

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Fifth Sunday of Easter
First Holy Communion

14 May 2017

Park Blossoms and Blue Bells
Venessa Whitehouse (b. 1964)

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.

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, 50 ranks, and 2,926 pipes was dedicated on the Feast of Saint Cecilia, November 22, 1999.

Today we are experiencing something of an awakening within these old walls. We recently completed a major renovation, our numbers are increasing, 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 127 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.

SAINT CECILIA PARISH

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant

Hannah Raudsepp, lector

Sunday | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant

James Paradis, lector

Sunday | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John J. Unni, celebrant

Jillian Ryan, Charlotte Morey, James Wodarski,

Sofia Farah, & Mark Lippolt, lectors

Sunday | 11:15 a.m.

Rev. John J. Unni, celebrant

Karen McMenamy, Michael Lake,

& Nikko Mendoza, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 13 | 5:00 p.m.

Bridie Maloney, Memorial

Sunday, May 14 | 9:30 a.m.

Deceased Family Members of our First Communicants

Sunday May 14 | 11:15 a.m.

Peter Drury, Memorial

Wednesday, May 17 | 8:00 a.m.

James Skeffington, Sr. & John T. Walsh, Jr., Memorial

Thursday, May 18 | 8:00 a.m.

Joanne & Robert Kaler, Memorial

Friday, May 19 | 8:00 a.m.

Michael O'Neill, Memorial

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

1 Peter 2:4-9

John 14:1-12

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8, 14-17

1 Peter 3:15-18

John 14:15-21

Mass Time Change

The six o'clock Mass is on hiatus
until September.

WEEKLY FOOD DONATIONS

First featured donation item is:
CEREAL



Second featured donation item is:
PEANUT BUTTER



Donations of featured items are preferred as these are more popular among Catholic Charities clients. Please leave food donations in the narthex baskets.



SAINT CECILIA PARISH

PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Annette Kulas, Anthony Simboli, Roséa Aubrey, Pilar Estrada, Mildred McLaughlin, Pam Phillips, Brenna Smith, Mark Anderson, Bill Downing, Skyler Stevenson, Silvana Franco, Silvia Basagni, Brian Donnelly, Theresa Wier, Bill Ahern, Lena Bryant, Kenny Borum, George Driscoll, Mary Curley, Bill Pennington, Bryan Thomas, Joanne DeMare, Rachel Fitzgerald, Bob Carroll, John Morris, Mark Edward McHugh, Jean Hughes, Laura Bellias, Angelo Valente, Eugenia Valente, Betty Sellers, Jack Kacewicz, Daniel Grapski, Nancy Wolterman, Callie Boyce, Bill Croke, Mary Chisholm, Brian Burdette, Chuck Christian, John Pelletier, Tim Postma, Maureen Kelly, Mary Maciora, Stephanie Brown, Bob Butler, Mary Dupont, Mary Jacobs, Francesca Stanizzi, Hilary Dillon, Paul Lakschewitz, Pam Phillips, Meredith Deignan, Louise Reohr, Jacy-Lyn Poland, Tom O'Keefe, Claire Smith, Gerard Franchi, Annie Flaherty, Joe Rivieccio, Pamela Massey, Mary Sullivan, Lyn Scalfani, Marguerite Flavin, Lucy Donohue, Germaine Durette, Meredith Deignan, Mimi Hart and Daegan Riggio.**

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish

We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our parish who have recently registered: **Claire Friedman** of Boston, **Patrick McCarron** of Boston, **Marta Vicarelli** of Boston, and **Clarissa Ngui** of Allston. If you have not previously registered with the parish, there are forms in the narthex for this purpose or you can register online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Special Collection

The Bishops of the United States have approved a special one-time collection to be taken up this weekend in all parishes in support of the completion of the central and final dome in mosaic for The Trinity Dome at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Saint Cecilia Annual Summerfest—Save the Date

Be sure to mark Sunday, June 11 on your calendar. We will be closing off St. Cecilia Street for our annual Summerfest party. The celebration will start right after the 9:30 liturgy with coffee and Kane's donuts served in the Saint Francis Garden. Lunch will be served on St. Cecilia Street from 11:30 to 4:00. Once again we'll have a live jazz ensemble, dancing, and lots of fun!

Mother's Day

Today is a day for thinking about mothers and celebrating their love. It can also be a day for extending our thanks to all those women who have shown us the nurturing and supportive love of a mother along the way. We remember in prayer those for whom this day is particularly sad. We remember, too, all mothers who live in desperate circumstances, especially those who are victims of famine, warfare, poverty, and disease.

