



A Weekly Update from St. Cecilia Church
Knowing, Loving & Serving Jesus
In Fox Chase, Rockledge, Burholme and Beyond...



Today is the Feast of Saint Pope John XXII who served the Church in the 1960s and called for the Second Vatican Council. He was a humble man of prayer and great joy. [Learn about him...](#)

Pope John on Christ's desire for unity...

“If we consider well the unity for which Christ prayed on behalf of his Church, it would seem to shine, as it were, with a threefold ray of supernatural, saving light. There is first of all that unity of Catholics among themselves which must always be kept steadfast and exemplary. There is also a unity of prayer and ardent longing prompting Christians separated from this Apostolic See to aspire to union with us. And, finally, there is a unity which consists in the esteem and respect shown for the Catholic Church by members of various non-Christian religions.”

Watch a ***Weekly Update Video*** from Father Chris...



Dear Friends in Christ,

In our Responsorial Psalm this weekend we pray: *I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life*. The response is coupled with the beautiful 23rd Psalm and is a beautiful cry for people of faith. Yet, there is also sadness as we sing the words because no everyone is living in the house of the Lord these days. In fact, the majority of Americans, including those baptized as Catholics, are not in the house of God each week. We know this as we look at our own family, friends and neighbors.

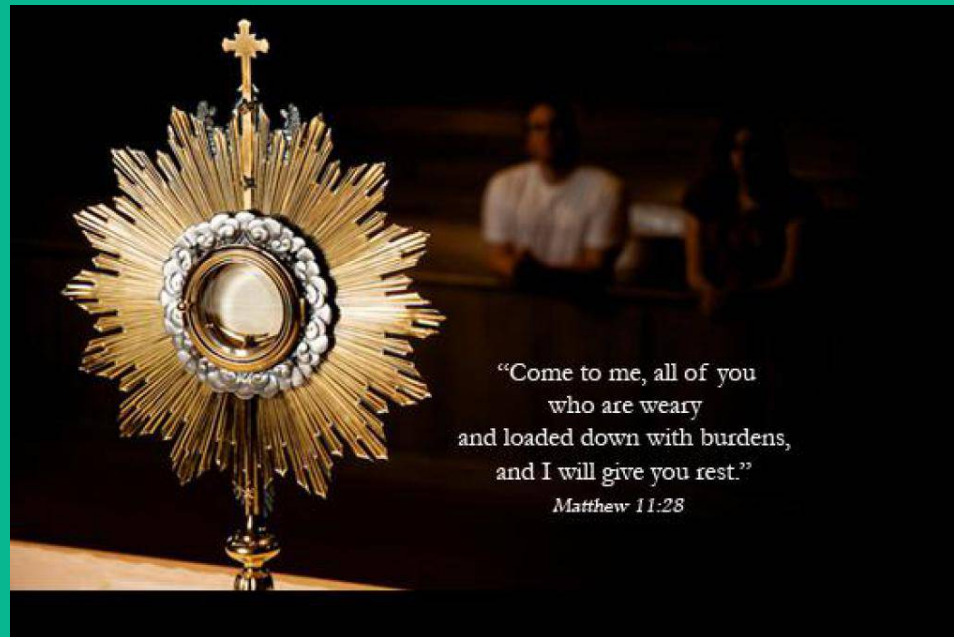
Throughout October, parishes in Philadelphia “count the sheep” so that we have a sense of whether our attendance is up (hopefully up since last year), down (hopefully, not) or the same as last year (not a bad thing). Once we finish the count, I will share the information so you have a sense of where we are compared to recent years. The numbers matter for one reason: *Jesus gave us a job to do, we must go out and make disciples of all the nations, including Fox Chase, Burholme and Rockledge!*

As a Christian, I know the huge difference Jesus makes in my life. He is my comforter, my encourager, my teacher, my shepherd, my Savior and my Lord. Jesus has brought me great joy and that joy also comes through my being a part of the Church he founded. I want everyone to have the experience of Jesus that I have had and I want them to desire to live in the house of the Lord all of their days as well. I hope that you feel the same way and will continue to allow your relationship with Jesus to grow and radiate from you to others as we grow and grow and grow – for God’s glory and the good of those not yet with us!

Father Chris

A Prayer for the Synod on Synodality: *We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we*

are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.



