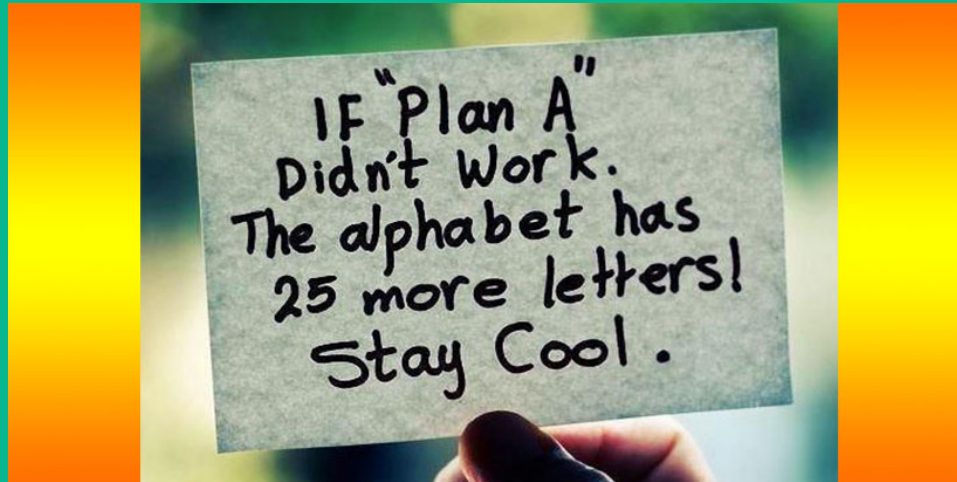




A Weekly Update from St. Cecilia Church
Knowing, Loving & Serving Jesus
In Fox Chase, Rockledge, Burholme and Beyond...



God is faithful!

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



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YouTube CHANNEL

We have 941 Subscribers.

**We need 1000 in order to do live videos
like Mass and Bible Study.**

Please visit our [Channel and SUBSCRIBE](#).

It costs nothing but will help many!



Dear Friends in Christ,

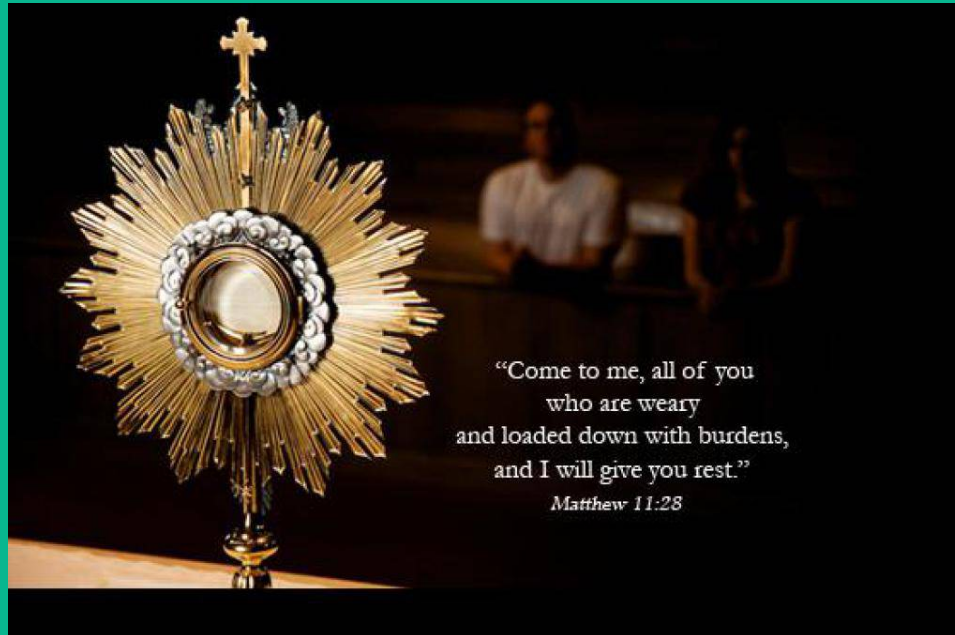
Earlier this week Fr. Phong, George Warren (who coordinates our O.C.I.A.) and I mailed letters to 180 people who are married to Catholics registered at St. Cecilia but who are not themselves Catholic. The purpose of the letter was singular: to invite them to consider being baptized or received into full communion with the Catholic Church. O.C.I.A. stands for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. For years it was known as R.C.I.A. which stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults but the "Rite" was expanded to "Order" because "Rite" only covered the actual rituals whereby one was welcomed into the Church and "Order" implies the entire process. Either way, it is the way we form and welcome new Catholics who are not children.

