

**From:** St. Cecilia Church noreply@mychurchcast.com  
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# Saint Cecilia Church

*Transforming Lives Through Faith Inspired Relationships*

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





## May is the Month of Mary!

*We will honor Mary at all of our Masses this weekend with a song to our heavenly Mother and presenting flowers at her altar.*

Join the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knight of Columbus to pray the Rosary each Monday of May (except Memorial Day) at 7:10 pm at the Grotto in front of the Convent. Bring a chair. Pray for your car. Bring the kids or grandkids!

### Prayer for Mothers

O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties.

Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God's love and compassion.

Mary, Mother of the Church, graciously help us build a culture of life and a civilization of love, together with all people of good will, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen.

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy Mother's Day to all of the mothers, godmothers, spiritual mothers and women who encourage and love us! In this week in which the world was talking about "the pope", I thought it was good to share three quotes on the vocation of motherhood from our three recent Holy Fathers:

**The Dignity of the Mother:** *Motherhood is a woman's vocation: It was yesterday, it is today, it will always be. It is her eternal vocation. There comes to my mind the words of a song of my country. These say that a mother is the one who understands everything and embraces each of us with her heart. And they add that today the world is 'hungrier and thirstier' than ever for that motherhood which, physically or spiritually, is woman's vocation, as it was Mary's. My prayer is that today, too, the dignity of the mother will be*

*recognized and protected in the family and in society. It will depend, above all, on you, young people, if this happens in the world of tomorrow. Endeavour at once to look at your mothers with the eyes with which Jesus looked at His. Let her, the Virgin Mother, who is our hope, help you in this your resolution.* Pope St. John Paul II (Jan 10, 1979).

**The Presence and Virtues of Women:** *Church and society have been – and continue to be – enormously enriched by the presence and virtues of women. ... Moreover, a woman's personal sense of dignity is not primarily the result of juridically defined rights, but rather the direct consequence of the material and spiritual care she receives in the bosom of the family. The presence of a mother within the family is so important for the stability and growth of this fundamental cell of society that it should be recognized, commended, and supported in every possible way.* Pope Benedict XVI (March 23, 2009)

**Witnesses of Tenderness:** *Every human person owes his or her life to a mother, and almost always owes much of what follows in life, both human and spiritual formation, to her. ... A society without mothers would be a dehumanized society, for mothers are always, even in the worst moments, witnesses of tenderness, dedication, and moral strength.* Pope Francis (Jan. 7, 2015).

Pray for mothers and those who hope to become mothers. May they know our esteem, gratitude and love.

Father Chris

PS – Please remember that we will be giving roses to the women of the parish this weekend. If you would like, we are also accepting donation that will be given to Guiding Star Home that serves moms in needs.

**This is just a reminder that the last 5 p.m. Sunday Mass will be on May 18th. This Mass will not be celebrated for the summer and will return on the Sunday after Labor Day.**



## **Praise God for the gift of Pope Leo XIV!**

[Learn about the 1st pope from the USA](#)

[The 1st words of Pope Leo](#)

[A statement from Archbishop Perez](#)

*Lord, source of eternal life and truth, give to your shepherd a spirit of courage and right judgment, a spirit of knowledge and love. By governing with fidelity those entrusted to his care, may he, as successor to the Apostle Peter and Vicar of Christ, build your Church into a sacrament of unity, love and peace for all the world. Amen.*

**VI** *Let us pray for the Pope.*

**R/** **May the Lord preserve him, give him a long life, make him blessed upon the earth, and not hand him over to the power of his enemies.**

