

St. Cecilia Church - Fox Chase

December 14, 2025 - Third Sunday of Advent



Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, December 14

8:00am – Cecilia Smalarz
 11:00am – John Harrelson
 5:00pm – Mary Ellen Dunn

MONDAY, December 15

6:30am – Tera Guong Nguyen
 8:30am – Joey Leonard

TUESDAY, December 16

6:30am – Sheryl Snyder
 8:30am – Alice Vozzelli

WEDNESDAY, December 17

6:30am – Joseph Hartey
 8:30am – Bernard Kilfeather

THURSDAY, December 18

6:30am – Teresa Guong Nguyen
 8:30am – Joseph Mohl

FRIDAY, December 19

6:30am – Ann Buckley
 8:30am – Frank Chiccino

SATURDAY, December 20

8:30am – Sue Berthcsi
 5:00pm – Amelia Horgan

mark your Calendar

- Dec 13 at 6:30 pm Family Christmas Tree Lighting (All are Welcome)
- Dec 17 at 7 pm Lessons & Carols in Church Bring friends and neighbors
- Dec 22 at 6 pm Holy Hour for Catholics we hope to welcome home!
- Dec 22, 6-8 pm Extended Confessions for Advent
- Dec 24 & 25 Celebrate Jesus' Birthday
Christmas Eve: 4 & 7
Christmas Day: 6:30, 8, 9:30 and 11
- Dec 30 at 10 am Happy Birthday Baby Jesus Christmas Party for Families
- Dec 31 & Jan 1 Sol. of Mary, Mother of God Masses at 5pm, 6:30 am, 8:30 am and 10 am



Saint Cecilia Church

535 Rhawn Street Philadelphia, PA 19111

Transforming Lives...

Through Faith Inspired Relationships



PASTOR Rev. Christopher M. Walsh frchriswalsh@stceciliafc.com	PAROCHIAL VICAR Rev. Phong Le frphong@stceciliafc.com
PASTOR EMERITUS Rev. Charles E. Bonner	IN RESIDENCE Rev. James Callahan
PERMANENT DEACON Deacon Patrick Diamond pjddeacon@gmail.com	PERMANENT DEACON Deacon Bill Moser deaconbill@stceciliafc.com
BUSINESS MANAGER Eleanor Kerwick ekerwick@stceciliafc.com	RECEPTIONIST Kara Hartey secretary@stceciliafc.com
ADMIN. ASSISTANT Ruth McCabe rmccabe@stceciliafc.com	MUSIC DIRECTOR Colleen Mavroudis musicdirector@stceciliafc.com
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE Eileen Litka eileen@stceciliafc.com	PASTORAL ASSOCIATE Mike Tate mike@stceciliafc.com
PRINCIPAL Sister Catherine Irene Masino, IHM sistercatherine@stceciliafc.com	SCHOOL SECRETARY Kristen Poekert kpoekert@stceciliafc.com
TUITION MANAGER Jackie Hayes tuition@stceciliafc.com	

OFFICES

Parish: 215-725-1240 Hours 8:30am-4:30pm (closed 12-1pm)
 Fax: 215-725-2130
 School: 215-725-8588
 Tuition: 215-725-2201
 PREP: 215-725-1240
 School Advancement: 215-725-2821

Parish: www.stceciliafc.org
 School: scsfoxchase.org
 CYO Facebook: Saint Cecilia Catholic Youth Organization

NEW PARISHIONERS ~ Visit our Parish Website and complete the form under "Connect". You are also welcome to call the Parish Office to initiate the process.

MOVING ~ Please notify the Parish Office with any changes to your home address

BAPTISM ~ We welcome children under seven to be baptized on the second, third and fourth Sunday of month at 12:15pm. Please complete the inquiry form on our website (Worship; Sacraments; Baptism) The selected godparents must be fully initiated Roman Catholics, in good standing with the Church, and at least 16 years old. A baptized non-Catholic Christian may be chosen as a Christian Witness, provided there is also a Catholic godparent. A former Catholic may not serve as either a godparent or Christian Witness.

