

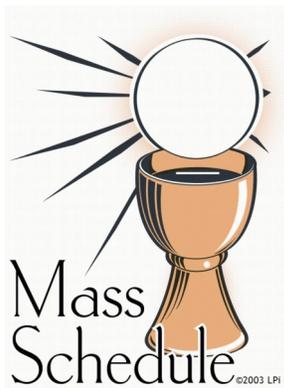


## SAINT CECILIA CHURCH

**Sunday**  
Vigil 5:00pm (Saturday)  
6:30am, 8:00am,  
9:30am, 11:00am

**Monday through Friday**  
6:30 and 8:30 am

**Saturday**  
8:30 am



**24<sup>th</sup>** Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
September 13, 2020

*find peace*  
THROUGH  
*forgiveness*



# Saint Cecilia Church

535 Rhawn Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111

## PASTOR

Reverend Charles E. Bonner

## PASTOR EMERITUS

Reverend Msgr. Francis X. Dreger

## PAROCHIAL VICAR

Reverend Robert Lucas

## PERMANENT DEACON

Deacon Patrick Diamond

## PRINCIPAL

Sister Catherine Irene Masino, IHM

## VICE PRINCIPAL

Sister Carolyn Elizabeth Braun, IHM



## OFFICES

<b>Rectory</b>	215.725.1240	Eleanor Kerwick
<b>Business</b>	215.725.1240	Susan Wagner
<b>PREP</b>	215.725.2821	Eileen Litka
<b>School</b>	215.725.8588	Bobbie Mitchell
<b>Tuition</b>	215.725.2201	Lisa Hnat
<b>Fax</b>	215.725.2130	

**Website:** www.stceciliafc.org

**School:** scsfoxchase.org

**CYO Facebook:** Saint Cecilia Catholic Youth Organization

## Rectory Office Hours

Currently closed ~ call 215-725-1240 for emergency.



## SACRAMENTS

### Baptism

First three Sundays of the month at 12:15pm. Arrangements must be made at least two weeks prior to the Baptism. Attendance at a Pre-Jordan class is required for first time parents. Please pre-register for class by contacting the Rectory at 215-725-1240.

### Marriage

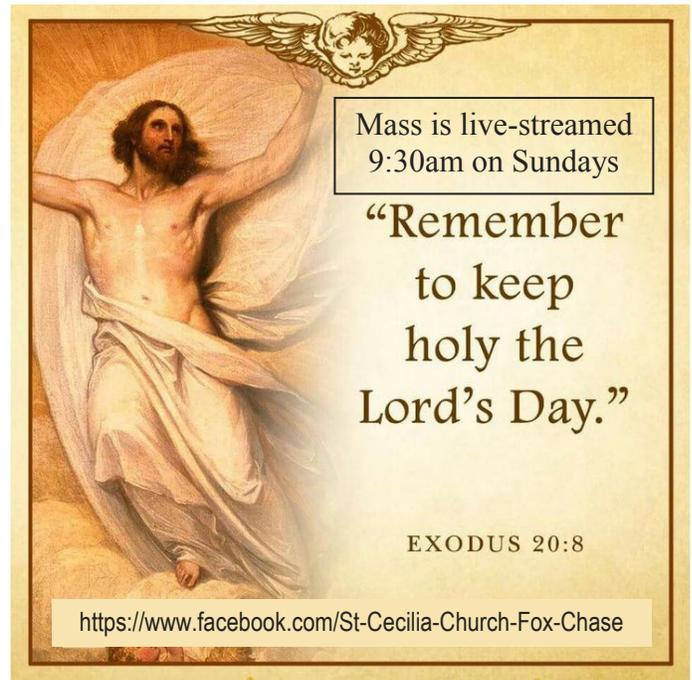
Couples must contact a priest six months prior to the wedding.

### Reconciliation

Saturdays from 4:00 to 5:00pm

### Homebound Visitation

Please contact the Rectory.



