

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

18 August 2019

Rise And Shine
Brian Timmer

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, August 17 | 5:00 p.m.
Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Tom Nicolini, lectors

Sunday, August 18 | 8:00 a.m.
Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Jim Dougherty, lector

Sunday, August 18 | 9:30 a.m.
Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Nick Santaniello, Nicholas Hayes-Mota,
and Mary Ann Hinsdale, IHM, lectors

Sunday, August 18 | 11:15 a.m.
Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Hannah Ostwald, Emily St. Germain,
and Karen McMenemy, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 17 | 5:00 p.m.
Eugenia Valente, *Memorial*

Sunday, August 18 | 11:15 a.m.
Francis Brennan, *Anniversary*

SAVE THE DATE: PINE STREET INN

Thursday, September 26 | 6:00 p.m.
**The Cyclorama at the Boston Center for
the Arts, 539 Tremont Street**

As part of their 50th anniversary, Pine Street Inn is hosting a special event with their friends and supporters to celebrate the accomplishments of their community and rededicate the agency to a future without homelessness. Tickets, which are not yet on sale, will be \$500 per person.

TODAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

Hebrews 12:1-4

Luke 12:49-53

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 66:18-21

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Luke 13:22-30

PRAYERS & OCCASIONS

Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Mary Pickering, Stephanie Brown, Kim Villanueva, Francisco and Valentin Castro Goudovitch, Bill Croke, Helene Schabes, Mary Jane Kinne, Steven Clark, Patricia Finn, Mary Sue Cappoza, Marc Pelletier, Ashlyn Couture, Diego Cruz, Matt Dwyer, Jim Burke, Samuel Lockwald, and Marie Deignan.**

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish

We are pleased to welcome the following new members of our parish who have recently registered: **Julia de la Cruz** of Cambridge, **Elizabeth Burke and Ryan Sanders** of Walpole, **the DuPont-Tremblay Family** of Cape Neddick, Maine, **Mila DeMarte** of Boston, **Michelle Rock and Dennis Kane** of Medford, and **Maggie and Matt Weinberger** of Boston. 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

Weddings at Saint Cecilia

Congratulations to **Lena Caprio and Lewis Raibley** who were married here on August 10. May God bless the happy couple as they start this next phase of their lives together.

Happy Anniversary!

This week we celebrate the baptismal anniversary of **Nicolas Love** who was baptized on August 22. May the Lord continue to bless him with the grace to live out his baptismal call. Happy Feast Day, Nicolas!

Good Luck Collegians!

Best wishes and prayers to all our students who are preparing to leave for college. We pray that the Lord will guide them during their time away, fill them with wisdom so that they might make wise decisions and choices, and give them the strength they'll need to live out the values they profess.

Office Closing

The parish staff is going on a working retreat this Wednesday and Thursday, August 21–22 and the Parish Office will be closed both days.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Please join us for Evening Prayer & Morning Prayer

Tuesday, July 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Monday, July 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

Monday, July 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial of Saint Martha

Wednesday, July 31 at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Tuesday, August 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Feast of the Transfiguration

Thursday, August 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial of Saint Dominic

Monday, August 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial of St. Jane Frances de Chantal

Wednesday, August 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, August 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial of Saint Bernard of Clairvaux

Thursday, August 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial of the Queenship of Mary

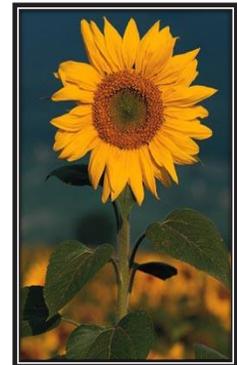
Tuesday, August 27 at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial of Saint Monica

Thursday, August 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial of the Passion of St. John the Baptist

Saint Cecilia
PARISH



"The liturgy of the hours, like other liturgical services, is not a private matter but belongs to the whole Body of the Church, whose life it both expresses and affects.

"Hence, when the people are invited to the liturgy of the hours and come together in unity of heart and voice, they show forth the Church in its celebration of the mystery of Christ."

