



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.*



The NICENE CREED

We recite the Nicene Creed each Sunday. It was written 1700 years ago. Each week, we will share a video of a bishop from our Church reflecting on one line of the Creed. May these words inspire us.





Celebrate the Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Cecilia Church – Fox Chase

Thursday, August 14th
5:00 pm Mass

Friday, August 15th
6:30 am Mass, 8:00 am Rosary
8:30 am Mass, 10:00 am Mass

Where Mary has gone, we hope to follow!

.Dear Friends in Christ,

Father Phong was on retreat this week. I will be on retreat this week. For most priests, it is a cherished week in the course of our year. Many parishioners who can make a weekend retreat know that this time with the Lord, away from so many other things, is a time of grace and renewal. I will be making what is called a “Directed Retreat,” which means I will be silent for 23 hours a day (it can happen, really) and only speak for the one hour I meet with the priest who is my director. When we meet, we will discuss what God is doing (or trying to do) in my prayer. Please pray that I am humble and allow God to have His way (not an easy thing for a stubborn guy like me).

What about you? Even if you do not have the privilege of a week-long retreat like Fr. Phong and I, or a weekend retreat like so many in the Parish, how can you make time to be with the Lord and give yourself the space to speak and listen? Perhaps at Adoration on Monday (or visiting another parish’s Adoration Chapel like Presentation, St. William, or St. Christopher). Perhaps sitting quietly on your porch or a bench in Lorimer Park? If you need the air conditioner, sit in your living room away from the TV and your devices. Open the Bible, pick up your prayer book or a rosary, maybe listen to music that speaks to your heart, and let God do what God will do.

Pope Leo XIV announced last week that he will be naming the 19th-century English priest, St. John Henry Newman a “Doctor of the Church”, a title that indicates his life and teaching ought to be paid attention to by us all. Father Newman once wrote: "**To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often.**" Let the change happen through God’s grace as He sends his light into your life while you “retreat” from the busyness (and at times craziness) of life.

Father Chris



Do you have a will? What is holding you back from completing one? Maybe the cost? Maybe, you are unsure how to start? St. Cecilia Parish and School are offering you a FREE will. It is legal in all 50 states and gives you the **OPTION** to make a gift to our parish or school when you pass. [**CHECK IT OUT RIGHT NOW!**](#) If you have questions, contact [Courtney in our Advancement Office](#).



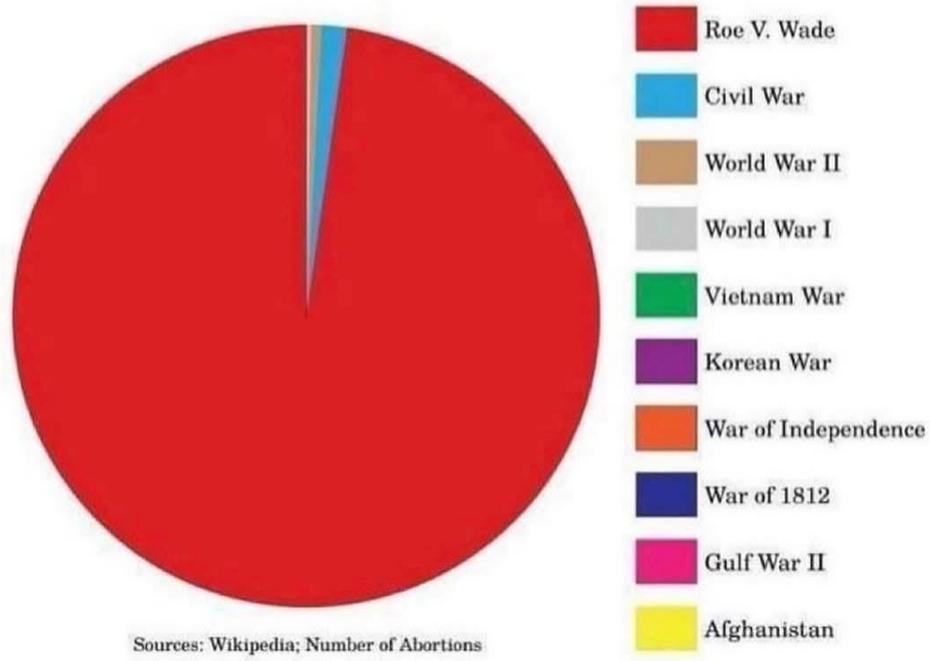
**Be the reason someone feels welcome,
seen, heard, valued, loved, and supported.**