MARRIAGE ~ Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance. Please complete the inquiry form on our website (Worship, Sacraments, Marriage). All scheduling considerations, including the initial date selection and any alterations, must be discussed with a Priest.

RECONCILIATION ~ Mondays (6pm-7pm); Wednesdays (7am-8am); Saturdays (4pm-4:50pm)

HOMEBOUND VISITATION ~ Please call Ruth in the Parish Office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK ~ First Saturday of the month following 8:30 am Mass. In case of emergency, please call the Parish Office.

Low Gluten hosts always available for Holy Communion; go to the priest in the center aisle.

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

5pm (Saturday), 6:30am, 8am, 9:30am, 11am, 5pm

MONDAY thru FRIDAY

6:30am & 8:30am

SATURDAY

8:30am



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 12pm-7pm
First Sunday of the Month
12pm-5pm

Spend time with
Jesus - He loves to
see you!

Thank you for your generosity!

Our collection for the weekend of December 6th & 7th was \$21,721.44. Our average is now \$20,075.90 (our goal is \$19,135). Please consider using Electronic Giving!

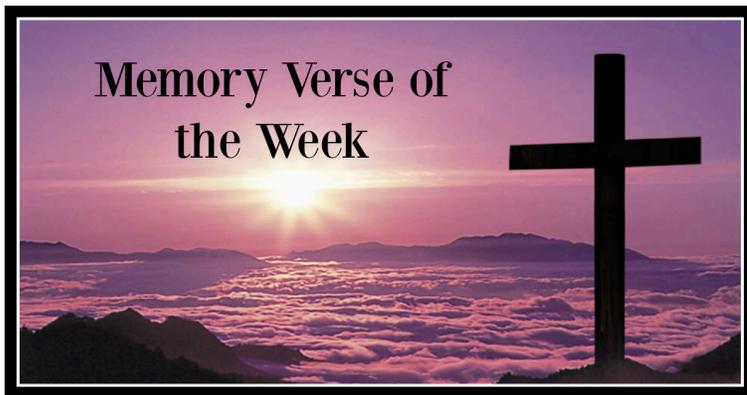
SAINT JOHN PAUL II PRAYER FOR PEACE

Mary, Queen of Peace, save us all, who have so much trust in you, from wars, hatred, and oppression. Make us learn to live in peace and educate ourselves for peace. Teach us to do what is demanded by justice and respect the rights of every person so that peace may be firmly established. Amen



Schedule for December 20th & 21

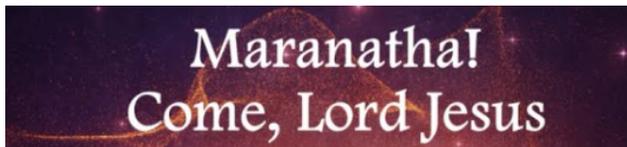
- 5:00 pm Father Phong (Deacon Bill preaches)
Music: Ensemble
- 6:30 am Father Phong (Deacon Pat preaches)
- 8:00 am Father Chris
Music: Daniela Martinez & Matt Mullin
- 9:30 am Father Phong (Deacon Bill preaches)
Music: Daniela Martinez & Matt Mullin
- 11:00 am Father Chris
Music: Daniela Martinez & Matt Mullin
- 5:00 pm Father Phong (Deacon Bill preaches)



Memory Verse of the Week

Psalm 146, 9:

The fatherless and the widow he sustains,
but the way of the wicked he thwarts.



Let us pray for the brave women and men who serve in our Armed Forces...

