

Fra Filippo Lippi, Annunciation, c.1443



ANNULMENTS

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BAPTISMS

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BEREAVEMENT

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Jeff Krietemeyer, 324-6497 DAY OF ADORATION

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Saint Cecilia

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www.stceciliacincinnati.org www.facebook.com/stceciliacincinnati

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MOMS' GROUP

Holly Hemak, moms@stceciliacincinnati.org

OAKLEY FOOD PANTRY & COMMUNITY DINNER Stan Messerly, 731-2500

PASTORAL COUNCIL Jason Hemak, 919-3491

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Brigid McLinden Duffy, 379-0821, bswartz@fuse.net

Patricia Donnelly & Renee Dawson, 533-6060

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Fr. Jamie Weber, 871-5757, ext. 201 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Tom Schimian, 871-5757, ext. 203

SERVERS

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WORSHIP COMMISSION Mark Milliron, mmilliron501@gmail.com

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Janelle Allen, 313-2196, janelle.r.allen@gmail.com

WEEKEND MASSES: Sat. 4 PM & Sun. 8 & 10 AM

DAILY MASSES: Mon.-Sat. 9 AM, Wed. 6:45 AM

THE ROSARY: Mon.-Sat. 8:40 AM

DAILY COMMUNION SERVICE: Mon.-Sqt. 8 AM

HOLY DAY MASSES: 9 AM, 12:10 PM & 5:30 PM

LATIN MASSES: Tues. 9 AM

CONFESSIONS: Mon.-Sat. 9:30 AM, Wed. 7:05-7:15 AM and

7:05-7:50 PM, Sat. 3-3:30 PM, Sun. 7-7:30 AM

and 9-9:30 AM

ADORATION: Wed. 9:30 AM-8 PM

HOLY HOUR: Wed. 7-8 PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Fri. 9:30 AM, 2:15 PM and 7 PM

H **BAPTISMAL PREPARATION: Please register for your** 国

baptism at www.stceciliacincinnati.org under the Sacraments

tab. You can also select your class dates there.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR ST. MARGARET-ST. JOHN:

Mon.-Fri. 11:45 AM, Sat. 3 PM, Sun. 9 & 11 AM

MASS SCHEDULE FOR ST. ANTHONY:

Sun. 8:30 & 11:30 AM

MONDAY, MARCH 27

8:00 AM Communion Service H

H 9:00 AM Ron Koetters Off Ron & Marcia Joseph

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

8:00 AM Communion Service

S 9:00 AM Jim Mack Off 8'Clock Communion Service Friends

≖ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

6:45 AM Families of Saint Cecilia

> 8:00 AM **Communion Service**

9:00 AM Special Intentions of Bonnie Peterson by Barbara & Jim Momper

Eucharist Adoration (9:30 AM – 8 PM) Holy Hour 7-8 PM with

Confessions until 7:50 PM

S **THURSDAY, MARCH 30**

 \mathbf{Z} Communion Service

9:00 AM Special Intentions of Saint Cecilia Families

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

8:00 AM Communion Service Z

9:00 AM Special Intentions of Saint Cecilia Families

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

Z 8:00 AM Communion Service

9:00 AM Paul Wellage Off Ron & Lorna Case

4:00 PM Michael Sansbury Off The Sansbury Family

S

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 (Fifth Sunday of Lent)

8:00 AM Hubert & Catherine Moermond Off The Moermond Family 10:00 AM Special Intentions of Ben & Sandy Parker by Cathy, Dottie,

& Jeanne

Adoration. Every Wednesday beginning at 9:30 AM and concluding with HOLY HOUR, 7-8 PM.



Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

During the 40 Days for Life this Lent, we celebrate one of the most powerful "pro-life" feast days, the Annunciation — the day the Virgin Mary was chosen to be the mother of our Savior. On Saturday of this weekend, we celebrate her "Yes!"

As we continue our journey this Lent, we should reflect on this feast day. Mary's assent brought Jesus into this world and

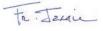


started him on his mission and his path of redemptive suffering. As Christians, we have suffering also, and we can offer our own pain of this life for those who suffer from unplanned pregnancies and who have chosen to end the life of a child.

