

SAINT CECILIA'S CHURCH

Raising of Lazarus by Duccio di Buoninsegna



WITH THE HELP OF SAINT CECILIA PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Dear brothers and sisters,

I was delighted to share with you some possible visions for tomorrow last week. Thank you for your many kind words as we embark on the next chapter in the life of the Gothic temple on French Hill! Within the next two weeks you will be seeing a Memorial Brochure online and inserted into the bulletin to let you know how you can help to bring this vision to life!

Our many offerings for continuing education continue with the Introduction to Liturgy offered live and on Zoom starting on Tuesday, March 28th. There is still time to join the class by emailing me at tempio@aol.com. I am very grateful to Monsignor Kelly, canon of Saint Peter's Basilica, who just completed his Introduction to Christology with several dozen participants. Monsignor is a dear friend of the priests of Saint Cecilia's and it is always good to have him with us.



What a fun Saint Patrick's celebration we had at BINGO last week! Which reminds me of my immense gratitude to all the BINGO volunteers, who week after week work late into the night to help us to keep the lights on and the pews warm. Pictures of lots of our workers and players (including a Leprechaun named Charlotte) on the next page of this week's bulletin.

Can you believe that next week it will be Holy Week!? Where did Lent go? There are also details on our liturgical celebration of the holiest days of the year in this week's bulletin. In these last days of Lent we should be particularly mindful of our catechumens and candidates, who will receive the Easter Sacraments on Easter Eve.

Charles Hill and Crystal Ortiz have been preparing for Baptism all year long with our RCIA community. At the Easter Vigil they will be baptized, confirmed and receive the Holy Eucharist for the first time. Christopher DiPaolo and Orlando Sanchez were baptized in other churches and will be welcomed into the Catholic Church, confirmed and receive Holy Communion. Darcie Belliveau will also be confirmed at the Easter Vigil. Please join me in giving thanks for these wonderful people, the latest members of our parish family!

I am also so grateful to Pat Secino, Donna Peloquin and Shawn Woods, and all the members of the RCIA team. They have worked so hard and with such evident joy in sharing the Catholic faith with our catechumens and candidates!

May the road rise to meet them all!

In the Lord,

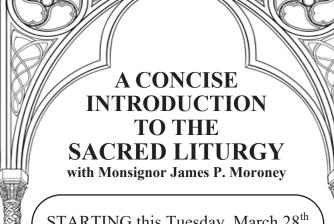
Monsignor Moroney



Please pray for those who are ill, especially:

Claudette Hamel, Jesse Rojas, Jeannine Farineau, June Roy, José Dhiogo, Jenn, Doris, Elena and Doris Maillet. 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.





STARTING this Tuesday, March 28th 7 - pm Live and via ZOOM PREREGISTER BY EMAILING

tempio@aol.com

Pre-registration is required and a donation of \$25 is requested, although not required. A copy of the book *The Mass Explained* will be provided to each participant.

Last Weekend's Collection was \$7,629.29. Thank You!

Wednesday Lenten Soup Supper Dining In 4:00pm - 6:00pm Take Out 4:00pm - 6:30pm

Ending our Lenten Suppers with a Favorite: **Chicken Fricot**



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



Spring Flea Market will be coming up in May, more information to come. In preparation we will be accepting items on Saturday, April 1st from 9:30am-1pm and on Monday, April 3rd from 5-7pm. Please enter through the Third St. Lower Center door. We will be happy to receive any holiday decorations, dishes, knickknacks, religious items, sports memorabilia, DVDs, toys, canning jars, jewelry, books (children's only), etc. Please note, we cannot accept computers, monitors, televisions, electrical appliances, padded furniture, VHS tapes, cassettes, clothing or shoes. We are unable to take large furniture. If it doesn't fit in your car, please don't bring it.