Evening Prayer

We will pray evening prayer this Thursday May 18 at six thirty. All are welcome to attend!

Our First Communicants

Easter is the season of initiation, and therefore the very best time to celebrate First Holy Communion. We are delighted to have twenty-one youngsters receiving communion for the first time at the nine-thirty liturgy. Please remember to keep these children in your prayer.

TODAY'S FLOWERS

The flowers in front of the altar are given to the Glory of God by the families of the children receiving First Holy Communion this morning.

Cardinal Tobin Welcomes LGBT Catholics

In light of our June 19 event, "A Conversation with James Martin, SJ on LGBT Catholics" we thought we would share an article reprinted from NJ.com and located on page 17 of this bulletin. On January 6, 2017, Cardinal Joseph Tobin was installed as the Archbishop of Newark. Gerard O'Connell, Rome-based associate editor of *America* and Vatican-correspondent said, "In yet another decisive move to reshape and give a new direction to the church in the United States, Pope Francis has appointed Cardinal Joseph Tobin, 64, a man of simple lifestyle, committed to dialogue, encounter, and the poor, as the new Archbishop of Newark." Like Cardinal Seán, Cardinal Tobin is a true shepherd in the spirit of Pope Francis and is a sign of hope for the Newark archdiocese. The article on page 17 addresses the "historic welcome" that Cardinal Tobin has given the LGBT community of Newark.

SAINT CECILIA PARISH



OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS

Some say First Eucharist, but these children have been with us at Eucharist faithfully for a long time. Today they celebrate a new level of relationship with the Body of Christ. We are delighted to welcome the following children to the table of Jesus, our gentle and good shepherd. May they always live in peace in the pastures where the Lord dwells.

Dylan Frederick Boyce
Theodore Graham Bruntrager
Chase Alexander Comeaux
Michael James Doherty
William Daniel Dunn
Samer Paul Farah
Harrison Richard Hamilton
Maxwell Joseph Hamilton
Payton Madison Knight
Andrew Peter MacDougall
Elizabeth Moreen Morey
Chloe Xena Nichols
Robert Louis Nichols III
Karina Ryan
Grace Concetta Shin
James Thomas Skeffington
Gavin Robert Stephenson
Mairin Margaret Swords
Maximus Alexander Thibeault
Catherine Josephine Witkowski
Elizabeth Mary Wodarski

Happy Mother's Day!

What a beautiful day we have to honor our mothers, those who are with us, those who have gone before us, those who have given us life and those who have nurtured us. We remember our mothers and we bring God's presence into these relationships on this Mother's Day.

Today we also celebrate with our first communicants who join us around the table for the first time at their First Holy Communion. Welcome to the Lord's table! Thanks to all our parents; you are the primary teachers of our children regarding faith. I am also grateful for all our catechists and especially our second grade catechists, Mr. Mark Lippolt and Ms. Anna DeMare, who have devoted so much time and energy to their teaching. We have so much to be thankful for today.

Peace and Happy Mother's Day,

Fr. John

YOUNG NEIGHBORS IN ACTION SUMMER SERVICE-LEARNING TRIP

The dates for our Young Neighbors In Action are set! We are headed to San Diego July 8-18. All rising tenth graders through high school seniors are welcome. Please contact Scott MacDonald for more information at smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org.

PASTRIES WITH THE PASTOR

Saturday, May 20, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

The next Pastries with the Pastor event is upon us! Sign up to join Father John and the Parish Pastoral Council for breakfast with light conversation. Father John will speak on a topic of general interest and leave time for discussion. All are welcome to register, however, only twelve may attend. Participants will be selected at random.

If you are interested, either fill out the paper form located in the narthex or follow this link:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z5Z7K8H.

SAINT CECILIA PARISH

PARISH OPERATING STATEMENT

We are pleased to present the Parish Operating Statement (page 13) for the first nine months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. Our Total Income for this period was above budget by \$139,929. This was mainly due to several large, unbudgeted gifts from very generous parishioners. We are very grateful for these gifts.

Our Total Expenses were under budget by \$204,714. The principal reason for this is we assumed that we would begin to expend significant funds for the next phase of our renovation project during this fiscal year. This phase will include creating a communal kitchen and cafe area as well as repurposing the old upper and lower sacristies. We have not yet incurred significant expenses, but we expect this to be a major item in next year's budget.

