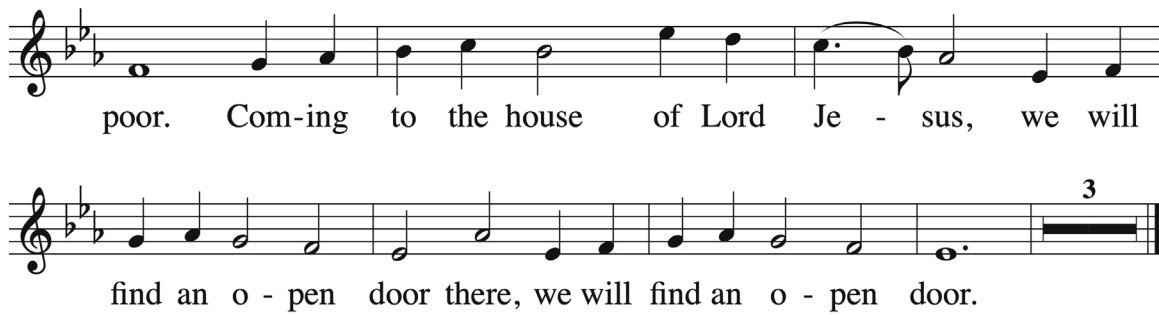
and your soul will find rest, For my yoke is
 fol - low us all our lives. We shall dwell in the
 we shall live with him, And if we are
 lov - ing Je - sus the Son, All God's peo - ple to -
 and the joy of new life. We shall join in the



eas - y and my bur - den is light.
 Lord's house for so man - y years to come!
 faith - ful, we shall reign with him!
 geth - er, we shall live on as one!
 gath - er - ing, re - u - nit - ed in God's love!



We shall rise a - gain on the last day with the faith - ful, rich and



POSTLUDE | Prelude in G minor, WoO 10
Brett Maguire, organist

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

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.

iGIVE CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We are halfway through this year's iGive campaign, and have already enrolled 45 new participants! A big thank you to everyone who enrolled this past week, and in a special way, we thank those who have increased their contributions as well. If you haven't yet enrolled in iGive, please give some thought to joining this week. When you join iGive, you will know that you are helping sustain and grow our ministries and programming. It's quick and easy—just visit www.stceciliaboston.org/igive to sign up. Your commitment, regardless of amount, will help us remain a beacon of light and hope for so many.



JOIN OUR BIWEEKLY SIMEON & ANNA SENIORS GATHERING



**Thursday,
October 17**
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
*Every Other Week
Following*

*Join us for
coffee, sweets, and
conversation, followed
by prayer and song!*

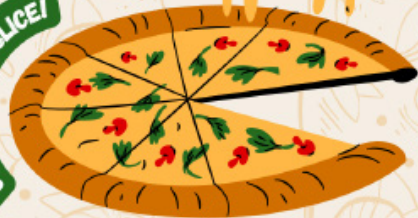
Where? Saint Cecilia Parish (enter through the doors
on St. Cecilia Street and ring the bell to be let in).
Questions? Email Lucy Conroy (seniors@stceciliaboston.org)



PIZZA SUNDAY IS BACK THROUGH DECEMBER 15!

**OCTOBER 20,
6-8PM**

COME GRAB A SLICE!



FOLLOWING THE SUNDAY 6PM MASS
JOIN US DOWNSTAIRS IN THE PARISH HALL FOR
PIZZA & FELLOWSHIP EVERY OTHER WEEK



Health Equity International 2024 Celebration

HEI's Annual Celebration will be held on Wednesday,
October 30th, at St. Cecilia Parish Hall in Boston, MA.

SAVE THE DATE: HEALTH EQUITY INTERNATIONAL 2024 CELEBRATION

The 2024 Celebration will take place on Wednesday, October 30, at Saint Cecilia Parish. This year's event will explore how HEI's work helps the people we serve find peace, safety, and health. We will also celebrate co-founder Fr. Gerald Osterman for his lifetime of dedication and service to the organization.

If you are interested in purchasing tickets or sponsorships, please visit: www.healthequityintl.org/2024celebration. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the agency at gala@haitihealth.org.

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, October 12 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Karen McMenamy, lector

Sunday, October 13 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. John Predmore, SJ, celebrant
Maggie Giles, lector

Sunday, October 13 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Kate McGillicuddy, Tim McGillicuddy,
and Tom Skorupa, lectors

Sunday, October 13 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Kate Vasinda, Mark Richburg,
and Karen McMenamy, lectors

Sunday, October 13 | 6:00 p.m.