← 6 feet apart of course →



## Mass Attendance for August

Thank you to all those who have come to church during this pandemic to attend Sunday Mass.

	<u>August 1 &amp; 2</u>	<u>August 8 &amp; 9</u>	<u>August 15 &amp; 16</u>
5:00pm	130	134	163
6:30am	109	100	92
8:00am	90	85	77
9:30am	111	126	104
11:00am	<u>96</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>118</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>554</b>

	<u>August 22 &amp; 23</u>	<u>August 29 &amp; 30</u>
5:00pm	143	156
6:30am	75	96
8:00am	59	103
9:30am	131	119
11:00am	<u>148</u>	<u>116</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>590</b>

**Total for the month of August = 2,808**

## 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### The Liturgy of the Word

**First Reading** *Book of Sirach* 27:30-28:7

Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight. The vengeful will suffer the LORD's vengeance, for he remembers their sins in detail. Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven. Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the LORD? Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself, can he seek pardon for his own sins? If one who is but flesh cherishes wrath, who will forgive his sins? Remember your last days, set enmity aside; remember death and decay, and cease from sin! Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor; remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

*The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.*

**Second Reading** *Letter of St. Paul to the Romans* 14:7-9

Brothers and sisters: None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel** *The holy Gospel according to Matthew* 18:21-35

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who decided to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the accounting, a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount. Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt. At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.' Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave him the loan. When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, 'Pay back what you owe.' Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison until he paid back the debt. Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master and reported the whole affair. His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?' Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**FOCUS:** Forgiveness is a choice that leads to life.



Life always offers us choices—will we hold onto anger or choose to forgive? Will we live with a spirit of compassion or withhold mercy? Will we hold onto hurts and grievances or extend a hand in peace? Living out the commands of God is no easy task, but if we show mercy and forgiveness to others, we are assured of the same from our heavenly Father.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD:** Sirach tells the people, Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight. Thus, they are to forgive their neighbor as they wish to be forgiven by the Lord. Paul tells the Romans, *None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord.* In the Gospel, Jesus answers Peter's question of how often he must forgive by telling him the parable of the unforgiving servant.

**REFLECTION:** Reflecting on the gift of forgiveness God has given us, might enable us to forgive the debts we hold against others. Being changed by the forgiveness God always makes available to us, can enable us to forgive, the way God does, free of charge.

### So we ask ourselves:

- ◆ What experience have I had of getting something for free that I needed, didn't earn, or deserve?
- ◆ Was I changed and deeply affected by that experience?
- ◆ Was I moved in a similar way to be as generous to another?

one word  
can change  
someone's  
entire day

### Mass Schedule for Weekend ~ Sept. 19 & 20

Saturday ( <i>Vigil</i> ) 5:00pm	Celebrant: Fr. Bonner Lector: Ed Sharp
6:30am	Celebrant: Fr. Lucas Lector: Celine Severino
8:00am	Celebrant: Fr. Lucas Lector: Zach Demusz
9:30am	Celebrant: Fr. Bonner Lector: Paula Potts
11:00am	Celebrant: Fr. Bonner Lector: Dale Tan

## Second Collection

Today's second collection is for the **Military Services**.



This collection was established by St. John Paul II in 1985 to provide a full range of Catholic pastoral ministries to those in the U.S. Armed Forces. Pope Francis told military ordinaries from around the world that *'The role of military chaplains is to accompany and support those in need on the journey, to be a comforting and brotherly presence for them all.'*

Your support will bring the Gospel, the sacraments and other forms of spiritual support to men and women who serve our country and defend our freedoms.

This collection, usually taken up during Lent, was postponed until now. Thank you for your generosity and support.