Save the Date April 15

\$7 Advance tickets available for purchase at St. Cecilia's Rectory, Bourbeau's Market or at Friday night Bingo



\$7 (\$10 @ door)

INCLUDES:

Surprise Music Event

DJ - RAY RICHARD Playing your favorite Oldies & Country Tunes April 15, 5 PM - 9 PM

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HOLY WEEK 2023



2 April - PALM SUNDAY

MASSES WITH THE BLESSING OF PALMS Saturday 4pm Sunday 7am, 9:45am and 11:15am

6 April - HOLY THURSDAY

7pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper Adoration in the Chapel until 10:00pm.

7 April - GOOD FRIDAY

9am - Office of Readings 3pm - Stations of the Cross 7pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

8 April- HOLY SATURDAY

8:30pm Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

9 April - EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday 7am, 9:45am and 11:15am



Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2023
BECOMING THE GRAIN OF WHEAT



As this broken bread scattered on the mountains was gathered and became one, so too, may your Church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. For glory and power are yours through Jesus Christ for ever.¹

In Baptism, we have died with the Lord in the blessed hope that we will rise with him on the last day. Which is why we can hopefully call to mind the words: "Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit." This is what Jesus means when he says in today's Gospel: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

In the same way, according to the ancient Didache of the Twelve Apostles, the grains of wheat which were used to make the bread which become the Body of Christ, were once scattered on the hillsides. Yet when the grains were gathered and baked, they became a single loaf. In the same way, each of us who receives the Holy Eucharist becomes one in Christ. As we will pray at the end of Mass today, we are "counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion."⁴

In the words of our beloved Pope Emeritus:

If the grain of wheat does not fall into the ground and die it remains single, if it falls into the earth and dies it produces an abundance of fruit. In this way [the Lord] made people realize that he himself was the grain of wheat that fell into the earth and died...this grain of wheat falls into the earth and thus the new Bread grows, the Bread of future life, the Blessed Eucharist that nourishes us and is open to the divine mysteries for new life...to the extent to which we ourselves are transformed, we will also be able to respond to the question asked above, we will also be able to see the presence of the Kingdom of God and to make others see it."5

¹ Didache of the Twelve Apostles.

² John 12:24.

³ John 11: 1-45.

⁴ Prayer after Communion at today's Mass.

⁵ Pope Benedict XVI, 25 July 2005.



TRUE or FALSE?

- 1. God said to Ezekiel, "I will open your graves and have you rise from them.
- 2. God said, "I will put my spirit in you that you may live."
- 3. With the Lord their is neither mercy nor fullness of redemption.
- 4. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
- 5. The Law is the resurrection and the life.
- 6. The brothers of Lazarus sent word to Jesus.
- 7. After hearing that Lazarus was sick, Jesus stayed where he was for two days.
- 8. Lazarus was buried in Jerusalem.
- 9. Lazarus was in the tomb for four days.
- 10. The tomb was a cave.

6 false, 7 true, 8 false, 9 true, 10 true. , solbt c , sunt f , solbt c , sunt S , sunt I

CROSSWORD

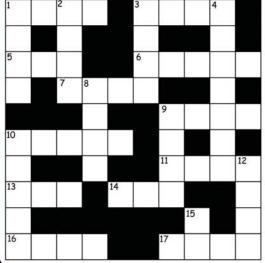
(Most answers are in today's readings)