**VI** *May your hand be upon your holy servant.*

**R/** **And upon your son, whom you have anointed.**

*Our Father ... Hail Mary ... Glory Be ...*

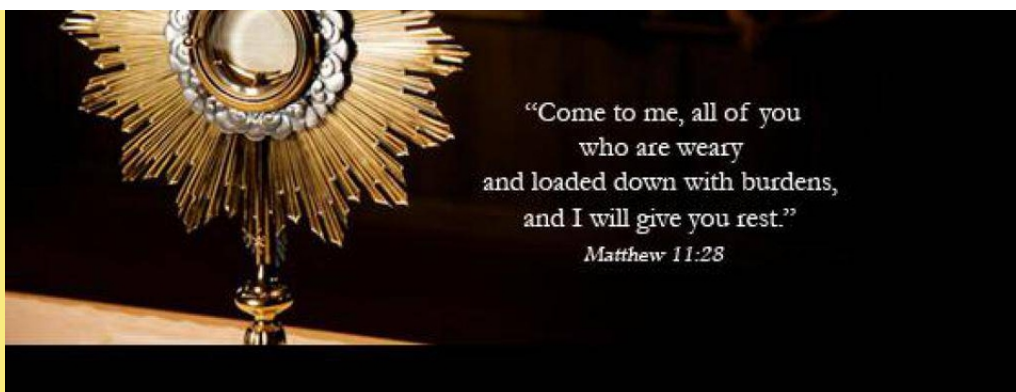


You change the future!



These seven men will be ordained deacons to serve the Archdiocese of Philadelphia on Saturday (and, please God, priests next year). Please pray for them! Please pray for more men to say YES to the call of Jesus.





**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.**

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- Pray for the police officer wounded in Overbrook on Wednesday; may he be healed and all police officers be protected.
- Pray for **Frances Marchesani** who will be buried from St. Cecilia on Saturday, May 10th at 10:30 am. May she rest in peace and may her family be comforted.
- Pray for **John Gordon, Jr.** who will be buried from St. Cecilia on Saturday, May 17th at 10:30 am. May he rest in peace and may his family be comforted.
- Pray for the sick: Mike M., Mike C, Lisa, Rita L and all who are hospitalized at Fox Chase or Jeannes.
- Pray that the interest in the death of Pope Francis and election of our new Holy Father will lead to renewed faith, hope and love.



Mondays from 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm (June 30 & July 7, 14, 21, 28 & August 4)

- Join Fr. Phong reading **Return: How To Draw Your Child Back To Church** (Brandon Vogt). A great read for Catholic parents and grandparents who want their family to practice faith again.
- Meets in the Rectory Living Room. Email Fr Phong at [frphong@stceciliafc.com](mailto:frphong@stceciliafc.com)

Mondays from 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm (June 2, 9, 16, & 30 & July 7 & 21)

- Please join Mike Tate reading **God With Us: Encountering Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew** (Edward Sri). Much has been said about why Jesus died. This book focuses on why Jesus lived.
- Meets in the Rectory Conference Room. Email Mike at [mike@stceciliafc.com](mailto:mike@stceciliafc.com)

Tuesdays from 9:15 am to 11 am (June 3, 10, 17, & 31 & July 1 & 8)

- Please join George Warren reading **Why Does Everything Come in Threes** (Peter Kreeft)
- Meets in the Rectory Living Room. Email George at [georgejr@cletus3.com](mailto:georgejr@cletus3.com)

Wednesday from 9:15 am to 11 am (June 11, 18, & July 2, 9, 16 & 23)

- Please join Father Chris reading **Catholic Heroes of Civil and Human Rights** (Daniels & King), looking at the lives of Ven. Gus Tolton, St. Katherine Drexel, Bl Franz Jagersatter, Ven. Nicholas Black Elk, Ven. Dorothy Day, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and St. Oscar Romero.
- Meets in the Rectory Living Room. Email Fr. Chris at [frchriswalsh@stceciliafc.com](mailto:frchriswalsh@stceciliafc.com)

Wednesday from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm (June 4, 11, 18, & July 2, 9 & 16)

- Join Mike Pacitti reading **Blessed Are You** (Mother Mary Frances), a reflection on the Beatitudes.
- Meets in the Rectory Living Room. Email Mike at [v56Mike@verizon.net](mailto:v56Mike@verizon.net)

Thursday from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm (June 5, 12, 19 & July 3, 10 & 17)

- Join Julie Kurdziel reading **Women of the Church: What Every Catholic Should Know** (Bronwen McShea)
- Meets in Julie's Home. Email Julie at [Kurdziel2@msm.com](mailto:Kurdziel2@msm.com)

