



SAINT CECILIA'S CHURCH

*Through all generations
my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness, O Lord!*
Psalm 89



WITH THE HELP OF SAINT CECILIA PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Dear brothers and sisters,

Thank you for your help in planning my August pilgrimage to New Brunswick! In front of the Blessed Virgin statue you will find an Intention Book which includes the names of all the parishes you have suggested that I visit. Please find the name of your parish and write the intentions you would like me to pray for!

I plan to concelebrate the Mass of the Assumption at the Moncton Cathedral on August 15th, then visit the northernmost parishes on the 16th and the southernmost parishes on the 17th. On Friday, the 18th, I will celebrate a Mass at the Cathedral for the intentions of all the deceased members of Saint Cecilia's who came from Acadia. More details to come.

Finally, please let me know if you plan to be in New Brunswick during any of these days. It would be great to see you, meet your relatives and give thanks to God for the faith he nurtured in this blessed land.



In the Lord,

Monsignor Moroney





65 years blessed

**Congratulations to
Yvon & Hermine Leger
who are
celebrating their
65th Wedding Anniversary
this weekend.
God bless you both!**



**St. Cecilia's Spring Calendar
Congratulations to Final Drawing Winners!**

06/22 - John Ngangalah \$100 cash
06/23 - Linda Williams \$100 cash
06/24 - Jennifer Babineau \$100 cash
06/25 - Fernand Arsenault \$100 cash & \$25 Cristina's
06/26 - Adele Mansour \$100 cash
06/27 - Valerie Landry \$100 cash
06/28 - Scott Agnitti \$200 cash
06/29 - Paulette Mayer \$100 cash & \$50 Bourbeau's
06/30 - Arline Ouellette \$1000 cash & Monsignor's Hat



WELCOME MARILYN VICTORIA PLANT!



Last Weekend's
Parish Collections totaled
\$7,274.98.
Thank You!

Vacation Bible School
2023 July 10th thru 14th
9:00 AM- 12:00 PM
978.537.5596



Jesus' power pulls us through.

Dear Parents:

We are pleased to offer you the solution to summertime boredom! We invite your child(ren) to experience the ultimate "Rocky Railway" Bible School, where they will see that "*Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through!*" Each day your child(ren) will take part in fun scripture-themed activities, team-building games, lively songs, & tasty treats. These are just a few examples of the adventures that Vacation Bible School has in store for them. Allow your child(ren) to connect with their faith by joining us July 10th thru 14th in this truly fun and engaging experience!

The cost is \$25.00 per family. If the cost for your child(ren) to attend exceeds your budget please reach out to Paula, scholarships are available. To register, please complete the registration form and drop it off at St. Cecilia Rectory. You may place it in the collection basket, drop it off at the rectory, send it via email or postal mail to Paula Doucet (pd@stceciliachurch.net) "Rocky Railway" is great fun for children of all ages: preschoolers are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult; and even teenagers will have fun by signing on as Crew Leaders who help the younger children. If you are planning on having your child/children attend, please fill out form & return it by **July 3rd**. Thank you, the adventure awaits!

Child's First Name:	Child's Last Name:	___ Male ___ Female
Age:	Date of Birth:	Last Grade Completed:
Allergies or Other Medical Conditions:		T-Shirt Size: Sm. Med. Lg. Ex. Lg. ___ Youth ___ Adult
Mother's Name:	Father's Name:	Address:
Home Phone:	Cell Phone	Email:
Emergency Contact Name:	Emergency Contact Number:	Relationship to Child:

