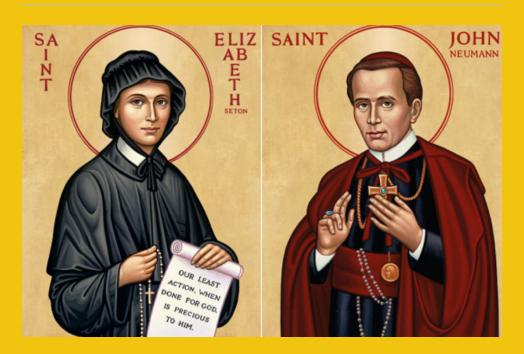


A Weekly Update from St. Cecilia Church Knowing, Loving & Serving Jesus In Fox Chase, Rockledge, Burholme and Beyond...

OUR VISION FOR ST. CECILIA: *Transforming lives through faith filled relationships.*

OUR PARISH'S MISSION: **Proclaim the Good News, embolden all** belivers, and inspire a deeper relationship with Jesus Crhist so our parish will love and serve others generously.



The Church rejoices in two great American Saints this week - Mother Seton (who lives in New York and Maryland) and Bishop Neumann (who was the 5th Bishop of our Diocese and is buried at 5th & Girard). Each followed an unique plan that God created for them and each had a huge impact on Catholic Schools. Learn more about Mother Seton and Bishop Neumann as we remember these saints and continue to BE RESOLVED to become saints as well!

Watch a Weekly Update Video from Father Chris...





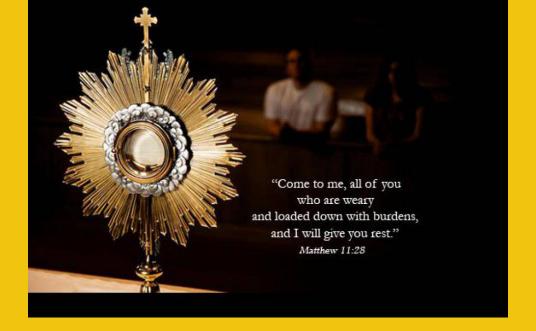
Dear Friends in Christ,

This past Tuesday I met with the leaders of our Next Generation Parish Team. We discussed the progress that has been made to this point with assembly working groups and gaining understanding of each of the goals we will be striving to realize in the next 24 months. I am grateful to all who have joined these groups to help our vision (*transforming lives through faith filled relationships*) a reality. In the weeks to come I want to begin unpacking the various aspects of our Mission Statement so that all of you can understand where I hope to lead St. Cecilia Parish.

We have chosen as the first aspect of our mission: *Proclaim the Good News*! Our Next Generation Envisioning Team did not make this up. It is part of the great commission given by Jesus Christ before his Ascension into heaven. Jesus wanted his small group of apostles and disciples, likely less than 100, to go out from Jerusalem to every part of the earth (Rome, North Africa, Spain, India, Turkey, Greece and more) to tell people about the Good News that the horror of sin does need to continue to cause pain and ugliness in our life. Rather, Jesus Christ, who is a gift of the Father's infinite love, was born and died for us so that we can live a new life. We can be reborn and love others, even those who have hurt us and who we find difficult to love.

Do you believe this? Truly believe this? I know at times it is hard to believe because of the difficulties of life and the wounds we often carry. But it is true. Really true. Absolutely true.

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!

ADORATION EACH WEEK MAKES FOR A GREAT 2024 RESOLUTION



COFFEE TALK! 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 <u>Saturday, January 20th from 9am to 10:30am</u> in the Cecilian Room (Building C, across from the Rectory). All are welcome. For more information, call Paula at 215-317-9802.





WE HAVE ALREADY SOLD 16 TABLES...DO NOT MISS OUT ON THIS WONDERFUL NIGHT FOR OUR PARISH COMMUNITY!

Get your teams of 6-8 people ready for Quizzo Night at St. Cecilia! Test your knowledge on 8 rounds of games. This is a B.Y.O.E. Event (Bring your own Beer/Wine/Food, etc.) Must be 21 years and older

Proceeds will benefit a St. Cecilia School Scholarship Fund

Questions? Email St. Cecilia Parish Event Planners

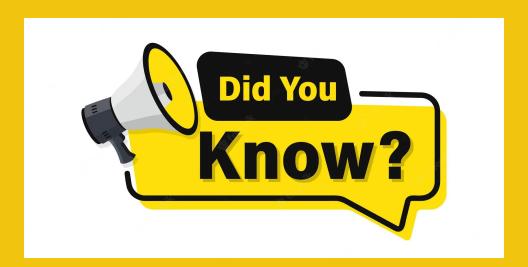


- Pope Francis' Intention for JANUARY: we pray that the Holy Spirit help us recognize the gift of diverse charisms within the parish community and richness of different traditions that make us a truly Catholic (universal) Church!
- Pray that those who joined us at Christmas come back again this
 weekend to grow in their walk with Jesus and experience community
 with us
- Pray for the souls in purgatory that they might be free!
- Pray for those who are suffering with with the flu, COVID and chronic illness
- Pray for married couples who are experiencing difficulties
- Pray for all the sick at Pennypack Nursing Home, Jeanes & Fox Chase Hospitals





Catholic Education continues to increase. St. Cecilia School wants to continue to make this education affordable for families as we believe it is good for the child, our Church and society! Here are a few ways you can assist us in assisting families: RAISE RIGHT SCRIP PROGRAM allows us to purchase "gift cards" and a percentage of each card can go towards a child's tuition – if interested, contact Eleanor in the Parish Office. SPONSOR A CHILD PROGRAM allows you to pay a portion of a child's tuition for the school year; you can donate \$5,000 for a full scholarship, \$2,500 for a half scholarship or \$1,250 for a partial scholarship – for more information contact Sue in the Parish Office. TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS allow you to re-direct your Pennsylvania Tax Dollars to a child's tuition if you pay the State more than \$1,000 in taxes (check your statements as you get them in January, you likely have that tax liability but it is withdrawn from your paycheck) – please help us in this way as it will make a HUGE impact in the life of our families – for more information contact Father Chris.