- Mark Strecker (Navy)
- Ean Cruz (Air Force)
- George Boone (Army)
- Seth Lavelle (Navy)
- Michael D'Antonio (Air Force)
- Brian A. Mason (Army)
- Vincent D'Antonio (Air Force)
- Jason Showmaker (Navy)
- Jordyn Mason (Navy)
- Christopher Starrett (USMC)
- George C. Warren, III (Army)
- Ken Doherty (Air Force)
- Matthew Capriotti (Army)
- Kyle William Creswell
- Christopher Capriotti (Army)
- Katelynn Strecker (Navy)
- Andrew Woodruff (Air Force)
- Nathan Czapora (Army)
- Adam Rigler (Navy)
- Cecilia Glavin Harmon (Air Force)
- Michael Anthony Wlock (Coast Guard)
- Alex Smith (Marine Corp)
- Dillon Higgins (Marine Corp)



CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS of the NORTHEAST

PARABLES & PIZZA

Young adults in their 20's and 30's are welcome to join us for a Bible Study series focusing on the parables of Jesus!

**2ND WEDNESDAYS OF THE MONTH
7:00-9:00PM**

10/8, 11/12, 12/10, 1/14,
2/11, 3/11, 4/8, 5/13

Resurrection of Our Lord
Lower Level | Life Center
2000 Shelmire Ave. Philly
Come for one week or come for all! No RSVP required.

CONTACT US Email: cyanphilly@gmail.com Instagram: @cyanphilly



Luke Martin Linnow
Welcome to life in Christ Jesus!

Do you have a child who needs baptism?
Contact the Parish Office.

We are a parish that "proclaims the Good News of Jesus Christ".

Message from the Pastor



Dear Friends in Christ,

As you may know, each October we literally count the number of people who attend Mass at Saint Cecilia. The data is given to the Archdiocese for the purpose of planning. I want to share with you the numbers.

We average 1259 people attending Mass each weekend. This is up 10% from last year. This means that 17% of the "registered" members of the Parish attend Mass weekly which is consistent with numbers across the Archdiocese and the nation. We are trending in the right direction, but have much to do.

Attendance by Mass breaks down this way: 260 at the 5pm, 124 at the 6:30 am, 167 at the 8 am, 290 at the 9:30 am, 284 at the 11 am and 134 at the 5pm. The 11am has the largest number of children in attendance and on average, 10% of our congregation is under the age of 18 which is promising.

I am confident that as we give glory and honor to God, seek to be faithful to His plan for our Parish, live as authentic disciples of Christ and witness of faith with joy, these numbers will continue to grow, one person and one family at a time. Remain hopeful. God is working in you and through you!

Fr. Chris



Do you know someone who needs a little help at Christmas? Our Parish may be able to assist in playing Santa! Please contact Ruth in our Parish Office.



An Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen. *Fr. Henri J.M. Nouwen*



Plan to join our Parish for a wonderful evening of Scripture and Song on **Wednesday, Dec. 17th at 7 pm in Church.** Please invite friends and family - esp. those who are away from the Church!



Thank you for the money donated in baby bottles. Our Grand Total given to the Guiding Star Home is \$5340.95. Well done Saint Cecilia!



Please join our Church Family Monday to Saturday at 8 am (for our families and vocations) and Wednesday at 7 am (for an end to abortion) to pray the Rosary in our Church.

Help us decorate our Church for Christmas on Dec. 14th at 1pm and Dec. 23rd at 1pm. If able to assist, call Kara in the Parish Office.



Our Annual Appeal Collection is at \$30,661 towards our goal of \$70,000 for new Church doors.



SCHOOL NEWS

This week we were blessed to have Bishop Chylinski join us for the School Mass celebrating the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.



During Mass, our Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary renewed their vows in front of the school community.

SAINT CECILIA PARISH + SCHOOL



December 2, 2025
2-13-19-27-35

NO JACKPOT PRIZE WINNER

Consolation Prize Winners (\$166 each)

- N. Herron (seller: A. DiNezza)
- N. Nowak (seller: N. Nowak)
- H. Ley Jr. (seller: M. MacDonald)
- K. Smith (seller: Eckstrom)
- K. Karvell (seller: K. Barr)
- L. Knittel (seller: P. Miz)

Next Drawing: December 9th at 7:00pm

IMPORTANT NEWS

There will be no drawing on Tuesday, December 23rd.