We do expect to have a surplus at the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2017. This will enable us to allocate additional funds to our Capital Repairs Reserve Account as we have done during the last two fiscal years. At some point in the future we expect our major building systems will require updating or replacement, and by funding the Reserve Account in this way we are beginning to responsibly prepare for that inevitable day.

As always, we thank you for your support as we strive to further the mission of our parish. It is only through sustained and predictable giving that we can plan for the future of Saint Cecilia, so we continue to request that all parishioners first make sure they are formally registered in the parish and then consider joining our Offertory Commitment Program (OCP), which will assist us in this planning. Please contact Mark Donohoe in the parish office for more information.



TEEN SERVICE PROJECT

We are partnering with Susan Bailis Assisted Living Community (352 Massachusetts Ave.) to provide an opportunity for our parish teenagers to spend 90-minutes each month visiting, playing games, perhaps leading an art project, and providing companionship to some of the residents at Susan Bailis House. All activities will take place in the community room and will be supervised by parish volunteers. Some of the residents of Susan Bailis do not have many family or friends nearby so seeing some young smiling faces can certainly brighten the day or even the week of a senior in our neighborhood. The upcoming schedule is as follows:

- Sunday, May 21 | 3:00–4:30
- Sunday, June 25 | 3:00–4:30

We will also talk and brainstorm with the participants to see what else they might be interested in doing with the residents of Susan Bailis. Teen participants can opt to meet us at Susan Bailis House or to meet at Saint Cecilia and walk over together. If you are interested in signing-up for one or more of these dates, please e-mail Scott at smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org.

SPIRITUAL LIFE YOGA

One definition of yoga is "to join together." Join us for a yoga class to join together your breath and movement, grounding yourself in the present moment. Use this practice to honor your mind, body, and spirit.



We will move through an all levels yoga class, with specific attention to breath and alignment. No previous yoga experience is necessary. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and should bring a water bottle and a yoga mat. Other props will be provided. Class will take place from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will be held in CL5 on May 21.

If you have any questions or would like to reserve a spot, please e-mail fellow parishioner and yoga instructor Amy Aubrecht at aubrecht.amy@gmail.com. Drop-ins are welcome provided that space is available. There is no fee for this class, but donations will be gratefully accepted.

SAINT CECILIA PARISH

CONTEMPLATIVE LEADERS IN ACTION

CLA is a two-year program that cultivates Ignatian spirituality and leadership in young professionals in their 20's and 30's. Participants join a vibrant, faith-filled community of peers committed to becoming leaders in their fields as they search to find God in all things. A CLA cohort meets monthly throughout the process to discuss and engage in topics relevant to leadership and spiritual growth. Participants are offered retreat opportunities along with access to spiritual direction and mentoring. Applications to this program are currently open in the following cities: Baltimore, Boston, New York, St. Louis and Washington, DC. For more information about the Boston program, or if you know anyone interested in applying, see our website: www.contemplativeleaders.org.

WISDOM AND MATURE SPIRITUALITY GROUP

If you are in the second half of life and would like to connect with others as we explore ways to deepen our spirituality, we invite you to come to a meeting of the Wisdom and Mature Spirituality group. Our next meeting will be held on May 21 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Pastoral Center's Conference Room. The topic for our discussion will be "Are You Sleepwalking?" Fr. Anthony de Mello maintained that most people are asleep and need to wake up, open their eyes, and see what is real, both inside and outside of themselves. The greatest human gift is to be aware, to be in touch with oneself, one's body, mind, feelings, thoughts, sensations. More information about this topic can be found online at the DeMello Spirituality Center: www.demellospirituality.com/awareness/29.html.

ATTENTION GRADUATES

We want to acknowledge and celebrate all our graduates this spring. Please e-mail the names of parishioners who are graduating from high school or college, along with the date of graduation to Megan Riggle at mriggle@stceciliaboston.org. Please place the word "graduate" in the subject line. Please also send the name of the school and the degree awarded. We are also happy to announce student recitals.

BULLETIN SCHEDULE

All bulletin submission requests must be made by 12:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the Sunday that the bulletin request will be featured. Earlier is always preferred. Requests made after the deadline will have to be placed in the next bulletin, and all requests can be made to Megan Riggle at Mriggle@stceciliaboston.org.

FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute flowers for in front of the altar on a particular Sunday in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving to God, all you need to do is contact Scott MacDonald (smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org) a few days in advance of the weekend.

ANOTHER WAY TO STAY IN TOUCH

A good way to keep up-to-date with what is going on in the parish is to join our Facebook group. So far we have 1,418 members. Take a moment to join the group. "Saint Cecilia Parish."