Rev. John Predmore, SJ, celebrant
Peter Haley, lector

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, October 13 | 8:00 a.m.

Patricia Stailley, *Memorial*

Sunday, October 13 | 9:30 a.m.

Joseph P. Craven, Jr., *1st Anniversary*

Patricia Heald, *1st Anniversary*

Joyce Bussewitz, *Memorial*

Patricia Norton, *1st Anniversary*

Elizabeth McDonough, *Memorial*

Shirley Rich, *1st Anniversary*

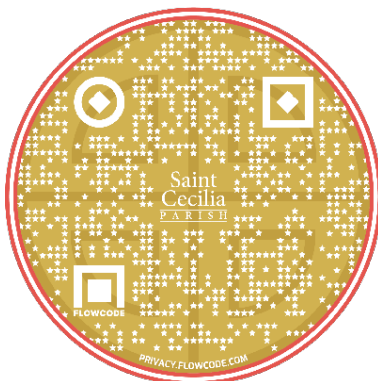
TODAY'S READINGS

Wisdom 7:7-11
Hebrews 4:12-13
Mark 10:17-30

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 53:10-11
Hebrews 4:14-16
Mark 10:35-45

PLEASE SCAN THIS CODE
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH!

This Weekend's Flowers

The flowers in front of the altar are
a gift of Diane Valenti for the greater
glory of God and in loving memory
of her dearest friend, Patricia Norton



PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially Peggie Breslin, Joan Dunphy, Tom Franzago, 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: **Cathy Coyne** of Bethlehem, PA, **Andrew** and **Maureen Gyves** of Chatham, NJ, **Katie Spielberger** of Brookline, **Kaitlyn Toole**, **Allison Downey**, **Camille Casey** and **Kyle McEneaney**, **Marie Gerhard-Herman** and **Mark Herman**, **Grace Brzozowski** and **Kyle Dubuque**, and **Mary** and **Richard Shertenlieb**, all of Boston. If you have not previously registered, you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Happy Indigenous Peoples' Day

On Monday, we recognize and honor the heritage, culture, and contributions of the native peoples who have called this land home for countless generations. Let us pay tribute to the culture and resilience of Native Americans, and acknowledge the deep wounds of the past, including forced removals, broken treaties, and the painful legacy of colonization. Also, we acknowledge that Saint Cecilia Church is located on the ancestral and unceded tribal lands of the Pawtucket and Massachusetts people. For Catholics, this day holds special meaning as it invites us to embrace the spirit of reconciliation, echoing the message of Pope Francis in his encyclical *Laudato si'*, as well as the call to respect the life and dignity of every human person. The parish office will be closed on Monday, October 14.

Second Collection This Week

This week's second collection will support the Holy Father's "Peter's Pence" collection that provides funds for emergency and disaster relief. This collection also provides support to The Catholic University of America and the inner-city parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston. Your generosity and prayers will assist the Holy Father and various Apostolic works at home and abroad.

You can donate here: <https://www.osvhub.com/stceciliaboston/giving/funds/holy-father-missionary-efforts-2024>

Respect Life Month

Each October, the Church in the United States observes

Respect Life Month—a time to remember that all people are created in the image of God and are worthy of respect. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. This month, the Church invites us to reflect deeply on the dignity of every human life and on the second half of the Great Commandment of Jesus to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

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.

Coffee Hospitality—Many Hands Make Light Work!

With the return of children's faith formation classes, the addition of new college students in our midst, and the increased rhythm of the fall season, we need some helping hands in the Parish Café on Sunday mornings. Please don't worry about over-committing yourself—if you can help out once a month or even just once a year, we'd love you to be a part of our Coffee Hospitality Ministry! There are three shifts: 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and clean-up. Responsibilities include serving food and coffee, cleaning up, and most importantly, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere by smiling and engaging with parishioners. For more information or to sign up, please contact our Director of Facilities and Events, Lisa Pickering, at her parish email.

Help Care For Those in Need

Occasionally we give gift cards to our sisters and brothers in need. We need to replenish our supply of gift cards to Shaw's Supermarket, Star Market, and Dunkin'. If you would like to help out in this way, simply purchase a gift card and place it in the collection basket at Mass, give it to a member of the staff, or mail it to the Parish Office. We are very appreciative of your help as we attempt to offer some assistance to our neighbors in need.