**Have you joined us for Adoration on Mondays?
Jesus wants time with you.
Join us from Noon to 7pm.
Come for 10, 20 or 30 minutes. Maybe even an hour!
Look at Him. Let Him look at you!**

40 HOURS RETURNS TO ST. CECILIA

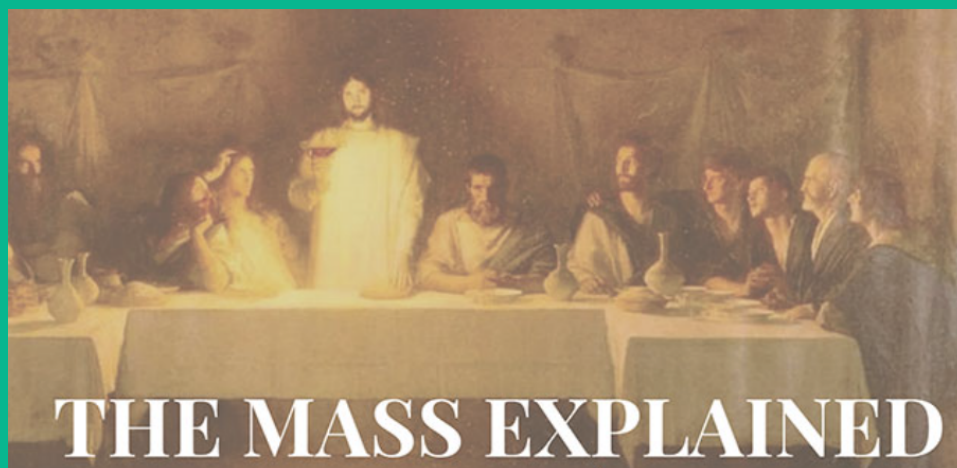
As we continue in these years of Eucharistic Revival, St. Cecilia Parish will begin celebrating a 40 Hours Devotion once again. The devotion, which began in Milan, Italy in 1530, had parishioners spend 40 consecutive hours adoring Jesus. The devotion arrived in the US through St. John Neumann. We will celebrate from Noon on Sunday, Nov. 19th thru 8pm on Tuesday, Nov. 21st (which is actually 56 Hours of Adoration). We will gather for Evening Prayer and a Homily on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday at 7pm and hopefully a Eucharistic Procession at our conclusion on Tuesday (followed by a social to celebrate St. Cecilia's Feast Day). More information to come, please mark your calendars.



On Wednesday, October 25th we will have a “**Teaching Mass**” at 7pm in our Church. Father Phong will celebrate Mass and Father Chris will offer a live “*commentary*” explaining what is happening and why we do it as part of the Sacred Liturgy. the Teaching Mass serves as a conclusion to our Bible Study but all members of the parish are welcome to join us in the Church at 7pm. The evening will begin with an explanation of the architecture of the Church and there will opportunities to ask questions as we all grow in appreciation of the beautiful gift of the Holy Mass. Invite your family and friends!



COFFEE TALK RETURNS! Are you grieving the loss of a loved one? Many people find it helpful to talk through grief with others who have also experienced a loss. Please join us for a monthly COFFEE TALK at St. Cecilia. The next gathering is Saturday, October 21st from 9am to 10:30am in the Cecilian Room (Building C, across from the Rectory). All are welcome. For more information, call Paula at 215-317-9802.



The Doxology: Do you know what the Doxology is? No matter which

Eucharistic Prayer we use (1, 2, 3, 4 or the various Eucharistic Prayers for Reconciliation or Masses for Children) they all end the same with the “Eucharistic Doxology.” A “doxology” is the English translation of a Greek word which means a short hymn of praise to God. The priest proclaims: “*Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours Almighty Father, forever and ever,*” as he raises the Eucharistic Lord in the consecrated Host and in the Precious Blood in the sacred chalice for the entire congregation to see and ponder. Who is the “him” in this hymn of praise? Jesus Christ, of course. So, this short prayer is a Trinitarian formula of praise to God the Father through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in union with the Holy Spirit. The Mass is clearly a prayer of praise to the Father, by the Son, through the Holy Spirit. There's a lot going on at each Mass, isn't there?

This brief teaching is part of a series as we seek to grow in understanding the Mass throughout the Year of the Eucharist. Content is taken from Father Rocky at Relevant Radio.