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GBIO?

The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization works to coalesce, train, and organize the communities of Greater Boston across religious, racial, ethnic, class, and neighborhood lines for the public good. GBIO is an organization of 50 religious congregations and other local institutions that joined together in 1998 in order to more powerfully pursue justice in the State of Massachusetts. Since the founding GBIO has played a critical role in securing Massachusetts health care reform, helping to roll over \$300 million in to the construction of affordable housing in the state, and supporting local leadership in efforts to attain worker protections, school renovations, adequate access to school textbooks, as well as other major victories.

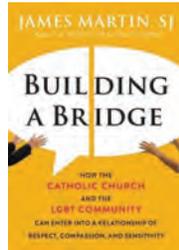
GBIO is having its next meeting Thursday May 18 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Temple Israel 477 Longwood Avenue in Boston.

SAINT CECILIA PARISH

SAVE THE DATE!

JAMES MARTIN, SJ IS RETURNING TO SAINT CECILIA
"A Conversation with James Martin, SJ
on LGBT Catholics"
Monday, June 19 | 7:30 p.m.

On April 24, Father James Martin, SJ spoke to a standing room only crowd at Saint Cecilia. Approximately 750 people came to hear a wonderful and inspiring talk on encountering Jesus. Following Father Martin's presentation, he signed books for nearly two hours while people enjoyed refreshments in our Parish Hall. Father Martin will be returning to Saint Cecilia in just five weeks to speak about his latest book, *Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity*. In this moving and inspiring book, Father Martin offers a powerful, loving, and much-needed voice in a time marked by anger, prejudice, and divisiveness. Adapted from an address he gave to New Ways Ministry, a group that ministers to and advocates for LGBT Catholics, *Building a Bridge* provides a roadmap for repairing and strengthening the bonds that unite all of us as God's children. Father Martin uses the image of a two-way bridge as a model for how Church leaders and LGBT Catholics can move together toward reconciliation and love. Please plan to be with us for what is certain to be another enlightening and informative evening with our good friend Father James Martin, SJ.



SAINT CECILIA ANNUAL MINISTRY APPRECIATION EVENT

We will hold our annual Ministry Appreciation Event on Wednesday, May 31 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall and (weather permitting) Saint Francis Garden. Most parish ministers should have received an e-mail invitation from your ministry leader. If you have volunteered in the parish in any way this past year, please know that you are welcome to attend. Please be sure to let your ministry leader know if you plan to come or, in the absence of a ministry leader, please e-mail Jeanne Bruno at jbruno@stceciliaboston.org or call the Parish Office by Friday May 26. This will be a fun evening with plenty of food, drink, music, and fellowship.

SINGLES MIXER

Wednesday, May 17 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Location TBD

Join us for a night of multi-parish single mingling! Participants are welcome to come for a general happy hour and/or to participate in a speed dating activity.

SUPPAH CLUB: TACO TUESDAY

Tuesday, May 23 | 7:00 p.m.
647 Tremont Street, Boston

Come join us for fellowship and delicious \$2 tacos! Space limited to 8 people.

PRISON AND AFTER MINISTRY

May 22 | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Saint Cecilia Parish Hall

A team of six volunteers is needed to bring large quantities of food to feed men who are getting on their feet after prison.

COMMUNITY SERVINGS VOLUNTEERING

Tuesday, May 30, June 28 | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
10 Marbury Terrace, Boston

Pack up some much-needed meals for the homebound.

To RSVP for any of these activities, please e-mail scyounadults@gmail.com.

**SAINT
CECILIA
YOUNG
ADULTS**



Saint Cecilia Young Adults ministry
welcomes parishioners ages 20-40.
RSVP and more when you type URL:
eepurl.com/bBbbLr

SAINT CECILIA PARISH



NEWS FOR YOUNG FAMILIES —PRESENT & EXPECTING— AND THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP THEM

- If you are a parent of a child younger than four years of age, please consider joining our growing Young Families group! We currently meet monthly between the 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. liturgies for fellowship and mutual support as we navigate the ups and downs of life with young children. The best way to stay in touch is to join our listserv—if you're not on it already, e-mail Erin at erin.ramsey.1@gmail.com.
- If you are expecting a child in the coming months and would be interested in connecting with other expecting parents, we want to hear from you. Please e-mail Sarah Donohue (saraheliottgoodale@gmail.com) for more information and details on an upcoming social for expecting parents.