Saint Cecilia
P A R I S H

IN THE BIG PICTURE EVERY PIECE MATTERS



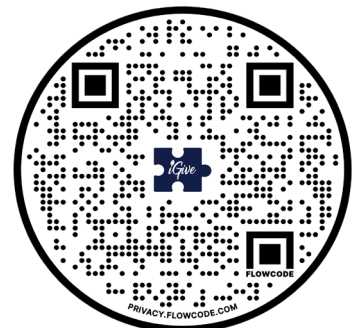
PLEASE SIGN UP FOR *iGive*
OUR RECURRING GIVING
PROGRAM

it's simple

- 1 SIGN UP ONLINE
- 2 CREATE A PROFILE
- 3 SELECT YOUR GIVING
FREQUENCY & AMOUNT



SCAN THIS QR
CODE WITH YOUR
SMARTPHONE TO
LEARN MORE!





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 through emails and social media, please email Mark Lippolt at the Hunger and Homelessness Ministry address.

JOIN OUR MUSIC MINISTRY!

We are looking for additional singers and instrumentalists to participate in music ministry at the 9:30 and 11:30 liturgies, so we invite you to audition and join! Choir rehearsals take place weekly on Thursdays from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the church. If interested, please see our Director of Music, Rob Duff, after Mass or email rduff@stceciliaboston.org.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON 16TH ANNUAL SOCIAL JUSTICE CONVOCATION

Hope for our Common Home: Catholics Care for Creation

Saturday, October 26 | 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Zoom

In *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis urges us to listen to the cries of the poor, and cries of the earth. We are called to protect life and preserve all that sustains life on earth. How do we respond? In this Webinar we engage with Social Justice Leaders to contemplate the moral imperatives of caring for God's creation. Please join us as we discover opportunities to work together in caring for creation. Register at: <https://bit.ly/3NfHPnU>

YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS (YCP) EXECUTIVE PANEL DISCUSSION: "Faith at the Center of Career and Vocation"

Thursday October 17, 2024

Saint Cecilia Parish Hall

Open to Young Adults (ages 21-40)

Featuring David Nelson (Xaverian Brothers High School) and Dr. Sarah Justvig (Boston Children's Hospital & Harvard Medical School), sharing how faith has shaped their careers. Light refreshments and wine will be served gratis. The discussion begins at 7:30 PM with networking before and after. RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/3U2gTMI>.

WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Friday, October 18, 2024 | 6:00 p.m.

Fairmont Copley Plaza

138 St. James Avenue, Boston

The annual Spaghetti Dinner gala to benefit the day shelter on Newbury Street will begin with a cocktail reception, followed by dinner.



The keynote speaker will be Kate Walsh, the Commonwealth's Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Over the past four decades, Women's Lunch Place has built a strong suite of programs and services that allow the agency to meet the growing needs of vulnerable women. Just as Women's Lunch Place donors have helped lay the foundation for proactive programming, the day shelter is helping to lay the foundation for their guests to rebuild their lives.

If you would like to join one of the Saint Cecilia tables at the event, please email Mark Lippolt at HungerandHomelessness@stceciliaboston.org. Tickets are \$250 each. The WLP is also looking for folks who would like to purchase full tables or serve as a table captain.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY SEPTEMBER ONLINE COURSES

Effective Preaching: Homily Preparation

October 16 - November 12 | 4-Week Online
Course | Registration Required | \$30.00

Gospel of Luke

October 16 - November 5 | 3-Week Online
Course | Registration Required | \$30.00

For further details or to register for these events, please
check the STM Online: Crossroads website: [https://www.
bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/sites/crossroads/
course-schedule.html#tab-september](https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/sites/crossroads/course-schedule.html#tab-september)



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. 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.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

If you or someone you know is interested in exploring becoming a baptized Catholic Christian, or if you are a Catholic who has not received the sacraments of confirmation and Eucharist, we have just the group for you! Last Tuesday, we held our first RCIA inquiry session of the season. If you think you might be interested but were unable to be with us, it's not too late. We meet in the parish hall on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 and welcome anyone who is interested. Perhaps this is the right time to begin your journey! **Questions?** Please contact Pastoral Director of Operations, Nicole Pascarelli-O'Brien, at her parish email.



RESONANCE OF REMEMBRANCE CONCERT

Saturday, October 19 | 8:00 p.m.

