



SAINT CECILIA'S CHURCH

Missal of Eberhard von Greiffenklau (15th century)



WITH THE HELP OF SAINT CECILIA PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Dear brothers and sisters,

As we prepare to begin another Lent, the Lord invites us to enter more deeply into his Paschal love for us. May we draw ever closer to his Cross in the coming forty days!

In order to help us do that, we are adding an extra Mass on Wednesday afternoon at 4pm. Confessions are moving from Wednesday to after the 6:00pm Mass on Thursday. Stations are back on Fridays at 6:00pm.

Our Canned Food Drive and Operation Rice Bowl will, once again, provide us a chance to share with those who are in need. Likewise, the Second Collection this weekend for the terrible earthquake victims in Syria and Turkey is a chance for us to work a bit more on our charity.

Fasting is also an important part of Lent, and I am very grateful to everyone who is making the Wednesday night Lenten Suppers possible. I will see you there!

Monsignor Francis Kelly, a wonderful teacher, will be presenting a three week series on his wonderful book, *Discovering Christ: An Inquiry and Meditation*, and I will be bringing back my *Introduction to the Liturgy*, which was so popular last year.

The Leominster Catholic Mission will begin on Wednesday, March 1st at Our Lady of the Lake and continue at each of the Leominster parishes on the following Wednesdays, including March 22nd here at Saint Cecilia's for a Penance Service. The theme of this year's mission will be Eucharistic Revival, and we will be able to hear reflections by five different priests on various aspects of that theme.

Of course, Lent is always a great time to get to daily Mass and go to Confession, so in this week's bulletin we have a Mass and Confession Finder, to make it easier for you.

Lots of other things happening these days, as well. I am delighted to announce that Bishop McManus signed a contract with the Spanish Cultural Center for the rental of some of our classrooms on the top floor of the Parish Center for a wonderful after-school program (it even includes a robot-lab!). Our parish will realize close to \$5,000 a month from the lease with these wonderful people, and they will also pay 50% of the Hall's utilities. We are blessed!

This week is so busy we are running out of room in the bulletin! A Blessed Lent to you!

In the Lord,

Monsignor Moroney



LENT 2023

SAINT CECILIA CHURCH



WEEKDAY MASSES

ASH WEDNESDAY (February 22)

Mass with Distribution of Ashes

6:30am - MAIN CHURCH

12:15pm - MAIN CHURCH

6pm - MAIN CHURCH

WEEKDAY MASSES (CHAPEL)

Monday and Tuesday 6:30am

Wednesday 6:30am and **4pm**

Thursday 9am and 6pm

Friday and Saturday 9am

CONFESSIONS

Thursday at 6:30pm

Saturday at 9:30am and 3pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday from 9:30am-noon (CHAPEL)

DIVINE MERCY AND ROSARY

Monday - Friday at 3pm (CHAPEL)

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES:
CONFESSIONS HAVE MOVED FROM WEDNESDAY TO
THURSDAY AND AN EXTRA 4PM MASS ON WEDNESDAY!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ROSARY

7pm (Chapel)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays at 6pm

LEOMINSTER CATHOLIC MISSION

on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm

March 1 st	Our Lady of the Lake - Evening Prayer
March 8 th	Holy Family - Taizé Prayer
March 15 th	St. Anna - Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
March 22 nd	St. Cecilia - Penance Service
March 29 th	St. Leo - Closing Mass

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Each week, we will be collecting different canned and dry foodstuffs for the Catholic Charities Food Pantry. Watch the bulletin for what we are collecting each week.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Pick up your "Rice Bowl" to benefit the poor and the hungry. Seventy-five percent of the proceeds will be distributed by Catholic Relief Services to support life-saving programs in over one hundred countries. Twenty-five percent of your donations will be used in programs to alleviate hunger and poverty in the Diocese of Worcester.

WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPER

Each Wednesday evening from 4:30 - 6:30pm a simple Lenten supper will be served in the Parish Center. Free will offerings will be accepted for the benefit of Saint Vincent de Paul.

DISCOVERING CHRIST: An Inquiry and Meditation

With Monsignor Francis Kelly

Tuesday nights February 28, March 7 and March 14

From 7-8:30pm (live and by ZOOM)

REGISTER BY EMAILING TEMPIO@AOL.COM

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY

With Monsignor Moroney

Beginning Tuesday, March 21st (for seven nights)

From 7-8:30pm (live and by ZOOM)

REGISTER BY EMAILING TEMPIO@AOL.COM



Once again St. Cecilia's Parish will be holding its Lenten Food Drive starting next weekend. Flyers are available in church this weekend detailing which food items will be collected weekly. Please pick one up. As in the past, the weekly bulletin will also list the foods to be collected the following weekend. Donations of any size are gratefully accepted and all food collected will be given to Catholic Charities in Leominster. Next weekend we will be collecting: **canned soup, canned stew (any type), peanut butter, jelly, marshmallow fluff and crackers.**



