

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5 August 2018

Manna from Heaven
Alexander Kanchik

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, August 4 | 5:00 p.m.
Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Catherine Horsley, lector

Sunday, August 5 | 8:00 a.m.
Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Bob Mann, lector

Sunday, August 5 | 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Michael Simone, SJ, celebrant
Will Kelly, Moira Macdonald, and
Rosaria Salerno, lectors

Sunday, August 5 | 11:15 a.m.
Rev. Michael Simone, SJ, celebrant
Cathy Anderson, Cole Young, and
Erin Young, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 4 | 5:00 p.m.
Eugenia Valente, *Special Intention*

Saturday, August 5 | 9:30 a.m.
Joao Mateus, *Fortieth Anniversary*

Sunday, August 5 | 11:15 a.m.
John Nichols, *Memorial*

TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15

Ephesians 4:1-6

John 6:1-15

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1 Kings 19:4-8

Ephesians 4:30-5:2

John 6:41-51



The Gathering of the Manna, Unknown (1470)

PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Deceased

Giovanna Franchi's brother died on July 29. Pray for the eternal repose of **Gerard Franchi** as well as for the consolation of Giovanna and her family. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Andrew Banacos, Josephine Mason, Margaret Boland, Stephanie Brown, Charles Robinson, Angelo Valente, Eugenia Valente,** and **Mary Pickering.**

Baptisms

Today we celebrate baptism at the 9:30 liturgy for **Cameron Polk**, son of **Justin and Erica Bartinoski**, and **Niamh Lily**, daughter of **Randy and Theresa Pinto**. At the 11:15 liturgy we celebrate baptism for **Michael Joseph**, son of **Joseph and Allison Curran**, and **Edward Nelson**, son of **Edward and Molly Odre**. The Christian community welcomes you with great joy, Cameron, Niamh, Michael, and Edward!

Happy Anniversary!

Today we celebrate the baptismal anniversary of **John Sylvester** who was baptized on August 2. May the Lord continue to bless John with the grace to live out his baptismal call. Happy Feast Day, John!

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish

We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our parish who have recently registered. **Elizabeth Donnelly** of Boston; the **Ammirato Family** of Somerville; **Kevin Jones** of Boston; **Brittany Dillard** of Boston; **Rachel Deering** of Boston; the **Havern Family** of Boston; **Alexe Van Bomel** of Boston; and **Ryan Vazza** of Boston. If you have not yet registered with the parish, there are forms in the narthex for this purpose or you can register online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Vespers This Week

Tomorrow August 6, in commemoration of the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, we will celebrate Vespers at 6:30. All are welcome.

FILM CREW VOLUNTEERS

Saint Cecilia is looking for three more volunteers to join the film crew that is working on filming, editing, and posting the homilies each week. If you have an interest in learning more about the filming and editing process, please contact Mary at mkaye@stceciliaboston.org.



WISDOM AND MATURE SPIRITUALITY GROUP

The topic at our next meeting, August 19, will be "Stumbling Over the Stumbling Stone," the fifth chapter of the book, *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr, OFM.

There must be at least one situation in our lives that we cannot fix, control, explain, change or even understand. Did you ever stumble over what once sustained you? Please read Chapter Five and think about a question you might like to ask the group.

Our Wisdom Group is a community of adults who meet once a month, journeying in the second half of life and looking to build a deeper relationship with our Christian faith through fellowship, trust, sharing, and prayer. We welcome new members. Join us on Sunday, August 19th at 10:00 am outside the conference room in the parish hall.

SOCIAL AND RACIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

To find out more about this ministry, visit <https://bit.ly/2JLWWYa>.

Furniture Drive

Thursday, August 9 – Friday, August 10
Must arrange pickup

After a successful winter furniture drive for the Mass Coalition for the Homeless (<http://mahomeless.org/>) we have decided to partner with them again in August. There are flyers in the narthex with information on accepted furniture and how to set up pick-up from your home. Thank you in advance for helping families turn their new places into homes.



JOIN US AT COMMUNITY SERVINGS

We have two upcoming opportunities for volunteers to assist in preparing and packaging free, nutritious meals for those who are homebound with life-threatening illnesses throughout Eastern Massachusetts. 10 volunteers are needed on Saturday, August 25 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

No culinary skills are required, but volunteers need to be at least thirteen years of age. Please feel free to join us even if you can't be there until a bit later than 1:00. Community Servings is conveniently located next to the Stony Brook T Station in Jamaica Plain. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Mark Lippolt at: mark.lippolt@gmail.com.

FOOD PANTRY AT THE HAITIAN MULTI-SERVICE CENTER

Did you know that August is the month when most food pantries and groups that feed the homeless experience the greatest demand for their services? It isn't around the Christmas holidays: it's August. Most summer school meals programs end in early August and families can suddenly find themselves with three or four additional mouths to feed at breakfast and lunch. Also, August is the month when family budgets are stretched to purchase back-to-school supplies and clothes.