Next Jackpot Prize
\$57,000

We are not responsible for typographical errors.
CONTACT US: LOTTERY@STCECILIAFC.COM



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\$5 & \$10 gift cards

Shop limited-time \$5 and \$10 gift cards from popular gifting brands. They're perfect as small gifts for teachers, mail carriers, and others who deserve a special treat. Available only while supplies last.



+ MORE BRANDS



Shop Smarter

Save on Tuition with RaiseRight



Use this QR Code to create your Raise Right account to purchase gift cards that can be used to help families with their tuition (at our school or another school_

Since December 2024, the Lottery has raised \$52,695 in Tuition Vouchers for Families and \$88,800 towards the SCS Operating Budget. Thank you for playing! For the most recent lottery winning numbers, please visit St. Cecilia School website.

A percentage of each purchase is credited directly to your tuition account. Each retailer sets their own rebate rate. Most gift cards are available instantly or can be delivered straight to your home. Start saving while you shop! It's simple. It's smart. And it puts money back in your pocket!

We are a parish that "inspires a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ".

A Prayer for Those Struggling at Christmas

Dear Lord, the TV shows me how it ought to be: my house a perfect present, tied up in bows and wreaths, my kitchen filled with the smell of good things, my tree abundantly decked, gifts abundant, cheer overflowing. But I don't feel any of that. I'm sorry. I wish I felt merry, but it is all too much for me. Too many expectations. Not enough joy. There is no celebration in my soul. I turn to You, source of meaning, knower of sorrow. Remind me in ways both big and small that none of this needs to be. All You ask for is a plain and open heart, for just a little room in the stable of my being, to allow Jesus to be born again in me. Nothing much. Nothing that costs. Just space. Here I am, God. Move into me and make a home. Let us see that I am enough as you made me. I ask not for perfection, but only for peace. I await You in Jesus' name. Amen.

Experiencing a Mental Health Crisis?

Dial 9-8-8



PROTECT YOUR FAMILY. HONOR YOUR FAITH.

Write your Last Will and Testament for FREE, courtesy of the St. Cecilia Church and School.

Go to: MyCatholicWill.com/StCeciliaFC



MyCatholicWill



During Exposition on Mon., Dec. 22nd, we will have a **"Holy Hour for Catholics We Hope to Welcome Home"** at 6 pm. We will gather to pray for our family and friends who have strayed from the Church. Following Masses on Sunday, December 21st, you will be invited to write the names of those people you would like to pray for. Please join us in calling upon our Good Shepherd, Jesus our Lord, to guide them home.

Christmas Tree Blessing

Lord our God,
we praise you for the light of creation:
the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.
We praise you for the light of Israel:
the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom
of the Scriptures.
We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son:
he is Emmanuel, God-with-us,
the Prince of Peace,
who fills us with the wonder of your love.
Lord God, let your blessing come upon us
as we illumine this tree.
May the light and cheer it gives
be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.
May all who delight in this tree
come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



A question to ponder this week based on our Scripture Readings....*What is there in this promise from the Prophet Isaiah that gives you hope? How have you seen this promise fulfilled in Christ?*

We are a parish that "loves and serves others generously".



A \$2,000 gift from our Social Ministry Fund was given to assist relief efforts being led by Stella Maria Parish in Kingston, Jamaica. The gift is being delivered through a member of our Parish..

Praying with Our Foremothers in Faith:

An Advent Afternoon for Women

Wed., Dec. 17, 2025 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Immaculate Conception BVM Church

Conahan Hall

All are welcome; bring a friend! RSVP

Mary Kate Guerin

mkguerin@iccjenkintown.org



Reader Training: All those who proclaim the Word of God at St. Cecilia are expected at one of our "ongoing formation" sessions on either Jan. 10 (1-2pm) or Jan. 14 (7-8pm).