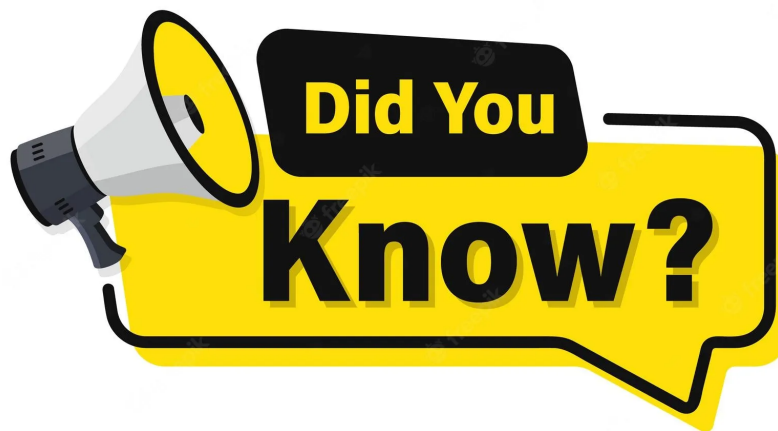
Thursday from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm (June 5, 12, 19 & July 3, 10 & 17)

- Join Kevin Love reading **What Christians Believe: Understanding the Nicene Creed** (Bishop Robert Barron)
- Meets in the Rectory Conference Room. Email Kevin at [kagape@me.com](mailto:kagape@me.com)

Thursday from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm (June 12, 19, & July 3, 10, 17 & 31)

- Join Eileen Litka reading **From Slave to Priest, The Inspirational Story of Father Augustine Tolton** (Sister Caroline Hermesath)
- Meets in the Rectory Living Room. Email Eileen at [Eileen@stceciliafc.com](mailto:Eileen@stceciliafc.com)

***Interested in joining a group? Contact the group leader to save your seat! Space is limited to allow for a fruitful conversation. Participants are required to obtain the book on their own.***



- **Clothing drive is this Saturday, 9am to Noon - bring the clothing in bags or boxes - we will have people able to help you!**
- ***Praise God for your goodness to Saint Cecilia!*** Our collection for May 3rd & 4th was \$22,065. We are now averaging \$19,371 (our budgeted goal is \$19,291 a week). We have seven more Sundays for the Fiscal Year, please remain committed to sharing your financial gifts with Saint Cecilia Parish

- **CLEAN OUT THOSE CLOSETS!!!** The St. Vincent de Paul Society truck will be at St. Cecilia (near the Auditorium) on Saturday, May 10th (9 am to Noon), to collect clothing! [PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP FOR ONE HOUR](#) (moving clothing from cars to the truck).
- **SAVE THE DATE:** There will be a Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Blessed Mother in Washington, DC on Tuesday, October 28th. Parishes from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will gather to celebrate the Year of Hope! More information to come, please mark your calendars and plan to join us!
- **St. Cecilia Charismatic Prayer Group** will have a Mass giving praise to God for their 48 years of interceding for the parish each week. Please join them on Monday, May 12th at 7:15 pm in our Church. All are welcome. Want to know more about the prayer group and how you can experience a fuller outpouring of the Holy Spirit in your life? Call Terezinha at 215-969-8927.
- **Coffee Talk** - Are you grieving a loved one who has passed? Would you like to gather with other believers to have a faith-filled conversation about death, coping with loss, and living in hope? Join us on Saturday, April 26th at 9 am in the Cecilian Room. For more information, contact Paula at [ripleyned@aol.com](mailto:ripleyned@aol.com)
- 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
- Fr. Chris and Fr. Phong are available for [CONFESSION](#) on Monday (6 pm to 7 pm); Wednesday (7 am to 8 am), and Saturday (4 pm to 4:50 pm). Please make use of this wonderful Sacrament to grow as a Disciple of Jesus Christ
- Saint Cecilia Parish has a goal to welcome TWELVE people into the Church through Baptism at Easter Vigil 2026. Could you, your spouse, or a neighbor be one of the twelve? Please contact Mike Tate ([mike@stceciliafc.com](mailto:mike@stceciliafc.com) or 215-725-1240) to learn more. If you think the person is a possible candidate but you are not sure how to approach the person, ask Mike for advice or ask Mike to make the contact with the person (he loves to talk with people about Jesus and our faith).
- Have you received the Sacrament of Confirmation? Many adults have "missed" the Sacrament for some reason. It is not too late! Contact Mike Tate, and we will prepare you to receive the Sacrament when the Bishop visits St. Cecilia next year!