Perhaps your spouse or a family member received the letter; encourage her or him to be open to the possibility. Perhaps you have a friend or co-worker who is searching for meaning and purpose in life; tell her or him that you have a place where they can ask questions and explore these questions. Perhaps you are reading this and are not yet a Catholic or feel as though you do not know your faith as you would like to; consider

joining us on Tuesday nights starting in early October. Call Fr. Phong, George or myself at 215-725-1240 and we will get you started!

I know God has great plans for our faith community of St. Cecilia. I know God wants to use YOU to impact the lives of others. I need YOU to help spread the word and invite others. It is YOUR call as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Thank you for all you have done and are doing for the Lord!

Father Chris



Have you joined us for Adoration on Mondays?

Jesus wants time with you.

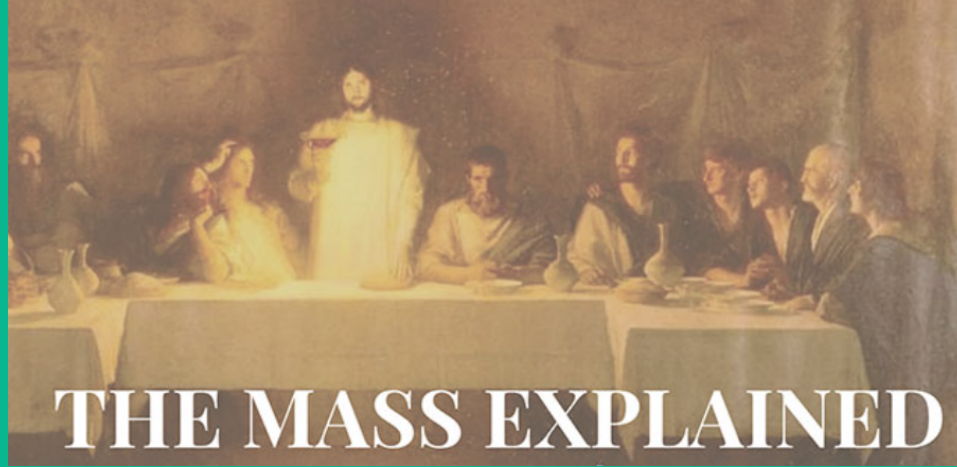
Join us from Noon to 7pm.

Come for 10, 20 or 30 minutes. Maybe even an hour!

Look at Him. Let Him look at you!



The Sept, 30th Eucharistic Revival is SOLD OUT! If you already have your ticket, you are welcome to ride our FREE bus to the Shrine. Please call Sue in the Parish Office. *If you bought a ticket, but can no longer use it, let Fr. Chris know as others will buy it from you.*



The Secret Prayer: Did you know there are some 'secret' prayers at Mass? If you watch very closely, you'll notice that the priest is moving his lips and praying some prayers very, very quietly during the Preparation of the Gifts. The rubrics indicate that the priest should pray them 'secreto', which is translated as 'inaudibly' or 'secret.' But there's really no secret, because the prayers are printed in the Roman Missal or other worship resources for the whole world to see. And even though the rubrics indicate that the priest is to pray these prayers, there is absolutely no reason why you can't do that too! As the priest pours wine and a little water into the chalice, he prays quietly: *"By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity."* Then the priest bows profoundly and says quietly: *"With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God."* Finally, as he washes his hands he prays, *"Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin."*

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.