General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours



RAINBOW MINISTRY UPCOMING EVENTS

LGBTQ Catholics Unite Monthly Meeting

Sunday, August 25 | 1:00 p.m. | Rear Upper Room at St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine at the corner of Boylston and Ipswich Streets

LGBTQ Catholics Unite provides an opportunity for LGBTQ Catholics and friends to gather and discuss openly relevant topics, scripture, and current events. This month Mark Lipolt will facilitate a discussion on "Year in Review and in View." Please join us to share your thoughts about this past year's monthly meetings and identify future topics. We will also be providing updates on our relationships with the Rainbow Ministry's non-profit partner agencies and upcoming events/opportunities. LGBTQ Catholics need a forum in which to share faith experiences, thoughts, beliefs, and feelings. Our hope is that people will feel supported, heard, and spiritually nourished. Coffee and donuts will be served. All are welcome!



A REQUEST FROM CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Celebrating its 100th anniversary, 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 without regard for their race, nationality, or religious affiliation. Nearly 450 city-based boys and girls travel to Hull 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 supermarket, please consider picking up an extra tube of 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. The Camp also needs kids' flipflops for boys and girls age 6 to 12.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION SESSIONS AT SAINT CECILIA

Saint Cecilia will be hosting two Marriage Preparation (Pre-Cana) sessions this upcoming year. The fall session will be held over November 9th and 16th. The spring session will be held over April 25th and May 2nd. For more information or to register, please email stc.marriage@gmail.com.

SOCIAL AND RACIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY UPCOMING EVENTS

"I would like to ask you all to see a ray of hope as well in the eyes and hearts of refugees and of those who have been forcibly displaced. A hope that is expressed in expectations for the future, in the desire for friendship, in the wish to participate in the host society also through learning the language, access to employment and the education of children. I admire the courage of those who hope to be able gradually to resume a normal life, waiting for joy and love to return to brighten their existence. We can and must all nourish this hope!"

— Pope Francis

Monday, August 19 | 10:00 a.m. | JFK Federal Building

Join Faith in Action for a rally to kick off their walk for immigrant justice that includes participants from four states. "We'll walk, march, and even bike a combined 280 miles from Concord, NH; Boston, MA; Montpelier, VT; and Kittery, ME to Dover, NH. We are sending a very clear demand to federal leaders to protect immigrant families, end the detention and deportation machine by cutting funding for ICE and CBP, and reinvest this money in an agenda rooted in love."

A Faith That Does Justice is a volunteer-led, interfaith organization that raises consciousness about social issues affecting the most vulnerable among us and offers opportunities for people to walk in solidarity with those whom our society marginalizes. They are seeking volunteers for their ESOL program, and there are also grant writing and leadership positions available. Visit www.fait-justice.org/volunteer/.

You can sign up to receive updates from the SRJM ministry at <http://eepurl.com/dKw-gw>. Follow us on Facebook (search for St. Cecilia's Social and Racial Justice Ministry) to get news about upcoming events.

SAINT BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX —
AUGUST 20

BERNARD



Our stained glass windows add immeasurably to the beauty of Saint Cecilia Church and they serve an important purpose in reminding us of our communion with those whose lives paved the way for us today. This Tuesday we celebrate the memorial of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, whose stained glass window is on the east side of the church. We have no way of knowing why our forebears chose to honor Bernard with a window, but the 12th century Frankish abbot led a very interesting life. Bernard was born into the Burgundian nobility and, in 1112, joined the Cistercians, a new order dedicated to the primitive observance of the Rule of St. Benedict. So many joined this new order—including his own father and six brothers!—that three years later Bernard was sent to found the Abbey of Clairvaux, the first of many. Bernard wrote extensively on the Blessed Virgin Mary and was especially interested in her role as intercessor. He was often called upon by popes to mediate quarrels between kings and to heal schisms. Bernard died at Clairvaux Abbey on August 20, 1153. He was canonized by Pope Alexander III on January 18, 1174. In 1830, Pope Pius VII declared him a Doctor of the Church. On May 24, 1953, in commemoration of the 800th anniversary of Bernard's death, Pope Pius XII issued an encyclical on Bernard titled, *Doctor Mellifluus*, in which he titled him "The Last of the Fathers."