Given the current state of the economy for the working poor, our friends at Catholic Charities expect to see many more hungry families looking for assistance at their food pantry this month. We at Saint Cecilia Parish would like to help them meet this increase in demand. Please consider bringing the following items to the food baskets in the back of the church: peanut butter, tuna fish, canned chicken breast, cooking oil, Cheerios or corn flakes, cooking oil, white flour spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, and tomato sauce.

SEEKING ESL TEACHERS VOLUNTEERS

A Faith That Does Justice is looking for volunteer ESL teachers. Live out your faith in action and use your talents to empower and educate adult learners in vulnerable populations. For more information and to apply, see <http://bit.ly/AFTDJteach>.

A REQUEST FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES

For nearly 100 years, Sunset Point Camp has provided a dream vacation at the seashore to over 40,000 low-income, at-risk children aged 6-13 from Greater Boston. Nearly 450 boys and girls travel to Hull, Massachusetts each summer for a one or two week overnight camp experience letting them enjoy the fresh air, learn new talents, receive academic summer support and simply have fun.

Sunset Point Camp is operated by our friends at Catholic Charities. They have mentioned to us that they always need donations of sunscreen for the kids at the camp. So the next time you're at CVS or Walgreen's or your local super-market, please consider picking up sunscreen and dropping it in the plastic bin identified for this purpose in the narthex. We have been told the higher the SPF number, the better and the staff prefers the spray-on version of sunscreen. The Camp also needs kids' flipflops for boys and girls ages 6 to 12.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Boston Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation is sponsoring a series of fora using Catholic Social Thought and Ignatian Principles of Discernment to examine the challenges and opportunities concerning the future of the Holy Land. These fora will be held at Saint Ignatius of Loyola Church in Chestnut Hill on three Sundays this fall at 4:00 p.m. — September 9, October 14, and November 4. For more information, please contact Jeanne Bruno (jbruno@stceciliaboston.org).

SITTING IN THE DARK

BY CARI WILLIS



Lately I have been sitting in the dark with my incarcerated friends. One of them has been waiting for months for an opinion on his appeal, a few of them are trying to find another lawyer who will work for free to finally exonerate them, one has struggled to find a friend on the inside who will sit and listen to him, and another just got news that evidence that could exonerate him can't be used in a new court hearing.

When I read Isaiah 42:6-7, "I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness," I tear up.

These ancient words of Scripture are still true today. God has always known about those who sit inside prisons and the darkness that surrounds them. I found other Scriptures that included prisoners and darkness. Scriptures like Psalm 107:10: "Some sat in darkness, in utter darkness, prisoners suffering in iron chains," and Isaiah 45:7: "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things," which two of my friends shared during our time together.

Again, the ancient words of Scripture shine a light on the utter darkness that some of my friends sit in.

My friends know that God made the day as well as the night. They know that the day follows the night, just as much as the night follows the day. They know that some days can be like winter, where there is an overabundance of night and there are other days that can be like summer where there is an overabundance of light. They know that it isn't either or but a both and. And when they are experiencing day, they also know just how deep the darkness of night can be.

As a listener in this space, I choose to sit with them no matter where they are sitting — in the dark or in the light. And maybe, not surprisingly, I have learned more from sitting in the darkness with them. We have all learned by dwelling there. God abides with us as we sit in the darkness. We do not sit alone. The creator of darkness sits with us. We feel to the marrow of our bones God's abiding presence.

We also know that darkness does not have the final word — light does. If we will but wait long enough, eventually the sun will come up and the darkness will end.

As a Christian, I believe I am a light-bearer. So in order to sit with someone in the darkness, I have to turn my light down. I have to be willing to stop with the quick platitudes that have never been helpful and be willing to be vulnerable and authentic with my own pain so I can experience my friends' pain. I have to be willing to turn off the noise in my brain to be fully present to another person's story. I have to be willing to feel the claustrophobia of the dark knowing to my core that God is still there. I have to sit and be a non-anxious presence, knowing that God has us both in the palm of God's hand. I have to surrender my time and my being to the Spirit who will lead and who will guide right there in the midst of the darkness. I have to trust, with an unwavering trust in God, that little step by little step we will move out of the dark into the light even if we have to sit a spell longer than I would like in the dark.

I know that I do not journey alone. I know that God is always with me. And it will be God's unconditional love that will draw us to God's side even right there in the deep, dank darkness.

~ Rev. Cari Willis is a volunteer Chaplain for men on Virginia and North Carolina's death row.



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@stceciliaparish.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 Parish Visibility,
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
Leah Bennett, Administrative Coordinator,
lbennett@stceciliaboston.org
Colleen Melaugh, Finance Director,
cmelaugh@stceciliaboston.org

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Erick Berrelleza, SJ
Rev. Peter Grover, OMF
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.

Reconciliation

The sacrament of reconciliation is available by appointment. Please call the Parish Office.

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.

Baptism for Infants

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

Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for our Faith Formation Program, please contact Scott MacDonald in the Parish Office.

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.

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

Both the church and Parish Pastoral Center are accessible by elevator.

Parking

There is reduced rate parking for \$11.00 at the Hynes Auditorium Garage located on Dalton Street 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 the church. There is also reduced rate parking 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.

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.. No matter what your background, please know that you are always welcome at Saint Cecilia.