HELP THE WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE

One of the three major fundraisers for our friends at the shelter is their Mother's Day card sale. The Women's Lunch Place currently provides services to more than 200 women and their children each day. Some of the women that WLP serves only know life on the streets, while others are victims of episodic poverty due to changes in their social and/or employment status.

Mother's Day cards will be sold after this weekend's liturgies. In exchange for a \$25 donation, you will receive a card designed by a guest at the shelter. Each card feeds a guest of Women's Lunch Place for a week. Cards are also available blank for the women in your life besides your mom. In addition, if you would like to sponsor a breakfast (\$150) or a lunch (\$300) in honor or memory of someone, please stop by the table in the narthex.

Elizabeth Keeley, the Executive Director of the Women's Lunch Place, will be helping to sell cards after our 9:30 and 11:15 liturgies this weekend. Please come say hello. For more information, please contact Mark Lippolt at mark.lippolt@gmail.com.

DRIVERS NEEDED

Each month parishioners have the opportunity to pick up donated meat, dairy products, and produce from three local supermarkets and deliver it to either Catholic Charities' Haitian Multi-Service Center in Dorchester or the Pine Street Inn in the South End. This vital ministry takes place at 7:30 a. m. every Saturday and Sunday morning and on Sundays can be completed in time to attend the 9:30 parish Mass. We need drivers for all the Saturdays and Sundays in October. If you can help out, please email Mark Lippolt at mark.lippolt@gmail.com.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

As you know, we have been collecting food for the Catholic Charities food pantry in Dorchester for nearly seven years. If you are unable to bring groceries with you to church or forget to do so, there are Catholic Charities envelopes in the narthex that you can use to send a donation. Just write "food pantry" on the memo line of your check.



Saint Cecilia Ministry of The Month

May



Young Families

The Saint Cecilia Young Families Ministry is a thriving group consisting of sixty members with children under the age of five. In the summer of 2016, the Young Families Ministry was born when a young mother identified the need parents have to connect with other young families, make new friends, and have adult conversations with one another.

Now in full swing, the Young Families Ministry provides a space in the Parish Pastoral Center where families can connect and be a source of mutual support as they navigate the trials and blessings that are a part of life with young children.

The group meets monthly following the nine-thirty liturgy and alternates between fellowship and structured, discussion-based meetings. Most meetings provide childcare from a generous team of parish volunteers. The dates for upcoming meetings are: May 21, June 11, and July 9.

Testimony from group members:

"This ministry has been an incredible support for me to be able to have a community of other families of young children to share our experiences and challenges with one another. The generosity of the larger parish community in allowing this ministry to be successful has been remarkable, too—no one goes the journey alone!"

"Our meetings are a unique time for us to step back, put things into perspective and share experiences. In addition to socializing with the other young parents, we appreciate discussing how God is involved in our family. For example, we understood during one morning reflection that the relationship with our baby is similar to the relationship God has with us!"

We invite any expecting parents and families with children under the age of five to join us. The easiest way to do so is to join our listserv, which you can do by e-mailing Erin Ramsey at erin.ramsey.1@gmail.com or searching for "St. C's Families" on Google Groups (groups.google.com). We are also always looking for new people to join our crew of childcare helpers who provide support during our monthly meetings that make it easier for the parents to have adult conversations at our monthly meetings. If you love babies and young children and would like to sign-up to help with childcare, please e-mail Valerie Diment at Valerie.diment@gmail.com. Finally, we are looking for a few good cooks to periodically prepare and deliver meals to parishioners who are welcoming a new baby into their homes. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact Aubrey Hartnett at aubreymarie.cc@gmail.com.

Saint Cecilia Parish Operating Statement FY 2017 - July 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017

Checking Account as of 3/31/17	\$177,912.03
Savings Accounts as of 3/31/17	\$914,952.81

Income

Offertory	\$261,023.46
OCP Offertory	436,277.50
Shrines, Candles & Flowers	5,378.00
Sacramental Offerings	67,882.00
Catholic Appeal Rebate	17,084.91
Gifts & Bequests	360,869.91
Religious Education	12,039.00
Books and Pamphlets	60.00
Lease/Rental Income	96,098.99
Interest and Dividend Income	2,796.75
Other Donations	108,868.00