Want to help raise money for tuition while you shop? Join St. Cecilia's ALL DIGITAL SCRIP through Raise Right. Use the QR Code on the image below or download the app and use this Code: LUV5S385EVEB. You can name a specific student in our school or select "ANY STUDENT" and we will apply the credit. If you have questions, call Eleanor in our Parish Office.

Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's never been easier to create opportunities for what matters most to you. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

Your organization earns
Impacting what
matters most to you.

Jen H., earns for hockey



For step-by-step instructions, visit [RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning](https://www.RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning).



PA MARCH FOR LIFE: Witness to the Sacredness of Human Life at the Pennsylvania Capitol Building on Monday, October 16th
Call 215-725-1240. Join us.

WE HAVE FOUR SEATS LEFT - JOIN US!



SAINT CECILIA PARISH PRESENTS

SCS @ SCS OPEN GYM

Open to 9th, 10th, and 11th graders
Open gym with socialization, games & food
Community service opportunities
Various topics to be discussed

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
1 + 15	5 + 19	3 + 17
6 - 7:30pm	6 - 7:30pm	6 - 7:30pm

More Info :
Contact Mrs. Weiler
kweiler@stceciliafc.com

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

ST. CECILIA PARISH
535 Rhawn Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111

FALL FESTIVAL

**Free
Event**

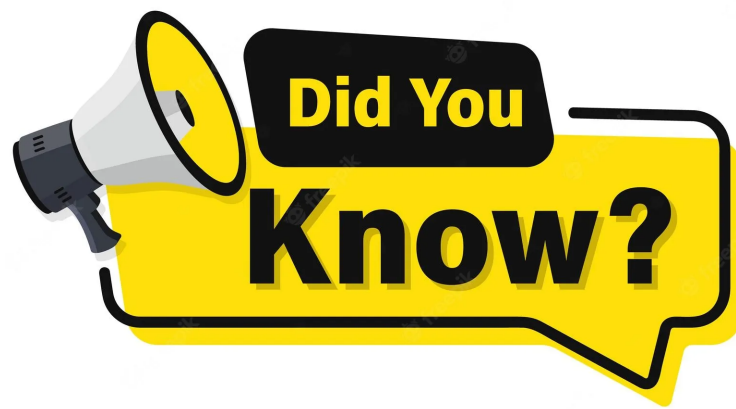
SATURDAY OCTOBER 14TH
11AM - 3PM

CRAFT FAIR	BOUNCE HOUSES	GAMES
FACE PAINTING	BALLOON ANIMALS	FOOD TRUCKS



- Pope Francis' Intention for OCTOBER: that the Church adopt listening and dialogue at every level so we will be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world
- Pray for an end to the violence and war in Israel - change hearts dear Lord
- Pray in thanksgiving for all who share their time and talent in the many wonderful ministries and activities of St. Cecilia Parish. This week, we pray God's blessing over all who are making our Fall Festival possible - reward their goodness dear Lord!
- Pray for those who serve our community as counselors and mental health professionals.
- For the sick and suffering, especially those at Pennypack Nursing Home, Jeanes & Fox Chase Hospitals