**Ash Wednesday Lenten Soup
Lunch Serving 11am - 1pm
and Supper Serving 4:30pm - 6:30pm**

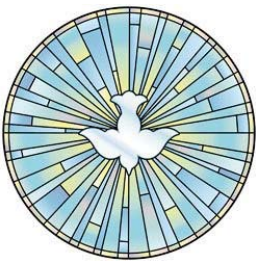
Tomato and Rice Soup
with Grilled Cheese Sandwich

**Free will offerings will be accepted for the
benefit of the St. Vincent de Paul**



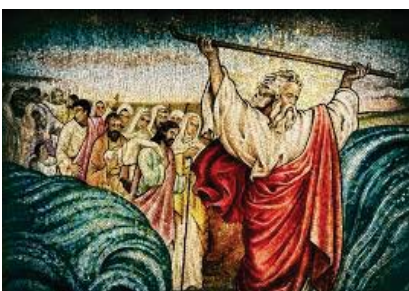
Lenten Fish Dinners at St. Anna's Church Hall, 194 Lancaster St. Leominster on Friday, February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 from 4 – 7 pm or until Sold Out! Adults \$13.00. Fish Dinner Includes: Baked Haddock, Cole Slaw, Potato, Vegetable, Mac & Cheese or Pasta with Marinara Sauce, Dessert and Beverage. Mac and Cheese or Marinara Sauce Pasta Dinner without haddock for \$6.00. Also offering Bowl of Chowder \$6; Wine \$3 per glass. Take out available for all items except wine and soda. Sponsored by the Ladies of the St. Anna's Society. For every fish dinner purchased, you will be entered in a free drawing to win a 43" LG TV at the end of the six weeks!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR ADULTS



Confirmation is the completion of Baptism, the giving of the full power of a Christian. "Confirmation" means a strengthening – this sacrament strengthens and increases what we receive at Baptism, particularly the power of bearing witness to Christ. If you or someone you know that has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation, classes will begin on **Wednesday, March 8th from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Parish Center.** Adults must be over the age of 18, baptized and have made First Communion to attend this class. Please contact Pat Secino at the Rectory 978-537-6541 to register for these classes.

BIBLE STUDY



We will begin our Bible Study on Thursday, March 9th from 9:30-11:00am in the Parish Center on the **Study of Exodus Part II.** Beginning with the insecurity of the desert wanderings, to encountering God on Mt. Sinai and the construction of the tent dwelling, God's people will learn what it means to be part of the covenant with the one who liberates and also gives the law to guide and direct them. Please contact Pat Secino at the Rectory 978-537-6541 for more information.

LORD'S DAY MASS FINDER
LEOMINSTER

Saturday

4:00pm - Saint Cecilia, Holy Family, Saint Leo, Saint Anna

5:00pm - Our Lady of the Lake

6:30pm - Holy Family (Spanish)

Sunday

7:00am - Saint Cecilia

7:30am - Saint Leo

8:00am - Holy Family, Saint Anna, Our Lady of the Lake

9:45am - Saint Cecilia

10:00am - Saint Anna

10:15am - Holy Family

10:30am - Our Lady of the Lake

11:00am - Saint Leo

11:15am - Saint Cecilia

12:00pm - Saint Anna

12:30pm - Our Lady of the Lake

1:00pm - Holy Family (Spanish)

5:30pm - Holy Family

6:00pm - Our Lady of the Lake

6:30pm - Saint Anna (Spanish)

LENTEN WEEKDAY
MASS FINDER
LEOMINSTER

Monday

6:30am - Saint Cecilia

7:30am - Saint Anna

8:00am - Our Lady of the Lake

8:30am - Saint Leo

Tuesday

6:30am - Saint Cecilia

7:30am - Saint Anna

8:00am - Our Lady of the Lake

8:30am - Saint Leo

Wednesday

6:30am - Saint Cecilia

7:30am - Saint Anna

8:00am - Our Lady of the Lake

8:00am - Holy Family

4:00pm - Saint Cecilia

Thursday

7:30am - Saint Anna

8:00am - Holy Family

8:30am - Saint Leo

9:00am - Saint Cecilia

6:00pm - Saint Cecilia

Friday

8:00am - Holy Family

8:30am - Saint Leo

9:00am - Saint Cecilia

5:30pm - Holy Family

Saturday

9:00am - Saint Cecilia

LENTEN
CONFESSION FINDER

Monday

5:30pm - Saint Leo

Tuesday

8:30am - Saint Anna

6:00pm - Saint Anna

Thursday

6:30pm - Saint Cecilia

Friday

7:00pm - Our Lady of the Lake

Saturday

9:30am - Saint Cecilia

10:00am - Holy Family

2:30pm - Saint Leo

3:00pm - Saint Cecilia

THE EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY AND SYRIA



Bishop McManus has asked that a second collection be taken up this weekend to help those in Syria and Turkey who have been devastated by the worst earthquake in over a century. More than 35,000 people have died as of this writing.