During this Lent, may we

open our hearts as Jesus comes to pour out the love God has for us. We must open our hearts like the Blessed Mother did in saying yes to accepting God's will.

Amen? Amen!



A GOSPEL REFLECTION

JOHN 9:1-41 by Father Jason Williams

"God sent his Son so that the world might be saved through him."

We continue to accompany Jesus on the royal way of the Cross, firm in our hope that after Lent and Good Friday, Christ will rise and that we will share in the grace of the Resurrection. Christ is our true life, because only he frees us from the grip of sin and death. Looking upon the Son of Man as he is lifted up on the Cross fills us with grace as we contemplate the depth and expanse of God's love for us.

The Cross and Resurrection of Christ serve as the lens through which we view all that happens in our lives and in the world. Jesus is the true light, and just as without physical light we cannot see the things around us, so without the light of Christ, we cannot see the workings of God's grace. We can think back on Jesus' encounter with the man born blind and consider how great the gift of physical sight was for that man. For us, too, the gift of spiritual sight through faith is an incredible blessing.

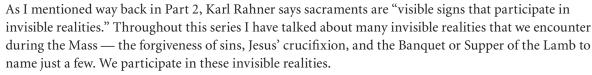
God is merciful with us, and he calls us to be merciful to others in return. We can think on the parable of the prodigal son and his merciful father; in that familiar story Jesus teaches his followers to be forgiving, supportive, and generous even to excess – just as the merciful father went beyond what could have been imposed as the requirements of justice. May we see all things by the light of Christ and learn to practice mercy as we have received it.



CATECHESIS -

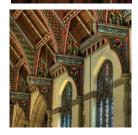
UNDERSTANDING THE MASS — Part 9: Heaven on Earth







At Mass, we are also surrounded by things that point to invisible realities rather than participate in invisible realities. Things that point to invisible realities and remind us of God are sacred signs called sacramentals. They are all around us. If fact, almost everything in church is sacramental (pointing to God), including the music (angelic voices), the candles (light of Christ), the incense (our prayers rising to Heaven), the columns (people), the statues (specific people), the art work and even the building itself, organized into a nave where the people pray, signifying the Earth and the sanctuary where the altar (Jesus) is located, representing Heaven.



The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is filled with invisible realities in which we participate, and we are surrounded by items and actions that point to these invisible realties. These pointers, the sacramentals, help make the sacrament more fruitful. They help us raise our hearts and minds up to God so that his merciful grace can fill us with his infinite love and we can help prepare the Earth for the day when He returns.

The Mass is not only the closest personal encounter we can have with the living risen Jesus but also the closest most of us can come right now to Heaven on Earth. The Mass is truly Heaven on Earth!

The depth to which we experience these invisible realities depends upon our individual eyes of faith. May your eyes and hearts be open to these invisible realities and the graces of the Holy Spirit as you grow in the love of God! – *Cody Egner*

Reflections with the Saints: St. Thorfinn (A.D. 1285)

The closest St. Thorfinn, a Norwegian bishop, came to fame occurred when he sided with the archbishop of Norway in a dispute against King Eric and was subsequently banished. He ended up at a Cistercian abbey in Flanders, where he died and was quickly forgotten.

More than fifty years later, when some construction work was being done, his tomb was opened and his remains were said to have given off a pleasant aroma. An elderly monk who had recalled Thorfinn's virtue had written a poem about him, which was still hanging above the tomb. The Abbot took these events as signs that Thorfinn should be remembered. And so he has been, for more than seven hundred years.

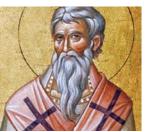
Most of us will live ordinary lives. We will take care of our families, do our jobs, and be ordinary law-abiding citizens. It doesn't seem like much, but in the heavenly scheme of things, it is more than enough.

What part of my life is the most routine? If I think of my life as normal, rather than ordinary, how does that change my feelings?