Total Income **\$1,368,378.52**

Expense

Salaries Exempt & Non Exempt	\$334,517.62
Staff Benefits	93,972.68
All Clergy: Assigned and Unassigned Including Benefits	56,823.07
Data Processing Fees, Bank Service Charges	6,895.63
Professional Fees	4,755.86
Office Supplies, Postage, Printing, Audio Visual	21,567.93
Telephone & Internet	16,388.85
Office Equipment Repair & Contracts	6,941.20
Books, Pamphlets, Dues, Subscriptions, Missalettes	8,242.80
Household	4,405.56
Utilities, Heat, Water & Sewer	75,816.45
Building Insurance	35,763.00
Maintenance	109,006.38
Pastoral/Liturgical	71,184.67
Charitable Giving	76,456.25
Religious Education Expenses	2,196.94
Central Ministry Tithe	62,885.25
Pilot Newspaper	252.00
Miscellaneous	11,493.07
Acquisitions/Improvements – Site	-
Acquisitions/Improvements – Furniture & Equipment	4,659.83
Acquisitions/Improvements – Building	18,392.01

Total Expense **\$1,022,617.05**

Net Operating Income **\$345,761.47**

What Your Mom Wants (and Doesn't Want) This Mother's Day

By VALERIE SCHULTZ

The perfect Mother's Day is possibly an illusion, sponsored by Hallmark. Mother's Day can be like the scene of an accident, where speeding expectations have crashed into reality. My mother wanted eggs Benedict every Mother's Day, and I remember the many failed attempts to make her the perfect hollandaise sauce. When my sisters and I became mothers, our husbands used to get together with my father and make us brunch. They would shop at Costco and buy gallons of orange juice, pounds of bacon, dozens of eggs and mountains of breakfast pastry for the occasion, as though they were feeding the Green Bay Packers instead of us. The clean-up afterward was epic.

As mothers we treasure the handmade cards, the heartfelt poetry, the traced little hands turned into bouquets of flowers, the lopsided ceramics, the colored macaroni necklaces, the sunflower growing up out of the paper cup of dirt. But might there be more to the perfect Mother's Day? And has any mother ever actually had one?

I asked some friends who are mothers to describe the perfect Mother's Day. Mothers ought to be the experts, after all. But it is often difficult for them to consider their own desires because one of the rites of motherhood is realizing that a mother's wants come last. Maybe the perfect Mother's Day scenario eludes us because we are uncomfortable or out of practice at putting ourselves first. We understand that we have to

take care of ourselves in order to care for others, but it can still be hard to articulate a yearning for the things that have become such luxuries.



Some mothers of young children, those brave women still in the trenches, put forth tentative images of the perfect Mother's Day as a day off from children: hours of sleeping in, or a visit to a spa, or a glass of wine with some girlfriends. Then the guilt kicks in, and they hastily add that of course they want to spend the day with their little darlings, because they are the ones who made them a mother.

Mother's Day is a different experience for those of us whose children are adults. We never stop being mothers, but our children do stop being children. When we no longer see our children every day, when they are in another state or on another continent, Mother's Day perfection translates simply to their physical presence. We don't care about breakfast in bed or any other meal catering. Just being with them would be enough.

Like any holiday, Mother's Day can also be a painful reminder. This is my second Mother's Day without my mother, and so it is still odd not to feel the obligation to find a better recipe for hollandaise sauce. Or to be able to call her, or take her out for decent eggs Benedict, or give her a hug. The mothers that came before me in the generations of mothers are all gone to God, a thought that casts the sobering shade of mortality on this annual celebration.

(Article continues on page 15)

SAINT CECILIA PARISH

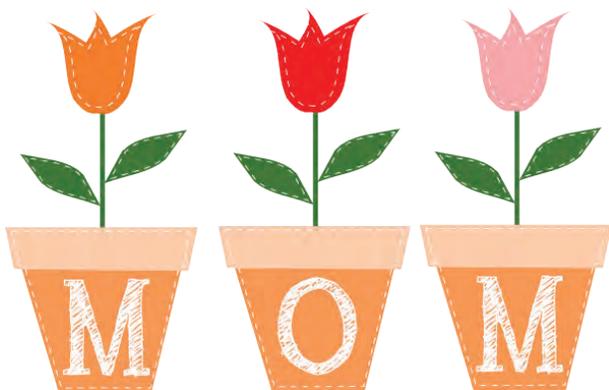
(Article continued from page 14)

Throughout the month of May, I think of Mary, mothering Jesus all those centuries ago. I think of the verse from Luke's Gospel that made complete sense to me as my children grew and astonished me: "Mary treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart" (Lk 2:19). For mothers, these moments of treasuring and pondering are profound and universal: how we treasure in our hearts the love and confusion and hurt and hope that our children engender in us; how we hold close to our breast so much that they will never know.