Saint Cecilia Church

The Tutti Music Collective will be presenting its 3rd annual fall concert Resonance of Remembrance with a 40-piece orchestra, 30-voice choir, an Irish tenor and a jazz combo - a little something for everyone! The music will feature the award-winning Mt. Auburn Requiem by parishioner and choir member Rachel Burckardt as well as other works by local composer Patricia Van Ness and Mexican composer Artouro Marquez. The concert is free to parishioners and the Far Flung Flock!



THE CASE FOR SPIRITUAL CONFIDENCE

BY VINITA HAMPTON WRIGHT

One day I said to God, "Lord, I've been with you all these years. If I haven't been transformed by now, when honestly desiring and working toward that, then what's the point? This belief system is worthless to me."

I had a theological problem. Jesus stated in John 14 that he would send the Advocate, who would teach believers. St. Paul said in Romans 8: "If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you."

I had been walking with Jesus for decades, which meant that the Holy Spirit had been dwelling in me for decades. So why was I such a failure at spiritual growth? Had the Holy Spirit failed to work in my life? If the Holy Spirit and I had failed for decades, then it would make sense to give up the faith.

Or — and it took me a while to ask this question — had the Holy Spirit been working in my life all along, but I expected the results to look different? Was I so conditioned by a middle-class, white, American religious culture that I could not see my own spiritual progress? By cultural standards, my spirituality was not successful enough, happy enough or trouble free enough. It was not productive enough or attractive enough. My Christian character was not extroverted enough.

Maybe the spiritual failure was this: My awareness of God's work had been prevented by specific expectations and a perverted concept of humility. Perhaps in my habitual inclination to go running back to a place of fear and condemnation (again, hear Paul say, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus"), I had equated humility with self-loathing, albeit clothed in self-righteousness, and with a refusal to acknowledge divine work in my life. Wasn't it wrong to speak well of myself, arrogant to claim myself transformed, a person within God's approval?

I can identify only a couple of Christians over the years who were willing and happy to celebrate their ongoing process of spiritual vitality and maturing. More typical is

for people to rejoice in something going well only to quickly interject that they had nothing to do with it because they were just sinful humans and relied on God to do everything. If this was the way I saw myself — an empty human who must wait for God to send worthy contents by the day and hour — then it made sense that I not have confidence in myself as a holy work-in-progress.

Somehow, I had lost the concept that almighty God has, from the very beginning, invited humans to participate in divine deeds and Christlike character. How often I've quoted that we are "made in God's image"; yet how habitually I've acted like someone still in need of the divine stamp. From there it's a natural progression to spiritual passivity and helplessness.

Furthermore, it was lunacy to keep returning, in my perception, to a starting point of faith, as if every day I must begin all over again. We don't do this with school children, but keep building on what they have learned. We pass them into the next grade when it's time. As a writer, I need not review basic grammar when I sit down to write because decades of writing have made that unnecessary. Yet, in my spiritual life, I seemed to believe that every experience must start with I-am-a-sinner-and-can-go-no-further-until-I-confess, that God insists on taking me through the baby steps although I was well past babyhood.

I chose to stay in the faith, but that meant that I must reject the former way of thinking. I'm still learning how to acknowledge and enjoy the wisdom that has grown in my life, the healthy qualities that become more developed every year I live. When I face a problem or hardship, I am more likely to ask, "Okay, Spirit, what have I already learned that I need to remember now? How have you prepared me for this moment?" than to send a desperate "Help! Give me something!"

I'm getting better at noticing my own spiritual growth. I'm getting better at trusting my spiritual growth, also my spiritual intuition. At any moment, I have far more interior resources than I need — because God has made a home in me.

I call this spiritual confidence. I trust that God's dwelling in me makes a difference every moment of every day. I continue to learn how to discern the best thing to do and to be free and willing to do it — that's my participation. But my capacity to learn is created by the Spirit already active in mind, heart, body and soul.

Spiritual confidence does not lead to arrogance — it leads to gratitude. I generally don't suffer an inflated view of my own importance because I don't have to try to be important. I am God's beloved, so why would I need to strive for importance or power or fame? In becoming more secure in that belovedness, I am simply grateful. Furthermore, I can look forward to this day, and the next. I don't have to fear failure or store up shame or generate false humility; my task is to pay attention and collaborate with the divine, who is faithfully at work in me.