### *Pray For Our Troops*

Jason Showmaker (*Navy*)  
Mark Strecker (*Navy*)  
Michael D'Antonio (*Air Force*)  
Sean Lay (*Army*)  
Brian A. Mason (*Army*)  
Christopher J. Starrett (*USMC*)  
Brandan Beaudet (*USMC*)  
Michael Molz (*Army*)  
Patrick Breslin (*Army*)  
Erin Bartholomew (*Navy*)  
Nick Marteney (*Navy*)  
Martin P. O'Donnell (*Trauma Nurse-Air Force*)



## Fatima Holy Hour for World Peace

The annual Fatima Holy Hour for World Peace sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima will be at Our Lady of Calvary Church, located on 11024 Knights Road on Sunday, September 13 at 7:00pm. All are welcome to attend. Please remember to wear a mask as you enter the chapel.

**Wedding Anniversary Mass** The annual Mass to celebrate all those married, and especially those married 25 years or more and 50 years or more will be held at the Cathedral Basilica of SS Peter & Paul on Saturday, Oct. 17 at 5:15pm. For more information visit [phillycatholiclife.org](http://phillycatholiclife.org)

We could use 6 to 8 people to help clean the pews after the daily Masses (6:30 & 8:30am) and after each Mass on Saturday and Sunday. It will take about 20 minutes of your time. If you would like to help, please contact Michael O'Donnell at 267-616-1270.



## Manna Food Drive

The Manna Food Drive will return next weekend (September 19-20) and will continue the third weekend of every month. You are invited to bring non-perishable food items, such as, canned goods, cereal, pasta, peanut butter, etc. to the vestibule of the Church. Thank you for your support and for thinking of others.



## Patron Saints

*(from A Minute in the Church by Gus Lloyd)*

Catholics have a long tradition of praying for the intercession of the saints. We can call on any or all of the saints and angels to join us in prayer. Often, we call on patron saints.

A patron is a special intercessor with God for a church or locality ~ cities, states, nations, even continents. A patron can also be a special intercessor for occupations or specific causes. Normally this is done because the saint had something to do with that particular occupation or cause, or because miracles were attributed to the intercession of that saint regarding a particular cause.

Here is a brief list of some well known ~ and not so well known ~ patrons and their causes:

- St. Anthony of Padua—lost articles
- St. Jude Thaddeus—impossible causes
- St. Peter—fishermen
- St. Gerard—pregnant women
- Our Lady of Guadalupe—Patroness of the Americas
- St. Peregrine—cancer patients
- St. John Vianney—priests
- St. Roch—dogs and dog lovers

There's a patron saint for just about every cause and profession. Some professions and causes have multiple patrons, and many saints are patrons of many causes and locations. An online search will yield lots of results for a list of saints and their patronage. Wherever you are, whatever you do or whatever you're going through, chances are there's a saint you can call upon to lift up your cause before the throne of God!

## Lectors

Lectors play a key role in the celebration of Mass. A lector is a Minister of the Word who proclaims God's Word to the assembled faith community. Liturgical proclamation of the Word is an awesome responsibility to which one is called and into which one is formed.

Anyone interested in joining this ministry for Sunday Masses, please contact Dave Schein by stopping in the Sacristy on the weekend or call 215-725-0903.

## Permanent Diaconate Information Night (on Zoom)

Lay men of the Archdiocese (above the age of 29) are invited to an online information session on Wednesday, September 30 at 7:00pm to learn about the vocation of the Permanent Deacon in the Church. No commitment is required to attend. Register at [archphila.org/deacon](http://archphila.org/deacon)





## Back to School Prayers

Dear God,  
With a new school year upon us, we pray for our . . .

**Students** ~ Please ease their anxiety about going back to school amidst the pandemic. We pray for safety for those returning to in-person classes, and for the needed technology, self-discipline, and adult oversight for those learning online. We pray that You would ensure that every child has enough to eat, a supportive network of friends and family, and perseverance to face every challenge with Your strength.

**Parents and Caregivers** ~ Please grant them wisdom about which schooling option to choose. We pray for Your provision physically, spiritually, emotionally, and financially. We pray for a support system that they can turn to when the challenges of life are overwhelming. We pray for churches and believers to surround local families with more prayer and support this year than ever before.