I must report that in my unofficial survey of mothers, not a single mother I know mentioned any gifts as part of a perfect Mother's Day. As I tell my daughters, having such delightful children makes every day Mother's Day, and all I want on this particular Sunday in May is a nice card. We are suckers for Mother's Day cards. A well-chosen card can dispel our feelings of motherly inadequacy. Most of us mothers can point out things we wish we had done differently while our children were young and impressionable. Most of us hold onto embarrassing memories of losing our cool. It is lovely to know that our children think we did all right by them. A little appreciation feels good. It is better than any gift. "Thank you for everything you do for me, and for being the biggest nerd bomb I know!" one of my daughters wrote in her card last year, one of many sentiments I treasure in my heart.

Maybe the perfect Mother's Day is really a state of mind: the warm comfort of knowing that all of your little ones, however old they are and wherever they may be, are safe and healthy and happy and productive and loving and loved. The rest is icing on the cake. Speaking of which: Cake is always welcome.

Valerie Schultz is a freelance writer, a columnist for The Bakersfield Californian and the author of Closer: Musings on Intimacy, Marriage, and God. She and her husband Randy have four daughters.



POPE FRANCIS ON MOTHERHOOD

To be a mother is a great treasure. Mothers, in their unconditional and sacrificial love for their children, are the antidote to individualism; they are the greatest enemies against war.

Mothers are often exploited because of their availability. Not even the Christian community values them properly, despite the eminent example of the Mother of Jesus.

All of us give credit to our mothers for life and many other things, but not always are they listened to or helped in everyday life. Their important contribution to the life of society, their daily sacrifices and their aspirations are not always properly appreciated.

In this sense motherhood is more than child-bearing; it is a life choice entailing sacrifice, respect for life, and commitment to passing on those human and religious values which are essential for a healthy society.

A mother's sensitivity to all that threatens human life and welfare is a source of enrichment for society and the Church. It is common in moments of difficulty to encounter the tenderness, dedication and moral strength of our mothers.

It is they, mothers, who often give the first roots of the faith, the ones that permeate deepest; without them not only would the faithful be lost, but also a good part of the deepest fire of our faith.

We thank all mothers for what they are and for all that they give to the Church and to our world.

Pope Francis
General Audience Address
January 7, 2015

First Communicants Afternoon of Service



In preparation for First Communion, our second grade Faith Formation class volunteered in the kitchens of Community Servings on May 1 and helped to feed our neighbors who are homebound with critical illnesses.

N.J. Cardinal Offers Historic Welcome to LGBT Community

By ALEXANDER SANTORA

Talk about being in the right place at the right time. David Harvie was at a regional meeting in Brooklyn of the Interparish Collaborative, a group of about 15 Catholic parishes in the tri-state area that minister to the LGBT community. He was seated next to Redemptorist Father Francis Gargani and talked about how there are so many beautiful church edifices that deserve to be seen.

"I am a church architecture geek," Harvie said, mentioning, for example, the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

Gargani, who resides at the Redemptorist Provincial House in Brooklyn, said he would bring it up to the new Archbishop of Newark, Joseph Cardinal Tobin, also a Redemptorist, who was coming to dinner the next evening.

Soon after, Harvie would get the green light to have an LGBT pilgrimage to the cathedral on Sunday, May 21, with a Mass that Gargani will say in Our Lady Chapel, followed by a tour of the cathedral. Harvie immediately created a colorful flier and for the first time used the initials LGBT in relationship to a Catholic institution in the Newark Archdiocese with the blessing of the cardinal.

"I am delighted that you and the LGBTQ brothers and sisters plan to visit our beautiful cathedral," Tobin wrote in an email to Gargani approving the flier. "You will be very welcome! The flier is fine; please circulate it." Harvie was thrilled. "The fact that Cardinal Tobin was so open and welcoming is a unique experience."

Indeed, it is historic. Harvie recalled first marching in the annual Gay Rights Parade in Manhattan at a time when a wall of police would separate the marchers from entering St. Patrick's Cathedral on Fifth Avenue.

"We could not get anywhere near our Catholic church," Harvie recalled, contrasting that experience with the gesture of Cardinal Tobin. "No one can believe it."

Harvie expects an overflow crowd in the chapel, which can only hold 40 to 50 people. But that would be a wonderful problem to have, he said.

Harvie first got involved formally in Catholic gay outreach and ministry about six years ago with Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield as a lay leader. He now facilitates the group's activities.

"We want to offer a better sense of community for the LGBT community and validate our membership in the wider Catholic community," Harvie said.