tinybuddha.com

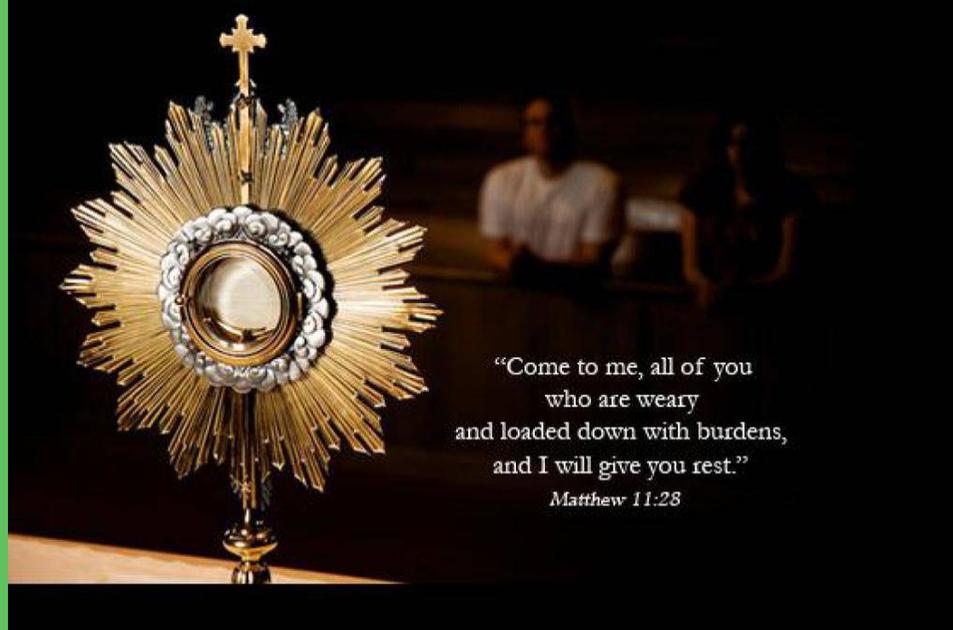


Humanitas will be collecting school supplies this share with students at Fox Chase Elementary and St. Cecilia School once again this year. Please purchase any supplies (pencils, notebooks, erasers, rulers, crayons) and bring them to the collection boxes in front of the Church on August 23rd & 24th and 30th & 31st. God reward your goodness!

United States Deaths



*Lord, give us the wisdom to hate abortion.
 Lord, give us the courage to speak against it.
 Lord, give us understanding for those who promote it.
 Lord, have mercy on all who have chosen this horror.*



“Come to me, all of you
who are weary
and loaded down with burdens,
and I will give you rest.”
Matthew 11:28

**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.**



DID JESUS REALLY FOUND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

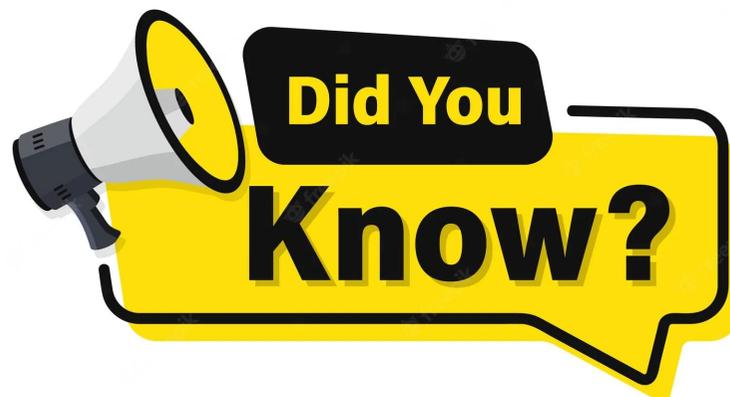
**How do we know so for sure?
What about other
Christian Churches?**