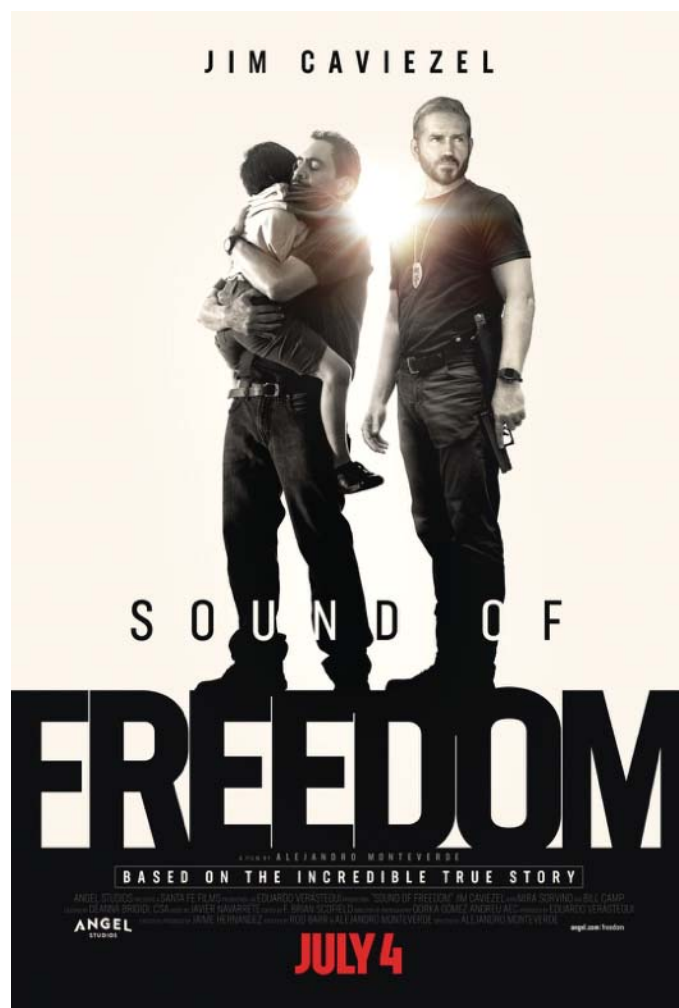
Photo Release:

_____ **I grant permission** to St. Cecilia's Parish to photograph my child during participation at Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School, July 10th-14th, 2023. Pictures may appear in the bulletin and on the Parish's social media sites (Website, Facebook, Twitter etc.)

_____ **I do not grant permission** for my child to be photographed.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____



It's not often that we get to recommend a movie, but a new production from Angel Studios (the producers of *The Chosen*) is showing at Cinema World, 476 John Fitch Highway in Fitchburg on July 3rd and 4th at 1pm, 4pm and 7pm. For additional showtimes on subsequent days you can call 978-345-1404.

The film is called SOUND OF FREEDOM. Jim Caviezel plays Homeland Security agent Tim Ballard, who, after rescuing a young boy from traffickers, learns that the boy's sister is still captive. He quits his job and puts his life at risk as he embarks on a dangerous journey through the Colombian jungle to save the little girl.

I recommend the film because it highlights an important issue: the evil of child trafficking, which Pope

Francis has called “an open wound on humanity.”

Those who work against this evil report that about 2 million children are trafficked every year worldwide. The United States is considered one of the top destinations for victims of child trafficking. There are more than 350,000 children who go missing in the U.S. each year and for those 350,000, it is estimated that roughly 100,000 are being trafficked.

Looking for two host families for two Italian International students that will attend senior year this September at Leominster High School. There are teens all over the world who have a desire for the American dream. It is families like yours who open their hearts and homes that make this possible. Consider opening your home to this amazing cultural experience. Please contact Pan Atlantic Foundation Area Representative Edward Cronin at 978-833-8137 or eddvus@yahoo.com or visit www.iwanttohost.org for further information.



Chairman's Statement on *Dobbs* Anniversary

USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

June 24, 2023, marks the one-year anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, and we have much to celebrate. By the grace of God, the nearly fifty-year reign of national abortion on demand has been put to an end. *Roe v. Wade*—a seemingly insurmountable blight on our nation—is no more! This is a day for continued joy and for gratitude; a day to recall the countless faithful laborers who have dedicated themselves to prayer, action, witness, and service in support of the cause of life; and a day to thank God for His unending faithfulness.

Even as we celebrate, we are reminded that this is not the *end*, but the *beginning* of a critical new phase in our efforts to protect human life. Despite this momentous legal victory, sobering and varied challenges lie ahead of us. Over the past year, while some states have acted to protect preborn children, others have tragically moved to enshrine abortion in law—enacting extreme abortion policies that leave children vulnerable to abortion, even until the moment of birth.