God doesn't say we have to perform mighty deeds to get to heaven. We just have to do what we are called to do — no matter how insignificant that might seem. St. Thorfinn lived a very ordinary life, yet it was enough to ensure him a place in heaven. No matter how routine our lives may seem, it is precisely in the forge of the ordinary that the silver of eternal life is fashioned. —*Woodeene Koenig-Bricker*



"The glory of God is man fully alive; moreover, man's life is the vision of God." – St. Irenaeus of Lyons



- PASTOR'S RAMBLINGS -







COCA-COLA PLANT: Recently on my day off, I visited the old Coca-Cola plant (photo, top left), which is now owned by Xavier University. I had heard from parishioners that the lobby of the offices contained incredible art deco design and that they also had murals depicting the Coca-Cola manufacturing process. The murals are done in a style similar to those at Union Terminal. + MARIBEL'S NATURALIZATION **CEREMONY:** Recently one of our school staff members, Maribel McGonagle, became a United States citizen (photo, top center). The school staff threw her a lovely lunch to celebrate becoming a naturalized citizen. Her daughter is a student in our school, and we are so happy for their family. + **SUE MENCHEN:** Forty years ago on May 26, Sue Menchen was married here by Msgr. Kramer. Last weekend she stopped by for a visit with her son and daughter-in-law (photo, top right). They now reside in St. Petersburg, Fla. She said the church was as beautiful as she remembered it. + GIRL SCOUTS: We have a Girl Scout troop that did a service project to help our festival flea market by sorting donated jewelry (photo, below). The troop is very busy and









growing. They were also at a recent fish fry at St. Margaret-St. John. It's really nice to see such an active troop. +

ST. CECILIA MOMS GROUP SOUP SUPPER:

The St. Cecilia Moms Group got together March 10 for a soup supper (*photos*, *above*) followed by praying the Stations of the Cross. They brought delicious soups to share with each other and their families. It was nice to see all of the families sharing a special Lenten meal

together and teaching their little ones how to pray the stations. + CONGRATULATIONS! Cody Egner, our director of religious education, and his wife, Angela,



welcomed their new baby boy,
Charlie (*photo*, *above left*). He was
born on March 9, weighing 7 lbs. and
2.7 oz. Welcome, Charles Frederick
Egner! + REST IN PEACE: Ethel
Josephine Zwick, 86, passed away
March 2. Ethel (*photo*, *left*) was the
sister of Fr. Frank Miller.

PARISH NEWS & NOTES

SAVE THE DATES: JULY 14-15-16



Our festival is fast approaching! We look forward to seeing you at our parish party this summer. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Doug & Joy Kornish at dkornish@cinci.rr.com or 513-658-6377.

Mark your calendar: Next flea market drop-off date is April 2, 11 AM-2 PM.

ST. MARGARET-ST. JOHN FISH FRY MARCH 3I FROM 5:30-7 PM 6000 MURR AY AVE.

Cookies Needed

As part of the Kairos Prison Ministry, there is an upcoming retreat for the men in Lucasville State Penitentiary, a four-day program, modeled on the Catholic Cursillo. This is a life-changing, soul-saving experience for many of these men who may have never had Christ in their lives.



It is a Kairos tradition to give every inmate and prison employee two dozen homebaked, prayed-over cookies.

That's 48,000 cookies. You are invited to be a part of the Kairos Prison Ministry by baking cookies. Cookie bags, with specific instructions, will be available after the weekend Masses on April 1 and 2. The baked cookies need to be dropped off in the back of church by 11:00 on Sunday, April 9. Parishioner Jerry Davis, who is involved in this ministry, will be delivering our cookies to Lucasville.

Purcell Marian Spring Open House

In response to the increasing demand for opportunities for grade schoolers to explore their high school options, Purcell Marian has introduced a new **Spring Open House**



on Thursday, April 6, from 5:30 - 7:30 PM, to make it easier for students and their families to explore all Purcell Marian has to offer. Guests will have the opportunity to learn about academic, athletic, extracurricular and spiritual growth opportunities in a friendly, casual setting.

There will also be **Spring Parent Information Sessions** on April 26, May 10 and May 24. Sessions will be held in the Purcell Marian Board Room from 6-7:15 PM. For more information, call Purcell Marian Admissions at 513-487-3133.

Praying with Mother Teresa

In 1986, twenty-one-year-old **Susan Conroy** journeyed alone to Calcutta to work with the Missionaries of Charity. While there, she developed a personal friendship with Mother Teresa that lasted throughout the course of 11 years, until Mother Teresa was called home to God.