Catholic Social Services is in need of more baby supplies! Please use [THIS LINK](#) to shop electronically or shop in your on and have items delivered to (or dropped off at) **Amy Stoner, Catholic Social Service, 222 N. 17th Street, Phila PA 19103**. God bless your goodness in sharing your blessings with families in need.



WE NEED TWO MORE TEACHERS!!! We have a need for wonderful teachers who want to share our mission of serving young people as God desires. If you know certified teachers who are available to teach in 7th or 8th grade, please have them [contact our principal Sr. Catherine, IHM](#) at 215-725-8588.



HOW DO PEOPLE CHOOSE A CHURCH?

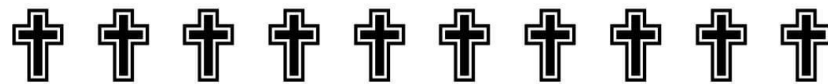


2% VIEWED ADVERTISEMENT

6% ASKED BY PASTOR / PRIEST

6% EVANGELIZATION CAMPAIGN

86% INVITED BY FRIEND / FAMILY





**Congratulations Gerry & Grace Morris as you
CELEBRATE 70 YEARS OF MARRIAGE!**
Thank you for your beautiful and faithful witness!

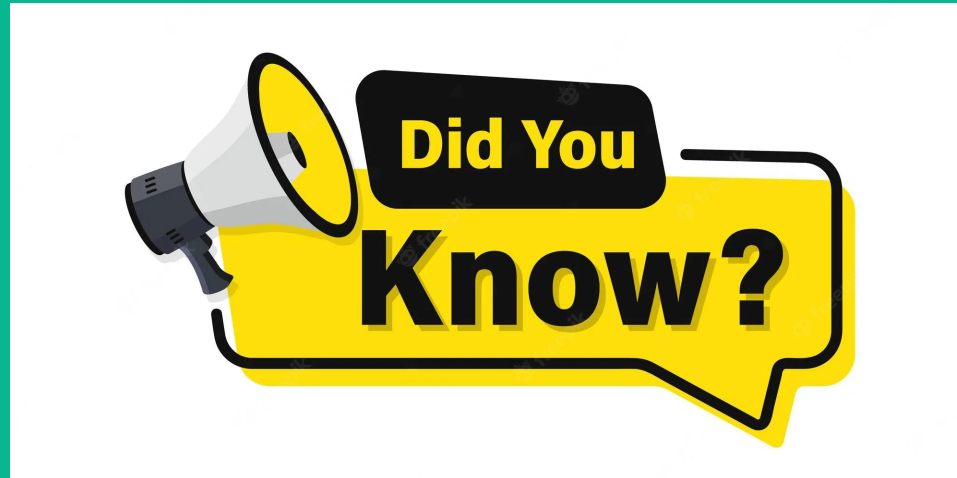


- Pope Francis' Intention for AUGUST: *that the recent World Youth Day is Portugal will help all young people live as witnesses to Jesus Christ*
- For Walt and Charlie who are battling illness
- For those dealing with the impact of fires in Maui, HI
- For the leaders of schools as they prepare for a new academic year and hire new staff
- For those who have lost their job in recent weeks, may they remain hopeful and be blessed with new opportunities
- For **Edward Kirk** (who died after a long battle with cancer) whose funeral will be TODAY (Aug. 17th) at St. Cecilia, and the comfort of his wife and family
- For **Richard Lucas**, who died on Monday, August 14, 2023. He is survived by his wife, a son, two daughters, four grandchildren, his brother Father Bob Lucas (who served here for 9 years), and three sisters.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, August 18, 2023, at 10:30 AM at Saint John Neumann Church, 601 E Delp Road, Lancaster.