WELCOMING THE STRANGER

For the past two years, our parish has provided ongoing support to Catholic Charities' Refugee and Immigration Services, heeding Pope Francis' words, "With regard to migrants, displaced persons and refugees, a common commitment is needed, one focused on offering them a dignified welcome." At this point in time, the parish has offered to provide refugee families with supermarket gift cards so that they will have food while their applications for political asylum are processed. If you would like to purchase gift cards to Market Basket specifically—and no more than \$25 per card—please feel free to drop them in the offertory basket. You can also contribute by check, noting "Refugee Families" in the memo line of your check made payable to "Saint Cecilia Parish."

POPE SAINT PIUS X — AUGUST 21

Prior to our renovations eight years ago, the last major renovation of the upper church at Saint Cecilia occurred in 1954. It was during that same year that Pope Pius X, born Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto, was canonized and so our side altar on the east side of the church was rededicated in his honor. Pope Pius X (1835-1914) restored Gregorian Chant to prominence over Classical and Baroque music during the liturgy. He was also known for his devotion to Mary and for his pastoral nature. Above the statue of Pius X on the side altar, there are two paintings that depict important reforms he initiated. One painting shows him instructing children, commemorating the fact that he instituted Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) for children in every parish. The other painting, which prominently features a chalice and the Eucharist, honors Pius X for promoting the frequent reception of Holy Communion and for lowering the age of first Communion for children because, as he said, "Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to Heaven." Saint Pius is the patron saint of first communicants and the U. S. dioceses of Atlanta, Georgia and Great Falls-Billings, Montana.



ADULT FAITH
FORMATION EVENTS

FAITH FORMATION EVENTS AT SAINT CECILIA
OFTEN APPEAR ON PAGES 4-7

SACRED THREADS

For further details on this event, please check their website: <http://www.sacredthreadscenter.org/events/>

**The Time Is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage
A Conversation with Joan Chittister**

Saturday, September 21 | 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Fontbonne Academy, 930 Brook Road, Milton, MA

Registration Required | \$25.00 per ticket

FROM THE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Dear Parishioners,

On page 6 is the Parish Operating Statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. As you can see, our Net Loss for the year was \$157,940. This is primarily due to our Special Donations Income coming in under budget. Special donations include gifts to the parish unrelated to the Sunday offertory income. These gifts are very difficult to predict and vary widely from one year to the next. We expect to fund this loss from our savings accounts that we have built up over the last few years.

We would like to point out that both our Miscellaneous Income and Building Expenses Accounts include \$86,000 associated with the flood. This represents the insurance payment and the cost associated with the water damage that we incurred in the parish hall last August.

We do plan to operate the parish on an annual breakeven basis over the long term. Obviously, this year has been an exception. The Finance Council is concerned that next year will also be an exception. We are currently preparing the budget for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2020 and it is clear that it will be difficult for us to break even next year. As soon as the budget is complete, we will share it with you along with a description of the financial challenges we expect to face in the coming year. The Finance Council takes very seriously its duty to help Father John shepherd the parish in sound fiscal management. As the past year shows, this can sometimes be a challenging exercise. Nevertheless, we continue to work diligently to ensure that the parish remains on stable footing now and for the future.

As always, we thank you for your support as we strive to further the mission of our parish through good stewardship of our finances. It is only through sustained and predictable generous giving like yours that we can plan for the future of Saint Cecilia. 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. OCP is easy to join, simply go to our website at www.stceciliaboston.org and click "GIVE" on the menu bar. Please contact Colleen Melaugh in the parish office for more information. Thank you for all your support!

Saint Cecilia Finance Council

Father John Unni, Pastor
Matt Maguire, Chair
David Castaldi
Alicia Cooney
Mark Duggan
Mary Kaye
Jason Kelly
Mark Lippolt
Colleen Melaugh
Cole Young

SAINT CECILIA PARISH

OPERATING STATEMENT

	<u>Year Ending</u> <u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>Year Ending</u> <u>June 30, 2019</u>
<u>INCOME</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
Sunday Offertory Income	\$ 956,309	\$ 970,000
Special Donations Income	\$ 375,391	\$ 536,216
Operating Income	\$ 235,601	\$ 261,562
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 268,442	\$ 185,152
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,835,743	\$ 1,952,930
 <u>EXPENSES</u>		
Personnel Expenses	\$ 903,670	\$ 942,107
Office Expenses	\$ 139,970	\$ 150,000
Liturgy Expenses	\$ 64,119	\$ 62,118
Building Expenses	\$ 493,948	\$ 425,732
Other Expenses	\$ 391,976	\$ 422,001
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,993,683	\$ 2,001,958
TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES	\$ (157,940)	\$ (49,028)

The Church Should Support all Workers, Regardless of Sexual or Gender Identity

By DEACON RAY DEVER

Two years ago, on a chilly spring Saturday in Chicago, I found myself sitting in a conference room in an airport hotel as one of the speakers for a panel discussion during a weekend symposium. In many respects the gathering was indistinguishable from dozens of professional conferences in which I'd participated during my career as an environmental engineer.