Susan will be visiting three local parishes to present a collection of prayers, insights, and wisdom from the inimitable Mother Teresa of Calcutta, one of heaven's newest saints:

Monday, April 3, 7 PM - Immaculate Heart of Mary Tuesday, April 4, 7 PM - St. Antoninus Wednesday, April 5, 7 PM - St. Vincent Ferrer

For additional information, contact the appropriate parish or email info@cincyserravocations.org.



Encounter Lent

We encounter Maria in Mexico, where a community of hardworking women share joys, sorrows and fellowship while growing economic opportunity at a greenhouse. How have your communities helped you encounter Christ anew this Lent? Visit crsrice-bowl.org to learn more.

St. Anthony Lenten Series

The series will conclude with **Loving the Prisoner** on **March 30** in the **St. Anthony Parish Center**. Major Charmaine McGuffey, Hamilton County Court & Jail Services Division Commander, and Brother Mike Murphy, Director of the Help Program, will discuss their work with men and women who have been involved in the criminal justice system.

Join Our Lady of Fatima Prayer Group as they meet every Wednesday from 1–2 PM in the last two pews of church to pray the rosary for peace in our troubled world.

PARISH NEWS & NOTES



JEVEN LAST WORDS

TENEBRAE SERVICE AT ST. CECILIA GOOD FRIDAY-APRIL 14 AT 7 PM

A meditation on the Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross with scripture and musical settings by Frank, Gounod, DuBois, Bach and Pergolesi sung by the St. Cecilia Choir and soloists.

Prayer Intentions for the Week

Please keep in prayer **Gabriel Benedict Thobe** that he may receive God's loving grace. And comfort and solace for the families of those who have recently died, **Joe Perry** and **Cathy Bengel**. Contact Barb Browarsky at the parish office, (513) 871-5757, ext. 202, with Mass and sanctuary devotional candle intention requests. All requests are honored for two weeks with the individual's or family's approval.

Looking for a Lenten Prayer Opportunity?

St. Cecilia Parish will be covering vigil prayer hours for 40 Days for Life on Tuesday, March 28, and Tuesday, April 4, from 7AM until 7PM. St. Edmund Campion Academy will also be there for an hour, so it is a good way to partner and team up with our neighbors in peaceful prayer time and very non-adversarial, albeit an occasional honking horn of support . . . or not.

To sign up, go to 40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/cincinnati/calendar/, log in, and go to March 28 or April 4, or email Brigid Duffy @ bswartz@fuse.net.

COLLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 12

Offertory \$7,686.00
Online Giving \$2,994.50
TOTAL \$10,680.50

Society of St. Vincent de Paul \$1,360.00

Easter Flowers

You can make an Easter flower donation "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" a family member or friend. Please use the envelopes provided in your offertory envelope packet or in the church pews.

Your remembrance allows us to provide a beautiful floral presentation for Easter Sunday and the season following.

St. Cecilia at Easter

During the season of Lent, we have been challenged to reflect on our prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The culmination of this reflection can be **your special Easter gift to the parish**. The parish budget includes a substantial Easter collection to help maintain the parish buildings, serve the community and continue to build the Kingdom of God in Oakley. We rely on the generosity of families and friends to help meet our budgeted expenses. Your offering will be appreciated and will not go unrewarded.

You can make your Easter gift through regular offertory giving or through **online giving**. For more information, visit steeciliacincinnati.org and click on St. Cecilia Online Giving.

❖ SERVER SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 27-APRIL 2 ❖



MONDAY

9 AM - H. Hernandez & C. Brereton

TUESDAY

9 AM - St. Edmund Campion

WEDNESDAY

9 AM - The Donovans

THURSDAY

9 AM - J. Guerra-Cardona, D. Schnuck, B. Krietemeyer & B. Hopkins

FRIDAY

9 AM - St. Edmund Campion & D. Hilgefort

SATURDAY

9 AM - J. Bucio-Benitez & B. Valdes-Johnston 4 PM - W. Merusi

SUNDAY

8 AM - R. Peddicord

10 AM - L. Whittaker, D. Bonomo & O. Lewis

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something to eat?

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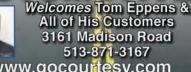
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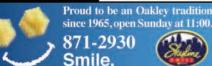
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