I'll take this a step further. Given that Jesus' life, death and Resurrection accomplished what God intended, and given that God dwells among us and in us through the Holy Spirit, why not expect that things will go well? Unless I rebel and actively turn away from God's ways, I should look forward to a life that both God and I enjoy. I can assume that I am always moving toward God's eternal perfection and peace. A mistake here and there, a rough patch because the world has its problems, some lost time because I stayed in a mood for a while — none of that budes the compass needle off true north.

Spiritual confidence is my trust that God is relentlessly at work. More specifically, I can be spiritually confident that the Holy Spirit is always speaking to me, working within me, developing all manner of wonderful spiritual qualities and enabling me to see all things with the eye of my soul. Within myself to live and grow wisdom, truthfulness, discernment, goodness, gentleness, righteousness and hope because this is what happens to a person in whom God's Spirit dwells.

When I speak as if I'm just a sinner and a constant spiritual failure, I insult the Holy Spirit. I count Jesus' work as nothing. I deny a profound truth grounded in healthy theology. I refuse to embrace what God has given me: the Advocate who teaches me, helps me remember what I have learned so far and continually builds character that is becoming a person in Christ.

Perhaps the most important confession I can make is that I have often failed to acknowledge this interior re-creation. I still grieve my capacity for self-centeredness. But now I confess how much I have grieved the Holy Spirit in me by remaining blind to the daily grace of indwelling. How

sorrowful life becomes when I am silent and joyless in the presence of this stunning reality.

~ Vinita Hampton Wright is a writer and editor, and has authored numerous books, including other *Fisherman Bible Studyguides*. She also conducts creativity-and-spirituality workshops at conferences and retreats across the country. Vinita and her husband, Jim, live in Chicago.

JOIN OUR WISDOM & MATURE SPIRITUALITY GROUP

The 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 ways faith informs and enriches the second half of life. They're not a book club, but their conversations are often informed by shared spiritual reading. Their current book is *When the Trees Say Nothing: Writings on Nature*, a collection of Thomas Merton's nature writings edited by Kathleen Deignan. To request information about meetings or to be added to the Wisdom mailing list, please email the ministry at their parish email address.

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 Returning Citizens email address.



**BHCHP'S ANNUAL EMERGING LEADERS
FALL SOIRÉE**

Thursday, October 24 | 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Hotel Commonwealth - 500 Commonwealth Ave., Boston

Tickets: \$150

Join Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program's Emerging Leaders Board and other young professionals from the Boston area and beyond for a festive evening in recognition of the extraordinary contributions made by corporations, community organizations, and young professionals to improve the lives of our community's most vulnerable and resilient neighbors. We hope you can join us in-person for this event to recognize our community and support our programs! Register at:

<https://www.bhchp.org/events/elbsoiree24/>.



**SISTERS OF CHARITY HALIFAX
175TH CELEBRATION**

Sunday, October 27, 2024 | 11:00 a.m.

On Sunday October 27th @ 11:00 Saint Teresa of Calcutta Parish of Saint Margaret and Saint Christopher Churches will be celebrating a mass of thanksgiving for the Sisters of Charity - Halifax who have been celebrating their 175th Anniversary this year. Their first mission in Boston was at Saint Patrick's Church in Roxbury in 1887 and from there they moved throughout the diocese. They have served in this parish since 1909 at both Saint Margaret and Saint Christopher Churches and in the schools. All are invited to celebrate this milestone at Saint Margaret Church. Refreshments will be served following the liturgy.

**BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER
VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

The Volunteer Services Department at BMC is dedicated to helping BMC fulfill its mission of providing consistently excellent and accessible health services to all in need of care, regardless of status or ability to pay. Our volunteers are an invaluable asset to the medical center and support staff, patients, families and visitors. Volunteers assist the BMC community with services that support the hospital's mission. Opportunities include working in pediatrics, visiting with patients in geriatrics, welcoming people to the campus and helping them find their way, rolling an entertainment cart filled with books, games and puzzles for people waiting for appointments, helping with administrative duties - and so much more! Our immediate need is for BMC Ambassadors, a critically important role providing welcome, warmth and wayfinding! Greet patients and visitors as they come on campus, provide directions, escort patient and visitors to appointments throughout the medical campus. Interested? The best way is to apply online and we will help you with the rest of the process. Simply go to our Volunteer Services page on our website for complete information: <https://www.bmc.org/volunteer-services>. Thank you!

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
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
Michael Sennett, Digital and Print Media Coordinator

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV

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!