Holiday schedule changes



There is no 5pm on Christmas Day or on January 1st Holy Day

Parish Office Hours:

Wed., Dec. 24th - Closes at Noon

Thurs. & Fri., Dec. 25th & 26th - Closed

ST. CECILIA PRESENTS

MOVIE NIGHT

THE CHOSEN

SEASON ONE

MONDAYS

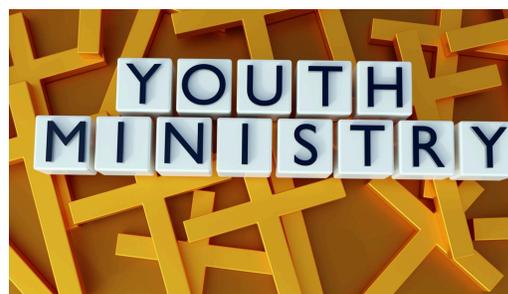
7 PM TO 9PM

Sept. 22, Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 8, Jan 19, Feb 23, March 16, April 20, and May 11

NO COST

BRING THE KIDS

SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
535 RHAWN STREET
WWW.STCECILIAFC.ORG



We invite current 8th & 9th grade students to join us on Sunday, December 21st after the 5 pm Mass for food and fun! Want to learn more? Please contact Fr. Phong at frphong@stceciliafc.com or use QR Code.

Celebrate the Baptism of Jesus & the Baptism of Your Child



St. Cecilia Church wants to pray with you and for your child and all those baptized at our Church in 2025. Please invite your child's godparents and other family members.

Saturday, January 10th at 5:00 pm Mass
or Sunday, January 11th at 11:00am Mass

Join us for coffee and donuts on Sunday after Mass

RSVP using this QR Code

If our parish can assist you in any way, please call our Parish Office. We look forward to being with you!



COFFEE AND DONUTS!!!

Join us on December 21st after the 9:30 am Mass for coffee, tea, juice and donuts. More importantly, there is time to meet others in the parish as we share life. There is no cost, and all are welcome!



The Christmas Novena prayer is prayed fifteen times daily from November 30th until Christmas Eve. Perhaps a way to "wake from your sleep"? ***Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour, vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, to hear my prayers and grant my desires (mention your intentions here), through Jesus Christ and His most Blessed Mother. Amen.***



MANNA Food Collection—Please bring non-perishable food items to Church (place in the room off of Church lobby) December 20th & 21st. The food will be shared with local food cupboards! *Praise God for your goodness.*

WARM HEARTS WARM BLANKETS

Visconto Family 20th Annual St. Francis Inn Blanket Drive Please consider donating a new or gently used blanket on December 7th or December 14th from 1-4pm @ **Visconto Funeral Home 2031 Vista Street** or call **215-637-8184** (they will pick up).

SAVE THE DATE

BLOOD DRIVE

MONDAY

FEB. 16, 2026



American Red Cross

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Almighty and eternal God, in your unfailing love, you provide ministers for your Church. We pray for those whom you call to serve the Church of Philadelphia as priests, deacons, and religious brothers and sisters. Inspire those called from Saint Cecilia to give a generous response. Grant them courage and vision to serve your people. May their lives of service call your people to respond to the presence of your Spirit among us, faithful to the Gospel and hope of Jesus Christ, so that we may announce glad tidings to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives, set prisoners free and renew the face of the earth!

Senior Citizen Groups



St. Cecilia Seniors meet each Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm. For the next 2 months, while the bathroom at Saint Cecilia Auditorium is being renovated, they will meet at Rhawnhurst Presbyterian Church (7701 Loretto Ave)

St. William Seniors meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month (10:30 am to 2:30 pm). New members are always welcome. Meet at Rhawnhurst Presbyterian Church (7701 Loretto Ave)

For information about the Seniors, call Betty Harding at 215-745-7199.



You are welcome to use the envelopes in the back of Church to make a donation towards our Christmas Flowers in honor of (or in memory of) a loved one!



Please pray for the souls of all who died in recent days, especially Patricia McCluskey. May all our deceased loved ones be welcomed into paradise and their loved ones given comfort.



Please consider a Year End Gift to St. Cecilia as part of our Annual Parish Appeal.