But this symposium was for LGBTQ Catholics, and I was there to share my experiences as a Catholic deacon and the father of a 23-year-old transgender woman. My daughter was there to participate in the session as well.

For a parent, it was heartbreaking to listen to her tell her story and to relive difficult aspects of her journey—all the discrimination and hatred she has endured, the depression and suicide attempts. I will never forget her saying that all she wanted was to get up in the morning, go to her job as a graphic artist in Washington, D.C., return in the evening to the apartment she shared with two college friends from Georgetown, make dinner, go to bed, and then get up the next morning to do the same thing again.

In other words, she just wanted to be able to live her life authentically as the person she is, the same fundamental need and desire as every other human being.

While I'm happy to say my daughter is doing well today, her path in life will always be significantly more challenging than many of ours. If we were to honestly assess the ability of LGBTQ people in the United States to simply live their lives, the results would be decidedly mixed.

According to the 2018 State Equality Index report compiled by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation and the Equality Federation Institute, 30 states do not currently have any laws that prohibit discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

In those states, there are no comprehensive legal protections for LGBTQ rights. Individuals can be refused employment or be fired from their jobs, denied housing or credit, or even refused life-saving health care on the basis of their God-given sexual or gender identity, all without any legal recourse.

Various studies, including one in 2017 by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, have documented this discrimination against the LGBTQ community and found it to be real and significant. For Catholics, whose faith is based on the fundamental belief in the value and dignity of every human being

and whose church has consistently called for the just treatment of workers, a clear moral obligation to actively support efforts to eliminate these kinds of discrimination would seem obvious.

On the legislative front, numerous efforts during the 2019 legislative session at both the state and federal levels have sought to address nondiscrimination protections for the LGBTQ community. These include proposed legislation in more than 35 states to either establish these protections or expand existing protections, according to the Equality Federation's legislative tracker. (Unfortunately, the same source also shows proposed bills in several states that would limit LGBTQ rights, especially to transgender individuals.)

The most visible proposed legislation in this area, which was introduced to the current Congress in March 2019, is the federal Equality Act, which would amend existing civil rights laws to prohibit discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

How do people of faith respond to these efforts? According to a 2019 survey by the Public Religion Research Institute, significant majorities of all major religious groups in the United States support laws protecting LGBTQ people from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. The results of that survey with respect to Catholics are consistent with the results for other religious groups: Approximately 70 percent of Catholics favor such legislation.

It seems clear that the sense of the faithful, the *sensus fidei*, recognizes that the current lack of comprehensive nondiscrimination protections for the LGBTQ community needs to change.

But if we turn to the institutional Catholic Church, we'll find a different story, with the church actively opposing such legislation. In March 2019, when the Equality Act was introduced to Congress, and again in May 2019, when the act was approved by the House of Representatives, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) immediately wrote strongly worded letters of opposition and disappointment to Congress.

Not surprisingly, it appears that state conferences of Catholic bishops, such as in my home state of Florida, have fallen in line and opposed comparable proposed legislation at the state level.

Why? While every piece of legislation differs in some details, the majority of the church's specific objections fall under the category of religious liberty protections, which was the case with the objections cited in the March 2019 USCCB letter to Congress. While I respect sincerely held concerns about religious liberty and recognize that the public debate over religious liberty protections has taken on a life of its own, it doesn't seem like an impossible task for people of goodwill who are genuinely committed to passing nondiscrimination legislation to reach some reasonable consensus on religious liberty protections.

But it seems that the church has allowed itself to be dragged down into the weeds of this highly polarized debate about religious liberty protections in different pieces of legislation. It seems it has lost sight of its role in the big picture, namely, proclaiming the moral vision and values of the church with respect to discrimination against the LGBTQ community.