**Join us at St. Cecilia Church
Wed., Sept. 3rd 7-8pm
School Auditorium
Free Childcare Available
All are welcome.
Call 215-725-1240 for info.**



- Pray for those impacted by the fire in Canada.
- Pray that President Trump lead with wisdom in a divided nation.
- Pray for the soul of **Jennifer Haughton**, whose funeral will be Monday, August 18th at 10:30. May she rest in peace, and may her family be comforted.
- Pray for the soul of **Betty Sheerin**, whose funeral will be Tuesday, August 19th at 10:30. May she rest in peace, and may her family be comforted.
- Pray for **Father Callahan** who continues to recover. We hope he will be headed to a rehab facility to regain strength soon. He is grateful for your prayers and cards!
- Pray for the sick: Mike C., Claudio D., Kevin W., Herb S. and all who are hospitalized at Fox Chase or Jeannes.
- Pray that twelve people will hear God's call to follow Jesus in the Catholic Church at Saint Cecilia and respond with joy.
- Pray for teachers as they prepare for the new school year and our young people headed to college.

**THERE'S A REASON JESUS
WAS A CARPENTER.
HE TAKES WHAT'S BROKEN
AND REBUILDS IT.
REPAIRS IT. RESTORES IT.
WE GO INTO HIS
WORKSHOP FALLING APART
AND WE EMERGE COMPLETELY
BRAND NEW; UNRECOGNIZABLE.
THERE ISN'T ANYTHING JESUS CAN'T FIX.**