We rejoice in the following who have chosen to "join" St. Cecilia: Cynthia Ryan, Heather Rodgers & the Hershock Family

Happy Birthday Baby Jesus Party

Tuesday, December 30th 10-11:30am
St. Cecilia Auditorium

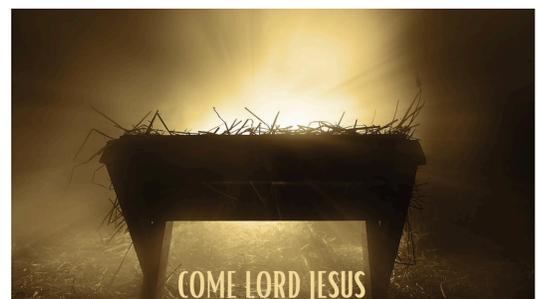
Nativity Play - Christmas Caroling, - Holiday Crafts, Games, Snacks and Birthday Cake!!

This FREE event is open to all children accompanied by an adult. If you are able, we ask that you bring a present for Baby Jesus.(diapers, wipes, or other baby essentials) These will be laid at the manger at the end of the play. The gifts will be shared with a local crisis pregnancy center.



RSVP with the QR Code

Teen Volunteers are needed!



Pray for the Sick

Don Agregado
Theresa Anderson
June Augustino
Baby Elliyana
Baby Alleya
Baby James D'Amore
Melissa Baxter
Mary Bednarsky
Paige Bednarsky
Charles Bocchicchio
Lorraine Bocchicchio
Tony Bohem
Christi Boothman
Maria Bradley
Joanne Briganty
Loretta Bunoza
Georgette Caffrey
Michael Callahan
Ray Capella
Bonnie Colbe
Jim Comet
Joe Cooney
Guerline Coriolan
Monica R. Coyle
Sloane Coyne
Marge Daniel
Frieda D'Auria
Brian Devine
Dante Di Nezza
Brian DiCriscio
Claudio Di Iorio
Lita Di Iorio

Marie O'Hara
Fiona Dittman
James W. Donnelly, Sr.
Donna Eckerle
Michelle Eppinger
Alexander Flagg
Shane Noah Flaum
Lorraine Fletcher
Baby Emma Rose McCabe
Gerald Gallagher
Jack Gannon
Joe Gillen
Mavrix Gillen
Sr. Kathleen Gannon
Cruz Gonzales
David Gonzales
Karen Gorlaski
Kara Marie Granger
Brian Guglielmo
Marilyn Gutekunst
Francis Harrold
Norah Hartey
Timothy Hartey
Joanne Hawkinson
Ed Hayel
John Hayes
John Hogan
Thomas Holmes
Catherine Hufnagel
Salim John
Agnes John
Mary Keeley
Joanne Keller

Erica Kelly
Jerry King
Gary Kula
Rob Lash
Jean Layton
Christian Leibbrandt
Thomas Linqvist, Sr
Dilynn Listman
Mrs. Lang Luc
Fr. David Machain
Michael MacLacklin
Ed MacNew
Colleen Maguire
Concetta Manello
Cait Mann
Abigail Massari
Mary Matthews
Elizabeth Maydascher
Timothy McMenamin
Peggy McPhillips
Marian Meisenzahl
Diane McAndrews
Mary McAvery
Patty McCarthy
Walt McGinty
Jack McMahan
Dorreen McTaggart
Leonard McTaggart
Monica Mongiello
Marian Montgomery

Jerry Negler
John Nickey
Carol Palladino
Thomas Peterson
Tony Pizzo
William Purtle
Don Ralston
Mary Reese
Gianna Rivera
Thomas Rohan
Richard Romeo
Dominic San Tran
Maureen Schatzman
Judi Schein
Rose Schmidt
The Schultz Family
Dot Slavin
Joan Angela Smalarz
Eileen S. Smith
Joan M. Smyth
Susan Snyder
Paul Stolarz
Betty Swartz
Helen Tobin
Helen Vanderslice
Elvis Vincon
Samantha Wagner
Mark Warren
Martina Warren
John Wieckowski
Baby Louie Rose Gould

Please print
1000 bulletins

Questions? Contact

Kara Hartey

secretary@stceciliafc.com
215-725-1240