LEE 2025





**Year of Hope Reflections.** *I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and I hope for His Word.* (Psalm 130:5) How does this quote inspire you towards greater HOPE?

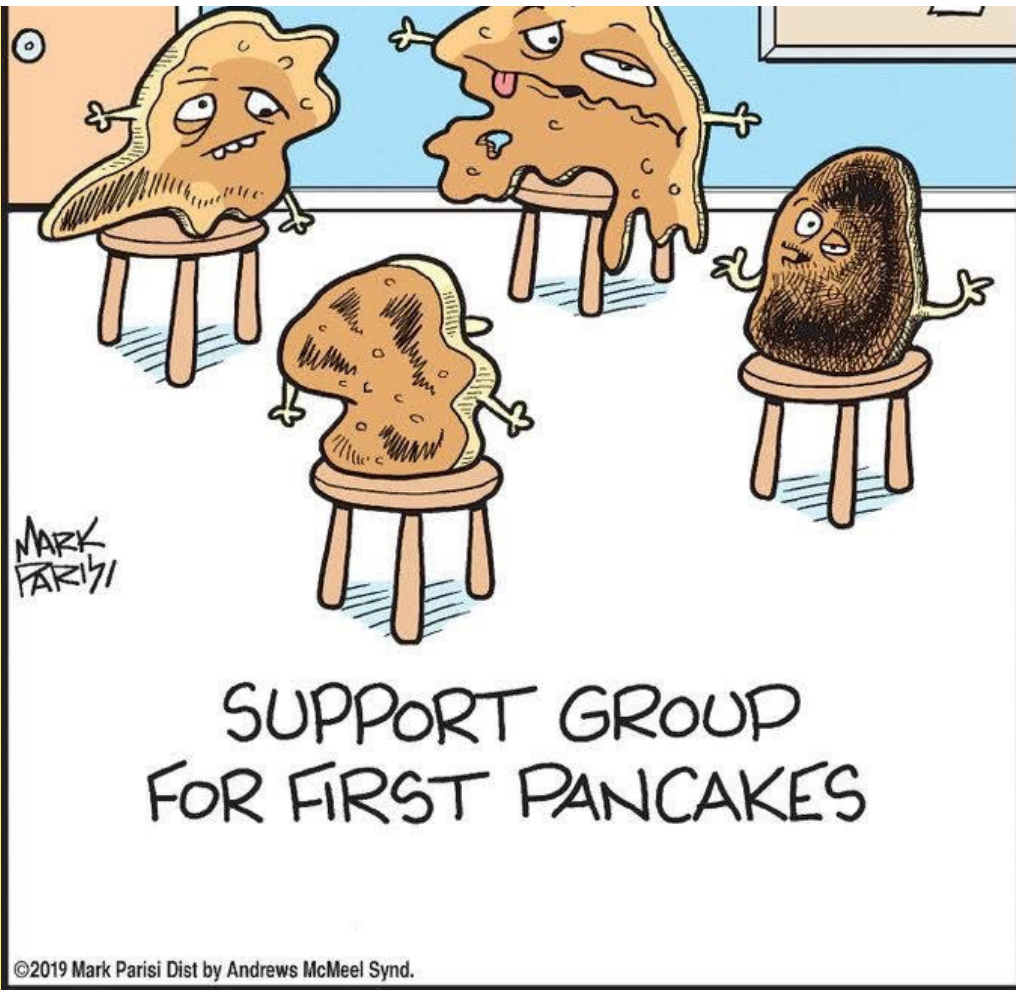






We have installed a seat in the confessional closest to the statue of the Blessed Mother (left side, where the hearing assistance device is located). It is meant for those unable to kneel. When a person sits down, the light will come on to indicate the confessional is "in use". We are grateful to parishioner Frank Kurdziel, who designed and built the chair. Another will be installed in the confessional in the back, which is used on Monday Evenings.





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