In this shifting political landscape, we persist confidently in our efforts to defend life. The work that lies ahead continues to be not just changing laws but also helping to change hearts, with steadfast faith in the power of God to do so. The task before us begins with our knowledge of the truth and our courage to *speak* it and to *live* it with compassion.

Each of us is called to radical solidarity with women facing an unexpected or challenging

pregnancy. That means doing whatever we can to provide them with the care and support they need to welcome their children. I thank the millions of individual Catholics who are already personally living out this Gospel call through parish and community initiatives like [Walking with Moms in Need](#).

We must likewise extend a compassionate hand to all who are suffering in the aftermath of participation in abortion. The Church continues to share Christ's healing and infinite mercy with women and men through diocesan [Project Rachel Ministries](#).

As we each consider how we are uniquely called to build a culture of life, I invite you to join a growing community of Catholics who have subscribed to Respect Life Prayer and Action. When you sign up, you will receive prayers, alerts to contact Congress and government leaders on important legislation, and ways to strengthen a culture of life in your community. You can sign up today at respectlife.org/prayer-and-action.

May all people of faith and good will work together to proclaim that human life is a precious gift from God; that each person who receives this gift has responsibilities toward God, self and others; and that society, through its laws and social institutions, must protect and nurture human life at every stage of its existence.

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities



Diocese of
Worcester



THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC
BIOETHICS CENTER

Living a Catholic Life

The Moral Act

“Living a Catholic Life” is a collaboration between Knights of Columbus councils, parishes, grassroots organizations, and The National Catholic Bioethics Center to educate the laity on principles of the moral life and their application.

A singular and distinctive advantage of traditional Thomistic morality is its marvelous realism and flexibility. Navigating between abstract universal laws without reference to circumstances and moral decisions based on concrete circumstances without reference to law, Thomistic morality is able to unite the universal and the particular, law and circumstance, objective morality and the personal agent. It achieves this through reference to the constitutive elements of moral judgment—the *object* chosen by the acting subject, the *circumstances* surrounding his action, and the *intention* of his act. According to the *Catechism*, a defect in any one of these is sufficient to render an act evil. In other words, for an action to be good, the deed itself must accord with the truth of human nature, the circumstances must be appropriate to the performance of the deed, and the subject’s purpose must be good, that is, in harmony with human nature.

The most difficult to grasp and the most basic and important determinant of moral judgment is the moral object, as distinguished from its physical or material object. In opposition to moral theories which would look on moral action as determined primarily by intention and foreseeable consequences, Pope St. John Paul II, following St. Thomas Aquinas, teaches in *Veritatis splendor* that “the morality of the human act depends primarily and fundamentally on the ‘object’ rationally chosen by the deliberate will. ... The object of the act of willing is in fact a freely chosen *kind* of behavior. To the extent that it is in conformity with the order of reason, it is the cause of the goodness of the will; it perfects us morally, and disposes us to recognize our ultimate end in the perfect good, primordial love” (n. 78, emphasis added).

This object cannot be morally determined by mere physical description, but rather by how what is chosen leads the powers of the human person to their perfection. For example, physically one cannot tell the difference between adultery and marital intercourse. But because of the vow of lifelong fidelity in marriage, the one act expresses perpetual union and love; the other does not. Though both may result in other goods, like sexual pleasure or children, one is evil and the other good because the basic good of the fulfillment of the person as an image of God is either present or lacking. That means that the person’s will is or is not in conformity with the will of God. The order of reason enlightened by the natural law, the revealed law, or direct inspiration is always the source for moral judgment in the broadest analysis.

As any natural being possesses those properties which accompany it, the moral act includes things which “stand

around” it but can affect how the act fulfills or frustrates the powers of the soul. These are called circumstances. They include the consequences and are “the secondary elements of a moral act” (*Catechism*, n. 1754). In some cases, they may add a dimension of good or evil to the object. For example, in the case of theft, to steal a small amount can render an act only slightly impeding to the soul’s pursuing the fulfillment of human nature. To steal a large amount may render an act completely disordered, because it betrays a deeply inordinate love of self. Sometimes a circumstance can alter the object of the act on a more particular level by becoming a principal condition specifying the object. For example, one who steals from a church commits sacrilege over and above mere theft.