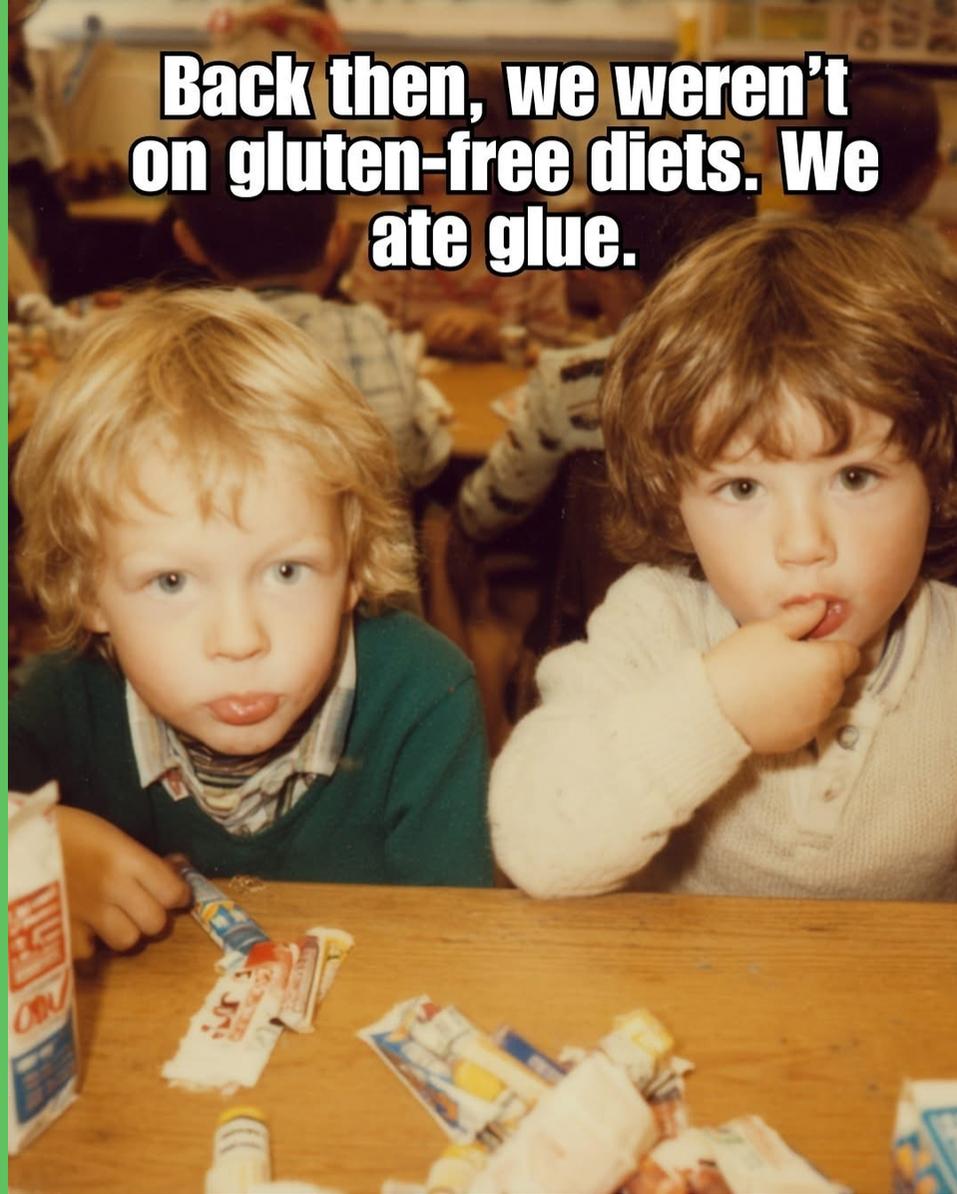


- **Want to make your acting debut (or return to the screen)?** The Archdiocese needs "extras" - THIS WEEK - for commercials about Catholic living their faith! [CHECK IT OUT - A FUN ACTIVITY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY](#)
- **Auditorium Bathroom Renovations Update:** *After several months of planning, work is set to begin this week with the demolition of the existing bathrooms. Our contractor, L&L Construction, will work diligently with us to minimize disruptions and complete the project by the end of October. Thank you for generosity that makes this possible.*
- **Meeting for LEADERS of all Parish Organizations and Ministries:** Each group must have two representatives present. Please be present on Wednesday, Sept. 10th, 7 pm to 8:30 pm. The meeting will be in the Auditorium.
- **Training in CPR and basic First Aid** will be offered in the St. Cecilia Auditorium on Saturday, September 20th from 1 to 4 pm. Training is free unless you need American Heart Association certification, which is valid for two years and costs \$50. Maximum class size is 15, so registration is required. Contact Kara in the Parish Office at secretary@stceciliafc.com or 215-725-1240. This wonderful service of being offered through Humanitas, our Parish Pro-Life Ministry.
- [Read about Fr Rob Bollinger](#) - the new priest at Maternity BVM> He and his brother were both ordained priests this year!
- The **Annual Mission Appeal** will be given at St. Cecilia on August 23rd and 24th. Our guest preacher is Father Matthew Phelan who is Pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes in Overbrook. He was at the seminary the same time as Father Chris. Father Phelan is a member of the [Mercedarian Fathers](#) who work as missionaries throughout the world. He will speak on behalf of their congregation. Your generosity is appreciated. You can use the envelope mailed to your home, donate online or place your donation in an envelope marked Mission Co-Op. Pray for those who carry the good news to others!
- Headed to the movies? [Keep your eyes out for this film on St. Maximilian Kolbe](#)
- **COFFEE TALK AT ST. CECILIA.** Are you grieving the loss of a loved one? Are you looking for a safe, welcoming space to share your feelings with others who understand what you're going through? Saint Cecilia Parish offers *Coffee Talk*—a free and confidential gathering where you can share your thoughts, emotions, and fears with others walking a similar journey of grief, supported by faith and hope. There are no counselors, speakers, or formal themes—just a group of caring Christians offering a listening ear, encouragement, and companionship, along with a light breakfast. *Coffee Talk* meets one Saturday a month from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM at St. Cecilia. Our next meeting is **Saturday, September 27**. To learn more or to let us know you'll be attending, please contact Paula at **215-317-9802** or ripleynd@aol.com.
- Father Chris will be attending a weekend retreat with **Marriage Encounter** on October 10, 11 & 12. The retreat offers married couples of all ages an opportunity to renew their marriage and learn the tools to live their sacrament with joy and fidelity. A few couples from St. Cecilia have already "made a weekend," and Fr. Chris hopes more and more will as well, allowing the covenant of marriage to grow in our Parish. The retreat is held in Doylestown. Interested in