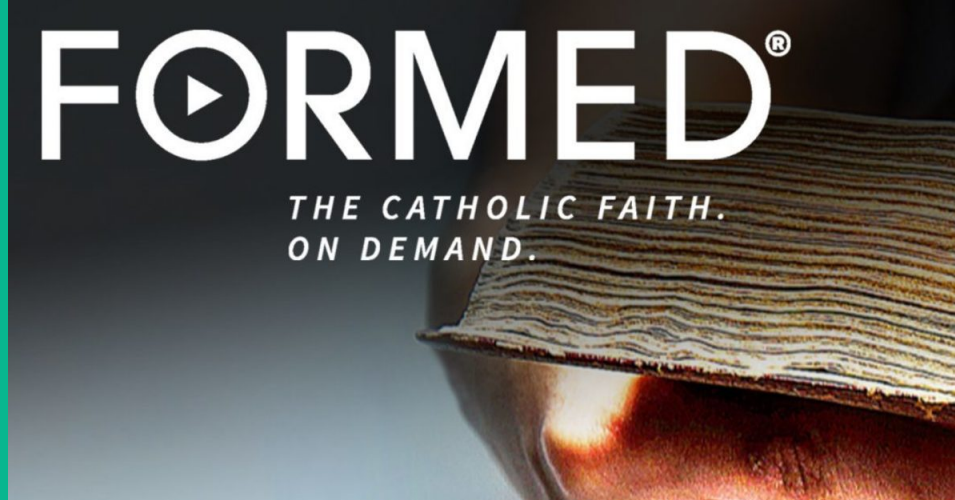


- **MASS INTENTION BOOK OPENS OCTOBER 18TH:** The 2024 Mass Intention Book will “open” at 9am on October 18th. The Parish will use the same procedure as last year: you are welcome to come to the Auditorium between 9am and 1pm and our Parish Staff will be available to satisfy your requests. Forms will be available in Church next weekend. Questions? Contact Sue or Ruth in the Parish Office.
- The Synod on Synodality continues in Rome - [learn what happened this week](#)
- The **Cardinal Dougherty Alumni Band** will present a FREE concert of LIVE MUSIC on Saturday, October 21st at 7pm in the Auditorium. You are welcome to bring your own food as well as a beverage (water, soda, wine or beer).
- As the war in Israel escalates, [Pope Francis called a priest who serves Catholics in Gaza](#) to offer words of encouragement
- **ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS LITURGIES** - We will praise God for all of the saints in heaven on Tues., Oct. 31st at 5pm and Wed., Nov. 1st at 6:30am, 8:30am and 10:00a. We will pray for the souls in purgatory on All Souls Day, Nov. 2nd at 6:30am, 8:30am and 7:00pm. On Sunday, November 5th we will have our Annual Remembrance Mass and pray for the souls of those who were buried from St. Cecilia since last November (a social will follow in the Auditorium). All who attend that Mass are invited to write the names of their loved ones who have passed and have those names placed on the Altar during Holy Mass. In addition, we will have a Book of Life in front of Saint Joseph's Altar once again this year for you to write the names of your deceased loved ones. May they rest in God's peace!
- The Church in the USA has launched an [initiative to assist people with mental health](#) issues!
- **SOCIAL MINISTRY FUND** Through your generosity to our Social Ministry Fund (including the Poor Boxes and Candle donations) our Parish was able to provide a wonderful meal for families participating in programs at The Cenacle in Frankford. The meal was prepared and served by members of Humanitas, our pro-life ministry.
- **Do you know a homebound parishioner who would like to have a priest visit with Holy Communion?** The parish is aware that many who once attended Mass each week are no longer able to come to us and we would like to bring Jesus to them! If you know a family member, neighbor or someone you once sat with who is no longer in the pews, please call [Ruth in our Parish Office](#) and let her know about this person so that we can provide them the Pastoral Care they deserve as God's beloved child!

- Fr. Chris and Fr. Phong are available for [CONFESSION](#) on Monday (6pm to 7pm); Wednesday (7am to 8am) and Saturday (4pm to 4:50pm). Please make use of this wonderful Sacrament in order to grow as a Disciple of Jesus Christ.
- Did you read last Sunday's [Church Bulletin](#)? Be sure to take a minute to keep up on the great things happening at St. Cecilia
- **SAVE THE DATE FOR “DYING WELL”**
On Wednesdays, November 8th & 15th, our pro-life ministry HUMANITAS will host sessions that will help prepare you for the inevitable – death! On Nov. 8th, Fr. Chris will present on medical ethics and decisions associated with “end of life” (hospice, life support and more). That evening will also include a discussion on planning your own funeral liturgy. On Nov. 15th we will have a variety of end of life attorneys, funeral directors and representatives from the Catholic Cemeteries to make presentations and answer questions as we begin the process. More information to come...



Our Parish, Parish School and the Lion's Club are partnering once again for a fabulous event for our young people. Join us on Saturday, October 28th from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. You are welcome to bring and supervise young children (in costume) to participate and collect some goodies! In addition, you are welcome to set up your TRUNK (decorate your car; give out candy) for a \$10 fee (arrive at 6pm; [please register](#)). In addition, you can bring CANDY and sit at a chair in the Auditorium with others and give candy to the kids! If you can't make it that night, but want to participate, drop off CANDY DONATIONS in the back of Church NEXT WEEKEND! Questions? Call the School Office.



Need a break from Netflix?

Want something that feeds your soul?

Create a FREE account with [FORMED.ORG](https://www.formed.org) (another benefit of being a member of Saint Cecilia-Fox Chase).

Start watching movies, documentaries and amazing videos that will teach you our Catholic Faith!

Noah's Ark Complaints Department



YOU ONLY
BROUGHT
TWO ANTS?