- A Briefer Christmas Season Normally, the Christmas Season would run another week, but this year it is different. The Church will celebrate the Baptism of the Lord on Monday, January 8th and then we return to Ordinary Time on Tuesday. So...if you would like to assist us in TAKING DOWN our Christmas Decorations in Church, please join us Tuesday, January 9th at 9am in the Church. Your service will be rewarded with a beautiful poinsettia!
- Our choir is looking for new members? The choir practices on Thursday evening and sings Sunday at 9:30am. They welcome people of all (or no) experience who want to praise God in song. Contact Phil Roberts for more information.
- Fr. Chris and Fr. Phong are available for <u>CONFESSION</u> 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.
- Many Catholic <u>CHALK THEIR DOOR</u> this weekend as a way of marking the visit of the Kings and consecrating their home to Jesus.
- Did you read last Sunday's <u>Church Bulletin</u>? Be sure to take a minute to keep up on the great things happening at St. Cecilia
- SAVE THE DATE MARRIED COUPLES! On Saturday, February 10th
 we will have our first Marriage Enrichment Night at St. Cecilia. We will
 gather in the Auditorium after the 5pm Mass for wine, cheese and an
 enriching conversation as couples. There is no cost for the night and
 it includes FREE CHILDCARE! Want something better? The Marriage
 Enrichment Program will run 6pm to 7pm but you can leave your kids

for childcare until 10pm as you enjoy a date night (or stay at St. Cecilia and play games with other couples)! Mark your calendars. More information and sign ups in the new year!

• Mass Intentions at the 5pm Mass: Since we have added the 5pm Mass, we will accept Mass Intentions for that Mass as well. Please see Sue in the Parish Office is you would like to have a Sunday 5pm Mass offered for a loved one.



PHILADELPHIA'S ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Man Up Philly 2023 invites the men of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to the 15th Annual Men's Spirituality Conference to be held on Saturday, March 4th at Cardinal O'Hara's St. John Vianney Hall Theater .

We encourage all men – fathers, sons, brothers, friends – to join us On the Road to Emmaus, for an inspiring day of faith and fellowship.

Come back to the Lord. Join your brothers in Christ!











Cardinal Dolan Deacon Mahoney Jim Wahlberg

Mark Forrest Archbishop Perez

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER **VISIT MANUPPHILLY.COM**





We are gathered here today on this mountaintop in a foreign country, at great expense to family & friends, to pretend that your union is too special for a neighborhood church .. BIZARROCOMIC.BLOGSPOT.COM



Supporting Those WITH MENTAL HEALTH STRUGGLES

Saturday, January 27, 2024 9:15 AM - 2:30 PM Mass available at 8:30 AM Snow date: February 3

St. Cecilia Parish Auditorium 535 Rhawn Street Philadelphia, PA 19111

Presenter:

Dave Eckert, MDiv, CPRP Senior Director of Intersect Access Services

Cost:

\$25 per person

Morning coffee and lunch is included.

It is estimated that one in five adults in the U.S. lives with a mental illness. Among children and teens, the numbers are increasing dramatically. This means that every parish and church institution - and many families - have members who struggle in this way, and often in silence. This workshop is designed to give parish leaders, as well as family members and friends, practical tools to help you support those who experience mental health struggles. Workshop topics include:

- · What do we mean by mental health struggles?
- How to walk alongside someone in a way that is sustainable and resourceful
- How to create space where people can share their struggles while remaining within the boundaries of our competence (e.g. acting as a friend, not a therapist)
- Question-Persuade-Refer Suicide Prevention Training: how to respond when someone may be thinking about suicide

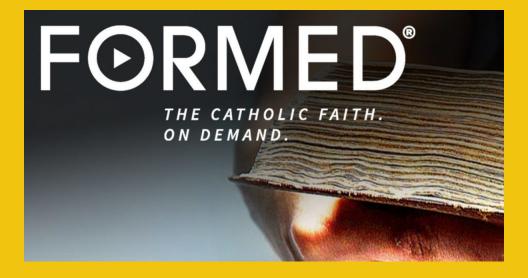
REGISTRATION:

<u>Click here to register</u> or visit <u>archphila.org/support</u>



Questions?
Meghan Cokeley, mcokeley@archphila.org
or Natalie Rivera, nrivera@archphila.org

Please consider joining us for this workshop. While held at Saint Cecilia's Auditorium, it is offered by the Archdiocese and will have people from across the area attending. REGISTER HERE

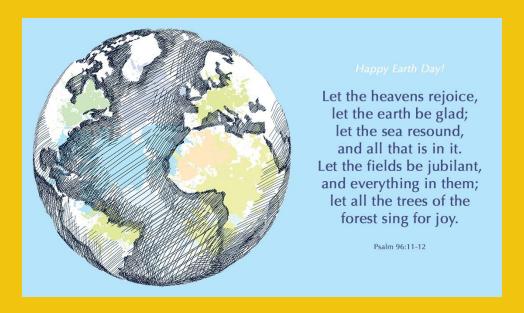


Need a break from Netflix?

Want something that feeds your soul?

Create a FREE account with <u>FORMED.ORG</u> (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!



EARTH DAY IS EVERY DAY This is a new weekly addition to our bulletin with ideas and challenges for how YOU can do your part to reduce global warming and be a better steward of God's Creation. THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE: Cleaning products can contain harmful chemicals. Switch to natural cleaners like vinegar and water!