CLUES ACROSS

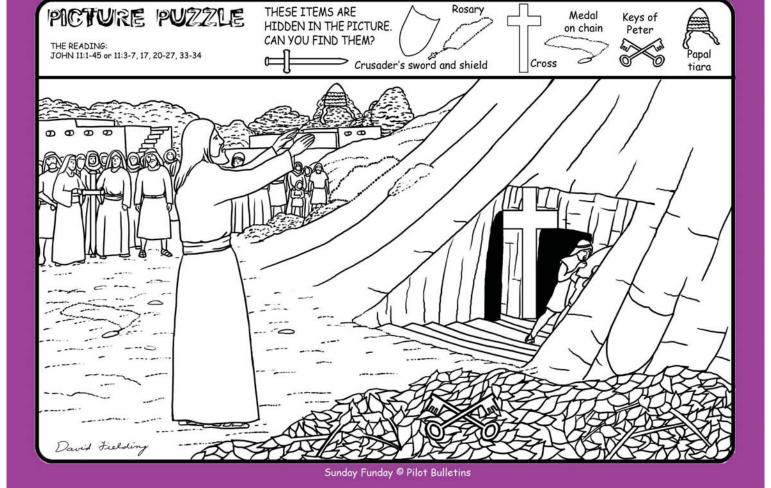
1. Beginning of the day 3. Open these to see 5. Breathe it 6. To lift up 7. Lazarus was in the tomb for four _ imprisoned 10. Covers our bones 11. The end one of a series 13. Unwell 14. Poured for anointings 16. You need ears to do this 17. A baby grows in this



CLUES DOWN



I 9. Autumn 3 a body 15. 7 1. Not living 2. A spoken thing 3. O 4. Female relatives 8. As well 9. Au people to have this 12. Holds a bod action; ___ something



THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA



March 25 Saturday Vigil Breaking Bread, page 83

3:00pm Confessions (Church)

4:00pm Mass for Norman Rheault (20th anniv.), by his wife & children (Church)

March 26 Fifth Sunday of Lent Sunday

Breaking Bread, page 83

7:00am Mass for All Souls in Purgatory (Church)

9:45am Mass for Deceased members of Leon F. Gallagher family, by Rita & family (Church)

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

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

11:15am Mass for Frank Conti (4th anniv.), by Jeanne Conti (Church)

12:30pm Baptism of Jalen Joseph Baldasaro

March 27 Monday Lenten Weekday

6:30am Mass for Edward Gautreau, by Yvon Martin (Chapel)

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

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

Tuesday March 28 Lenten Weekday

6:30am Mass for Father Jacques Hamel (7th anniv.), by Claudette (Chapel)

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

4:00pm - 5:30pm Sacramental Prep Class A (Parish Center)

7:00pm - Introduction to The Sacred Liturgy, with Monsignor Moroney (Rectory)

Wednesday March 29 Lenten Weekday

6:30am Mass for Parishioners of Saint Cecilia's Parish (Chapel)

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

4:00pm Mass for Angela Marie Watts (24th anniv.), by her mother and brother (Chapel)

6:30pm - Leominster Parish Mission - Holy Mass "Food for the Journey" (Saint Leo's Church)

7:00pm Rosary (Chapel)

Thursday March 30 Lenten Weekday

9:00am Mass for Rose Tourigny (25th anniv.), by the Hughes family (Chapel)

9:30am - 11:00am Bible Study - Exodus II (Parish Center)

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

6:00pm Mass for Lena Albert, by Oriza Leger (Chapel)

6:30pm Confessions (Church)

Friday March 31 Lenten Weekday

9:00am Mass for Bertha Gauthier, by Nora (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 April 1 Lenten Weekday

9:00am Mass for Those suffering from an Illness of the Parish (Chapel)

9:30am Confessions (Church)

9:00am-10:30am Sacramental Prep Class B (Parish Center)

Saturday April 1 Vigil Bread, page 86

3:00pm Confessions (Church)

4:00pm Mass for Glenn Reynolds, by Dian Grote (Church)

Sunday April 2 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Breaking Bread, page 86

7:00am Mass for Murray Heald, by the Connor family (Church)

9:45am Mass for Domethilde Bernard (17th anniv.), by Anne-Marie and Jean-Noel Bernard (Church)

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

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

11:15am Mass for Evelyn M. Cormier (9th anniv.), Jan and Wayne Doucet (Church)

A NEW SONG FOR LENT





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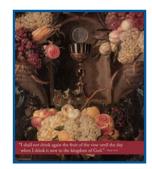
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1 John 4:8

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