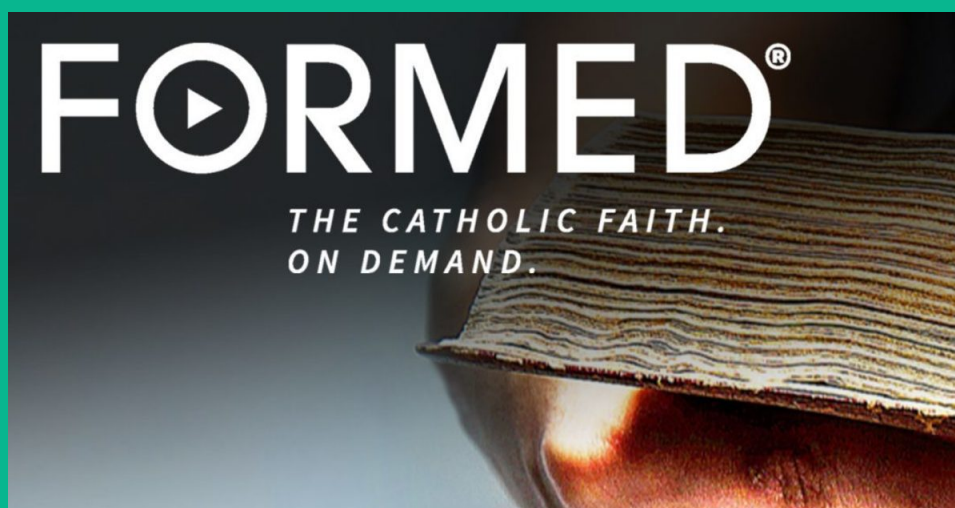
Condolences may be sent to:

Reverend Robert F. Lucas
Saint Francis De Sales Rectory
4625 Springfield Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143



- **HELPING A FAMILY FROM AFGHANISTAN** Catholic Social Services has asked St. Cecilia to provide support and mentorship to a family of 6 (mom, dad and four young children). Is God calling you to this beautiful work? The team of people (ideally 5-6) would work together to help the family learn English, find work and adjust to life in America (they live near St. William Church). St. Cecilia Church did this beautiful work in the past with refugees from Vietnam, we hope we can do it again. Please contact Father Chris to learn more.
- Pope Francis knows [GRANDPARENTS HAVE A BIG ROLE TO PLAY](#) in saving souls!
- **RETROUVAILLE** is a Catholic Weekend that will bring a **LIFETIME OF RENEWAL to your Marriage**. There will be a weekend on October 6-8 in Malvern. You will build communication skills that lead to greater intimacy and a stronger marriage. Call 215-766-3944 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org
- [ABBEY FEST](#) is an amazing one day (noon to 9pm) Catholic Music Festival on September 16th in Paoli. It features wonderful music and will be a true shot in the arm as you seek to live as a disciple of Jesus!
- **Fall Bible Study** will begin on Wednesday Nights, starting September 13th. Our topic will be a survey of Scriptural References to the Holy Eucharist. Please join us for this FREE Bible Study – no experience needed. Sign-ups will begin shortly.
- **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!

- [How does your faith influence your financial investments?](#)
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION:** Do you have a child enrolled in a non-Catholic School who needs to receive their religious education? Do you have a child who has not received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation? Please contact Kelly Roney at 215-725-2821 or [EMAIL KELLY](#) to get your child enrolled!
- Through your generosity to our **Social Ministry Fund** (including the Poor Boxes and Candle donations) our Parish was able to assist a family of four from Afghanistan who are struggling to meet their bills in their new country. Thank you for being a blessing to our sisters and brothers!
- 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



Need a break from Netflix?

Want something that feeds your soul?

Create a FREE account with [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!



Do you enjoy young people?

Do you want to contribute a few hours of service each week?

Do you want to strengthen our Parish School?

WE NEED YOU!!!

St. Cecilia School needs volunteers to assist in many ways: reading 1:1 with students, assisting a teaching in the classroom, assisting teachers at lunch or recess, providing additional "eyes" at arrival (7:30am to 8:00am) or dismissal (2:30pm to 3:15pm).

Please email [Sister Catherine, our Principal](#) and we will find a place for you to use your gifts. All volunteers will need to pass background checks and receive training before volunteering. Classes will be held on our campus in August!