He told the story of one of their members who recently transitioned from male to female. She stayed with the group and was happy to acknowledge that the first group she found acceptance as a new woman was a Catholic one. They hope to provide good experiences and also a chance for healing. They also welcome parents who can often be upset when they find out a son or daughter comes out and they do not how to respond.

The Interparish Collaborative also marches in the Jersey Pride Parade in Asbury Park and offers spiritual retreats at different sites. "We do not take stands," Harvie said, emphasizing the faith component of their activities.

I first met Harvie and Mark Nebus at St. Aloysius in Jersey City back in the late 1980s. They would often sit in the front benches of the church and during the sign of peace would kiss each other. For the four and one half years they worshipped there, not one staff member or parishioner ever said anything about their exchange of peace.

Nebus, now 59, eventually became a lector. Today they worship at the St. Francis Cathedral in Metuchen. Harvie, 57, noted that Bishop James Checchio, their new diocesan bishop, attended the group's Christmas party and stayed for several hours.

Pope Francis ushered in a new era of welcoming gays when he uttered that famous rhetorical question, "Who am I to judge?" And laity, religious, deacons, priests, bishops, and now even cardinals, and are taking it to a new level of acceptance.

Rev. Alexander Santora is a journalist and is pastor of The Church of Our Lady of Grace and St. Joseph in Hoboken, New Jersey.

PARISH RESOURCES

Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115
Hours | Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Phone | 617 536 4548
Fax | 617 536 1781
E-mail | info@stceciliaboston.org
Website | www.stceciliaboston.org

Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor
Mary Kaye, Pastoral Director of Operations,
mkaye@stceciliaboston.org
Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate for Administration,
mdonohoe@stceciliaboston.org
Scott J. MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation and
Leadership Development,
smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org
Jeanne Bruno, Chaplain, Pastoral Associate,
Coordinator of Pastoral Outreach,
jbruno@stceciliaboston.org
Richard J. Clark, Director of Music and Organist,
rclark@stceciliaboston.org
Lisa Pickering, Events and Facilities Manager,
lpickering@stceciliaboston.org
Megan Riggle, Business and Marketing Coordinator,
mriggle@stceciliaboston.org

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Erick Berrelleza, SJ
Rev. Peter Grover, OMI
Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ
Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ

Schedule for Liturgy

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday | 8:00 a.m.
Lord's Day | Sat 5:00 p.m.; Sun 8:00, 9:30, and 11:15 a.m..
Holy Days | 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Liturgy of the Hours

Evening Prayer and Morning Prayer, as announced. Please check the bulletin for dates and times.

Reconciliation

The sacrament of reconciliation is available at Saint Cecilia by appointment, or at St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine (617-266-5999 x221), St. Francis Chapel in the Prudential Center (617-437-7117), and St. Anthony Shrine (617-542-6440). Please call for scheduled times.

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. For more information, please contact Scott MacDonald.

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.

Baptism for Infants

Infant baptism is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. For more information, please contact Mark Donohoe.

Marriage

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

Order of Christian Funerals

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

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 also provide consultation and support to anyone in the parish who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Lois Flaherty (loisflaherty@gmail.com), Maria Roche (maria.roche15@gmail.com), Letitia Howland (L_howland@hotmail.com), or Erin Young (erin.t.young@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

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 text of the policy is also available in the narthex and parish office, as well as on our website.

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.

Hearing Assistance in Church

The church is equipped with an FM listening device. Small receivers are available for anyone who may have trouble hearing the sound system. Simply request a receiver from any one of our greeters before Mass.

Access for the Disabled

The church is accessible by elevator.

Sunday Parking

There is reduced rate parking for \$11.00 at the Hynes Auditorium Garage located on Dalton Street (next to Summer Shack/Kings) on Sundays until 3:00 p.m. and every evening after 4:00 p.m. Please be sure to ask one of our greeters for a parking validation ticket before leaving Mass. Discounted parking is no longer available at the Hilton Boston Back Bay, but reduced-rate parking continues to be available on Sundays only at the Prudential Center South Garage (enter at Huntington Avenue or Dalton Street); up to 4 hours: \$14.00, up to 5 hours: \$20.00.

Saint Cecilia Rainbow Ministry

Saint Cecilia Rainbow Ministry is a LGBTQ community at Saint Cecilia. For more information, contact stceciliarainbowministry@gmail.com.

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 parishioners from as far afield as Marlborough, Newburyport, and Stow. Please introduce yourself to a staff member, drop in for coffee on Sunday, or fill out a new parishioner form in the narthex.