learning more? Contact Father Chris or Mike or Roxanne Pinkl at mikepinkl@yahoo.com

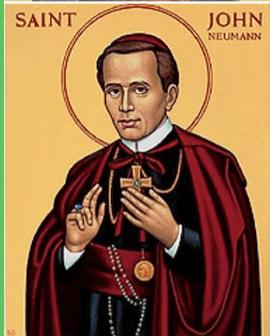
- ***Praise God for your financial goodness to Saint Cecilia!*** Our collection for August 2nd & 3rd was an amazing \$23,421. Our weekly average is \$20,028 (towards our goal of \$19,135). Thank you for your goodness!
- Want a great experience on Saturday, September 20th? Visit [ABBEYFEST](#) at their new location in Doylestown. This Christian music festival will be a huge blessing to you and those you bring!
- 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
- **SAVE THE DATE:** There will be lots of wonderful things happening at Saint Cecilia in the months to come so please mark your calendars (details will be shared as the events get closer): Did Jesus *really* start the Catholic Church (Sept. 3rd at 7 pm); Fall Wednesday Night Bible Study on the Nicene Creed (Sept. 17th through Oct. 22 at 7 pm); join us once a month to watch The Chosen (starting Monday, Sept 22 at 7:15 pm); Vivaldi's Four Seasons with a string quartet, free in our Church (Sept. 28th at 2 pm); Fall Night of Mercy on October 29th;

**Back then, we weren't
on gluten-free diets. We
ate glue.**





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Year of Hope Philly Pilgrimage Shrines of St. John Neumann and St. Rita of Cascia

Saturday, September 13th

We will board a school bus at St. Cecilia after the 8:30 am Mass. Our first stop will be Girard Avenue where we will learn about our saintly bishop and pray with his relics. Lunch on your own at the Reading Terminal Market. Then to South Broad Street to learn about the Saint for Impossible Causes. We return by 4:15 pm. The cost is \$22 to cover the bus and donations to the Shrines. To reserve your seat, please drop off a check with your name and phone number at the Parish Office.



Questions? Call 215-725-1240



Summer Music Series: Join our Music Director, Colleen Mavroudis, for FREE Music Classes on our Campus over four Thursday evenings (7 pm to 8:30 pm). Aug. 14th – Musicianship and Conducting Learn the basics of music notation, reading, and conducting. Aug. 21st – Music Therapy in Music Ministry Come and learn about the fascinating and scientifically based use of music in a variety of settings, and how it points to our use of music in worship and community building. Aug. 28th – Vocal Master Class Come learn the basic techniques used by professional performers to create a fuller, more consistent sound while singing. All ages, experience, and ability levels welcome. If you have ever wondered about singing in the choir, this is a great opportunity to test the musical waters. Come for one class or come for all four! Sign up by emailing Colleen: musicdirector@stceciliafc.com or call 215-725-1240