The most subjective and personal basis for moral judgment, which more broadly presupposes the rest, is the intention of the acting subject. The intention is the motive or the *why* of a given person’s action. It is “a movement of the will toward the end. It aims at the good anticipated from the action undertaken” (*Catechism*, n. 1752). Since it is the most personal and subjective element, a good intention by an individual cannot render an evil act good. On the other hand, if the act in its object and circumstances can be a fit means for the will’s intention, then there is a happy combination of all three elements, and the act is a single unified moral entity which leads to the moral integration, flourishing, and perfection of the person.

Every willed act must be done for some motive, and so, if it is free and responsible, there is no such thing as an act which cannot be considered good or evil. Since the will is the most individual and personal element in moral judgment, if one determined the perfection of a human act merely and solely on the basis of its intention, objective standards would be irrelevant. There would be no natural law, but only positive law. In a word, might would make right. Moral law would be excessively individualistic and subjective. But on the contrary, moral law is objective, since moral action includes the object which is perceived by the intellect enlightened by natural reason, faith, or divine infusion. And since that object must be envisioned in circumstances *before* the intention of the individual is applied, it is clear that all three determinants are in the objective order. The freedom of man as a subject is basic in morals, but it is not an absolute freedom, but a participated freedom. John Paul II says in many places that freedom in man is not freedom *from* truth, but freedom *for* the truth (see, for example, *Veritatis splendor*, nn. 34–35).



THIS WEEK AT SAINT CECILIA



Saturday July 1 Vigil *Breaking Bread*, page 172

3:00pm Confessions (Church)

4:00pm Mass for Doris Richard (13th anniv.), by her husband and family (Church)

Sunday July 2 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time *Breaking Bread*, page 172

7:00am Mass for Albert Cristofono (31st anniv.), by the family (Church)

9:45am Mass for Claire and Jack Murphy, by the family (Church)

11:15am Mass for Baby Boy Bernard (2nd anniv.), by Memere and Pepere Bernard (Church)

Monday July 3 St. Thomas

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

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

Tuesday July 4 Independence Day

6:30am Mass for Father George G. Holland (16th anniv.) (Chapel)

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

Wednesday July 5 Weekday

6:30am Mass for Claudette Bastarache, by the Ladies of St. Anne (Chapel)

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

6:00pm Mass for Paul Albert, by Peggy Merrill (Chapel)

6:30pm Confessions

7:00pm Rosary (Chapel)



Thursday July 6 Weekday

9:00am Mass for Jeannette Aubuchon, by the family (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
6:00pm Mass for Paul J. Roy, by the Bunko Squad (Chapel)

Friday July 7 Weekday

9:00am Mass for Father Robert Bruso (3rd anniv.) (Chapel)
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass
 Noon Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament (Chapel)
 3:00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena (Chapel)
 6:30pm BINGO (Parish Center) Doors open at 4:00pm; Game starts 6:30pm

Saturday July 8 Weekday

9:00am Mass for Donald and Denise Carter, by the family (Chapel)
 9:30am Confessions (Church)

Saturday July 8 Vigil *Breaking Bread, page 174*

3:00pm Confessions (Church)
4:00pm Mass for Andre and Anita Allain (anniv.), by Gil, Nora and family (Church)

Sunday July 9 Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time *Breaking Bread, page 174*

7:00am Mass for Octave Cormier, by his wife Kathleen (Church)
9:45am Mass for Rick Raymond (10th anniv.), by Rita and family (Church)
11:15am Mass for Louise Boucher (1st anniv.), by her friends (Church)



Let us

Pray
for you

Please pray for those who are ill, especially:

Larry Gagne, Stephanie Matthews, Arnold Baron, Mark Rancourt, Lillian Papadopoulos and Jennifer. 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.



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