**Teachers and School Staff** ~ Please grant them supernatural peace and discernment. We pray for wisdom for the administration and for the safety of every person on every school campus. May the community rally around our schools to provide the sanitization, supplies, and emotional support needed by our teachers and school staff as they educate our children.

**Volunteers** ~ We pray that Your faithfulness and goodness would be evident through their actions as they love the students and school staff as You first loved us. Especially amidst this pandemic, grant them opportunities to develop meaningful relationships in safe ways, and may they strive to serve as Jesus did with grace and humility. We pray that students and teachers would see You through them.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



We welcome a new  
Music Director to  
St. Cecilia Church  
*Philip Roberts*

Philip Roberts is a familiar face here at St. Cecilia Church and has been playing the organ at Saturday evening Mass for many years. From 1985 to 1997, Philip filled in for Eileen Groody who was the Music Director at that time.

Philip was actually born and raised in Quakertown, but has strong Philly roots. His mother is from North Philadelphia, but also briefly lived in Fox Chase during the Depression, so his connection to this area goes way back!

He played the organ at his own parish, St. Isidore Church in Quakertown as a teen, then a variety of places, such as St. Joan of Arc in Harrowgate, St. John the Baptist in Manyank, and Holy Angels in Oak Lane.

We officially welcome Philip to our parish staff and pray that God will guide him to a long and happy employment at St. Cecilia Church.



Check the school's website  
for important information  
[www.scsfoxchase.org](http://www.scsfoxchase.org)



## MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF September 14



### MONDAY, September 14

6:30am – Vera Wisniewski  
8:30am – Mary DiNezza

### TUESDAY, September 15

6:30am – Matthew McTague  
8:30am – Kovacs Family

### WEDNESDAY, September 16

6:30am – Thomas Wagner  
8:30am – Harry Lemly

### THURSDAY, September 17

6:30am – Robert Hudoka  
8:30am – Edward J. Brace

### FRIDAY, September 18

6:30am – Daniel Sweeney  
8:30am – Rev. Thomas O'Neill, O.S.F.S.

### SATURDAY, September 19

8:30am – William Staudt  
5:00pm – Nancy Wehr (4th anniversary)

*Let us pray for the souls of all  
the faithful departed, especially*

Regina Mary Warren  
George Blackmore  
Nan Nestor

### *Remember Our Sick and Suffering*

Walter Hnat  
Christopher Rodgers  
James J. Tobin  
Ann Marie Tobin Masgai  
Meghan Kovacs  
John Lawrysk  
Kirsten Hosack-Edling  
Stephanie Morgan  
Owen Doyle  
Esther Sharp  
Leo Wuestkamp  
Helen Tobin  
Andrew Slivjak  
George Burbage  
Rita Giordano  
Lisa Kovacs-Breuer  
Ed MacNew  
John Smykal  
Alice Davis  
Josephine O'Donnell  
Alice Zmijewski  
Eileen Gaynor  
Eleanor DeNoble  
Marian Diel  
Catherine Needham  
Ellen Jones

Ed Lieber  
Patricia Moore  
Mary Schultz  
Charles Friel  
Joan Marie Reiley  
Maki Turner

James Potts  
Mary Benson  
Mary Jane Brough  
Stephen Ruczynski  
Mike McKee  
Melissa Fischer  
Patricia Greenleaf  
Daniel Mitchell  
Gregory Farrell  
Timothy Martin  
Julia McCauley  
Mary Matthews  
Marguerite Zeltman  
Jack Vogler  
Alberta DeMasi  
Eugenia DiSilva  
Kathi Silcox  
Connie Merkel  
Roberta Mitchell

Please **print 500** bulletins this week. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at home. Thank you.

Judi Schein  
jschein27@aol.com  
215-725-0903