You can drop your donation into the second collection today or drop it off at the rectory at your convenience. Checks should be made payable to Saint Cecilia Parish, with the memo "Earthquake Relief." We will then forward your donation to the Diocese, who will forward the donations of all the parishes to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the Catholic Near East Welfare Association who are best equipped to oversee the needed emergency humanitarian relief.

Finally, in the words of our Holy Father, "Let us pray together so that these our brothers and sisters can go forth in the face of this tragedy, and let us ask Our Lady to protect them."

REMEMBER THE CHANGES FOR LENT IN OUR WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

Mass will also be celebrated
on Wednesday afternoons at 4:00pm.

Confessions have moved from Wednesday night
to Thursday after the 6:00pm Mass.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA



Saturday February 18 Vigil

Breaking Bread, page 68

3:00pm Confessions (Church)

4:00pm Mass for Father Francis Goguen (10th Anniv.), by his cousins (Church)

Sunday February 19 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Breaking Bread, page 68***7:00am Mass** for Stella LeBlanc, by the family (Church)**9:45am Mass** for Glenn Reynolds, by Patrick and Janice Goguen (Church)

9:30am-11:00am RCIA Group (Rectory)

9:45am-11:00am Catechist of the Good Shepherd, and other classes through Grade six (Parish Center)

11:15am Mass for Jay and Doug Moore, by Jeanne Conti (Church)

12:30pm Baptism of Andrew Edmund Kelly (Church)

Monday February 20 Weekday

6:30am Mass for Raymond Leclerc, by his wife, Lorraine and son, Richard (Chapel)

3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

7:00pm - 8:15pm Grades Seventh thru Tenth Religious Education (Parish Center)

Tuesday February 21 Weekday

6:30am Mass for Larry Despres, by the family (Chapel)

3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

6:30pm Mass for the Knights of Columbus (Chapel)

6:30pm - 7:45pm Bible Study (Parish Hall, Meeting Room)

Wednesday February 22 Ash Wednesday

*Breaking Bread, page 70***6:30am Mass** for the Parishioners of St. Cecilia's Parish (Church)

3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

12:15pm Mass for Lena Albert, by Leo Boucher (Church)**6:00pm Mass** for Joseph and Elenor Tocci, by Joseph & Kimberly Tocci (Church)

7:00pm Rosary (Chapel)

Thursday February 23 Lenten Weekday

9:00am Mass for Marcel Guillemette, by his wife, Pauline (Chapel)

3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)

6:00pm Mass for Lien (Theresa) Le, by her family (Chapel)

6:30pm Confessions (Church)



Friday February 24 Lenten Weekday

9:00am Mass for Charles and Mildred Bilodeau, by last will (Chapel)
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass
 Noon Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
 6:00pm Stations of the Cross (Church)
 6:30pm BINGO (Parish Center) Doors open 4pm; Game starts 6:30pm

Saturday February 25 Lenten Weekday

9:00am Mass for Richard Surette (2nd Anniv.), by Ellen Anderle (Chapel)
 10:00am - Noon: Exploring Gothic Architecture (Church - pre-registration required)

Saturday February 25 Vigil *Breaking Bread, page 73*

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for Deceased members of Leger & Poirier, friends and neighbors,
 by Marcel and Annette (Church)

Sunday February 26 First Sunday in Lent *Breaking Bread, page 73*

7:00am Mass for James A. Ziegler, by the Connor family (Church)
9:45am Mass for Alice Arsenault (1st anniv.), by the Arsenault family (Church)
 9:30am-11:00am RCIA Group (Rectory)
 9:45am-11:00am Catechist of the Good Shepherd, and other classes through Grade six (Parish Center)
11:15am Mass for Arthur J. Cormier (29th Anniv.), by Jan & Wayne Doucet (Church)



Remember man
 that you are
 dust and into
 dust you shall
 return.

Please pray for those who are ill, especially:

*Stephanie Matthews,
 Jeannine Reid,
 Dick "The Barber" Fontaine,
 Terri Cote and
 David DiGeronimo,*

*If you know someone who needs prayers,
 call the rectory or email us at
office@stceciliachurch.net and we will add
 them to our list for a month or so.*



Last Weekend's Collection was \$7,189.29. Thank You!

On Ash Wednesday, February 22, we will have a collection to support the 50 priests of our diocese who have retired in good standing. Unless illness intervened, these priests served our parishes and parishioners until they were at least 75. Some remained as pastors into their eighties. Many continue to serve. Three remain in parishes full time as senior priests. Last year two stepped in for many months to administer parishes. Another retired priest has been saying Mass six days a week for more than a year to fill a parish vacancy. Still others regularly fill in on weekends, cover vacations and serve in prison ministry and on Diocesan Boards and the Tribunal. We appreciate their efforts and regard all our retired priests with great esteem, respect and affection. They have served us well. Now we can support them.

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