As I follow church statements on this topic, I wonder what has happened to the church's belief in the value and dignity of every human being as divinely revealed in the gospels. What has happened to the church's long-standing teachings on social justice and equal economic opportunity, teachings that apply without exception to all individuals? Shouldn't those core beliefs be the starting point and guiding principles in any discussion of discrimination and human rights with respect to economic matters?

While church statements like the March 2019 letter to Congress include declarations of the church's desire to eliminate unjust discrimination in society, the bottom line has been consistent opposition to any legislative efforts to eliminate unjust discrimination toward the LGBTQ community, and there has been no indication of any real desire to see such legislation passed.

For more than 100 years, Catholic social teaching has affirmed the dignity of work, the rights of all people to equal opportunity and fair compensation, and the rights of people to support their families. These are the kinds of rights that legislation like the Equality Act intends to protect for LGBTQ individuals.

From Pope Leo XIII's groundbreaking encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (On Capital and Labor) in 1891 to more recent affirmations of this message by Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II, the church has clearly and consistently supported the rights of all people without exception to equal opportunity. In the United States, the church has supported and honored activists for worker dignity and human rights, from Dorothy Day to Martin Luther King Jr. to Cesar Chavez.

That is the Catholic Church I love. That is the Catholic Church whose moral theology flows from the parable of the final judgment in Chapter 25 of Matthew's gospel, where Jesus tells

us that whatever we do to the least among us, we do to him.

But when it comes to the LGBTQ community, it seems there are more important concerns to many in the church than the human dignity of a gay or transgender person or their right to life in a just society with equal economic opportunity. If people of faith and goodwill are truly committed to the just treatment of all people—which is entirely consistent with and mandated by Catholic teaching—then we should be working together to pass equality legislation, not finding excuses to oppose it and allow discrimination to continue.

We should be putting our common foundational belief in the dignity of every human being first, rolling up our sleeves, and getting to work on crafting acceptable nondiscrimination legislation.

Last year, in observance of the 50th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King Jr., the USCCB issued a statement that said: "On this day, as we reflect on his life and work, we need to ask ourselves if we are doing all we can to build the culture of love, respect and peace to which the Gospel calls us." When it comes to building a culture of love and respect for the LGBTQ community, I'm afraid the honest answer of the Catholic Church to that question would have to be "no."

I hope and pray that we as the church can rediscover and refocus on our gospel-based commitment to a just society, that we will sincerely and prayerfully reconsider what our priorities in the public square should be, and that we will simply do the right thing by cooperating in efforts to ensure nondiscrimination in employment and other economic matters for all God's people.

On a final personal and pastoral note, if you are a person of faith who opposes nondiscrimination protections for the LGBTQ community, let me make a suggestion. Consider how you would explain to a gay or transgender person why you oppose LGBTQ nondiscrimination legislation when the church believes in the value and dignity of all human beings and has fought for the basic human rights of all other people without exceptions. I want you to think about what you would say if you had to sit down with my transgender daughter, look her in the eyes, and explain to her why you think she shouldn't have the same legally protected human rights and opportunities in life as other people.

And while you're at it, you might want to give some thought as to what you would say if that were your own son or daughter sitting across the table from you.

~ Deacon Ray Dever is a permanent deacon in the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Florida, as well as a husband and father of three daughters. He has a graduate degree in theology from St. Leo University and is a frequent speaker and writer on issues of faith in the LGBTQ community.

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
Colleen Melaugh, Finance Director,
cmelaugh@stceciliaboston.org
Mark Donohoe, Pastoral Associate,
mtonohoe@stceciliaboston.org
Scott J. MacDonald, Director of Faith Formation and Parish Visibility,
smacdonald@stceciliaboston.org
John Glynn, Director of College and Youth Ministry,
jglynn@stceciliaboston.org,
Jeanne Bruno, Chaplain, Pastoral Associate,
Coordinator of Pastoral Outreach,
jbruno@stceciliaboston.org
Robert Duff, Director of Music,
rduff@stceciliaboston.org
Lisa Pickering, Events and Facilities Manager,
lpickering@stceciliaboston.org
Leah Bennett, Communications and Operations Coordinator,
lbennett@stceciliaboston.org

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV
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.